



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

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In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER  
Vocational Nurse License Number 177155 §  
issued to CORY BERNARD WASHINGTON §  
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of CORY BERNARD WASHINGTON, Vocational Nurse License Number 177155, 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 April 5, 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 vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Lamar State College-Port Arthur, Port Arthur, Texas, on August 18, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 14, 2000.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/2000 – 4/2010	LVN	Unknown
5/2010 – 5/2012	LVN	Continuum Medical Staffing Bluffton, South Carolina

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

6/2012	Unknown	
7/2012 – 9/2017	LVN	ICON Hospital Humble, Texas
10/2017 – Unknown	LVN	SCE Medical Resort
9/2018 – Present	LVN	Nexus Specialty Hospital Fort Worth, Texas

6. On or about September 23, 2013, Respondent was required to successfully complete a Corrective Action issued by the Board. On or about November 14, 2013, Respondent successfully completed the terms of the Order.
7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with ICON Hospital, Humble, Texas, and had been in that position for five (5) years and two (2) months.
8. On or about September 6, 2017, into September 7, 2017, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse at ICON Hospital, Humble, Texas, Respondent assessed ICU patient MRN#3068's blood pressure once during the shift. Subsequently, the patient refused Respondent's blood pressure taking attempts and Respondent did not document the patient's refusal. Respondent did not call the cardiologist as the patient's heart rate was documented between 122 to 133, during the shift. Respondent's conduct may have delayed care decisions by the cardiologist.
9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states that the patient had a chronically high heart rate that had been treated throughout her hospitalization. Prior to Respondent taking over care, the patient had just been administered oral amiodarone. The cardiologist previously treated the patient for this condition and scheduled to visit the patient in the morning. Her heart rate was being monitored but monitor technician never informed Respondent of her heart rate. The patient and her family requested the blood pressure cuff be removed and not to bother the patient. In addition, Respondent states that the conditions for him and the patients in the ICU/IMU that shift were not safe. When he tried to invoke the protections of Safe Harbor, his supervising RN and facility administrators refused to assist and were unresponsive to his requests at a time when he, while involuntarily precepting a new employee/recently graduated Registered Nurse, was working in the ICU/IMU under adverse systemic working conditions including assignment to multiple patients and insufficient other staff support.
10. Formal Charges were filed on September 18, 2018.

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)(B),(1)(D), and (1)(M).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b) (10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 177155, heretofore issued to CORY BERNARD WASHINGTON.
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 that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **REMEDIAL EDUCATION** in accordance with the terms 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: <http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp>. 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. **A Board-approved course in nursing documentation** that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include: nursing standards related to accurate and complete documentation; legal guidelines for recording; methods and processes of recording; methods of alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.

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 [www.bon.texas.gov/compliance](http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance).*

**V. 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.

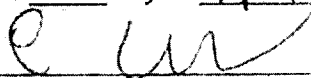
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**RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION**

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 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 20 21.



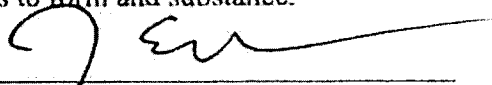
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CORY BERNARD WASHINGTON, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 20 21.

SEAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for the State of \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form and substance.




\_\_\_\_\_  
Jon Porter, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 20 21.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 14th day of April, 2021, by CORY BERNARD WASHINGTON, Vocational Nurse License Number 177155, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.



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