## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 720618 issued to MERCI COMEDOY MONET \$ \$ \$ \$

AGREED ORDER

xecutive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MERCI COMEDOY MONET, Registered Nurse License Number 720618, and 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 September 10, 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 professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Diploma in Nursing from Urios College, Butuan City, Philippines, on March 22, 1995. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 13, 2005.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

9/2005 - 02/2006

RN

St. Lukes Medical Center Ouezon City, Philippines

03/2006 - 04/2006

Unknown

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

05/2006 - 07/2017

RN

Baylor Scott and white - Baylor

Heart and Vascular Hospital

Dallas, Texas

08/2017 - Present

RN

VA North Texas Health Care

System Dallas, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Baylor Scott and White – Baylor Heart and Vascular Hospital, Dallas, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) years and two (2) months.

- 7. On or about March 7, 2017, while employed as Registered Nurse in the specialty care unit of Baylor Scott and White Baylor Heart and Vascular Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent verbally abused Patient MR#184639 in that she used inappropriate and offensive language while communicating with the mother of the patient. Respondent's conduct was likely to cause emotional physical, and/or psychological harm to the patient and could have interfered with or disrupted this patient's treatment.
- 8. On or about March 7, 2017, while employed as Registered Nurse in the specialty care unit of Baylor Scott and White Baylor Heart and Vascular Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent withdrew medication from the medication dispensing system for Patient MR#184639 but failed to scan the medication at the time of administration. Respondent's conduct exposed her patients to a risk of harm from incorrectly documenting medication administration. Additionally, Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patients.
- 9. On or about March 8, 2017, while employed as Registered Nurse in the specialty care unit of Baylor Scott and White Baylor Heart and Vascular Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to notify a supervisor or nurse manager that she was leaving during her shift. Furthermore, Respondent failed to give report to the oncoming nurse before leaving the facility during her shift. Respondent's conduct exposed the patients unnecessarily to risk of harm in that leaving the nursing assignment could have resulted in patients not getting the care they needed.
- 10. On or about July 11, 2017, while employed as Registered Nurse in the specialty care unit of Baylor Scott and White Baylor Heart and Vascular Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent verbally abused Patient MR#42031 in that she was observed screaming at the patient. Respondent's conduct was likely to cause emotional physical, and/or psychological harm to the patient and could have interfered with or disrupted this patient's treatment.

11. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states she stopped and clarified what she thought she heard the patient's mother say. In regards to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent admits to administering medications at different times than documented. In regards to Finding of Fact Number Nine (9), Respondent admits to leaving during her shift for an extended period of time but states she did notify the patient care tech, the nurse to cover her group, the secretary, and the charge nurse. In regards to Finding of Fact Number Ten (10), Respondent denies she verbally abused Patient Medical Record # 42031. She states the patient was agitated due to multiple attempts to draw blood and she was trying to calm the patient down and coaching him to stay still.

#### **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)(J) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(6)(C), (6)(F),&(12).
- 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 720618, heretofore issued to MERCI COMEDOY MONET.
- 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 WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS AND FINE 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" 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. The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension.

In order to receive credit for completion of this/these course(s), RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. RESPONDENT SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

## V. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

## VI. 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 four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) 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. Indirect Supervision: 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.
- D. 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 four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

# 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, and RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges if any.

## RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order 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 2th day of October, 2018.

NERCI COMEDOY MONET, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of Octob

JACKELYN VIVAS My Commission Expires January 22, 2019

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018, by MERCI COMEDOY MONET, Registered Nurse License Number 720618, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of December, 2018.

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Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board