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

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse	§	AGREED
License Number 239502	§	
issued to PATRICIA A. TIPPITT	§	ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Bo considered the matter of PATRICIA A. TIPPITT, Registered Nurse License Number 239502, 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 July 4, 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 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 Diploma in Nursing from Texas Eastern School, Tyler, Texas, on May 1, 1977. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 1, 1977.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

9/1977 - 1980	Staff Nurse Med/Surg	Hempstead County Memorial Hospital Hope, Arkansas
1980 - 1981	Staff Nurse Med/Surg	Jones County Community Hospital Laurel, Mississippi

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

1982 - 1993		Unknown
8/1994 - Present	Nurse Manager	At Home Healthcare Henderson Henderson, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Nurse Manager with At Home Healthcare Henderson, Henderson, Texas, and had been in this position for thirteen (13) years and eight (8) months.

7. On or about April 1, 2010, while employed with At Home Healthcare, Henderson, Texas, Respondent failed to document in the medical record that she attempted to notify the physician that the family of Patient NHE11579 was requesting the patient's intravenous Vancomycin be administered earlier in the evening and that she left a message with the physician's office requesting approval to move the Vancomycin infusion start time from 6:00 pm to better accommodate the family's schedule. During her nursing visit on the prior evening, the patient's family expressed concern that the timing of the Vancomycin treatment was inconvenient due to its interference with their evening meal and getting the patient ready for bed, and Respondent explained that the start time for the next dose, scheduled for April 2, could be moved up one hour to 5:00 pm, and the patient's wife agreed to this change. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record.

8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that she got no response to the phone message she left with the physician's office, and although she discussed her telephone call with other nurse facility nurse employees, she certainly never told anyone that the Vancomycin start time should be moved up without the physician's approval.

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)(B),(1)(C), (1)(D),(1)(M)&(1)(P) and 217.12(1)(A)&(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 239502, heretofore issued to PATRICIA A. TIPPITT, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice 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 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 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.*

(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://ncsbn.hivelive.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 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 30 day of Aug, 2010.

Patricia A. Tippitt

PATRICIA A. TIPPITT, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30 day of Aug, 2010.

SEAL

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS
KIMBERLY A. COBB
Notary Public
STATE OF TEXAS
My Comm. Exp. 8-9-2011

Kimberly A. Cobb

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

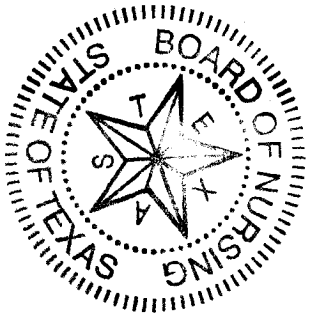
Approved as to form and substance.

Brandy Schnautz Johnson

Brandy Schnautz Johnson, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 8 day of September, 2010.

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 30th day of August, 20 10, by PATRICIA A. TIPPITT, Registered Nurse License Number 239502, and said Order is final.

Effective this 29th day of September, 2010.

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