### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED ORDER Registered Nurse License Number 765862 \$ issued to CASSI LEA WILBUR \$

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of CASSI LEA WILBUR, Registered Nurse License Number 765862, 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 August 10, 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 a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 1, 2008. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 23, 2009.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

2/2009 -- 06/2014

RN (ICU) East Texas Medical Center

Tyler, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

08/2015 - 11/2017

RN

(Trauma)

East Texas Medical Center

Tyler, Texas

11/2017 - 01/2020

RN

University of Texas Health East

Texas

Tyler, Texas

11/2018 - Present

RN

(Charge)

University of Texas Health East

Texas

Jacksonville, Texas

- 6. On or about August 22, 2014, Respondent was required to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) through an Order of the Board. On or about April 12, 2018, Respondent successfully completed the terms of the Order. A copy of the August 22, 2014, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with The University of Texas Health East Texas, Tyler, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) years and two (2) months.
- 8. On or about January 3, 2020, while employed as a Registered Nurse at University of Texas Health East Texas, Tyler, Texas, Healthy Connections Clinic, Respondent failed to assess and intervene when a front office staff member said that Patient R.B. felt cold, looked pale, and appeared to be dead. Instead, Respondent said that that the patient's vital signs, EKG and assessment by a nurse practitioner would demonstrate his status. Respondent's failure to assess and intervene exposed the patient to a risk of harm from an undetected change of condition and may have prevented timely intervention.
- 9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states that R.B. was a stage IV cancer patient receiving hospice services. R.B.'s niece checked him into the Healthy Connections Clinic with the front desk staff. R.B. was in his wheelchair in the waiting room. Respondent notes that her role at the time of R.B.'s check-in was schedule management and clinic flow. Respondent was not responsible for direct patient care, oversight of staff, or monitoring of patients in the waiting area. Respondent cannot see patients in the waiting room from her work area. The front office staff member made casual comments to Respondent that R.B. felt cold and looked deceased. However Respondent states that these comments did not raise alarm or indicate an emergency because of the staff member's tone and demeanor. In addition, another nurse was present, heard the staff member's comments, and also did not initiate a response.

### 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),(1)(P) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12 (1)(A),(1)(B), and (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 765862, heretofore issued to CASSI LEA WILBUR.
- 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**

### I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 765862, previously issued to CASSI LEA WILBUR, to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is STAYED and RESPONDENT is hereby placed on PROBATION for a minimum of two (2) years AND until RESPONDENT fulfills the additional requirements of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. As a result of this Order, RESPONDENT'S license(s) will be designated "single state" as applicable and RESPONDENT may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state using a Texas compact license.

#### II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW

While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT agrees to comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 et seq., the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nursing Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 et seq., and this Agreed Order.

#### III. UNDERSTANDING BOARD ORDERS

Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Order, RESPONDENT must successfully complete the Board's online course, "Understanding Board Orders", which can be accessed on the Board's website from the "Discipline & Complaints" drop-down menu or directly at: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp">http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp</a>. Upon successful completion, RESPONDENT must submit the course verification at the conclusion of the course, which automatically transmits the verification to the Board.

### IV. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

A. A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, documentation of care, principles of nursing ethics, confidentiality, professional boundaries, and the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies regarding: Sexual Misconduct; Fraud, Theft, and Deception; Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder; and Lying and Falsification. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. Home study and video programs will not be approved.

- B. A Board-approved course in physical assessment with a didactic portion of not less than six (6) hours and a clinical component of not less than twenty-four (24) hours. Both the didactic and clinical components must be provided by the same Registered Nurse. The course's content shall include physical assessment of all body systems. The clinical component SHALL include physical assessment of live patients in a clinical setting; Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. Successful completion of this course requires RESPONDENT to successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course.
- C. The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension.

In order to receive credit for completion of this/these course(s), RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. RESPONDENT SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at <a href="https://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance">www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</a>.

# V. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. Periods of unemployment or of employment that do not require the use of a registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as appropriate, will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

A. Notifying Present and Future Employers: RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order,

including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.

- B. Notification of Employment Forms: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. Direct Supervision: For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- D. Indirect Supervision: For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse, who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as RESPONDENT, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years of experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the RESPONDENT is currently working. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- E. Nursing Performance Evaluations: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the RESPONDENT by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the individual who supervises the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising individual to the office of

the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

# VI. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against RESPONDENT'S license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

# VII. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) and/or privilege(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and, subject to meeting all existing eligibility requirements in Texas Occupations Code Chapter 304, Article III, RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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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 24 day of march, 2021.  CASSI LEA WILBUR, RESPONDENT
Sworn to and subscribed before m	ne this day of, 20
SEAL	
	Notary Public in and for the State of
	Approved as to form and substance
4	Laura Diamond, Attorney for Respondent
,	Signed this 25 day of March 20 2/

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 24th day of March, 2021, by CASSI LEA WILBUR, Registered Nurse License Number 765862, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 22nd day of April, 2021.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Ketherine C. Thomas

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

CONFIDENTIAL In the Matter of AGREED ORDER FOR Registered Nurse License Number 765862 §

issued to CASSI LEA WILBUR

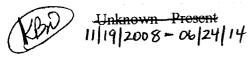
PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of CASSI LEA WILBUR, Registered Nurse License Number 765862, hereinaster 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) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered under the authority of Section 301.466(d), Texas Occupations Code, and approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on June 25, 2014.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these 1. 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).
- Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and 2. agreed to the entry of this Order.
- Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. 3.
- Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from The University of 4. Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 1, 2008. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 23, 2009.
- Respondent's nursing employment history includes: 5.



Staff Nurse

East Texas Medical Center Tyler, Texas

- On or about June 18, 2014, Respondent was arrested and jailed in Cherokee County, Texas, for Public Intoxication, and was released from jail the next day.
- 7. On or about June 21, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse with East Texas Medical Center, Tyler, Texas, Respondent was released from her assignment and left work early because she may have lacked fitness to safely practice nursing due to exhibiting behaviors indicative of impairment, including that she was not entering any of her assigned patients' rooms, she was putting tape all over herself, and she was taping boxes for no apparent reason. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure patients from irrational, inaccurate, and/or inappropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care.
- 8. On or about June 21, 2014, Respondent was found unconscious in the restroom of a local fast food chain with an intravenous line and a bottle of Propofol connected to her left hand. Also in her possession were four (4) additional bottles of Propofol, two (2) bags of IV Vancomycin 1000mg, several syringes filled with clear liquid, empty syringes, bandage supplies, and an unused IV start kit, among other items. Respondent was emergently transported to the East Texas Medical Center Emergency Department, Tyler, Texas, where she was treated for drug overdose and released. Respondent's conduct violated Chapter 483 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Dangerous Medications Act).
- 9. On or about June 22, 2014, after being released from the East Texas Medical Center Emergency Department, Tyler, Texas, Respondent was arrested by the Tyler Police Department, Tyler, Texas, and charged with "THEFT PROP>=\$1500 < \$20K" (a State Jail Felony offense), committed on June 21, 2014, and charged with two (2) counts of "POSS DANGEROUS DRUGS" (Class A Misdemeanor offenses), committed on June 21, 2014.
- 10. On or about June 23, 2014, Respondent admitted to representatives of East Texas Medical Center, Tyler, Texas, that she had recently and one (1) other time previously misappropriated medications and supplies from the facility. Respondent's conduct defrauded the facility of the cost of the medication.
- 11. On or about June 24, 2014, Respondent self reported the conduct in Finding of Fact Number Six (6) and some of the conduct in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7). Further, Respondent stated that she would be enrolling voluntarily in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses.
- 12. The Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 13. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.

- 14. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.
- 15. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.455, 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) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(4),(5),(6)(G),(8),(10)(E)&(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 765862, heretofore issued to CASSI LEA WILBUR, up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) payable to TPAPN.

- (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current.
- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§301.001 et seq., the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.1 et seq. and this Order.

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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that, while RESPONDENT remains in compliance with the terms of this Order, this Order shall remain confidential in accordance with the authority outlined in Section 301.466(d), Texas Occupations Code. However, should Respondent fail to successfully complete the terms of this Order or should Respondent commit a subsequent violation of the Nursing Practice Act or Board Rules, this Order shall be treated as prior disciplinary action and will become public information.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT be convicted of or receive a deferred order for the offense(s) as outlined in Findings of Fact Numbers Six (6) and Nine (9), said judicial action will result in further disciplinary action, up to and including Revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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### RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and 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 revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

	Signed this day of August, 2014.  CASSI LEA WILBUR, RESPONDENT
Sworn to and subscribed before me	this W day of Quoust, 20 M.
SEAL	Mallon
Notory Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires December 17, 2017	Approved as to form and substance.  Approved as to form and substance.  Signed this 20th day of Argust, 2014.

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Confidential Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program that was signed on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014, by CASSI LEA WILBUR, Registered Nurse License Number 765862, and said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board