



5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

03/1975 - 06/1997	Unknown	
07/1997 - 07/2007	Charge Nurse	Atascadero State Hospital Atascadero, California
04/2007 - 12/2008	Charge Nurse	Matagorda General Hospital Bay City, Texas
01/2009 - 03/2009	Unknown	
04/2009 - Unknown	Staff Relief Nurse	Supplemental Healthcare Houston, Texas

6. At the time of the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as a Staff Relief Nurse with Supplemental Healthcare, Houston, Texas, and had been in this position for five (5) months.
7. On or about September 20, 2009, while employed as a Staff Relief Nurse with Supplemental Health Care, Park City, Utah, and on assignment at the University of Texas Medical Branch - Correctional Managed Care, Estelle Unit, Huntsville, Texas, Respondent administered Normal Saline and Heparin intravenous (IV) flushes to patients prepared by another nurse. Respondent's conduct created an unsafe environment for patients.
8. On or about September 20, 2009, while employed as a Relief Nurse with Supplemental Health Care, Park City, Utah, and on assignment at University of Texas Medical Branch - Correctional Managed Care, Estelle Unit, Huntsville, Texas, Respondent inappropriately used the same syringe to flush the needleless peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) lines of two patients. Respondent's conduct unnecessarily placed patients at risk of harm from infection resulting from cross-contamination.
9. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states that she was assigned to one of three pods, and when she would get called to the other pods to flush patients' PICC lines for the LVNs, the nurses gave her the labeled syringes and took her to the patients. According to Respondent, nurses became upset with her when she had refused to use their syringes on another unit. Respondent states that she drew up her own syringes for whichever pod she was assigned. Respondent admits that she used the same syringe to flush the PICC lines of more than one patient but asserts that she never cross-contaminated a patient because she always used an alcohol swab as the barrier breaker between each patient's PICC line port.

### 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)(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(O)&(1)(R) and 217.12(1)(1)(B),(1)(C)&(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 726981, heretofore issued to CAROL LOUISE WEDGEWORTH, 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 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. *Information regarding Board-approved courses in Texas Nursing Jurisprudence may be found at the Board's website 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 medication administration. 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. The didactic portion of this course shall be a

minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course shall contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component which is to be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. In order for the course to be approved, the course's content shall include: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the five (5) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. 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>

(3) 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.

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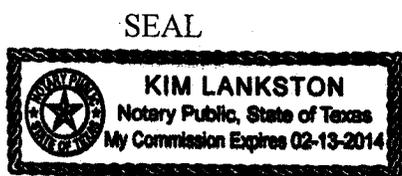
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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 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 27 day of January, 2011.

Carol Louise Wedgeworth  
CAROL LOUISE WEDGEWORTH, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27 day of January, 2011.



Kim Lankston  
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 27th day of January, 2011, by CAROL LOUISE WEDGEWORTH, Registered Nurse License Number 726981, and said Order is final.



Effective this 2nd day of February, 2011.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Katherine A. Thomas', is written over a horizontal line.

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