#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse \$ AGREED
License Number 577983 and \$
Vocational Nurse \$
License Number 63640 \$
issued to LINDA MARIE MEYER \$ ORDER



On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LINDA MARIE MEYER, Registered Nurse License Number 577983 and Vocational Nurse License Number 63640, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on January 23, 2008, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

#### **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 informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas is currently in "Inactive" status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Blinn Junior College, Brenham, Texas, in January 1975, and received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Regents College, Albany, New York, on July 12, 1991. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas in 1975, and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 17, 1992.

# 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1975 - 9/1977	LVN Staff Nurse	Lee Memorial Hospital Giddings, Texas
10/1977	Unknown	
11/1977 - 12/1978	LVN Charge Nurse	Giddings State Home & School Giddings, Texas
1/1979 - 4/1979	Unknown	
5/1979 - 8/1979	LVN Charge Nurse	Giddings Convalescent Center Giddings, Texas
9/1979 - 12/1979	Unknown	
1/1980 - 9/1980	LVN Charge Nurse	Hennesey Nursing Center Giddings, Texas
9/1980 - 1/2006	Director of Nursing, LVN & RN	Giddings Nursing Center Giddings, Texas
2/2006 - Present	Assistant Director of Nursing, RN	Giddings Nursing Center Giddings, Texas

- 6. At the time of the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as Director of Nursing with Giddings Nursing Center, Giddings, Texas, and had been in this position for twenty-five (25) years and one (1) month.
- 7. On or about October 2005 through January 2006, while employed as Director of Nursing with Giddings Nursing Center, Giddings, Texas, Respondent failed to that ensure care plans for two (2) residents were appropriately constructed, implemented and revised to address elopement behaviors, as follows:
  - The care plan for Resident LOA had no RN signature, as required, and was not revised in order to implement new interventions after the resident eloped from the facility on December 23, 2005. On January 10, 2006, the resident was picked up by a Hispanic male in a motor vehicle and was pushed out of the vehicle behind the dumpster of an apartment complex a short time later. The resident was discharged from the facility the next day; and
  - The care plan of Resident GB was not revised in order to implement new interventions after the resident eloped from the facility six (6) additional times in October 2005 and three (3) times in November 2005. In February 2006, the resident was issued a WanderGuard bracelet, which uses a radio transmitter to lock a door when a resident approaches.

Respondent's conduct unnecessarily exposed the residents to the risk of injury from outside environmental hazards.

8. In response to the incidents in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that while she recognized the needs of the two (2) residents for additional assistance, the administrator was not amenable to the initiatives that would have been appropriate to help the residents. Respondent indicates she realizes that she should have taken certain steps herself to accommodate the residents, and she deeply regrets that the elopements occurred. Respondent states that she and the facility have taken affirmative steps to ensure the residents who have a propensity to wander are not at risk of elopement by implementing the WanderGuard System for such resident. Respondent submits for consideration that she has maintained an exemplary nursing record over the past thirty (30) years and that she has an incredibly strong commitment to the residents and to the facility where she has spent the majority of her career as Director of Nursing.

## 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)(13), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 217.11(1)(B),(1)(M),(1)(P)&(3)(A).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 577983 and Vocational Nurse License Number 63640, heretofore issued to LINDA MARIE MEYER, including revocation of Respondent's licenses to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

#### **ORDER**

Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION, 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 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 nursing in the State of Texas.

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 Texas Board of Nursing 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 licenses issued to LINDA MARIE MEYER to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing within ten (10) days of 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.bon.state.tx.us/about/stipscourses.html.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in "Resident Rights and Quality of Life," a 6.3 contact hours workshop presented in various locations by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. In order to receive credit for completion of this workshop, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this workshop 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 this workshop may be found at the following website: www.dads.state.tx.us/business/ltcr/Training/jointtraining.cfm or by contacting (512) 438-2201.

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

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### RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. 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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, a copy will be mailed to me. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including revocation of my license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 21st day of February, 2008.

Bender Marie Meyer

Sworn to and subscribed before me this  $21^{\frac{51}{2}}$  day of 3 - 20 Chandra Williams

CHANDRA WILLIAMS Votary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires MARCH 26, 2011

Notary Public in and for the State of <u>Jevas</u>

Approved as to form and substance.

Brandy Schnautz Johnson, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 25 day of February, 2008

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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2008, by LINDA MARIE MEYER, Registered Nurse License Number 577983 and Vocational Nurse License Number 63640, and said Order is final.

Effective this 29th day of February, 2008.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board