

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of

Registered Nurse License Number 802957

issued to SOUMIA LEFRERE

AGREED ORDER

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On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, consider the matter of SOUMIA LEFRERE, Registered Nurse License Number 802957, 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)(9),(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order approved by Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN. Executive Director, on October 5, 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 professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Austin Community College-Ad, Austin, Texas, on May 11, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 21, 2011.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

6/2011 3/2017

RN

St. David's Medical Center Austin, Texas

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

11/2020 - 12/2020

RN

Halcyon Home Austin, Texas

1/2021 - Present

Not employed in Nursing

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Halcyon Home, Austin. Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) month.
- 7. On or about December 29, 2020, while employed with Haleyon Home LLC, Austin, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing and engaged in the intemperate use of alcohol in that she drove a company car to pick up a post-surgery patient, but never made it to the surgery center because she had been in a car accident and was arrested for intoxication. Additionally, Respondent was transferred to the hospital due to worsening intoxication symptoms. Furthermore, the next morning Respondent called Haleyon Home inquiring about returning to work, but had no recollection of the events of the previous night. Respondent's conduct could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms, or changes in patient's conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 8. On or about November 18, 2022, Respondent was dismissed from the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) for missing four (4) drug screens when selected and for missing multiple check-ins.
- 9. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent does not deny she was struggling with her sobriety in December 2020 while working at Halcyon Home. Respondent states she is committed to her sobriety and received inpatient treatment and intensive outpatient treatment in 2021. Additionally, Respondent states she then lived in a sober living environment for several months and completed an intensive outpatient treatment program in 2022. According to Respondent, she has participated in counseling, has worked with Seton Health Alliance, attends daily AA meetings and remains in close contact with her sponsor. Respondent acknowledges her testing and check-in history has not been perfect, but respectfully asserts that there are explanations for these instances. Per Respondent, despite her dismissal from TPAPN, she continues with recovery and in addition to the steps noted above, continues to complete negative UA's.
- 10. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

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 \$217.12(1)(B),(1)(E),(4),(5),(9)&(10)(A).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 802957, heretofore issued to SOUMIA LEFRERE.
- 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.
- 6. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410. Texas Occupations Code.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that Registered Nurse License Number 802957, previously issued to SOUMIA LEFRERE, to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are hereby **SUSPENDED** and said suspension is **ENFORCED** until RESPONDENT:

- A. Applies to, is accepted into, and completes enrollment in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN), including payment of a non-refundable participation fee to TPAPN in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), if licensed as a registered nurse, or in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00), if licensed as a vocational nurse;
- B. Is <u>cleared to safely practice as a nurse</u> based on a fitness evaluation, as may be required by TPAPN; and

C. Waives confidentiality and provides a copy of the fully executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Board.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of successful completion of the above requirements, the Suspension will be **STAYED**, and RESPONDENT will be placed on **PROBATION** for such time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the TPAPN **AND** until RESPONDENT fulfills the additional requirements of this Order.

- D. RESPONDENT SHALL submit an application for licensure renewal/reactivation, as applicable, and pay all re-registration fees, if any, and RESPONDENT'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be activated and updated to current status and to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.
- E. RESPONDENT SHALL <u>comply with all requirements of the TPAPN</u> <u>participation agreement</u> during its term and SHALL keep all applicable licenses to practice nursing in the State of Texas in current status.
- F. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to <u>notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement</u>.
- G. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- H. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- I. Until successfully completed, RESPONDENT may not practice nursing in the State of Texas except in accordance with the terms of this Order.
- J. 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. 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 suspension being stayed, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

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.

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.

IV. EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE

SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section

301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of RESPONDENT'S license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

V. 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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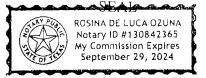
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order and all conditions of said Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing and 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 TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, and/or 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 a day of january, 20 gc.

SOUMIA LEFRERE, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this Quit day of January, 2024.



Notary Public in and for the State of TX

Approved as to form and substance.

Laura Diamond, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 9th day of January 20 24.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>9th</u>

day of January, 2024, by SOUMIA LEFRERE, Registered Nurse License Number 802957, and

said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 12th day of January, 2024.

Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN

Executive Director on behalf of said Board

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