



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

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER  
Registered Nurse License Number 954885 §  
issued to REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ §  
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ, Registered Nurse License Number 954885, 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)&(14), 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 August 23, 2025.

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 Collin County Community College, Mckinney, Texas, on August 16, 2018. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 8, 2018.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/2018 – 6/2021	Registered Nurse	Well Bridge Healthcare Plano, Texas
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

7/2021 – 8/2024	Registered Nurse	Millwood Hospital Arlington, Texas
9/2024 – Present	Unknown	Unknown

6. On or about November 8, 2016, Respondent was issued an Agreed Order through an Order of the Board. On or about August 27, 2020, Respondent successfully completed the terms of the Order. A copy of the November 8, 2016, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
7. On or about October 22, 2020, Respondent was issued the sanction of Reprimand with Stipulations through an Order of the Board. On or about December 27, 2022, Respondent successfully completed the terms of the Order. A copy of the October 22, 2020, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
8. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Millwood Hospital, Arlington, Texas, and had been in that position for three (3) years and one (1) month.
9. On or about August 22, 2024, through August 23, 2024, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Millwood Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent withdrew amphetamine-dextroamphetamine 20mg tabs from the medication dispensing system for Patients BV and LG without valid physicians' orders. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients, in that the administration of medications without a valid physician's order could result in the patient suffering from adverse reactions, and Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
10. On or about August 22, 2024, through August 23, 2024, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Millwood Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent misappropriated amphetamine-dextroamphetamine 20mg tabs belonging to the facility and patients thereof. Furthermore, video surveillance recorded Respondent removing the medications from the Omnicell and ingesting and/or putting the medications in her pocket and Respondent later admitted to taking the medications for her personal use. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients thereof of the cost of the medications.
11. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Nine (9) and Ten (10), Respondent states she regrets her decision to withdraw medication that was not prescribed to her. Respondent relates all the patients under her care received all their respective medications.

12. 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 §217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C)&(3) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(6)(G),(8),(10)(E)&(11)(B).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(14), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 954885, heretofore issued to REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ.
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. PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

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

- A. **Within forty-five (45) days** following the effective date of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL apply to TPAPN.
- B. **Within ninety (90) days** following the effective date of this Order, RESPONDENT 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), if licensed as a registered nurse, or in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00), if licensed as a vocational nurse.

- C. Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL **waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.**
- D. RESPONDENT 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 in current status.
- E. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to **notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.**
- F. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- G. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- H. Until successfully completed, RESPONDENT may not practice nursing in the State of Texas except in accordance with the terms of this Order.
- I. 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 effective date of this Order, 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](http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance).*

#### **IV. 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.

#### **V. 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.

**VI. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)**

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) and/or privilege(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and, subject to meeting all existing eligibility requirements in Texas Occupations Code Chapter 304, Article III, RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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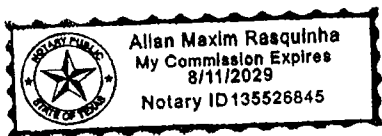
**RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION**

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I 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 29<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026  
[Signature]  
REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of April, 2026.

SEAL




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

Approved as to form and substance.  
[Signature]  
Laura Diamond, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2026

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 29th day of April, 2026, by REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ, Registered Nurse License Number 954885, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 1st day of May, 2026.

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



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.  
*Katherine A. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER  
Registered Nurse License Number 954885 §  
issued to REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ §  
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ, Registered Nurse License Number 954885, 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 notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on June 8, 2020.

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 Collin County Community College, McKinney, Texas, on August 16, 2018. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 8, 2018.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/2018 – 6/2019 Registered Nurse WellBridge Healthcare  
Plano, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

6/2019 – 11/2019	Registered Nurse	Texoma Medical Center Denison, Texas
12/2019 – 1/2020	Unknown	
2/2020 - Present	Registered Nurse	WellBridge Healthcare Plano, Texas

6. On or about November 8, 2016, Respondent was issued an Eligibility Agreed Order through an Order of the Board. A copy of the November 8, 2016, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Texoma Medical Center, Denison, Texas, and had been in that position for four (4) months.
8. On or about October 15, 2019, while employed as a registered nurse with Texoma Medical Center, Denison, Texas, Respondent failed to notify the physician that Patient MRN 363224 experienced a temperature of 39 degrees Celsius during a blood transfusion, along with decreased oxygen saturation levels. In addition, Respondent failed to notify the physician and/or appropriately intervene when the patient experienced elevated temperatures at 02:55 and 06:49. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that failure to notify the physician and obtain orders for interventions could have placed the patient at risk for complications related to untreated fever and possible transfusion reaction.
9. On or about November 1, 2019, while employed as a registered nurse at Texoma Medical Center, Denison, Texas, Respondent failed to administer insulin to Patient MRN 210438, as ordered. Instead, Respondent documented that the medication was not given to the aforementioned patient as "not appropriate at this time." However, pursuant to the insulin sliding scale order for Patient MRN 210438, the patient should have received four (4) units of insulin. In addition, Respondent failed to notify the physician that she held the aforementioned patient's insulin. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that failure to administer medication as ordered could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment.
10. On or about November 1, 2019, through November 2, 2019, while employed as a registered nurse with Texoma Medical Center, Denison, Texas, Respondent failed to observe diet and swallowing precautions, as ordered, when she administered oral medications to Patient MRN 367374. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that failure to follow orders could have placed at risk for complications related to aspiration.

11. On or about November 16, 2019, while employed as a registered nurse at Texoma Medical Center, Denison, Texas, Respondent failed to timely intervene and administer medications, as ordered, when she obtained vital signs at 19:33 on Patient MRN 257088, which included a temperature of 39.4 degrees Celsius. Instead, Respondent continued to obtain vital signs for her other patients and contacted the physician at 20:00 regarding the elevated temperature of Patient MRN 257088. The physician instructed Respondent to administer acetaminophen per existing order and encourage incentive spirometer use. At 20:35, Respondent documented she entered the aforementioned patient's room to administer the acetaminophen, at which time the patient's family expressed concern regarding the patient's ability to swallow oral medications. Respondent assessed Patient MRN 257088 and found the patient to be drowsy and confused, and Respondent contacted her Clinical Supervisor to assess the patient's condition. At 20:41, the Clinical Supervisor activated a Code Rapid on Patient MRN 257088. Respondent's conduct resulted in a delay in care and was likely to injure the patient from complications related to untreated fever, as well as the undetected progression of clinical complications.
  
12. In response to the incidents in Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Finding of Fact Number Nine (9), Finding of Fact Number Ten (10), and Finding of Fact Number Eleven (11), Respondent states that at the time of the incidents she had practiced nursing for only 1 year and had worked at Texoma Medical Center for less than five months, during which time she was in training and working with a proctor. Respondent states that she understands she must be vigilant about understanding and precisely following physician's orders, patient's care plans, and facility policies. Respondent states that she understands that a lack of precise compliance with these directives leads to a breakdown in patient care, particularly for a new nurse lacking experience. Respondent states that she has thoroughly analyzed the incidents at issue, understands the seriousness of these events, and knows where and why the care breakdowns occurred. Respondent states that she is deeply sorry for her mistakes and is committed to not repeating them.
  
13. On or about June 5, 2019, Respondent successfully completed a Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics, which would have been a requirement of this Order.
  
14. On or about March 4, 2020, Respondent successfully completed a Board-approved course in sharpening critical thinking skills, which would have been a requirement of this Order.
  
15. On or about March 13, 2020, and May 6, 2020, Respondent successfully completed a Board-approved course in medication administration with clinical components, which would have been a requirement of this Order.
  
16. On or about April 16, 2020, and May 12, 2020, Respondent successfully completed a Board-approved course in physical assessment with clinical components, which would have been a requirement of this Order.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violation(s) of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(M),(1)(N),(1)(P)&(3)(A) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 954885, heretofore issued to REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ.
5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

## TERMS OF ORDER

### **I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY**

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

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. 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. 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.

**V. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS**

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

appropriate, will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

- A. **Notifying Present and Future Employers:** RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- B. **Notification of Employment Forms:** RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. **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 eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

**VI. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)**

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) and/or privilege(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and, subject to meeting all existing eligibility requirements in Texas Occupations Code Chapter 304, Article III, RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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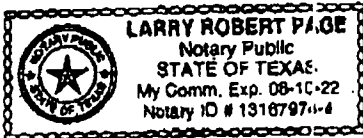
**RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION**

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing and a copy of this Order will be mailed to me once the Order becomes effective. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including possible revocation of my license(s) and/or privileges to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020  
Rebecca Elena Valdez  
REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

SEAL



Larry Robert Page  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form and substance.  
Laura Diamond  
Laura Diamond, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 20 day of August, 2020

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 19th day of August, 2020, by REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ, Registered Nurse License Number 954885, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 22nd day of October, 2020.



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



4. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order 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.)"*

5. Petitioner disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:

- A. On or about March 15, 2006, Petitioner was arrested by the University of Texas Police Department, Texas, for DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED, a Class B misdemeanor offense.

On or about June 14, 2006, Petitioner entered a plea of Nolo Contendere to DWLI, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on March 15, 2006, in the County Criminal Court No. 2 of Denton County, Texas, under Cause No. CR-2006-03045-B. 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 twelve (12) months. On or about June 18, 2007, Petitioner completed the terms and condition of probation and was discharged.

- B. On or about March 6, 2010, Petitioner was arrested by the Denton Police Department, Denton, Texas, for THEFT OF PROPERTY >=\$500 <\$1500, a Class-A misdemeanor offense.

On or about July 7, 2010, Petitioner entered a plea of Nolo Contendere to THEFT >=\$500 <\$1500, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on March 6, 2010, in the County Criminal Court No. 2 of Denton County, Texas, under Cause No. CR-2010-02051-B. 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 fifteen (15) months. On or about September 26, 2011, the probation granted Petitioner was amended and extended to eighteen (18) months. On or about November 28, 2011, the probation granted Petitioner was amended and extended to twenty-four (24) months. On or about July 16, 2012, Petitioner completed the terms and condition of probation and was discharged.

6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
7. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Petition for Declaratory Order, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.
8. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. Licensure of Petitioner poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public provided Petitioner complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.
12. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
13. 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.
14. 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 April 18, 2016, PETITIONER submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order 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)(3)&(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 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.
7. 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).

#### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that, upon payment of any required fees and upon attaining a passing grade on the appropriate National Council Licensure Examination, PETITIONER

shall be issued the applicable license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, and while under the terms of this Order, all licenses issued to PETITIONER shall be subject to the following stipulations:

PETITIONER SHALL obtain and read the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure, and Practice.

PETITIONER 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 this Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of licensure, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'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) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of licensure, 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, PETITIONER 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. *Information regarding Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>.*

**IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND PETITIONER MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) MONTHS 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 STIPULATION PERIOD:**

(3) PETITIONER SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(4) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.

(5) PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed and practicing as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed and practicing 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 PETITIONER, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the PETITIONER is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry,

temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(6) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month period for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that 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 and/or 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 and/or petition, 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.

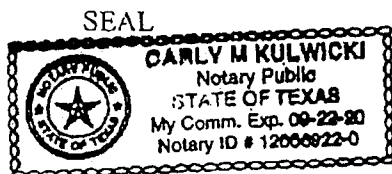
I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

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

Signed this 15 day of September 2016

REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ, PETITIONER

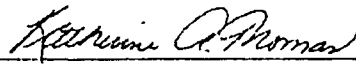
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15 day of September 2016



Carly M Kulwicksi  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Eligibility Order that was signed on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016, by REBECCA ELENA VALDEZ, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2016.



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