



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 662898 § AGREED
issued to SUSAN DAVIS LOONEY § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of SUSAN DAVIS LOONEY, Registered Nurse License Number 662898, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on January 7, 2009, 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.
2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, 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 Baccalaureate in Nursing from University of Texas Health Science Center-San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas, on May 1, 1999. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 27, 1999.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

06/99 - 05/07	Staff Nurse	Methodist Heart Hospital San Antonio, Texas
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06/07 - Present	Unknown
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6. At the time of the incidents, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Methodist Heart Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, and had been in this position for six (6) years and three (3) months.
7. On or about March 8, 2006, while employed with Methodist Heart Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Morphine in that she submitted a specimen for a drug screen which resulted positive for Morphine. The use of Morphine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
8. On or about May 21, 2007, while enrolled in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN), Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Morphine and Codeine in that Respondent submitted a specimen for a drug screen which resulted positive for Morphine and Codeine. The use of Morphine and Codeine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
9. On or about August 23, 2007, while enrolled in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN), Respondent failed to comply with a Board approved peer assistance program in that she did not attend 12-step meetings and chemical dependency treatment. Furthermore, she submitted a diluted specimen for a drug screen. On September 4, 2007, Respondent was dismissed from TPAPN and referred to the Board.
10. Respondent states she is guilty of intemperate use of Morphine while employed at Methodist Heart Hospital, San Antonio, Texas. She takes responsibility for having a positive urine drug screen for codeine while in TPAPN. Respondent admitted she had taken codeine for acute pain, prior to the drug screen.
11. The Respondent's conduct described in the preceding Findings of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
12. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
13. Respondent's conduct described in Findings of Fact Number Seven (7) through Nine (9) resulted from was significantly influenced by Respondent's impairment by dependency on chemicals.
14. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.455, 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)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A)(E),(4), (5),(9),(10)(A)(D) & (11)(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 662898, heretofore issued to SUSAN DAVIS LOONEY, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT, in lieu of the sanction of Revocation under Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) payable to TPAPN.

(2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas current.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *et seq.* and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license is encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a multistate licensure 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including revocation of Respondent's license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT be convicted of the offense as outlined in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), said judicial action will result in further disciplinary action including Revocation of Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

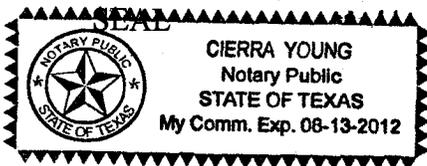
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, 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 to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 11 day of March, 2009.

Susan Davis Looney
SUSAN DAVIS LOONEY, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of March, 2009.



Cierra Young
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 accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the 11th day of March, 2009, by SUSAN DAVIS LOONEY, Registered Nurse License Number 662898, and said Order is final.



Entered and effective this 13th day of March, 2009.



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