



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.  
*Katherine A. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse § AGREED  
License Number 724692 §  
issued to SONDRA JEAN GRONEMYER § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the B considered the matter of SONDRA JEAN GRONEMYER, Registered Nurse License Number 724692, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on November 24, 2010, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

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 representation by counsel, informal proceedings, 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 Skagit Valley Community College, Mount Vernon, Washington on June 1, 1980. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 13, 2006.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1981 to 1982	Staff RN	United General Hospital Sedro-Woolley, Washington
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued.

1982 to 1986	Office Nurse	Dr. Creelman & Dr. Shilling Unknown
1986 to 09/1995	Office Nurse	Burlington Family Practice Burlington, Washington
09/1995 to 04/2004	Head Nurse	Sedro-Woolley School District Sedro-Woolley, Washington
04/2004 to 11/2004	Not employed in nursing	
11/2004 to 06/2005	Temporary on call	Local Doctors offices Unknown
06/2005 to 01/2006	Office Nurse	Dr. Wuest, Plastic Surgeon Unknown
02/2006	Unknown	
03/2006 to 03/2009	Director/Field Nurse	Healthwise Home Health Montgomery, Texas
03/2009 to unknown	Director/Field Nurse	Texas Home Health Huntsville, Texas

6. At the time of the incident described in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as a Director/Field Nurse with Healthwise Home Health, Montgomery, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately three (3) years.
7. On or about September 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Healthwise Home Health, Montgomery, Texas, Respondent engaged in financial exploitation of Patient MR# HWMOM19282-MC001 by receiving monies for alleged services directly from the patient under Respondent's care. Respondent's conduct violated professional boundaries of the nurse/client relationship which was likely to injure the patient in that it could have resulted in confusion between the needs of the nurse and those of the patient.
8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that the patient approached Respondent and asked if Respondent would be willing to be a Home Care Provider to her at unlimited off-duty hours and holidays. Respondent further states that on

occasions she was called during late night and early morning hours to assist in leveling of blood pressure and control anxiety attacks experienced by this patient. These visits prevented her from making stressful and unnecessary trips to the hospital emergency room. Respondent states she was also able to provide the patient with needed assistance with her daily living activities, as well as, errands to the grocery store, post office for mail delivery and pick-up, and transportation. Respondent states that the patient advised her that she had prepared for this type of assistance by insurance coverage and would pay her accordingly and the insurance companies requested billings from her Home Care Provider which the Respondent provided.

#### 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 of Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(D).
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 724692, heretofore issued to SONDRA JEAN GRONEMYER, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

#### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION, 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 Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.1 *et seq.* and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that, while under the terms of this Order, this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact 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 that:

(1) 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) 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>.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in "Respecting Professional Boundaries," a 3.9 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 program, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this program to the Board's office, to the attention of Monitoring. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. *Information regarding this workshop may be found at the following web address: <http://learningext.com/hives/03fbf38973/summary>.*

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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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 violation 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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 13 day of April, 2011.

Sondra Jean Gronemyer  
SONDRA JEAN GRONEMYER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

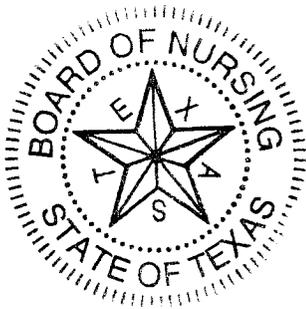
SEAL

Jennifer M Bryant  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011, by SONDRA JEAN GRONEMYER, Registered Nurse License Number 724692, and said Order is final.

Effective this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2011.



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

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