



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

**In the Matter of
Permanent Vocational Nurse
License Number 345977
Issued to AMBER LYN COOK,
Respondent**

**§ BEFORE THE TEXAS
§ BOARD OF NURSING
§ ELIGIBILITY AND
§ DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Amber Cook
1319 Bayou Dr
San Antonio, TX 78245

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on March 10, 2026, 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 345977, previously issued to AMBER LYN COOK 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 10th day of March, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY: *Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN*

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

Attachment: Formal Charges filed November 26, 2025

d17r(2026.01.29)

Re: Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 345977
Issued to AMBER LYN COOK
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 12th day of MARCH, 2026, a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the following person(s), as follows:

Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested,

Copy Via USPS First Class Mail

Amber Cook
1319 Bayou Dr
San Antonio, TX 78245

Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN

BY: _____

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

**In the Matter of
Permanent Vocational Nurse
License Number 345977
Issued to AMBER LYN COOK,
Respondent**

**§ BEFORE THE TEXAS
§
§
§ BOARD OF NURSING
§**

FIRST AMENDED FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, AMBER LYN COOK, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 345977, 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 May 2, 2024, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on October 16, 2023. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with all requirements of the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) participation agreement, in that Respondent failed to abstain from the consumption of alcohol. On May 2, 2024, Respondent produced a urine specimen for a drug screen that resulted positive for Alcohol, Ethyl. On May 20, 2024, Respondent produced a specimen for a Phosphatidylethanol (PEth) screen that resulted positive for alcohol. Section I, Stipulation E of the Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program dated October 16, 2023, states:

“(E) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term...”

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1),(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(5),(9)&(11)(B).

CHARGE II.

On July 10, 2025, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on October 16, 2023. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with all requirements of the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) participation agreement, in that Respondent failed to refrain from use of controlled substances. On July 10, 2025, Respondent produced a urine specimen for a drug screen that resulted positive for Methamphetamine and subsequently admitted that she had

relapsed on July 3, 2025. Section I, Stipulation E of the Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program dated October 16, 2023, states:

“(E) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term...”

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1),(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(5),(9)&(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, www.bon.texas.gov.

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, www.bon.texas.gov.

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, www.bon.texas.gov.

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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 March 6, 2018, July 15, 2019, June 22, 2021, and October 16, 2023.

Filed this 26th day of November, 2025.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

Caroline A. Livingston

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
Eugene A. Clayborn, Assistant General Counsel
Board Certified - Administrative Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization
State Bar No. 00785767
Kristin Giaquinta Schoen, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24055547
Aaron Jupe, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24139905
Caroline Livingston, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24140051

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 March 6, 2018, July 15, 2019, June 22, 2021, and October 16, 2023.

D(2025.10.30)



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
Kristin K. Benton
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER
Vocational Nurse License Number 345977 §
issued to AMBER LYN COOK §
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of AMBER LYN COOK, Vocational Nurse License Number 345977, 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)(1)&(10), 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 12, 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 Galen College of Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, on September 18, 2018. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 25, 2018.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/18 - 11/18	Unknown	
12/18 -5/19	LVN	DaVita South San Antonio Dialysis Center San Antonio, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

6/19 - Present unknown

6. On or about March 6, 2018, Respondent was required to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) through a Confidential Eligibility Agreed Order of the Board. A copy of the March 6, 2018, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
7. On or about July 15, 2019, Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas was Suspended through an Order of the Board. A copy of the July 15, 2019, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
8. On or about June 22, 2021, Respondent was issued an Agreed Order through an Order of the Board. Respondent has not completed the terms of the Order. A copy of the June 22, 2021, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
9. On or about November 28, 2022, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to Respondent on July 15, 2019, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Section VI, "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS," Part A, of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances, except as prescribe by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose.

On November 28, 2022, Respondent tested positive for Cocaine.

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 (11)(B).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 345977, heretofore issued to AMBER LYN COOK.
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 Vocational Nurse License Number 345977, previously issued to AMBER LYN COOK, 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 cleared to safely practice as a nurse 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 **comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement** 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 **notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.**
- 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. 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. 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.*

V. SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, should the RESPONDENT'S conduct, as outlined in the findings of fact of this Agreed Order, result in subsequent judicial action, including a deferred disposition, RESPONDENT may be subject to further disciplinary action, up to,

and including, revocation of RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

VI. CONSEQUENCES OF CONTINUED NONCOMPLIANCE

Continued noncompliance with the unfulfilled requirements of this or any Order previously issued by the Texas Board of Nursing, as applicable, may result in further investigation and subsequent disciplinary action, including denial of licensure renewal or revocation of RESPONDENT'S license(s) and/or privileges to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

VII. 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.

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.

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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 12 day of October, 2023.

Amber Lyn Cook
AMBER LYN COOK, RESPONDENT

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

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of _____


Approved as to form and substance.

Alejandro Mora
Alejandro Mora, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 12 day of October, 2023.

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 12th day of October, 2023, by AMBER LYN COOK, Vocational Nurse License Number 345977, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 16th day of October, 2023.



Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board



Texas Board of Nursing

333 Guadalupe Street, Ste 3-460, Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 305-7400 Fax: (512) 305-7401 www.bon.texas.gov
Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director



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

June 22, 2021

Certified Mail No. 9214 8901 9403 8300 0043 0317 32
Return Receipt Requested. Copy Via USPS First Class Mail

Amber Cook
1319 Bayou Dr
San Antonio, TX 78245

Dear Ms. Cook:

We have reviewed and evaluated your Petition for Declaratory Order and the supporting information related to your eligibility for licensure under the Nursing Practice Act and the Board's Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure, and Practice.

It has been determined that, upon meeting the requirements for graduation and payment of any required fees, you will be eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination).

As you will recall, on July 15, 2019, you were issued an Order by the Board affecting your licensure or eligibility for licensure. Our records indicate that you have not yet successfully completed the terms of that Order. Therefore, although you will be eligible to receive a professional nursing license upon successful completion of the NCLEX-RN® Examination, the remaining terms of your prior Order will be applied to any professional nursing license issued to you by the Board. As a result, both your vocational and professional nursing licenses will be subject to the remaining requirements of the Order, a copy of which is attached hereto for your reference.

A new Order will not be issued to you. However, if your prior Order was not considered confidential, then this correspondence is public information, and the encumbrances from your prior Order that will be applied to your professional nursing license will be forwarded to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc., and the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).

Please be aware that, pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, the Board shall temporarily suspend the license(s) of a nurse who is under a Board Order which prohibits the use of alcohol or drugs, or which requires participation in a peer assistance program, when the nurse tests positive for alcohol or a prohibited drug, refuses to comply with drug or alcohol testing requirements, or fails to participate in the peer assistance program.

THIS LETTER DOES NOT SERVE AS YOUR AUTHORIZATION TO SIT FOR THE NCLEX-RN® EXAMINATION. Written authorization to sit for the NCLEX-RN® EXAMINATION will be issued by Pearson Vue within ten business days of the Board receiving the Affidavit of Graduation from your school of nursing.

Sincerely,

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director

KAT/238

Enclosure Order dated July 15, 2019

S70(2021 06 22)

Kathleen Shipp, MSN, RN, FNP
Lubbock, President

David Saucedo, II
El Paso, Vice-President



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 345977
issued to AMBER LYN COOK

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AGREED ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of AMBER LYN COOK, Vocational Nurse License Number 345977, 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)&(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 July 9, 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 suspended status.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Galen College of Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, on September 18, 2018. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 25, 2018.
5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

10/18 - 11/18	Unknown	
12/18 - 05/19	LVN	DaVita South San Antonio Dialysis Center San Antonio, Texas

Respondent's vocational nursing employment history continued:

06/19 - Present Unknown

6. On or about March 6, 2018, Respondent was required to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) through a Confidential Eligibility Agreed Order of the Board. Respondent has not successfully completed the terms of this Order. A copy of the March 6, 2018, 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 (LVN) with DaVita South San Antonio Dialysis Center, San Antonio, Texas, and had been in that position for five (5) months.
8. On or about May 3, 2019, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) with DaVita South San Antonio Dialysis Center, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent failed to rinse back Patient Number 1957693 at the end of the patient's dialysis treatment. Respondent's conduct unnecessarily exposed the patient to a risk of harm from complications associated with anemia.
9. On or about May 3, 2019, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) with DaVita South San Antonio Dialysis Center, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of alcohol in that she produced a specimen for a random urine drug screen which resulted positive for ethyl glucuronide (ETG) and ethyl sulfate (ETS), metabolites of alcohol. Additionally, Respondent admitted to the medical review officer (MRO) that she drank alcohol. Further, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her on March 6, 2018. Section III, Part D of the Agreed Order dated March 6, 2018 states:

"PETITIONER SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current..."

On or about May 20, 2019, Respondent was dismissed from the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN).

10. Formal Charges were filed and Respondent's license was suspended on July 8, 2019.

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) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(5),(10)(A)&(10)(D).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 345977, heretofore issued to AMBER LYN COOK.
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 345977, previously issued to AMBER LYN COOK, to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are hereby **SUSPENDED** and said suspension is **ENFORCED** until RESPONDENT:

- A. Completes an appropriate treatment program approved by the Board;
- B. Provides documentation of successful completion; and
- C. Obtains twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety, which may be demonstrated by monthly urine drug screens consistent with the "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS" of this Order.

Any relapse prior to the completion of the required twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety will result in revocation or, at a minimum, an extension of the enforced suspension until such twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety and additional treatment have been attained.

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 a minimum of three (3) years **AND** until RESPONDENT fulfills the additional requirements of this Order.

- D. RESPONDENT SHALL pay all re-registration fees, if applicable, and RESPONDENT'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be updated to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.
- E. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- F. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- G. 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: <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 suspension being stayed, 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.

- 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.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 twelve (12) quarterly periods [three (3) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until twelve (12) 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 twelve (12) quarters [three (3) years] of employment as a nurse.

VI. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. **While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances,** except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that the prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.
- B. **While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances.** The Board will provide instructions on how to enroll in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program following the entry of this Order and screening will begin when RESPONDENT obtains employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.

- For the first three (3) month [1st quarter] period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, random screens shall be performed at least once per week.
- For the next three (3) month [2nd quarter] period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month.
- For the next six (6) month period [3rd & 4th quarters], random screens shall be performed at least once per month.
- For the remainder of the probation period, if any, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) month quarterly period.

All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Any test result for a period of time in which the RESPONDENT is not working as a nurse under the terms of this Order will not count towards satisfaction of this requirement. All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

Specimens shall be screened for any or all of the following substances and/or their metabolites:

Amphetamine	Methamphetamine	MDMA
MDA	Alprazolam	Diazepam
Alpha-o-alprazolam	Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam	Clonazepam
Desmethyldiazepam	Lorazepam	Midazolam
Oxazepam	Temazepam	Amobarbital
Butabarbital	Butalbital	Pentobarbital
Phenobarbital	Secobarbital	Codeine
Hydrocodone	Hydromorphone	Methadone
Morphine	Opiates	Oxycodone
Oxymorphone	Propoxyphene	Cannabinoids
Cocaine	Phencyclidine	Ethanol
Heroin	Fentanyl	Tramadol
Meperidine	Carisoprodol	Butorphanol
Nalbuphine	Ketamine	Propofol

Upon enrollment in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program, **RESPONDENT SHALL, on a daily basis, call or login online to the Board's designated drug and alcohol testing vendor to determine whether or not RESPONDENT has been selected to produce a specimen for screening that day** and SHALL, if selected, produce a specimen for screening that same day at an approved testing location and/or comply with any additional instructions from the vendor or Board staff. Further, **a Board representative may appear** at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens. Any positive result for which RESPONDENT does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject RESPONDENT to 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. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

- C. **While under the terms of this Order,** RESPONDENT SHALL **attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week,** one of which must be for substance abuse and provided by Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or another comparable recovery program that has been pre-approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least: the date of each meeting; the name of each group attended; and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by RESPONDENT. RESPONDENT SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) month quarterly period. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

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) 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 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 possible revocation of my license(s) and/or privileges to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

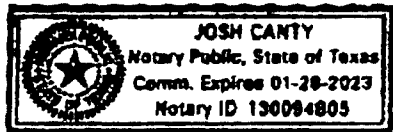
Signed this 13 day of July, 2019.

Amber Lynn Cook
AMBER LYN COOK, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13 day of July, 2019.


SEAL

Josh Canty
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



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 13th day of July, 2019; by AMBER LYN COOK, Vocational Nurse License Number 345977, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 15th day of July, 2019.


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

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of	§	CONFIDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY
AMBER LYN COOK,	§	AGREED ORDER FOR
PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure	§	PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Declaratory Order, hereinafter referred to as the Petition, and supporting documents filed by AMBER LYN COOK, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and Petitioner's Certification contained herein.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may be ineligible for licensure pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(9)&(10) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on December 7, 2017.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about August 2, 2017, Petitioner submitted the Petition requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure.
2. Petitioner was not enrolled in a vocational nursing program at the time of this petition.
3. Petitioner completed the Petition and answered "Yes" to the question which reads as follows:
"For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:
 - A. *been convicted of a misdemeanor?*
 - B. *been convicted of a felony?*
 - C. *pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?*
 - D. *received deferred adjudication?*
 - E. *been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?*
 - F. *been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?*

- G. *been granted pre-trial diversion?*
 - H. *been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?*
 - I. *been cited or charged with any violation of the law?*
 - J. *been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?*
- (You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)"*

4. Petitioner disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:
 - A. On or about May 3, 2006, Petitioner entered a plea of Nolo Contendere to ATTEMPTED BURGLARY / ENTERING MOTOR VEHICLE, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on February 22, 2006, in the District Court of Mobile County, Alabama, under Cause No. DC061432. As a result of the conviction, Petitioner was sentenced to confinement in the Mobile County Jail for a period of six (6) months; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended and Petitioner was placed on probation for a period of two (2) years.
 - B. On or about February 10, 2012, Petitioner entered a plea of Guilty to POSSESS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG 1 < 1G, a State Jail felony offense committed on January 6, 2012, in the 144th District Court/Felony Drug Court of Bexar County, Texas, under Cause No. 2012CR1198W. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Petitioner were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and Petitioner was placed on probation for a period of two (2) years. On or about February 5, 2014, Petitioner's probation was amended and extended one (1) year. On or about January 8, 2015, Petitioner completed the terms and conditions of probation and was discharged.
5. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
6. Petitioner completed the Petition and answered "Yes" to the question which reads as follows: *"Within the past five (5) years have you been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?"*
7. Petitioner stated that she attended drug court as part of her probation which included counseling, drug tests, classes on substance abuse, and attendance with AA, NA, and CA meetings.
8. The safety of patients and the public requires that all persons licensed to practice nursing be fit, sober, and able to consistently practice nursing in autonomous roles under demanding and stressful conditions.
9. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Petition, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.

10. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.
11. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past criminal conduct in light of the considerations and criteria provided in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§213.28 & 213.33, and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
12. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's substance use disorder, and subsequent rehabilitation as provided in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.29 and in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.33.
13. Petitioner's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.
14. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
15. Petitioner has been advised by the Board that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect or misleading to the Board or a subsequent discovery of a basis of ineligibility will be considered by the Board and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through fraud or deceit.
16. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 301.452 and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
2. On or about August 2, 2017, Petitioner submitted the Petition requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.30.
3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.
4. The Board may probate the denial of a license under conditions for a specified term pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

5. The Board may license an individual who has been previously convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to any crime whether or not a sentence was imposed upon consideration of the factors set out in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
6. The Board may license an individual who has a history of substance use disorder after consideration of the criteria set out in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.29 if the Board determines the individual does not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
7. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27, and pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.33, the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.
8. 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.
9. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

TERMS OF ORDER

I. ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSURE

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that the application/petition of PETITIONER is hereby **GRANTED**, and upon meeting the requirements for graduation of an appropriate program in nursing education and payment of any required fees, PETITIONER is **ELIGIBLE** to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN® Examination) and/or the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination), as applicable.

- A. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Vocational Nurse (GVN) and/or as a Graduate Nurse (GN), as applicable, in the State of Texas.

- B. Upon payment of any required fees and upon attaining a passing grade on the applicable National Council Licensure Examination, PETITIONER shall be issued the applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND APPLICABILITY

While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER 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.

- A. Until successfully completed, any and all licenses issued to Petitioner shall be subject to the terms of this Order.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. As a result of this Order, PETITIONER'S license will be designated "single state" and PETITIONER may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state.

III. PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that PETITIONER SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for PETITIONER to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

- A. Within forty-five (45) days of licensure, PETITIONER SHALL apply to TPAPN;
- B. Within ninety (90) days of licensure, PETITIONER SHALL sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee payable to TPAPN in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00);
- C. Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, PETITIONER SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing;

- D. PETITIONER SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current; and
- E. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

IV. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, PETITIONER SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) within one (1) year of licensure:

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.

In order to receive credit for completion of this/these course(s), PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER 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. CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS

While PETITIONER remains in compliance with the terms of this Order, this Order shall remain confidential in accordance with the authority outlined in Section 301.466(d), Texas Occupations Code. However, should PETITIONER fail to successfully complete the terms of this Order or should PETITIONER commit a subsequent violation of the Nursing Practice Act or Board Rules, this Order shall be treated as prior disciplinary action and will become public information.

VI. EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE

SHOULD PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'S license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

VII. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONER'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and PETITIONER may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past conduct which could constitute grounds for licensure ineligibility, and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing from each jurisdiction in which I have been adjudged guilty by way of conviction or deferred order. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my application/petition, has been in conformity with the Board's character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past conduct in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of conviction, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

In connection with my application, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Sections 301.157(d), 301.252, 301.253, 301.257, 301.258, 301.260, 301.452, and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§213.27, 213.28, 213.29, and 213.30. I agree with all terms of this Order, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any stipulations as set out in this Order. I acknowledge that this Order is stipulated and I understand that I am not eligible to receive a Temporary Permit to practice nursing. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to accepting any license from the Texas Board of Nursing.

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 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (I) through Seven (VII) of this Order to obtain disposition of my potential ineligibility for licensure through peer assistance.

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, or REVOCATION of my license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

I understand that I can be represented by an attorney in this matter. I waive representation by counsel, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review of this Order and request that the Texas Board of Nursing ratify this Order.

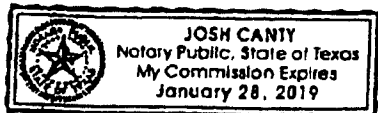
Signed this 11 day of February, 2018.

Amber Lyn Cook
AMBER LYN COOK, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11 day of FEBRUARY, 2018.

SEAL

[Signature]
Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS



WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Confidential Eligibility Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program that was signed on the 11th day of February, 2018, by AMBER LYN COOK, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 6th day of March, 2018.



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