



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

In the Matter of Registered Nurse §
License Number 239166 § AGREED
issued to DEBORAH A. GANT § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Bo considered the matter of DEBORAH A. GANT, Registered License Number 239166, 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 informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on November 17, 2010, 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(s).
2. Respondent waived 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 a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas, on May 1, 1976. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 23, 1977.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

04/1977 - 06/1991	Unknown	
07/1991 - 05/1992	Relief Charge Nurse	Quality Care Dialysis Center Dallas, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

06/1992 - 03/1996	Director of Nursing	Home Health Services of Dallas, Inc., Dallas, Texas
04/1996	Unknown	
05/1996 - 05/1997	Case Manager	HHCA Fort Worth, Texas
03/1997 - 04/1998	Client Care Coordinator	Abundant Home Health Irving, Texas
05/1998 - 11/1998	Staff Registered Nurse	Baylor Medical of Irving Irving, Texas
12/1998	Unknown	
01/1999 - 07/2000	Staff as Needed	Delta Medical Consulting Carrollton, Texas
08/2000	Unknown	
09/2000 - 03/2002	Staff Nurse Telemetry	Hendrick Medical Center Abilene, Texas
04/2002 - 01/2003	Unknown	
02/2003 - 08/2004	Medical Coding & Billing	Comprehensive Medical Solutions, Abilene, Texas
09/2004 - 03/2006	Psychiatric Nurse	Betty Hardwick Center Abilene, Texas
04/2006 - 12/2008	Charge Nurse	Acadia Abilene Abilene, Texas
01/2009 - 02/2009	Unknown	
03/2009 - 08/2009	Charge Nurse	Acadia Abilene Abilene, Texas
09/2009 - 01/2010	Nurse II	Abilene State Supported Living Center, Abilene, Texas
02/2010 - Present	Unknown	

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Nurse II with Abilene State Supported Living Center, Abilene, Texas, and had been in this position for one (1) month.
7. On or about October 28, 2009, through October 29, 2009, while employed with Abilene State Supported Living Center, Abilene, Texas, and working in the infirmary, Respondent failed to notify the physician when Patient MM had a change in condition. While under Respondent's care, Patient MM became more restless, his respirations increased from forty (40) to sixty (60). It was noted that the patient had ineffective breathing, no bowel sounds, had emesis and brown fecal smelling drainage from his nasogastric tube (NGT), with distended abdomen and gastric output of 700 milliliters (ml). The patient's symptoms worsened throughout the night with bloody drainage from the nasogastric tube noted at 0230. The physician was called at 0530. The patient was transferred to the hospital where he coded shortly after arrival and expired. Respondent's conduct may have contributed to the patient's demise.
8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent denies that she failed to notify the physician and states that there was no change of condition during her shift. The charge nurse notified the physician at 0530 when there was a change in the patient's condition. The patient already had ineffective breathing while under her care and the charge nurse and physician were aware of it. The patient was admitted to the care of the charge nurse with the aforementioned symptoms and there was no change under Respondent's care.

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)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D),(1)(M), (1)(P)&(3)(A) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(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 239166, heretofore issued to DEBORAH A. GANT, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 239166, previously issued to DEBORAH A. GANT, to practice professional nursing in Texas is hereby SUSPENDED for a period of two (2) years with the suspension STAYED and Respondent is hereby placed on PROBATION for two (2) years with the following agreed terms of probation:

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 the Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact 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.

(1) 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.

(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) 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 physical assessment. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The didactic portion of this course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. RESPONDENT SHALL perform physical assessments on live patients in a clinical setting for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of physical assessment only and shall be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. To be approved, the course shall cover all systems of the body. Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course to satisfy this stipulation. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor 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>.*

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 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/a0f6f3e8a0/summary>.*

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 PROBATION CONDITIONS FOR TWO (2) YEAR(S) OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) 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 PROBATIONARY PERIOD:

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the 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 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 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) For the first year of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse. Direct supervision requires another professional nurse to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The 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) For the remainder of the probation period, 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.

(9) 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 two (2) years of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that if during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

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.

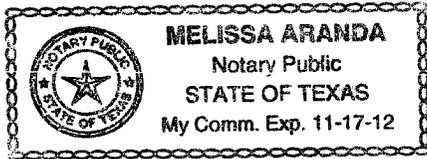
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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I 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 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 28 day of January, 2011.



Deborah A. Gant
DEBORAH A. GANT, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of January, 2011.

SEAL

Melissa Aranda
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form and substance.

Kelly O'Bryan da Mota
Kelly O'Bryan da Mota, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 4 day of February, 2011.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 28th day of January, 2011, by DEBORAH A. GANT, Registered License Number 239166, and said Order is final.

Effective this 8th day of March, 2011.



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