

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of	§	AGREED ORDER
Registered Nurse License Number 984418	§	
& Vocational Nurse License Number 304165	§	
issued to ANTONINA SERGIIVNA LEFANG	§	
	§	

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ANTONINA SERGIIVNA LEFANG, Registered Nurse License Number 984418, and Vocational Nurse License Number 304165, 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 24, 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 vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in delinquent status. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Houston Community College, Houston, Texas, on August 11, 2011. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Ideal Professional Institute, Miami Gardens, Florida, on December 1, 2018. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 3, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on January 29, 2020.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/2011 – 3/2012	Unknown	
3/2012 – 9/2018	Licensed Vocational Nurse	STAR Home Health Houston, Texas
4/2018 – 9/2018	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Epic Health Services Houston, Texas
9/2018 – 2/2020	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health Sherman, Texas
2/2020 - Present	Unknown	

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) year and four (4) months.
7. On or about January 18, 2020, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, Respondent failed to initiate emergency services after pediatric Patient L.M. exhibited a fever, congestion with mucous, diarrhea, and oxygen saturation decreasing to 91%; instead, Respondent waited more than three (3) hours before transporting the patient to the emergency room in her personal vehicle. The patient was admitted to the ICU with pneumonia and sepsis, and expired the next day. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient to risk of injury from delayed medical treatment and may have contributed to the patient's demise.
8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states she cared for the patient on January 11, 2020, noted the patient's cough and congestion and called the patient's primary care physician who prescribed prednisone for five (5) days. Respondent states there was no escalation of care by the other nurse during the week when the patient's condition did not improve and also states there were no interventions provided by the other nurse during the week after the patient was seen at the hospital on January 14, 2020, and diagnosed with bronchial inflammation. Respondent states she next cared for the patient on January 18, 2020, and noticed the patient was still congested and coughing. Respondent states she tried to call the patient's physician, but there was no answer. Respondent also states she showed initiative in taking the patient to the emergency room after the physician did not return her calls. Respondent states she did not contact 911 as the patient was not exhibiting any signs of respiratory distress and also states she decided to transport the patient in her personal vehicle to the hospital four (4) miles from the residence. Further, Respondent states the patient walked into the emergency with no signs or symptoms of respiratory distress.

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) 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 984418, and Vocational Nurse License Number 304165, heretofore issued to ANTONINA SERGIIVNA LEFANG.
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 984418, and Vocational Nurse License Number 304165, previously issued to ANTONINA SERGIIVNA LEFANG, 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" and RESPONDENT may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state.

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. **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 www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.*

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.

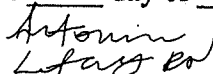
BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

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 _____ day of _____, 20____.



ANTONINA SERGIIVNA LEFANG, RESPONDENT

05/07/2021

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.




Yong An, Attorney for Respondent

05/07/2021

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 7th day of May, 2021, by ANTONINA SERGIIVNA LEFANG, Registered Nurse License Number 984418, and Vocational Nurse License Number 304165, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 8th day of June, 2021.



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