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In the Matter of Registered Nurse

§ AGREED

License Number 249151

§

issued to MARLENE DENNARD

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boa considered the matter of MARLENE DENNARD, Registered Nurse License Number 249151, 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 representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on October 2, 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 professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from San Jacinto College, Pasadena, Texas, on May 1, 1979. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 4, 1979.

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 Trans Board of Nursing.

\*\*Executive Director of the Board\*\*

\*\*Executive Director of the Board\*\*

5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

9/1979 - 12/1987	Staff Nurse	Humana Clear Lake Hospital Webster, Texas
1/1988 - 8/1988	Charge Nurse	Memorial Southeast Hospital Houston, Texas
9/1988 - 6/1989	Staff Nurse	St. John Hospital Nassau Bay, Texas
7/1989 - 1/1990	Staff Nurse	Humana Clear Lake Hospital Webster, Texas
2/1990 - 2/1991	Staff Nurse	The University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas
3/1991	Unknown	
4/1991 - 6/1995	Staff Nurse	St. John Hospital Nassau Bay, Texas
7/1995 - 2/1996	Staff Nurse	Columbia Mainland Hospital Texas City, Texas
3/1996 - 9/1996	Staff Nurse	Memorial Southeast Hospital Houston, Texas
10/1996 - 5/1997	Staff Nurse	Diagnostic Center Hospital Houston, Texas
6/1997 - 10/1997	Unknown	
11/1997 - 4/2001	Staff Nurse	Bayshore Medical Center Hospital Pasadena, Texas
5/2001 - 8/2005	Staff Nurse	Clear Lake Regional Medical Center Webster, Texas
9/2005 - Present	Unknown	

<sup>6.</sup> At the time of the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Clear Lake Regional Medical Center, Webster, Texas, and had been in this position for four (4) years and three (3) months.

- 7. On or about August 4, 2005, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Clear Lake Regional Hospital, Webster, Texas, Respondent failed to notify the physician that Patient Number 92774 suffered a skin tear when she removed an intravenous catheter from the patient's left hand. Subsequently, the patient required a skin graft to the left hand. Respondent's conduct deprived the physician of the opportunity to institute timely medical interventions, exposed the patient unnecessarily to the risk of infection, and may have contributed to the patient needing a skin graft.
- 8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that the skin tear occurred when she removed an Op-Site dressing from the patient's left hand and that she feels terrible about what happened. Because the patient was taking a platelet aggregate inhibitor, the wound bled profusely, so Respondent states she applied Neosporin to the wound and placed a dressing on it. Respondent concludes by stating that never in her nursing career has she ever seen another incident where a patient required a skin graft after having a skin tear.

### **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)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D)&(1)(P) and 217.12(1)(A)&(4).
- 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 249151, heretofore issued to MARLENE DENNARD, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, 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 Professional 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 professional 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 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 license issued to MARLENE DENNARD, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing 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:* <a href="http://www.bon.state.tx.us/about/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.state.tx.us/about/stipscourses.html</a>.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A 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 REGISTERED NURSE (RN) 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) RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered 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 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 professional 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 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 professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 12 day of Movember 2007.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12

**SEAL** 

Theresa M Glynn otary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires: December 21, 2010

Notary Public in and for the State of LXLL

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007, by MARLENE DENNARD, Registered Nurse License Number 249151, and said Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of December, 2007.

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