



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
Vocational Nurse License Number 196311
issued to PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU

§
§
§
§

AGREED ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU, Vocational Nurse License Number 196311, 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 August 31, 2021), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on January 20, 2023.

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 Central Texas College, Killeen, Texas, on August 14, 2004. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 9, 2004.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/2004 – 12/2005 Unknown

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

01/2006 – 04/2018	LVN	Maxim Health Care Services Austin, Texas
11/2006 – 09/2018	LVN	PSA Healthcare Services Austin, Texas
Unknown – 11/2019	LVN	Brush Country Nursing & Rehab Austin, Texas
09/2019 – 11/2019	LVN	Austin Wellness & Rehab Austin, Texas
11/2019 – 07/2021	LVN	Special Kids Care, Austin, Texas
08/2021 – Present	LVN	Team Select Home Care Austin, Texas

6. On or about October 25, 2018, Respondent was issued the sanction of Warning with Stipulations through an Order of the Board. On or about October 21, 2019, Respondent successfully completed the terms of the Order. A copy of the October 25, 2018, 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 Special Kids Care, Austin, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) year and eight (8) months.
8. On or about July 19, 2021, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Special Kids Care, Austin, Texas, and assigned to provide nursing care to Patient L. S., Respondent used nontherapeutic tone, language, and touch with the patient. Respondent's conduct could have caused harm to the patient and might have interfered or disrupted the patient's treatment.
9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent admits her tone of voice went up unknowingly, in response to the patient acting out and attempting to damage property. Respondent states the patient began climbing the bed frame and she was nervous as he may slip and fall. She states the behavior continued without redirection and the patient began to kick the headboard. Respondent states at this time she smacked his feet to stop. She states he continued to kick the bedframe. She states she was unable to redirect him to safety and patient was becoming combative. Respondent states smacking his feet and stating that she may spank him was just a way to redirect him from causing injuries to himself. She states no harm was intended by this.

10. Formal Charges were filed on July 11, 2022.

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), and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B) and (4).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), (effective through August 31, 2021), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 196311, heretofore issued to PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU.
5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS** in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. 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. **The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"** a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) International Center for Regulatory Scholarship (ICRS).

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.*

V. **EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS**

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. Periods of unemployment or of employment that do not require the use of a registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as appropriate, will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

- A. **Notifying Present and Future Employers:** RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- B. **Notification of Employment Forms:** RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.

- C. **Incident Reporting:** While employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Team Select Home Care, Austin, Texas, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to immediately submit any and all incident, counseling, variance, unusual occurrence, and medication or other error reports involving RESPONDENT, as well as documentation of any internal investigations regarding action by RESPONDENT, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office.
- D. **Indirect Supervision:** Should Respondent's employment as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Team Select Home Care, Austin, Texas, cease or change, the following terms shall apply for the duration of the order. 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 four (4) quarters [one (1) year] 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.

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 26th day of January 2023.


PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

SFAL

Notary Public in and for the State of _____


Approved as to form and substance.


Simeon Nwosu, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 26th day of January, 2023.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 26th day of January, 2023, by PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU, Vocational Nurse License Number 196311, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of March, 2023.



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



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
Vocational Nurse License Number 196311 §
issued to PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU, Vocational Nurse License Number 196311, 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 Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on March 12, 2018.

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 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 Central Texas College, Killeen, Texas, on August 14, 2004. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 9, 2004.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

12/2004 - 05/2006	LVN	Scott and White Hospital Austin, Texas
-------------------	-----	---

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

06/2006 - Present	LVN	PSA Healthcare Austin, Texas
04/2017 - 07/2018	LVN	Continental Healthcare Austin, Texas
09/2017 - 12/2017	LVN	Viva Pediatrics Austin, Texas

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Viva Pediatrics, Austin, Texas, and had been in that position for three (3) months.
7. On or about December 20, 2017, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Viva Pediatrics, Austin, Texas, and assigned to provide nursing care to Patient Medical Record Number AUS-1982, Respondent lacked fitness to practice vocational nursing in that she was observed sleeping while on duty. Respondent's condition was likely to injure the patient in that it adversely affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's conditions, 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.
8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent denies. Respondent states she always sings to the patient with her eyes closed. Further, Respondent states it may appear she's sleeping when she looks down.

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)(B) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(E),(4)&(5).
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 196311, heretofore issued to PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU.
5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS** in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. As a result of this Order, Respondent's license(s) will be designated "single state" 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 Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 *et seq.*, and this 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 courses and video programs will not be approved.
- B. 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.bon.texas.gov/compliance.*

V. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have

elapsed. Periods of unemployment or of employment that do not require the use of a registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as appropriate, will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

- A. **Notifying Present and Future Employers:** RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- B. **Notification of Employment Forms:** RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. **Incident Reporting:** While Respondent is employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with PSA Healthcare/ Epic Healthcare, Austin, Texas RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to immediately submit any and all incident, counseling, variance, unusual occurrence, and medication or other error reports involving RESPONDENT, as well as documentation of any internal investigations regarding action by RESPONDENT, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office.
- D. **Indirect Supervision:** Should Respondent's employment as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with PSA Healthcare/ Epic Healthcare, Austin, Texas, cease or change RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse, who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as RESPONDENT, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the Respondent is currently working. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

E. Nursing Performance Evaluations: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the individual who supervises the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising individual to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

VI. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this 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.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

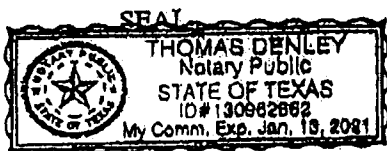
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, a copy will be mailed to me. 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) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

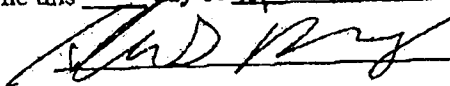
Signed this Feb day of Sept. 17th, 2018.



PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 07th day of September, 2018.





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 7th day of September, 2018, by PATIENCE NWAKAEGO AGU, Vocational Nurse License Number 196311, and said Order is final.

Effective this 25th day of October, 2018.



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