In the Matter of **Permanent Vocational Nurse** License Number 326525 Issued to KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, Respondent

**BEFORE THE TEXAS** 

**BOARD OF NURSING** 

8888 **ELIGIBILITY AND** 

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

# ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Katie Sandoval 2830 Arica Lane Spring, TX 77373

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on November 9, 2021, the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by

xecutive Director of the Board

reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing [22 Tex. ADMIN. Code § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 326525, previously issued to KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/are hereby, REVOKED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

Entered this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021

Ketherine Ci Thomas

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charges filed August 4, 2021

d17r(2021.10.20)

Re: Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 326525 Issued to KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the Ath day of November	_, $20$ $\cancel{\mathcal{U}}$ , a true and
correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the	e following person(s),
as follows:	1

<u>Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested,</u> <u>Copy Via USPS First Class Mail</u>

> Katie Sandoval 2830 Arica Lane Spring, TX 77373

> > BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

In the Matter of	§	BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Vocational Nurse	§	DEFORE THE TEXAS
License Number 326525	§	
Issued to KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL,	§	BOARD OF NURSING
Respondent	§	DOARD OF NURSING

### FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 326525 which is in current status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

### CHARGE I.

On or about June 11, 2019, through December 3, 2019, Respondent became noncompliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on June 11, 2019. Noncompliance is the result of her having multiple employers. Respondent was employed with Harris County Mental Health & IDD, Houston, Texas and Santa Maria Hostel, Houston, Texas. Additionally, Respondent was not being properly supervised while working. Section VI, Stipulation C of the Agreed Order dated June 11, 2019, states:

"(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. Multiple employers are prohibited."

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE \$217.12(11)(B).

## **CHARGE II.**

On or about May 20, 2020, Respondent became noncompliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on May 12, 2020. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to notify her employer, Santa Maria Hostel, Houston, Texas, of the Order of the Board and the stipulations on her license. Section VI, Stipulation A of the Agreed Order dated May 12, 2020, states:

"(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."

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

## CHARGE III.

On or about May 25, 2020, Respondent became noncompliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on May 12, 2020. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to notify her present employer, Santa Maria Hostel, Houston, Texas, to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form. Furthermore, Respondent submitted a forged Notification of Employment Form. Section VI, Stipulation B of the Agreed Order dated May 12, 2020, states:

"(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."

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) and/or privilege(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 213.27 - 213.33.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, <a href="www.bon.texas.gov">www.bon.texas.gov</a>.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, located at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.33(b), which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of the Board's website, <a href="www.bon.texas.gov">www.bon.texas.gov</a>.

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CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order(s) which is/are attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Order(s) of the Board dated June 11, 2019, and May 12, 2020.

Filed this 4th day of August, 2021.

## TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

James W. Johnston, General Counsel

for bringe

Board Certified - Administrative Law

Texas Board of Legal Specialization

State Bar No. 10838300

Jena Abel, Deputy General Counsel

Board Certified - Administrative Law

Texas Board of Legal Specialization State Bar No. 24036103

Brian L. Miller, Jr., Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 24117478

Georgette Oden, Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 24029752

JoAnna Starr, Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 24098463

Jacqueline A. Strashun, Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 19358600

John Vanderford, Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 24086670

333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460 Austin, Texas 78701

P: (512) 305-8657

F: (512) 305-8101 or (512) 305-7401

Attachment(s): Order(s) of the Board dated June 11, 2019, and May 12, 2020.

D(2021.06.30)



## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER

Vocational Nurse License Number 326525 issued to KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL

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On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, Vocational Nurse License Number 326525, 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 March 25, 2019.

## 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.
- Respondent's license to practice as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Downey Adult School, Downey, California, on December 19, 2013. Respondent was licensed to practice yocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 24, 2015.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

6/2015 - 10/2015

J. 12472518

LVN

Pasadena Care Center

Charge Nurse

Pasadena, Texas

# Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

10/2015 - 4/2018	LVN DON	Into Action Recovery Center Houston, Texas
10/2015 - 9/2016	LVN	National Nursing and Rehab Houston, Texas
9/2016- 8/2017	LVN	Encompass Houston, Texas
4/2018 - 6/2018	Unknown	
6/2018 9/2018	LVN	Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care Conroe, Texas
10/2018 - Current	LVN PRN	The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD Houston, Texas

- At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care, Conroe, Texus, and had been in that position for one (1) month.
- 7. On or about July 7, 2018 through September 23, 2018, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care, Conroe, Texas, Respondent failed to apply a ventilator to Patient SG, as ordered by a physician. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the resident in that failure to administer the ventilator as ordered by a physician could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment.
- 8. On or about July 7, 2018 through September 23, 2018, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care, Conroe, Texas, Respondent falsely documented that she applied the ventilator to Patient SG. In addition, Respondent admitted to facility staff to falsely documenting the treatment. Respondent's conduct created an inaccurate medical record and failure to administer the ventilator as ordered by the physician could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment.
- 9. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent admits to failing to apply the ventilator as ordered, citing poor training and inability to get help from the facility or the patient's caregivers. Respondent neither admits nor denies falsely documenting the treatment

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 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)&(1)(D) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE \$217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(4),(6)(A),(6)(H)&(10)(B).
- 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
  326525, heretofore issued to KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL.
- 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 FINE 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" 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: the board board bear good understanding Board Orders under 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 norsing 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. The course "Shurpening 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.hun.texas.gov.compliance.

#### V. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

### VI. 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 (b-1) 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 not 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

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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.

## 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) 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 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.

Signed this b day of May, 2019.

Katta Sancle Lin

KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16 day of May 2019.

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SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

GERALDINE PARRIOS MORENOS. Hotary Public, State of Texas Comm. Expires 02-04-2021 Hidrary 10 126541214

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 16th day of May, 2019, by KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, Vocational Nurse License Number 326525, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of June, 2019.

Ketherine Co. Thomas

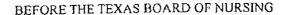
Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

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In the Matter of Vocational Nurse License Number 326525 issued to KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL

AGREED ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, consuceed the matter of KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, Vocational Nurse License Number 326525, 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 December 20, 2019.

## 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 Downey Adult School, Downey, California, on December 19, 2013. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 24, 2015.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

6/2015 - 10/2015

Licensed Vocational Nurse

Charge Nurse

Pasadena Care Center Pasadena, Texas

C10sn

# Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

10/2015 – 4/2018	Licensed Vocational Nurse Director of Nursing	Into Action Recovery Center Houston, Texas
10/2015 - 9/2016	Licensed Vocational Nurse	National Nursing and Rehab Houston, Texas
9/2016 – 8/2017	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Encompass Houston, Texas
5/2018	Unknown	
5/2018 6/2018 – 9/2018	Unknown Licensed Vocational Nurse	Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care Conroe, Texas

- 6. On or about June 11, 2019, Respondent was issued the sanction of Reprimand with Stipulations through an Order of the Board. A copy of the June 11, 2019, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 7. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD, Houston, Texas, and had been in that position for nine (9) months.
- 8. On or about July 30, 2019, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse in the Crisis Stabilization Unit at The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD, Houston, Texas, Respondent failed to completely and accurately document in the medical record of Patient Case #200039 that the physician was notified regarding the accidental ingestion of another patient's medication, that the patient was educated on possible side effects of the medication and monitored appropriately, vital signs were taken and monitored, and one of the patient's medications was held by the physician. Subsequently, the aforementioned patient's physician documented the following day that she did not know why the patient's medication was held. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete and inaccurate medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent caregivers did not have complete and accurate information on which to base their decisions for further care.
- 9. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states that she administered the medication to the wrong consumer. Respondent states that during medication pass time, nurses call the consumer up to the nursing station desk for medication and consumers are identified by name, date of birth, picture, and identification

bracelet before medications are given. Respondent states the consumer was properly identified, medication was called out, and the pill was placed in the medication cup. Respondent states that at the time the medication was handed to the consumer, another consumer was waiting for medication. Respondent states the consumer who received the medication cup put it down and said he forgot his water. The consumer behind him walked up and took the medication like it was his. Respondent states that she asked the second consumer why he picked the medication and took it when he had not been called yet. Respondent states that the consumer who took the wrong medication was checked on, vitals taken, and medical doctor on duty was notified, with orders received to hold the consumer's trazodone that was due for that night. Respondent states she completed the incident report and informed her supervisor.

## **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)&(1)(D) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(B)&(1)(C).
- 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 326525, heretofore issued to KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL.
- 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 Vocational Nurse License Number 326525, previously issued to

KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, 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. SUPERSEDING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction and conditions of this Agreed Order SHALL supersede all previous stipulations required by any Order entered by the Texas Board of Nursing.

## IV. 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.

## V. 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. 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.hon.texas gov/compliance.

## VI. 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.

### VII. 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.

### VIII. 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.

## 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.

Signed this What day of April , 20 20.

Katte finda

KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16 day of AR/1, 20 20.

SEAL SEAL

AUSTIN BENSON lotary Public, State of Texas Comm. Expires 05-25-2022 Notary ID 129779827

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 16th day of April, 2020, by KATIE MARIE SANDOVAL, Vocational Nurse License Number 326525, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 12th day of May, 2020.

Letterine C. Thomas

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board