

### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of	§	AGREED ORDER	
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License	§		
Number AP120455 with Prescription	§		
Authorization Number 11395	§		
& Registered Nurse License Number 776714	§		
issued to GREGORY NORMAN MROZINSKI	§		

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of GREGORY NORMAN MROZINSKI, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP120455 with Prescription Authorization Number 11395, and Registered Nurse License Number 776714, 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.

An informal conference was conducted on March 2, 2021, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code. Respondent appeared by telephone. Respondent was represented by Jennifer Papapanagiotou, Attorney at Law.

### **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. Respondent's license to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in the State of Texas with authorization as a Family Nurse Practitioner is in current status with Prescription Authorization Number 11395 in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Patty Hanks Shelton-School of Nursing, Abilene, Texas, on July 17, 2009. Respondent completed a Family Nurse

Practitioner Program from Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, on May 1, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 20, 2009. Respondent was licensed to practice advanced practice registered nursing in the State of Texas with authorization as a Family Nurse Practitioner on June 28, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice advanced practice registered nursing in the State of Texas with authorization as a Family Nurse Practitioner with Prescription Authorization on June 28, 2011.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/2009 - 2014	Unknown	
2015-2016	Family Nurse Practitioner	Mainland Primary Care Physicians Texas City, Texas
1/2016- Present	Family Nurse Practitioner	St. Elizabeth Urgent Care Dickinson, Texas

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner with St. Elizabeth Urgent Care, Dickinson, Texas, and had been in that position for four (4) years.
- 7. On or about May 27, 2016, through February 28, 2020, while employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner with St. Elizabeth Urgent Care, Dickinson, Texas, Respondent failed to completely and precisely document in the medical record of Patient SN, including current medications and treatment plans, routine progesterone prescriptions, increasing doses of progesterone, and mammogram dates. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would not have accurate and complete information on which to base their care decisions.
- 8. On or about January 30, 2020, through February 29, 2020, while employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner with St. Elizabeth Urgent Care, Dickinson, Texas, Respondent failed to collaborate with a supervising physician and/or gynecologist when the aforementioned Patient SN experienced heavy bleeding after insertion of BioTE pellets containing estrogen and testosterone, and instead continued to increase the patient's progesterone dose up to 600 mg without further assessment. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient to a risk of harm from adverse effects of hormone dosing and continued uterine bleeding.
- 9. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states that he has been treating this patient since June 2016, including administration of BioTE pellets at doses determined by the patient's history, symptoms, lab results and the dosage recommended by BioTE's dosage calculator. Respondent states that bleeding is one of the possible side effects of the pellets, which is listed in the informed consent documentation that was discussed with the patient prior to each pelleting procedure. Respondent states and clinic records reflect that the patient called the clinic on

February 6, 2020, to report that she was bleeding, and a prescription for 200 mg progesterone once a day was sent to the patient's pharmacy, in order to address the bleeding. Respondent states and clinic records reflect that the patient called again on February 20, 2020, and reported that she was still experiencing bleeding. Respondent states and clinic records show that he told her to increase the dose to 300 mg for two days, and if it did not get better, then to increase it to 400 mg. Respondent states and clinic records reflect that while he was out of the office, the patient visited the clinic on February 24, 2020, and saw another nurse practitioner trained in BioTE. At that visit, clinic records show that the patient reported that she went to the hospital the previous day for continued bleeding, that an ultrasound of her lower abdomen and uterus was performed that was negative, that lab work showed she was anemic, and that she was advised by the hospital ER physician to take iron for the anemia. Clinic records reflect that the patient reported during the February 24, 2020, visit that her bleeding had subsided, she felt better, and that she had a follow-up visit with her gynecologist the next month. Clinic records show that Respondent reviewed the notes of the February 24, 2020, clinic visit and asked his medical assistant to follow-up with the patient by phone to advise that she could increase progesterone to 500mg if necessary to slow her bleeding. Clinic records reflect Respondent's medical assistant spoke to the patient on February 26, 2020, to convey Respondent's recommendation and the patient again reported her bleeding was lessening. Clinic records next show that the patient's husband contacted the clinic on February 28, 2020(a Friday) in the afternoon asking to speak to a clinic physician who was not in the office that day. Respondent states and clinic records show that Respondent spoke to the patient the following day, February 29, 2020 (a Saturday). During that conversation, clinic documentation shows the patient reported to Respondent that she had been having a normal cycle flow with some clots, that she was taking 400mg of progesterone, and that her bleeding was improving. Respondent states and clinic records reflect that Respondent advised the patient that she could increase the progesterone to 600mg to stop any further spotting, she should continue iron supplements and get plenty of fluids, and they would then taper her progesterone down slowly as her estradiol levels fell. Respondent states and clinic records indicate that he gave the patient his personal cell phone number so she could contact him over the weekend with any additional concerns, and that he asked her to touch base with him the following Monday. Respondent states that the patient did not report any side effects at any of her five previous treatments and one booster treatment, nor did she report any issues with spotting or bleeding prior to her pellet treatment on February 4, 2020. Respondent states that he diligently responded to the patient's reports of bleeding and recommended appropriate treatment with increasing doses of progesterone as recommended by BioTE's protocol, either speaking to her directly or through his medical assistant on at least five (5) separate occasions after the patient received BioTE pellets on February 4, 2020. Respondent further states that no consultation with his collaborating physician was necessary since the patient's bleeding was a known side effect of BioTE treatment.

## **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)(M)&(4)(B), 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C)&(4), 221.12(1). and 221.13.
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP120455 with Prescription Authorization Number 11395, and Registered Nurse License Number 776714, heretofore issued to GREGORY NORMAN MROZINSKI.
- 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** 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: <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 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.

- C. <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.
- D. <u>The course "Determining APRN Scope of Practice,"</u> a 1.4 contact hour online program provided by the Texas Board of Nursing. Information about this course is available at <a href="https://www.bon.texas.gov/catalog/product/#bon-course-aprnscope">https://www.bon.texas.gov/catalog/product/#bon-course-aprnscope</a> or from the "CNE Workshops/Webinars" section of the Board's website under "News" menu.

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 an advanced practice registered 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 an advanced practice registered nurse have elapsed. Periods of unemployment or of employment that do not require the use of an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) license will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement. Further, Respondent may not work as a registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as applicable, while under the terms of this Order.

A. Notifying Present and Future Employers, Practice Sites and Credentialing Agencies: RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT'S license(s). RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the

Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers, practice sites and/or credentialing agencies in nursing and present a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, to each future employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing prior to accepting an offer of employment and/or assignment.

- B. Notification of Employment Forms: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form, which is provided to the RESPONDENT by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form, which is provided to the RESPONDENT by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. Monitored Practice: RESPONDENT'S advanced practice registered nursing must be monitored by a Physician or an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse in the same advanced role and population focus area as RESPONDENT who has been approved by the Board. RESPONDENT MUST, within ten (10) days of entry of this Order or within (10) days of employment as an advanced practice registered nurse, provide to the Board a list of three (3) Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and/or three (3) Physicians from which the Board shall select an approved monitor. For each Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and Physician, the list must include name, license number or social security number, educational background and professional employment history. Monitoring shall commence no later than thirty (30) days following the date of RESPONDENT'S receipt of the name of the approved monitor selected by the Board. The monitor will offer guidance, advice and assistance to the RESPONDENT as necessary to ensure that deficiencies such as those set forth in this Order do not reoccur. RESPONDENT SHALL meet with the monitor at least twice a month, at least one (1) hour duration each. Meetings may be longer and more frequent if the monitor determines necessary. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- D. Nursing Performance Reports: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each supervising/monitoring Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician 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 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician who supervises/monitors the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising/monitoring Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician 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. 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 16 day of September, 2021.

GREGORY NORMAN MROZINSKI, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this //L

ADRIANA CERVANTES
Notary ID #129280758
My Commission Expires
June 4, 2025

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form and substance.

Jennifer Papapanagiotou, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 16th day of September , 20 21

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 16th day of September, 2021, by GREGORY NORMAN MROZINSKI, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP120455, and Registered Nurse License Number 776714, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of October, 2021.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board