# BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse License Number 167567, issued to § § AC

AGREED ORDER

AMBER LEIGH BURLESON

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On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of AMBER LEIGH BURLESON, Vocational Nurse License Number 167567, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on May 29, 2007, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

## **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.
- 2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Health Institute of San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas, on May 1, 1998. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 9, 1998.
- 5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

06/98 - 2004

Unknown

Respondent's vocational nursing employment history continued:

01/05 - 05/05	Staff LVN	Homecare Dimensions San Antonio, Texas
03/05 - 03/05	Staff LVN	Home Nursing & Therapy San Antonio, Texas
05/05 - 08/05	Staff LVN	Dominion Care Home Health San Antonio, Texas
08/05 - 09/05	Staff LVN	Twin Oaks Home Health Care San Antonio, Texas
10/05 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff LVN with Twin Oaks Home Health Care, San Antonio, Texas, and had been in this position for one (1) month.
- 7. On or about September 20, 2005 and September 25, 2005, while employed with Twin Oaks Home Health, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent submitted Skilled Nurses Notes for Patient Medical Record Number 00159, for visits that had not been performed. Respondent also submitted a Time and Travel Sheet for payment of the visits that she did not complete. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and was likely to deceive subsequent care givers who relied on the accuracy of the information while providing care to the patient.
- 8. On or about September 20, 2005 and September 25, 2005, while employed with Twin Oaks Home Health, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent made false entries in the medical record for Patient Medical Record Number 00159, in that Respondent documented nursing care which she had not provided, including wound care and vital signs. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and was likely to deceive subsequent care givers who relied on the accuracy of the information while providing care to the patients.
- 9. Respondent states that she does not remember the situation. She worked for the agency and there was a particular patient who repeatedly allowed her to schedule the appointment and then shortly after her arrival on each visit he would ask her to leave. She was told to chart those visits so that she would be paid for the time. She did not expect for those visits to be billed due to the shortness of the visits and she left the employment shortly after this.

#### **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 violations of Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(A)&(6)(H).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 167567, heretofore issued to AMBER LEIGH BURLESON, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 et seq., the Rules and Regulations Relating to Vocational Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 et seq. and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice vocational nursing in compact states.

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

#### IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-sized license issued to AMBER LEIGH BURLESON, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days from the date of ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.
- (2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include nurses. It shall be a minimum of six (6) contact 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 Chemical Dependency, and Lying and Falsification. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bne.state.tx.us/about/stipscourses.html.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Board of Nurse Examiners in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND RESPONDENT 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 VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT 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. RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT 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.

- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (6) For the duration of the stipulation period, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse or a Licensed Vocational Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as RESPONDENT, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the Respondent is currently working. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- (7) 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 Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

## RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, 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 revocation of my license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

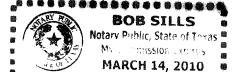
Signed this  $10^{\text{H}}$  day of  $0^{\text{CT}}$ ,  $20^{\text{OT}}$ .

BER LEIGH BURLESON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10 day of 10, 2007.

**SEAL** 

Notary Public in and for the State of Jekas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>10<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>October</u>, 2007, by AMBER LEIGH BURLESON, Vocational Nurse License Number 167567, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of November, 2007.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf of said Board