



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.
Katherine A. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER
Registered Nurse License Number 607731 §
issued to DOUGLAS GENE NELON §
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DOUGLAS GENE NELON, Registered Nurse License Number 607731, 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 January 20, 2021.

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 Amarillo College, Amarillo, Texas, on May 1, 1994. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 15, 1994 and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Louisiana on February 6, 2009.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

07/1994 – 04/1999	Unknown	Unknown
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

05/1999 – 09/2000	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital Amarillo, Texas
09/2000 – 02/2007	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Hendrick Medical Center Abilene, Texas
04/2006 – 11/2006	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Scott & White Memorial Hospital Temple, Texas
11/2006 – 02/2007	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Northeast Methodist Hospital San Antonio, Texas
02/2007 – 08/2007	Cath Lab/CVICU Registered Nurse	The Hospital at Westlake Austin, Texas
08/2007 – 08/2008	Cath Lab/EP Registered Nurse	Scott & White Memorial Hospital Temple, Texas
08/2008 – 12/2008	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Texsan Heart Hospital San Antonio, Texas
12/2008 – 01/2009	Interventional Radiology Registered Nurse	Mercy Health Center Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
02/2009 – Unknown	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Opelousas General South Campus Opelousas, Louisiana
02/2009 – 09/2012	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Hendrick Medical Center Abilene, Texas
10/2012 – 12/2012	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	St. Anthony North Hospital Westminster, Colorado
12/2012 – 03/2013	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	St. Mary's Medical Center Blue Springs, Missouri
04/2013 – 06/2013	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	St. Luke's Baptist Hospital San Antonio, Texas

07/2013 – 06/2014	Cath Lab/ER/IR Registered Nurse	Eastern New Mexico Medical Center Roswell, New Mexico
07/2014 – 08/2014	Cath Lab/EP Registered Nurse	Concord Hospital Concord, New Hampshire
09/2014 – 07/2015	Cath Lab/IR/EP Registered Nurse	Weatherford Regional Medical Center Weatherford, Texas
07/2015 – 10/2015	Cath Lab/IR Registered Nurse	Essentia Health Fargo, North Dakota
10/2015 – 10/2016	Cath Lab IR/ER Registered Nurse	Weatherford Regional Medical Center Weatherford, Texas
10/2016 – 12/2017	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Hendrick Medical Center Abilene, Texas
01/2018 – 08/2019	Interventional Radiology Registered Nurse	Hendrick Medical Center Abilene, Texas
09/2019 – Present	Cath Lab Registered Nurse	Houston Healthcare Southeast Pasadena, Texas

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Hendrick Medical Center, Abilene, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) year and seven (7) months.
7. On or about August 2, 2019, while employed as an Interventional Radiology Registered Nurse with Hendrick Medical Center, Abilene, Texas, Respondent administered Versed 2mg and Fentanyl 100mcg to Patient SM, who already had a drop in oxygen saturation levels, without a physician's order or the benefit of being assessed by a physician. Consequently, the patient's oxygen saturation levels dropped even lower, and Respondent had to administer a reversal agent and call the Rapid Response Team. Respondent's conduct exceeded his scope of practice and potentially exposed the patient to possible adverse outcomes in that administering sedating medications without a physician's order and increased medical supervision could have resulted in respiratory distress and/or arrest.
8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that he fully accepts responsibility with respect to the allegation that he administered the two

narcotic medications when there was no physician's order at the time. Respondent explains that he was acting to assist the patient with pain management under the circumstances of that particular instance. Respondent states that he fully understands that the administration of medications must be done pursuant to a physician's order, and to do so without a physician's order is practicing outside of his scope of practice. Respondent states that he is remorseful, deeply regrets his actions, and accepts responsibility. Respondent states that this specific incident is not indicative of his practice as a whole. In an effort to avoid the time, expense, and uncertainty of litigation, Respondent willingly opts to resolve this case with a voluntary surrender order.

9. Formal Charges were filed on February 4, 2020.
10. Respondent by his signature expresses his desire to voluntarily surrender the licenses.
11. Respondent has no history of Board discipline with the Texas Board of Nursing.
12. Respondent provided letters of support regarding a history of long-standing exemplary practice and favorable evaluations.

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)(C),(1)(M)&(1)(P) 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 607731, heretofore issued to DOUGLAS GENE NELON.
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 607731 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.

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. 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 is subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing and a copy of this Order will be mailed to me once the Order becomes effective. 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 7 day of April, 2021.

Douglas Gene Nelon
DOUGLAS GENE NELON, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of _____

Approved as to form and substance.

Phong P. Phan
Phong P. Phan, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 7th day of April, 2021.

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 7th day of April, 2021, by DOUGLAS GENE NELON, Registered Nurse License Number 607731, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 9th day of April, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine A. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style.

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