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Katherine A. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of	§	AGREED ORDER
Registered Nurse License Number 256086	§	
issued to CONNIE S. TITTLE	§	
	§	

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of CONNIE S. TITTLE, Registered Nurse License Number 256086, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on December 7, 2020.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was served on Respondent and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license(s).
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order.
3. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from El Centro College, Dallas, Texas, on May 1, 1981. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 8, 1981.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

9/1981 – 6/1990	Staff Nurse	Baylor University Medical Center Dallas, Texas
8/1984 – 6/1986	Staff Nurse	John Peter Smith Hospital Fort Worth, Texas
11/1986 – 5/1987	Home Health Nurse	Kimberly Home Health Care Fort Worth, Texas
5/1989 – 3/1990	Staff Nurse	ConServCo Richardson, Texas
4/1990 – 6/1991	Psychiatric Nurse	Ft. Worth Psychiatric Institute Fort Worth, Texas
6/1991 – 10/1991	Staff Nurse	CPC Oakbend Fort Worth, Texas
10/1991 – 8/1995	Psychiatric Nurse	Northwest Texas Hospital, Pavilion Amarillo, Texas
2/1998 – 4/1998	Office Nurse	Methodist Medical Group Lubbock, Texas
8/1995 – 12/2001	Staff Nurse	University Medical Center Lubbock, Texas
1/2002 – 10/2013	Nurse Supervisor Educator	University Medical Center Lubbock, Texas
10/2013 – 12/2014	Staff Nurse	University Medical Center Lubbock, Texas
1/2015 – Present	Unknown	

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse in the Interventional Radiology Department at University Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) year and two (2) months.

7. On or about January 7, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse in the interventional radiology department with University Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent failed

to order a culture and sensitivity on pleural fluid, as ordered following a thoracentesis on Patient Medical Record Number 7338438, and only ordered a gram stain. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure patient from non-efficacious treatment of their disease processes.

8. On or about September 25, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse in the interventional radiology department with University Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent failed to check the medication status of Patient Medical Record Number 175613 prior to a liver biopsy. During the liver biopsy Respondent found a Fentanyl patch for pain on the right shoulder of the aforementioned patient. In addition, Respondent didn't know that the patient was on Nortriptyline, a tricyclic antidepressant which potentiated a movement disorder. The patient had a reaction to the sedation becoming confused and moving uncontrollably, and required sedation reversal medication and D50 intravenously. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient by depriving the physician of vital information that would be required to base decisions for care and/or prevent complications.
9. On or about December 11, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse in the Interventional Radiology Department at University Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent failed to have sedation reversal agents or appropriate oxygenation supplies readily available for Patient Medical Record Number 880094, who was undergoing an ultrasound procedure with sedation. Sedation can result in respiratory depression with a resulting decrease in oxygenation, which would necessitate oxygen administration via an oxygen mask and administration of sedation reversal medication. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that it could have resulted in a delay of emergent interventions if the patient developed respiratory depression.
10. In response to Finding of Fact Number Nine (9), Respondent states that she did forget to take the reversal kit for this procedure, but did have the sedation kits and oxygen nasal cannula. Respondent relates that after the physician took a specimen during the procedure, the patient's oxygen saturation dropped to 88%. Respondent states that the oxygen was increased to six (6) liters per minute, she used a jaw thrust to further open the patient's airway, and the patient's oxygen saturation came up to 90%. Respondent adds that the physician asked if she had the reversal kit, and she told him no. Respondent states that the patient holding area brought the reversal kit several minutes later. Respondent indicates that the patient's vital signs were stable, and his oxygen saturation was 93% on six (6) liters of oxygen, she released the patient's jaw, and the physician didn't want the reversal given. Respondent adds that in retrospect, she would take a face mask, a non-rebreather, and reversal drugs to every sedated procedure.
11. Formal Charges were filed on July 23, 2018.
12. Respondent by her signature expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender the licenses.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violation(s) of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11 (1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(M)&(3)(A) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12 (1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 256086, heretofore issued to CONNIE S. TITTLE.
5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

TERMS OF ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 256086 is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself/himself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until at least one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

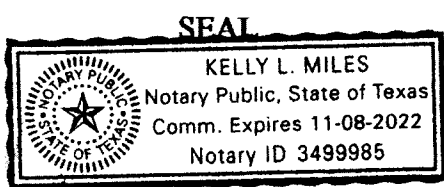
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing and a copy will be mailed to me. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including possible revocation of my license(s) and/or privileges to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 28 day of December, 2020.

Connie Little

CONNIE S. TITTLE, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28 day of December, 2020.



Kelly Miles

Notary Public in and for the State of Tx

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 28th day of December, 2020, by CONNIE S. TITTLE, Registered Nurse License Number 256086, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 5th day of January, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine A. Thomas", written over a horizontal line.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board