

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Registered Nurse § AGREED
License Number 718969 §
issued to SAMANTHA LYNN NANCE § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of SAMANTHA LYNN NANCE, Registered Nurse License Number 718969, 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 August 25, 2008, 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 a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from The University of Texas Health Science Center - San Antonio, Texas, on May 22, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 19, 2005.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

7/2005-2/2008	Labor and Delivery Staff Nurse	Southwest General Hospital San Antonio, Texas
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Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

3/2008-Present Unknown

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Labor and Delivery Staff Nurse with Southwest General Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, and had been in this position for two (2) years and seven (7) months.
7. On or about February 20, 2008, while employed with Southwest General Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent falsely documented physician orders in the medical record of Patient CL for the patient to undergo Fetal Non-Stress Tests (NST) and to have intrapartum care, including administration of narcotics for pain. As a result, a subsequent nurse administered narcotic pain medications to the patient which had not ordered by the physician and which may have masked symptoms of fetal distress. Respondents conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that the physician was unaware of changes in the patient's condition, and therefore, was not able to respond in a timely manner. Additionally, subsequent care givers would not have the accurate information on which to base their care decisions.
8. On or about February 21, 2008, while employed at Southwest General Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent failed to notify the physician of a change in the status of the aforementioned Patient CL when the patient reported left sided pain. Instead, Respondent performed a sterile vaginal exam and then turned over the patient's care to another nurse and assumed the role of Charge Nurse. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that the physician was unaware of the change in the patient's condition and he was not able to respond in a timely manner or to modify the patient's treatment appropriately.
9. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Number Seven (7) and Number (8), Respondent states that it was reported to her by an earlier nurse that the standard intrapartum orders were in place but not signed off, and it is not uncommon for the previous shift's orders to be noted as received and in place even though the orders were not noted or signed off on the previous shift. Upon review of the medical record, Respondent states she signed off intrapartum orders that were in place per the report from the earlier RN. Respondent states she realizes this is not good nursing practice. Also, Respondent states it is not uncommon practice on that unit for patients not presenting in labor to have Fetal Non-stress Tests twice a day. Respondent does not address the failure to notify the physician in her response.

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)(M) and 217.12(1)(B),(1)(C)&(6)(A).
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 718969, heretofore issued to SAMANTHA LYNN NANCE, 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, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.1 *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 SAMANTHA LYNN NANCE, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing within ten (10) days from the date of ratification of this Order.

(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 Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder; 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:*
<http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing documentation. 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length of classroom time. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: 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. RESPONDENT SHALL cause the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Board's office 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:*
<http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED 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:

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations conditions 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 probation conditions 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.

(6) 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.

(7) 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.

(8) 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) month period for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

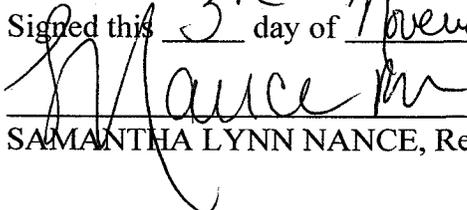
IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

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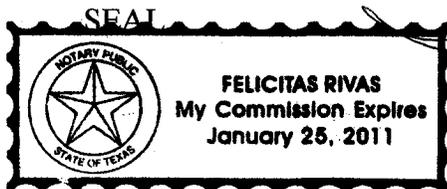
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

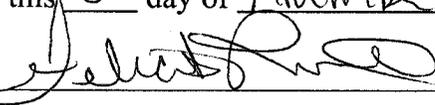
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and 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 3rd day of November, 2008.


SAMANTHA LYNN NANCE, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of November, 2008.





Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 3rd day of November, 2008, by SAMANTHA LYNN NANCE, Registered Nurse License Number 718969, and said Order is final.

Effective this 9th day of December, 2008.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine A. Thomas", written over a horizontal line.

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