



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 |
| Vocational Nurse License Number 215123 | § | |
| issued to LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS | § | |
| | § | |

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS, Vocational Nurse License Number 215123, 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),(12)&(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 June 8, 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 Galen College of Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, on February 9, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on March 4, 2008.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

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|-------------------|---------|
| 03/2008 – 01/2017 | Unknown |
|-------------------|---------|

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------|--|
| 02/2017 – 09/2017 | LVN | Hearne Healthcare Hearne, Texas |
| 06/2017 – 09/2017 | LVN | Cross Roads Nursing Care Facility Hearne, Texas |
| 10/2017 – 10/2019 | LVN | Aveanna Home Health Care Temple, Texas |
| 08/2019 – 02/2020 | LVN | Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health Temple, Texas |
| 01/2020 – 06/2020 | LVN | Thrive Home Health Temple, Texas |
| 04/2020 – 08/2020 | LVN | Aveanna Health Care Temple, Texas |
| 09/2020 – Present | Unknown | |

6. On or about November 16, 2007, Respondent was issued an Agreed Order through an Order of the Board. On or about November 6, 2009, Respondent successfully completed the terms of the Order. A copy of the November 16, 2007, 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 Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Austin, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) months.
8. On or about October 7, 2019, through October 23, 2019, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Austin, Texas, and while assigned to provide nursing care for Patient DB, Respondent falsified start times on ten (10) nursing visit notes for Patient DB. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud and deceive the facility of money paid to the Respondent for hours not actually worked.
9. On or about July 29, 2020, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Aveanna Healthcare, Temple, Texas, and assigned to provide nursing care to Patient OD, Respondent failed to assess the patient at the start of her shift. Instead, Respondent performed her shift assessment four (4) hours into her shift. Respondent's conduct was

likely to injure the patient in that failure to assess the patient at the start of her shift could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment.

10. On or about July 29, 2020, through July 30, 2020, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Aveanna Healthcare, Temple, Texas, and assigned to provide nursing care to Patient OD, Respondent lacked fitness to practice in that she was sleeping while on duty. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
11. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) through Ten (10), Respondent states she would follow the parent's instruction and meet the child at school. Respondent states there was a total of eleven (11) hours in which the child was not in her care and she repaid the eleven (11) hours of wages to the facility. In response to Finding of Fact Number Ten (10) specifically, Respondent states she was feeling ill and if she dozed off it was only for a few moments. Respondent states she is no longer practicing nursing and is no longer able to continue maintaining her nursing license.

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)(D),(1)(T)&(2) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12 (1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(E),(4),(5),(6)(A)&(6)(H).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b) (10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 215123, heretofore issued to LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS.
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 **REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS** and RESPONDENT'S license(s), and any privilege(s) to practice, as applicable, shall be placed in **INACTIVE** status.

Should RESPONDENT decide in the future to reactivate his/her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, RESPONDENT SHALL be required to petition the Board for reactivation of the license and satisfy all then existing requirements for reactivation. Further, RESPONDENT'S reactivated license(s) SHALL BE subject to, at a minimum, the remedial education courses, work restrictions, supervised practice, and employer reporting which would have been requirements of this Order had RESPONDENT not chosen to inactivate his/her nursing license(s).

Until such time that RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are reactivated, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT use a Privilege to Practice Nursing in the State of Texas from any Nurse License Compact member state.

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

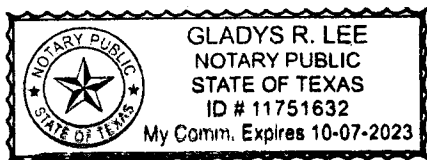
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, 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. I further understand that, should I decide in the future to reactivate my license(s), I will be required to satisfy, at a minimum, the additional requirements that would have been part of this Order had the license(s) not been placed in inactive status, as stated herein, as well as all then existing requirements for reactivation.

Signed this 2 day of July, 20 21.

Laura Ross Mathieus
LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of July, 20 21.

SEAL



Gladys R. Lee
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 2nd day of July, 2021, by LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS, Vocational Nurse License Number 215123, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of August, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Katherine A. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| In the Matter of | § | |
| LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS | § | ORDER OF |
| PETITIONER for Eligibility for | § | CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY |
| Licensure | § | |

On the date entered below, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Application for Initial Licensure by Examination and supporting documents filed by LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and PETITIONER's Certificate contained herein. Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may have violated Section 301.452 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.

A public meeting was held on August 14, 2007, by the Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee of the Board of Nurse Examiners (Board), at 333 Guadalupe, Tower 3, Suite 460, Austin, Texas, in which the application of LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS, was considered.

PETITIONER appeared in person. PETITIONER was notified of her right to be represented by legal counsel and elected to waive representation by counsel.

Board Members in attendance were: Deborah Bell, CLU, ChFC; Linda Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP; and Beverley Nutall, LVN. Staff present were: Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director; James W. Johnston, General Counsel; Victoria Cox, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, Director, Enforcement Division; and Cynthia LoCastro, Legal Assistant.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about December 28, 2006, Petitioner submitted an Application for Initial Licensure by Examination in compliance with Section 301.257 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
2. Petitioner waived representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review.
3. Petitioner received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Galen Health, San Antonio, Texas, in February 2007.
4. Petitioner completed the Application for Licensure by Examination and answered "yes" to Question Number Three (3), which reads as follows: *"Has any licensing authority refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a professional license or certificate held by you now or previously, or ever fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?"*
5. A letter dated February 20, 2007, was submitted to the Board by Angie Stewart-Mazza, Legal Assistant, Oklahoma State Department of Health, stating that on or about November 6, 2001, allegations were made against Petitioner of mistreatment and neglect. Petitioner failed to dispute the allegations resulting in a permanent abuse record against her Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) License.
6. On May 16, 2007, Petitioner was seen by Matthew L. Ferrara, Ph.D., to undergo a forensic psychological evaluation and a polygraph examination. Three sources of information were examined: social history, psychological testing, and polygraph testing. Two of the three sources of information showed deception related to the incident in Oklahoma against her CNA license. Overall, it appears that Petitioner is hiding something with regard to the incident in question.
7. After considering the action taken by the Oklahoma State Department of Health along with Petitioner's conduct since November 6, 2001, the Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that Petitioner is able to meet the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.
8. The Board received letters of support/recommendation for Petitioner from the following:
 - A letter of reference dated January 17, 2001, was submitted to the Board by Petitioner from Tonya Hendricks, Administrator, Grace Living Center, Mangum, Oklahoma.
9. Petitioner presented sufficient evidence that she would not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of patients and the public, provided she comply with the stipulations as outlined in this Order.

10. The Committee's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
11. Petitioner has been advised by the Board that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect or misleading will be considered and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through fraud or deceit.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board of Nurse Examiners has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
2. Petitioner has submitted an application in compliance with Section 301.257 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
3. The action taken by another jurisdiction is grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
4. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452, Texas Occupations Code.
5. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27, the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon meeting the requirements for graduation and payment of any required fees, LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS, PETITIONER, is CONDITIONALLY ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN® Examination). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Nurse in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that PETITIONER SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code

§§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *et seq.*, and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that PETITIONER, upon attaining a passing grade on the NCLEX-PN®, shall be issued a license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, which shall bear the appropriate notation and PETITIONER SHALL be subject to the following stipulation(s).

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure in the State of Texas, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include nurses. It shall be a minimum of six (6) contact 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 Chemical Dependency, and Lying and Falsification. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. PETITIONER SHALL

CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify PETITIONER's successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure. *Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address:*
<http://www.bne.state.tx.us/about/stipscourses.html>.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A VOCATIONAL NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND PETITIONER MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

(2) PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER's license. PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(3) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Petitioner by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.

(4) PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as PETITIONER, 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 experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the Petitioner is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(5) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Petitioner by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER's capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past disciplinary actions, and I have caused a complete and accurate history to be submitted to the Board of Nurse Examiners from each jurisdiction in which I have been disciplined. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Application for Initial Licensure by Examination, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction.

In connection with my application, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Section 301.257, Texas Occupations Code, Section 301.452(a), (b) and (c), Texas Occupations Code, and Texas Occupations Code, and Board Rules 213.27 and 213.29 at 22 Texas Administrative Code, which are incorporated by reference as a part of this Order. I agree with all terms of this Order, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any stipulations as set out in this Order. I acknowledge that this Order is stipulated and I understand that I am not eligible to receive a Graduate Nurse Permit to practice. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to registering for the NCLEX-PN® Examination or accepting any permit or license from the Board of Nurse Examiners.

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 to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

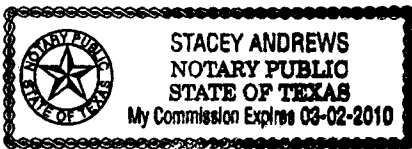
I understand that I can be represented by an attorney in this matter. I waive representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review of this Order and request that the Executive Director of the Board of Nurse Examiners enter this Order.

Signed this 7th day of November, 2007.

Laura Ross Mathiewws
LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th day of November, 2007.


Stacey Andrews
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Order of Conditional Eligibility that was signed on the 7th day of November, 2007, by LAURA ROSS MATHIEWS, PETITIONER, for Application for Initial Licensure by Examination, and said Order is final.

Entered this 16th day of November, 2007.

BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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