BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse	§	AGREED
License Number 655961 and Vocational	§	
Nurse License Number 157912, issue to	§	
CHINWE FLORENCE CHIMEZIE	§	ORDER

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING
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.
Executive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the B considered the matter of CHINWE FLORENCE CHIMEZIE, Registered Nurse License Number 655961 and Vocational Nurse License Number 157912, 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 proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on January 12, 2011, 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 in the State of Texas and holds a license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas which is in delinquent status.

4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Mater Misericordia Hospital School of Nursing, Afikpo, Nigeria, on November 1, 1989. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on July 2, 1996 and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 26, 1998.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1989 - 2005	Unknown	
2004 - 2006	RN	Affordable Home Health Dallas, Texas
2007 - 04/08	Unknown	
05/08 - 06/09	RN	Affordable Home Health Dallas, Texas
11/08 - 12/08	RN	Grace To You Health Care Services, Inc. Dallas, Texas
02/09 - 04/09	RN	Grace To You Health Care Services, Inc. Dallas, Texas
07/09 - Present	Unknown	

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as an RN with Affordable Home Health, Dallas, Texas, and had been in this position for four (4) years and two (2) months.

7. On or about May 22, 2009, while employed with Affordable Home Health, Dallas, Texas, Respondent used confidential information, which Respondent retained from her prior employment, to contact Patient SR. Respondent contacted the patient by telephone and then visited the patient at her home. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of harm from disclosure and use of her confidential medical information without her written authorization.

8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that she met Patient SR, on February 17, 2009 while employed with another home health agency. The patient told her to come and visit her whenever she was in the area. On May 22, 2009, she was driving by the patient's home, she telephoned the patient and the patient did not recognize her voice. She then decided to stop by the patient's home to visit. She told the patient she was no longer working for the agency and now worked for Affordable.

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)(E) and 217.12(1)(B).

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 655961 and Vocational Nurse License Number 157912, heretofore issued to CHINWE FLORENCE CHIMEZIE, 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 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 <u>not</u> 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 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, 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.

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 8th day of February, 2011.

Chinwe Chimezie

CHINWE FLORENCE CHIMEZIE, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8TH day of FEBRUARY, 2011.

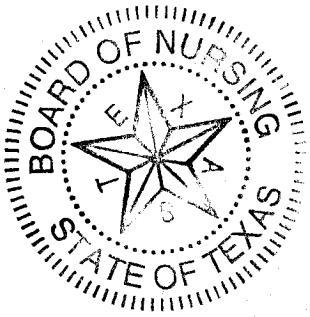
SEAL

LILLIE FAYE GREEN
My Commission Expires
February 4, 2014

Lillie F. Green

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 8th day of February, 2011, by CHINWE FLORENCE CHIMEZIE, Registered Nurse License Number 655961 and Vocational Nurse License Number 157912, and said Order is final.



Effective this **11th** day of **February**, **2011**.

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