



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 Texas Board of Nursing.  
*Patricia P. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS  
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 568230 § AGREED  
issued to SANDRA SHARLENE MORRISON § ORDER

An investigation by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinaf referred to as the Board, produced evidence indicating that SANDRA SHARLENE MORRISO hereinafter referred to as Respondent, Registered Nurse License Number 568230, may have violated Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.

An informal conference was held on May 30, 2006, at the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent appeared in person. Respondent was notified of her right to be represented by legal counsel and elected to waive representation by counsel. In attendance were Mary Beth Thomas, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing, Executive Director's Designee; James W. Johnston, General Counsel; Victoria Cox, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director, Enforcement Division; Melinda Hester, MS, RN; and Chris Schroeder, Lead Investigator.

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, 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 a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas, in 1990. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 18, 1991.

5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

March 1991 - June 1997	RN Northwest Texas Hospital Amarillo, Texas
June 1998 - December 1999	RN Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, Texas
January 2000 - May 2003	RN Northwest Texas Hospital Amarillo, Texas
February 2004 - May 26, 2004	RN Park Central Surgical Center Dallas, Texas
May 27, 2004 - Present	Not employed in Nursing

6. At the time of the incidents, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Park Central Surgical Center, Dallas, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately three (3) months.

7. During May 2004, while employed at Park Central Surgical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Demerol and Fentanyl belonging to the facility and patients thereof. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.

8. On or about May 17, 2004, while employed at Park Central Surgical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Morphine, Meperidine, and Normeperidine in that Respondent produced a specimen for a drug screen which resulted positive for Morphine, Meperidine, and Normeperidine. Possession of Morphine, Meperidine, and Normeperidine without a valid prescription is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Morphine, Meperidine, and Normeperidine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.

9. The Respondent's conduct described in the preceding Findings of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.401-301.419.
10. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
11. Charges were filed on February 3, 2006.
12. Charges were mailed to Respondent on February 10, 2006.
13. Respondent presented a letter to the Board written by Wayne C. Jones, M.D. Dr. Jones states in the letter that Respondent, "is under my medical care for a highly recurrent major depression mood disorder. This disorder has been well controlled for several months. She requires a combination of high dose antidepressant medication and two mood stabilizers in addition to thyroid medication. Prior to getting her medications adequately adjusted she had abused pain medications trying to relieve her depression. She has not had any problems with pain medication abuse since her mood disorder has been well controlled. She has been totally responsible with her treatment."
14. Respondent's conduct described in Findings Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8) resulted from Respondent's dependency on chemicals.
15. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-.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 of Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)&(19).
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 568230, heretofore issued to SANDRA SHARLENE MORRISON, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT, in lieu of the sanction of Revocation under Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to and be accepted into the TPAPN, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) payable to TPAPN.

(2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN contract to the Board of Nurse Examiners.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN contract during its term.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Board of Nurse Examiners of any violation of the TPAPN contract.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED, 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, that the terms of this Agreed Order shall be applicable to Respondent's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional 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 State of Texas and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including revocation of Respondent's 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. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners, 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.

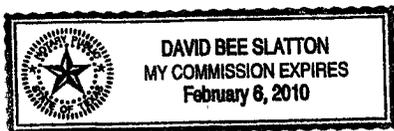
Signed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2006.

Sandra Sharlene Morrison  
SANDRA SHARLENE MORRISON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of July, 2006.

SEAL

David Bee Slatton  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, does hereby accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the 18th day of July, 2006, by SANDRA SHARLENE MORRISON, Registered Nurse License Number 568230, and said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 24th day of July, 2006.



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