

# BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Vocational Nurse License Number 334300 issued to TRENESE MARIE WHITE § § § §

AGREED ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of TRENESE MARIE WHITE, Vocational Nurse License Number 334300, 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)(8), 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 September 12, 2018.

# 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 delinquent status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Shreveport-Bossier Vocational Technical, Shreveport, Louisiana, on May 1, 2009. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 3, 2016.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.

6. On or about July 27, 2018, Respondent's Louisiana Practical Nurse license was placed on Probation for no less than one (1) year through an Order issued by the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners, Metairie, Louisiana. A copy of the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners' Order dated July 27, 2018, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part 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 cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(8), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 334300, heretofore issued to TRENESE MARIE WHITE.
- 4. 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 334300, previously issued to TRENESE MARIE WHITE, to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is STAYED and RESPONDENT is hereby placed on PROBATION for a minimum of two (2) years AND until RESPONDENT fulfills the additional requirements 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" 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: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp">http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp</a>. 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 effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

A. <u>A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics</u> 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. <u>A Board-approved course in nursing documentation</u> that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include: nursing standards related to accurate and complete documentation; legal guidelines for recording; methods and processes of recording; methods of alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- D. <u>The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"</u> 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 <u>not</u> being offered by a pre-approved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at <u>www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</u>.

# 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, <u>for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month</u> 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 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. 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.

# VII. 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.

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# 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 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 20 day of November 2018.

The ruse Marie White Respondent

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William B. Marshall lie Notary Public #54101 Parish of Caddo State of Louisiana Commissioned for life Well B Onhoe ut

Notary Public in and for the State of Louisiana

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 20th day of November, 2018, by TRENESE MARIE WHITE, Vocational Nurse License Number 334300, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of December, 2018.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINERS 131 AIRLINE DRIVE, SUITE 301 METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70001-6266 (504) 838-5791 FAX (504) 838-5279 www.lsbpne.com

In the matter of: Trenese White LICENSE #291213 D.O.B. 07/01/1986

This cause having come to be heard upon the complaint filed herein, the evidence and testimony entered before the undersigned hearing officer on <u>May 31, 2018</u>. The nature of the hearing was prosecution of the matter.

The following witness was called to testify on behalf of the board:

• Jessica Choat, RN, DON - The Bradford

The respondent was **NOT** present to give sworn testimony.

No witnesses were called to testify on behalf of the respondent.

The Board, having reviewed the entire record, including all pleadings, exhibits entered into evidence, the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommendations of the Hearing Officer, hereby adopts the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommendations of the Hearing Officer and finds:

# **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. The respondent was issued a license to practice practical nursing in the state of Louisiana on November 6, 2009.
- 2. The board received the respondent's 2017 online renewal application on 2/22/17, wherein she indicated that she was actively employed as a licensed practical nurse with The Bradford Nursing Home; however, her practical nursing license expired on January 31, 2017.
- 3. The board received the respondent's narrative statement in response to the board's allegations that she worked without a current practical nursing license. The respondent indicated that she last worked in the state of Louisiana as an LPN for Riverview Nursing Home in 2016; however, according to her renewal application, she indicated that she last practiced as an LPN as of 2/22/17 at The Bradford Nursing Home. The respondent submitted information from Riverview indicating that her employment was terminated on 4/10/16. Thus, she falsified her 2017 renewal application.
- 4. The board received verification from Bradford Guest Care Center indicating that the respondent was employed as an LPN from 7/17/14 to 2/20/15.

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5. The board received additional information from Bradford Guest Care Center indicating that the respondent was hired on 7/17/14 and terminated on 2/20/15 for poor work performance and falsification of medical records. She received a warning on 1/7/15 for failure to obey orders, defective and improper work and carelessness.

The respondent placed ER paperwork in NP book and failed to follow all instructions on paperwork regarding holding a medication. The medication was given causing a medication error which could have resulted in kidney failure and metabolic dysfunction. On 2/3/15, she was counseled for failing to apply steri strips to the right forearm of a resident with a skin tear. On 2/16/15, she was written up for dishonesty, failure to obey orders, improper conduct, violation of company rules, defective and improper work and carelessness. She falsified medical records. She signed out on the MAR that she had administered 6 am medications to a resident; however, the resident denied receiving them and it was discovered that the medications were not in the facility. She also failed to give medications timely. According to an EMAR, she administered a BP medication at 10:44 pm when it was scheduled for 8 pm. She also failed to assess a resident's peg tube and patency. The resident had no feedings or water for over 6 hours. She falsified the MAR stating that medications were given at 6 am; however, the peg tube was not functioning; therefore, medications could not have been given.

6. It was reported that the respondent was hired with Springlake on 3/2/11 and terminated on 4/3/11. It was also reported that she was hired with Colonial Oaks on 1/5/11 and terminated on 1/10/11.

The hearing officer found the respondent guilty of the allegations contained in the formal complaint. The respondent falsified many documents, including her 2017 renewal notice to obtain her practical nursing license. The hearing officer found her careless, displayed poor work performance, and failed to obey orders. She failed to administer medication to a resident and documented that she administered the medication. She placed a resident in danger by withholding a medication which could have resulted in serious harm to the resident. It should also be noted that although the respondent indicated she would appear for the scheduled hearing (Exhibit K-1), she failed to appear to defend her actions.

#### JURISDICTION

The board has jurisdiction over the parties hereto and the subject matter hereof.

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# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

# That the respondent is in violation of the following:

- 1. The Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Title 37, Chapter 11, Part II, Section 969 A. (4); '
  - (a) is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice practical nursing;
  - (c) is unfit, or incompetent by reason of negligence habit, or other causes;
  - (f) is guilty of unprofessional conduct;
  - (g) has violated any provisions of this Part;

# And 978 A (8) Violate any provisions of this Part and B.

- 2. The Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 46, Part XLVII, Subpart 1, Sections § 306 T.
- 1. being guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice practical nursing;
- 3. being unfit, or incompetent by reason of negligence, habit or other causes;
- 8. being guilty of unprofessional conduct;
  - a. failure to practice practical nursing in accordance with the standards normally expected;
  - b. failure to utilize appropriate judgment in administering nursing practice;
  - g. improper use of drugs, medical supplies, or patients' records;
  - i. falsifying records;
  - j. intentionally committing any act that adversely affects the physical or psychosocial welfare of the patient;
  - p. inappropriate, incomplete or improper documentation;
  - t. violating any provisions of R.S. 37:961 et seq. (the practical nursing practice act), as amended or aiding or abetting therein.

#### LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINERS

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#### ORDER

The matter of <u>Trenese White, license #291213</u>, on <u>July 27, 2018</u> came on for final action by the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, that the license of the respondent, <u>Trenese White</u>, <u>license #291213</u>, be <u>PROBATED</u> for no less than <u>one (1) year</u>.

During this period of probation, the respondent must comply with the following stipulations:

# 1. License:

- A. The license of the respondent will be stamped "PROBATION".
- B. The respondent shall return his/her current practical nursing license to the board office within <u>ten (10) days</u> of the date of this order so the license can be stamped with the mandatory probation stamp.

# 2. Obey all laws:

- A. The respondent shall obey all laws/rules governing the practice of practical nursing in this state and obey all federal, state, and local laws.
- B. The respondent shall report to the board within <u>ten (10) days</u> any misdemeanor and/or felony arrest(s) or conviction(s).

# 3. Notify board of change of address/telephone number:

A. The respondent shall notify the board in writing within <u>ten (10) days</u> of any change in personal address or telephone number.

# 4. Fines/Fees:

- A. The respondent is to be fined \$1,000.00, payable by cashier's check or money order only, for the violations detailed in the conclusions of law, payable within 90 days of the date of the board order.
- B. The respondent is to be assessed a hearing assessment fee of \$1,000.00, payable by cashier's check or money order only, within 90 days of the date of the board order.

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- C. The respondent must pay any/all fines/fees owed to the board, including a reinstatement fee, if/when applicable. Fines/fees are <u>payable by cashier's check or money order only</u>.
- D. The respondent is to submit a \$500.00 annual probation monitoring fee, payable by cashier's check or money order only.
- E. The probation monitoring fee is due within <u>three (3) months</u> of receiving a probated license and annually thereafter until the probation is satisfactorily completed.
- F. Failure to pay these fees in the time allotted will result in the immediate suspension of the respondent's practical nursing license.

### 5. Courses:

The respondent must take and satisfactorily complete board approved courses in the following areas: 1) Documentation for Nurses; 2) Ethics; 3) Communication skills for Nurses; and 4) Medication Errors and how to avoid them. Evidence of completion of the course(s) is due in the board office within 90 days of the date of the board order.

# 6. **Employment:**

- A. The respondent shall provide a copy of the entire board order/consent order including the findings of fact and conclusions of law immediately to any/all current employer(s) and at the time of application to any/all prospective employer(s).
  - i. If the respondent is already employed as an lpn, the respondent and the current employer shall enter into the board's **Employer's Agreement** (form(s) issued by board). The signed form(s) shall be submitted to the board office within **ten (10) days** of the date of the board order/consent order.
  - ii. Upon obtaining new employment as an lpn, the respondent shall enter into the board's <u>Employer's Agreement</u> (form(s) issued by board) with the prospective employer. The signed form(s) shall be submitted to the board office within <u>ten (10) days</u> of the date of hire.
- B. All current and prospective employers must agree to allow the respondent's direct supervisor to monitor the respondent while on probation as well as timely submission of evaluations.

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- C. Probation will run concurrent with employment as an lpn.
- D. The respondent must be employed a minimum of 80 hours per month.
- E. The probationary period will not commence or progress until and unless the respondent is employed and delivering direct patient care as a licensed practical nurse.
- F. Failure to maintain stable employment may be grounds for termination of probation.
- G. The respondent must practice under the supervision of a nurse (rn or lpn) or physician whose license is unencumbered and must provide direct patient care as follows:
  - i. The respondent must be supervised on a regular and consistent basis by his/her assigned supervisor. The supervisor must observe and work closely enough with the respondent to be able to give an informed evaluation of the respondent. The employer must be willing to allow this supervision and provide opportunities for the same supervisor to evaluate the performance of the respondent.
  - ii. It is the respondent's responsibility to ensure that his/her supervisor submits the evaluation reports quarterly.
    - a. Reports are due on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, April, July, and October of each year. (Note: these forms will be provided to the employer)
    - b. Only the respondent's direct supervisor may complete the evaluations according to the observations made during the supervision.
- H. The respondent is prohibited from working in temporary staffing, as an agency nurse, for a nursing pool and/or in the home health setting, or in any other similar setting including but not limited to working in a teaching capacity, as a travel nurse and/or on an "as needed" basis prn.
- I. The respondent shall notify the board in writing within <u>ten (10) days</u> of any change in employment. Changes in employment include accepting a new job, as well as resignation, or termination.

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J. Upon obtaining a prescription for controlled/abuse potential substance(s) while holding a probated license, the respondent is responsible for informing his/her employer within three (3) days from the date of the prescription(s).

# **Violations**

The respondent is hereby notified that failure to comply with any stipulations of this order of the board may result in any or all of the following:

a) immediate suspension of license, b) indefinite suspension of license, c) ineligibility for annual renewal of license, d) additional fines/penalties up to \$500.00 per occurrence, e) increased probationary period, f) summary suspension and g) revocation.

# **Public Records**

This order is public record. All disciplinary actions of the board will be reported to all required data banks and agencies as required by law.

Rendered this <u>27th</u> day of <u>July</u>, <u>2018</u> and signed this <u>27th</u> day of <u>July</u>, <u>2018</u> at Metairie, Louisiana.

MYRON COLLINS, LPN CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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M. LYNN ANSARDI, RN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mailed this <u>27th</u> day of <u>July, 2018</u>, by U.S. postal service certified mail return receipt <u>#7017</u> <u>3040 0001 0867 9748</u> and regular mail to the following address:

Trenese White 7040 Gregory St. Shreveport, LA 71108

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