

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED ORDER Registered Nurse License Number 745274 \$ issued to BRADLEY EDWARD WILHITE \$

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of BRADLEY EDWARD WILHITE, Registered Nurse License Number 745274, 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 21, 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 a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from University of Texas, Arlington, Texas, on May 10, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 24, 2007.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

7/2007 – 6/2011 RN Cook Children's Medical Center Fort Worth, Texas

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

7/2011 – 2/2013	RN	Sunrise Home Healthcare Garland, Texas
2/2013 – 7/2014	RN	Interim Home Healthcare Arlington, Texas
8/2014 – 3/2015	RN	Northeast Home Healthcare Arlington, Texas
4/2015 – 9/2018	RN	Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital Arlington, Texas
10/2018 - 12/2018	Unknown	
10/2018 - 12/2018 1/2019 - 6/2019	Unknown	DFW Home Health Arlington, Texas
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- 6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, and had been in that position for three (3) years and four (4) months.
- 7. On or about September 22, 2018, through September 25, 2018, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent withdrew two (2) injections of Morphine 4mg/1ml and one (1) injection of Hydromorphone 2mg/1ml from the medication dispensing system for patients without a valid physician's order. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients, in that the administration of medications without a valid physician's order could result in the patient suffering from adverse reactions, and Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 8. On or about September 22, 2018, through September 27, 2018, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent withdrew nine (9) injections of Morphine 4mg/1ml from the medication dispensing system for a patient but failed to administer the medication as ordered in that the medication was administered in excess frequency of the physician's order. More

specifically, Respondent administered the Morphine to the patient before it was due. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that the administration of medication in excess frequency and/or dosage of the physicians' orders could result in the patient suffering from adverse reactions. Additionally, Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

- 9. On or about September 22, 2018, through September 27, 2018, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent withdrew thirteen (13) injections of Morphine 4mg/1ml and three (3) injections of Hydromorphone 2mg/1ml from the medication dispensing system for patients but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of the unused portions of the medications. Respondent's conduct left medications unaccounted for, was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy, and placed the pharmacy in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 10. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Nine (9), Respondent states it was impossible to administer a medication without an order as the hospital had protocols in place to avoid such errors. Respondent states once a medication was removed from the dispensing system, it was administered as ordered. Respondent used the hospital's electronic bar verification system to confirm the administration of medication, and when that was not an option, he would document that a scanner was unavailable and documented the administration in his notes or in the comments section. Respondent states that due to patient load, waste was often done before the end of the shift.
- 11. Formal Charges were filed on May 27, 2020.
- 12. On or about January 14, 2021, Respondent successfully completed a Board approved class in Jurisprudence and Ethics, which would have been a requirement of this Order.

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)&(3) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(10)(C)&(11)(B).

- 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 745274, heretofore issued to BRADLEY EDWARD WILHITE.
- 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 WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS 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. <u>The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"</u> a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension.
- B. A Board-approved course in medication administration 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: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the six (6) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. 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.

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 <u>not</u> 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 four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) 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. Incident Reporting: While employed as a Registered Nurse with Mission Care Home Health Services, Inc., Arlington, Texas, and as a Registered Nurse with Healthwatch Professionals, Richardson, Texas, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to immediately submit any and all incident, counseling, variance, unusual occurrence, and medication or other error reports involving RESPONDENT, as well as documentation of any internal investigations regarding action by RESPONDENT, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. Should Respondent's employment as a Registered Nurse with Mission Care Home Health Services, Inc., Arlington, Texas, or employment as a Registered Nurse with Healthwatch Professionals, Richardson, Texas cease or change for any reason, multiple employers shall be prohibited without exception.
- D. Indirect Supervision: Should Respondent's employment as a Registered Nurse with Mission Care Home Health Services, Inc., Arlington, Texas, and employment as a Registered Nurse with Healthwatch Professionals, Richardson, Texas, cease or change: 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 four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

VI. SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, should the RESPONDENT'S conduct, as outlined in the findings of fact of this Agreed Order, result in subsequent judicial action, including a deferred disposition, RESPONDENT may be subject to further disciplinary action, up to, and including, revocation of RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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 A day of Out, 2021.			
	BRADLEY EDWARD WILHITE, 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.			
	Frank A. King, Attorney for Respondent			
	Signed this day of, 20			

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	
	BRADLEY EDWARD WILHITE, RESPONDENT			
Sworn to and subscribed before me	this day o	f,	20	
SEAL			***************************************	
	Notary Public i	n and for the Sta	ite of	
	Frank A. King.	form and substa	espondent	
	Signed this 22	day of Jul	y . 2021.	

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 21st day of July, 2021, by BRADLEY EDWARD WILHITE, Registered Nurse License Number 745274, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 10^{th} day of August, 2021.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board