



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

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In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER  
Registered Nurse License Number 947900 §  
issued to SARAI YVETTE AMBRIZ §  
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of SARAI YVETTE AMBRIZ, Registered Nurse License Number 947900, 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)(effective through 8/31/21), 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 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 Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, Texas, on May 12, 2018. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 26, 2018.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

6/2018 - Present	Registered Nurse	Valley Baptist Medical Center/Tenet Healthcare Harlingen, Texas
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6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Valley Baptist Medical Center/Tenet Healthcare, Harlingen, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) years and seven (7) months.
7. On or about January 22, 2021, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Valley Baptist Medical Center/Tenet Healthcare, Harlingen, Texas, Respondent entered a verbal order to discontinue 2 mg Dilaudid by mouth (PO) and change to 2mg Dilaudid intravenously (IV) for Patient MRN 308509157, without questioning or clarifying the high dosage with the physician. The dose was in excess of the normal IV dose for an elderly patient with reduced kidney function. Subsequently, Respondent administered the medication to the patient, who then became bradycardic and coded approximately six minutes later, and ultimately expired on January 25, 2021, from cardiac arrest/post-code blue complications. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient from adverse effects due to possible over dosage of narcotic medication, including respiratory depression, bradycardia, apnea, and cardiac arrest.
8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that the patient's primary care team had discontinued pain medications ordered by the surgeon. Respondent states that she asked the resident about it and was told that they discontinued and switched the medications based on the patient's kidney function. Respondent states that she opened up the chart and showed the resident the order which reflected Dilaudid 2 mg PO, and the resident clarified by removing his mask to make sure she could understand him and said that was incorrect, he wanted the medication IV. Respondent states that she asked the resident if he wanted the medication IV instead of PO and the same milligrams in which he confirmed yes, he did want her to change the order. Respondent then entered the verbal order into the computer. Respondent states that later, the patient reported pain, so she checked the patient's vital signs and administered the IV Dilaudid over 2 minutes. Respondent states that the patient reported relief from her pain, so Respondent went to check her other patients. Not long after that, Respondent states that she was called by the emergency telemetry line and was told that the patient's heart rate was dropping critically low. Respondent states that she ran to the room and found the patient unresponsive, with no pulse; staff arrived with the crash cart and Respondent administered Narcan. They obtained return of circulation and transferred the patient to the intensive care unit.

#### 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)(M),(1)(N)&(1)(P) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A), (1)(B)&(4).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13) (effective through 8/31/21), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 947900, heretofore issued to SARAI YVETTE AMBRIZ.
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. Until successfully completed, RESPONDENT may not practice nursing in the State of Texas except in accordance with the terms of this Order.
- D. 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. **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 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 not being offered by a pre-approved provider. *Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at [www.bon.texas.gov/compliance](http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance).*

V. **EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS**

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. Periods of unemployment or of employment that do not require the use of a registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as appropriate, will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

- A. **Notifying Present and Future Employers:** RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- B. **Notification of Employment Forms:** RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. **Indirect Supervision:** 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, with the exception of long term assignments at the same facility lasting at least one (1) quarter [three (3) months] in duration as a Registered Nurse with Valley Baptist Medical Center/Tenet Healthcare, Harlingen, Texas. Should Respondent's employment as a Registered Nurse with Valley Baptist Medical Center/Tenet Healthcare, Harlingen, Texas, cease or change, employment with a temporary nurse employment agency shall be prohibited. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

- D. **Nursing Performance Evaluations:** RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the RESPONDENT by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the individual who supervises the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising individual to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

**VI. 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 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021.

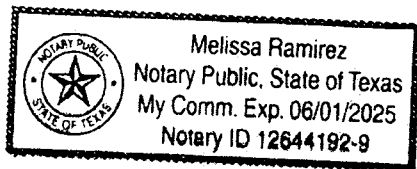
Sarah Yvette Ambriz  
SARAI YVETTE AMBRIZ, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021.

SEAL

[Signature]

Notary Public in and for the State of TX



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 9th day of November, 2021, by SARAI YVETTE AMBRIZ, Registered Nurse License Number 947900, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of December, 2021.



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