



# Enforcement Barcode - Board Orders



Last Name: RIPLEY



First Name: JANICE



License Number: 234633



SSN: 459085930



Date of Order: 5/17/2018



Board Action: VS



Enforce Track (Caselog): 16082789

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of §  
Registered Nurse License Number 234633 §  
issued to JANICE CARLENE RIPLEY §

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of JANICE CARLENE RIPLEY, Registered Nurse License Number 234633, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from McLennan Community College, Waco, Texas, on May 1, 1975. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 6, 1975.
4. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:
 

8/1975 - 4/1996	Unknown	
5/1996 - 5/2001	School Nurse	Rockdale Independent School District Rockdale, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

2001 - 2002	Registered Nurse	Dr. Roberta Herman Jolleyville, Texas
2002 - 2005	Registered Nurse	Austin Diagnostic Clinic Austin, Texas
2005 - 2006	Registered Nurse	Seton Clinic High Risk OB / GYN Austin, Texas
2006 - 2007	Registered Nurse	Hillcrest Hospital Trauma Waco, Texas
1/2007 - 9/2010	Registered Nurse	Standard Home Health Rockdale, Texas
10/2010 - 1/2013	Registered Nurse	Hill County Home Health Round Rock, Texas
2/2013 - 6/2013	Registered Nurse	Scott & White Home Health Waco, Texas
7/2013 - 12/2013	Unknown	
1/2014 - 9/2015	Registered Nurse	Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center Rockdale, Texas

5. A complaint was made that on or about September 22, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center, Rockdale, Texas, Respondent left her nursing assignment in the middle of her shift, without notifying her Supervisor. If this occurred, Respondent's conduct was likely to injure patients by creating an unsafe clinical environment where there would be insufficient staff to take care of patient needs in the event of a medical emergency.
6. A complaint was made that on or about September 1, 2015, through September 22, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center, Rockdale, Texas, Respondent failed to ensure that medication counts for Patients Z.J., F.H. and E.M. were completed. The "quantity" column on the medication administration record (MAR) did not show that a medication count had been completed that would ensure residents had enough medication for any given month, as well as would provide information as to when to call in refills. If this occurred, Respondent's conduct exposed the patients

unnecessarily to risk of harm in that patient(s) could have possibly not had enough prescribed medications.

7. A complaint was made that on or about September 2, 2015, through September 22, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center, Rockdale, Texas, Respondent failed to administer the correct dose of Ferrous Sulfate medication to Patient P.A. If this occurred, Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient from adverse effects due to possible over dosage of medication.
8. A complaint was made that on or about September 1, 2015, through September 22, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center, Rockdale, Texas, Respondent failed to inventory medications for Patients J-A.H., B.S., J.Z. and A.G. According to the medication administration record (MAR), all four (4) patients did not receive medications for a range of 5 to 11 days, and medication counts were not documented as well that would show when medications would need to be refilled. If this occurred, Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that failure to administer medications as ordered by the physician could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment for patient's conditions.
9. In response to the Finding of Fact Number Five (5), Respondent denies this occurred. Answering further, Respondent states through no fault of her own, at Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center ("RRJJC") by September 2015, her work conditions had become intolerable due to her employer's failure to provide minimally adequate staffing and support in the RRJJC medical department to assist Respondent in carrying out her nursing duties. Respondent states further that on September 22, 2015, she had completed in excess of her full nursing shift for that day and before leaving the facility that day she spoke directly and in person to her Supervisor who was also at the facility to inform her Supervisor she was resigning her at-will employment at RRJJC, effective immediately and would not be returning to work there due to being overwhelmed with too many work duties and inadequate staffing support.
10. In response to the Findings of Facts Numbers Six (6), through Number Eight (8), Respondent denies she failed to administer the correct doses of medication to any of the facility residents / patients, including to residents / patients P.A., J-A.H., B.S., J.Z., and A.G. Respondent answers further that the facilities' own investigation into this matter concluded that all residents / patients received their medications. Answering further, Respondent states through no fault of her own, at Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center ("RRJJC") by September 2015, her work conditions had become intolerable due to her employer's failure to provide minimally adequate staffing and support in the RRJJC medical department to assist Respondent in carrying out her duties and that the facility falsely complained to the Texas Board of Nursing to retaliate against her for resigning her employment.

11. On May 17, 2018, the Board received a notarized statement from Respondent denying wrong doing while employed at RRJJC, voluntarily surrendering the right to practice nursing in Texas. A copy of Respondent's statement, dated May 17, 2018, is attached and incorporated herein 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 to prove violation(s) of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(D)&(1)(I) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D)&(4).
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 234633, heretofore issued to JANICE CARLENE RIPLEY, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

#### TERMS OF ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER** of Registered Nurse License Number 234633, heretofore issued to JANICE CARLENE RIPLEY, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia

identifying herself/himself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.

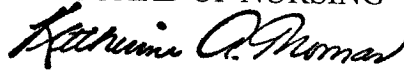
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until at least one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

Effective this 17th day of May, 2018.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

By:



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

JANICE CARLENE RIPLEY  
5271 S. US Hwy 77, Rockdale, TX 76567  
TEXAS RN LICENSE NUMBER 234633

Voluntary Surrender Statement

Dear Texas Board of Nursing:

I no longer desire to be licensed as a nurse.

This in no way declares I am guilty of alleged charges against me. This is a personal decision based on my physical, and emotional health.

Accordingly, I voluntarily surrender my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas. I waive representation by counsel and consent to the entry of an Order which outlines requirements for reinstatement of my license. I understand that I may not petition for reinstatement until one (1) year from the effective date of the Order. I understand that I will be required to comply with the Board's Rules and Regulations in effect at the time I submit any petition for reinstatement.

Signature: *Janice Carlene Ripley*  
Date: 5-17-18

The State of Texas

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this date personally appeared JANICE CARLENE RIPLEY who, being duly sworn by me, stated that he or she executed the above for the purpose therein contained and that he or she understood same.

Sworn to before me the 17th day of May, 2018.

SEAL

*Amy Elizabeth McQuinn*  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

