

Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN Executive Director Texas Board of Nursing

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In the Matter of Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 199162 Issued to SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN, Respondent BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING ELIGIBILITY AND

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

ORDER OF THE BOARD

§

TO: Sheryl Pittman 316 Millspaugh #71 San Angelo, TX 76901

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on May 13, 2025, 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 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 199162, previously issued to SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN 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 13th day of May, 2025.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

Kristin K. Berton, DNP, RN

KRISTIN K. BENTON, DNP, RN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charges filed March 15, 2024

d17r(2025.03.24)

Re: Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 199162 Issued to SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE $, 20\overline{\frac{5}{5}}, a true and$ I hereby certify that on the May of _____ May

correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the following person(s),

as follows:

<u>Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested,</u> <u>Copy Via USPS First Class Mail</u> Sheryl Pittman 316 Millspaugh #71 San Angelo, TX 76901

Kristin K. Beston, DNP, RN BY:

KRISTIN K. BENTON, DNP, RN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD In the Matter of Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 199162 Issued to SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN, Respondent

BEFORE THE TEXAS

BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 199162, 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 March 11, 2019, while employed with Cedar Manor Nursing Rehabilitation, San Angelo, Texas, Respondent was seen misappropriating narcotics and leaving the facility. Additionally, Respondent later admitted to the DON and Administrator that she took the narcotics for her own personal use. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the patient of the cost of the medications. Furthermore, unlawful possession of narcotics is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b) (10)&(13)(effective through 8/31/21), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A)&(1)(B), and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B), (6)(G)&(10)(E).

CHARGE II.

On or about February 13, 2020, while participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nursing (TPAPN), Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Alcohol in that she submitted a specimen for drug screening that resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide. The use of Alcohol by a Vocational Nurse while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and 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.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b) (9),(10)&(13) (effective through 8/31/21), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX.

ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A)&(1)(B), and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(5), (10)(A),(10)(D),&(11)(B).

CHARGE III.

On or about September 21, 2020, while participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nursing (TPAPN), Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Barbiturates in that she submitted a specimen for drug screening that resulted positive for barbiturates. Unlawful possession of barbiturates is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The use of barbiturates by a Vocational Nurse while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and 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.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b) (9),(10)&(13)(effective through 8/31/21), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A)&(1)(B), and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(5), (10)(A),(10)(D),&(11)(B).

CHARGE IV.

On or about January 26, 2021, while participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nursing (TPAPN), Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Morphine and Codeine in that you submitted a specimen for drug screening that resulted positive for Morphine and Codeine. Unlawful possession of Morphine and Codeine is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The use of Morphine and Codeine by a Vocational Nurse while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and 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

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b) (9),(10)&(13)(effective through 8/31/21), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A)&(1)(B), and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(5), (10)(A),(10)(D),&(11)(B).

CHARGE V.

On or about June 25, 2021, while participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nursing (TPAPN), Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Alcohol in that she submitted a specimen for drug screening that resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide. The use of Alcohol by a Vocational

Nurse while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and 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.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b) (9),(10)&(13) (effective through 8/31/21), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A)&(1)(B), and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(5), (10)(A),(10)(D),&(11)(B).

CHARGE VI.

On or about July 7, 2021, while participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nursing (TPAPN), Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Alcohol in that she submitted a specimen for drug screening that resulted positive for Phosphatidyl Ethyl. The use of Alcohol by a Vocational Nurse while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and 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.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b) (9),(10)&(13) (effective through 8/31/21), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A)&(1)(B), and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(5), (10)(A),(10)(D),&(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, <u>www.bon.texas.gov</u>.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on adopted policies related to Substance Use Disorders and Other Alcohol and Drug Related Conduct, which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of the Board's website, <u>www.bon.texas.gov</u>.

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, <u>www.bon.texas.gov</u>.

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 October 19, 2012.

Filed this 15th day of March, 2024.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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James W. Johnston, General Counsel Board Certified - Administrative Law Texas Board of Legal Specialization State Bar No. 10838300 John Vanderford, Deputy General Counsel State Bar No. 24086670 JoAnna Starr, Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 24098463 Jacqueline A. Strashun, Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 19358600 Gabriel C. Brake, Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 24064942 Eugene A. Clayborn, Assistant General Counsel Board Certified - Administrative Law Texas Board of Legal Specialization State Bar No. 00785767

1801 Congress Avenue, Suite 10-200 Austin, Texas 78701 P: (512) 305-8657 F: (512) 305-8101 or (512) 305-7401

Attachment(s) Order(s) of the Board dated October 19, 2012.

D(2024.02.06)



BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED Vocational Nurse License Number 199162 § issued to SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board,

considered the matter of SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN, Vocational Nurse License Number 199162,

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 representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on September 24, 2012.

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 representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Howard College San Angelo, San Angelo, Texas on May 14, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 30, 2005.
- 5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

06/2005 - 08/2005 Unknown

Respondent's vocational nursing employment history continued:

08/2005 - 08/2010	Field LVN	Concho Valley Home Health San Angelo, TX
09/2010 - 05/2011	Field LVN	Encompass Home Health San Angelo, TX
05/2011 - 05/2012	LVN	Baptist Retirement Community San Angelo, TX
05/2012 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Baptist Retirement Community, San Angelo, Texas, and had been in this position for eleven (11) months.
- 7. On or about May 2, 2012, while employed at Baptist Retirement Community, San Angelo, Texas 76902, Respondent left her nursing assignment without notifying the appropriate supervisor. Respondent left her patients without nurse coverage for at least forty-three (43) minutes. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure patients in that leaving the nursing assignment could have resulted in the patients not getting the care that they needed.
- 8. Regarding the conduct outlined in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that she was waiting to be relieved from her 6pm to 6am shift, when the relief nurse called in and stated that she had just woke up and would be at work in 40 minutes. Respondent adds that she is a single mother with school aged children who needed to be driven to school. According to Respondent, when the relief nurse had not arrived after 50 minutes, she requested that the nurse on the next unit cover for her and the nurse agreed since it would only be for 15 to 20 minutes. Respondent states that the nurse had a family issue and had to leave but failed to inform her relief nurse to cover Respondent's unit. Respondent states that she would never intentionally leave any patients in harm's way.
- 9. Formal Charges were filed on July 16, 2012.
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on July 18, 2012.

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)(I) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE \$217.12(1)(A),(4)&(12).
- 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 199162, heretofore issued to SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION, and RESPONDENT SHALL 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that, while under the terms of this Order,

this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable

to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact privilege without the written permission of the State of Texas and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully

complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include nurses. It 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. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify RESPONDENT'S successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete 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 program, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this program to the Board's office, to the attention of Monitoring. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. *Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board* website address: <u>http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</u>.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that 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 RESPONDENT shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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/0/199162:177

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 Findings of Fact, 45 Conclusions of Law, 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 revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance. day of LY trainen, 20 Signed this 19 PITTMAN, Respondent 31 Sworp to and subscribed before me this 18 day of October . 20/ SEAL Notary Public in and for the State of TEXA S

MARIA EMA CRUZ Commission Expires Commission Expires

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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>18th</u> day of <u>October</u>, 2012, by SHERYL LYNN PITTMAN, Vocational Nurse License Number 199162, and said Order is final.



Effective this <u>19th</u> day of <u>October</u>, 2012.

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