

IN THE MATTER OF §  
PERMANENT REGISTERED NURSE §  
LICENSE NUMBER 671341 §  
ISSUED TO §  
AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON-LESTER §

BEFORE THE TEXAS  
BOARD OF NURSING  
ELIGIBILITY AND  
DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

TO: AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON-LESTER  
2922 DANFORTH  
TEXAS CITY, TX 77590

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on **December 10, 2013**, the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.



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.  
*Autumn R. Hamilton-Lester*  
Executive Director of the Board

The Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing [22 TEX. ADMIN.CODE § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 671341, previously issued to AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON-LESTER, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/are hereby, REVOKED.

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

Entered this 10th day of December, 2013.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charge filed August 21, 2013.

In the Matter of	§	BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Registered Nurse	§	
License Number 671341	§	
Issued to AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON-LESTER,	§	
aka AUTUMN RENEE LESTER	§	
Respondent	§	BOARD OF NURSING

**FORMAL CHARGES**

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON-LESTER, is a Registered Nurse holding License Number 671341 which is in delinquent status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

**CHARGE I.**

On or about April 29, 2012, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on April 28, 2011, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(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...

A copy of the of the April 28, 2011, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license/s to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 213.27 - 213.33. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, Board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at [www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html](http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html).

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order(s) which is/are attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Agreed Order dated April 28, 2011.



21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2013.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

*R. Kyle Hensley*

- James W. Johnston, General Counsel  
Board Certified - Administrative Law  
Texas Board of Legal Specialization  
State Bar No. 10838300
  - Jena Abel, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 24036103
  - Lance Robert Brenton, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 24066924
  - John R. Griffith, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 24079751
  - Robert Kyle Hensley, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 50511847
  - Nikki Hopkins, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 24052269
  - John F. Legris, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 00785533
- TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING  
333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460  
Austin, Texas 78701  
P: (512) 305-6811  
F: (512) 305-8101 or (512)305-7401

Attachments: Agreed Order dated April 28, 2011.

D/2012.06.19



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 § AGREED  
License Number 671341 §  
issued to AUTUMN RENEE LESTER § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of AUTUMN RENEE LESTER, Registered Nurse License Number 671341, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(1),(9) and (10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered 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's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas is currently in inactive status.
4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from College of the Mainland, Texas City, Texas, on May 1, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 25, 2000.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

7/00 - 7/06	Staff Nurse	University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas
-------------	-------------	--

5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

7/00 - 7/06	Staff Nurse	University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas
8/06 - 3/09	Staff Nurse	Christus St. John Hospital Nassau Bay, Texas
4/09 - present	Not employed in nursing	

6. On April 17, 2008, Respondent was issued the sanction of a Warning with Stipulations by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the April 17, 2008, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.

7. On or about July 31, 2008, August 7, 2008, and September 8, 2008, while employed with Christus St. John Hospital, Nassau Bay, Texas, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on April 17, 2008, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Nine (9) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(9) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose....

8. On July 31, 2008, August 7, 2008, and September 8, 2008, while employed with Christus St. John Hospital, Nassau Bay, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Propoxyphene in that Respondent submitted specimens for drug screens which resulted positive for Propoxyphene. Possession of Propoxyphene is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Propoxyphene 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. Formal Charges were filed on November 20, 2008.

10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on December 4, 2008.

11. In response to Findings of Fact Number Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states she was having back pain and her mother gave her some medication which turned out to be Darvocet.

13. On June 26, 2009, Respondent completed the stipulations placed on her license as a result of the Agreed Order issued November 20, 2008.

### 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)(1),(9) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(5),(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 671341, heretofore issued to AUTUMN RENEE LESTER, 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 a REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS AND A FINE, 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 Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

(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 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 STIPULATIONS FOR TWO (2) YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION 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 STIPULATION PERIOD:**

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations 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 stipulations 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.

(5) 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.

(6) For the duration of the stipulation 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 units). 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.

(7) 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.

(8) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to an evaluation by a Board approved physician specializing in Pain Management or Psychiatry. The performing evaluator will submit a written report to the Board's office, including results of the evaluation, clinical indications for the prescriptions, and recommendations for on-going treatment within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

(9) RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances, tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram), and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the next three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month. For the next six (6) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month. For the remainder of the stipulation period, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) months. All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines  
Barbiturates  
Benzodiazepines

Meperidine  
Methadone  
Methaqualone

Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
Ethanol	Propoxyphene
tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)	

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the stipulation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription or failure to report for a drug screen, which may be considered the same as a positive result, will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

(10) RESPONDENT SHALL participate in therapy with a "professional counselor" possessing credentials approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the RESPONDENT'S progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the RESPONDENT'S stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. Such reports are to be furnished each and every month for three (3) months. If therapy is recommended for beyond three (3) months, the reports shall then be required at the end of each three (3) month period for the duration of the stipulation period, or until RESPONDENT is dismissed from therapy.

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.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

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 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 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.

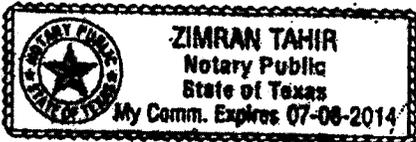
Signed this 7 day of MARCH, 2011.

*Autumn Renee Lester*

AUTUMN RENEE LESTER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7 day of MARCH, 2011.

SEAL



*Zimran Tahir*  
Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

Approved as to form and substance.

*Staci Bouthillette*

STACI BOUTHILLETTE, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 7 day of MARCH, 2011

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2011, by AUTUMN RENEE LESTER, Registered Nurse License Number 671341, and said Order is final.

Effective this 28th day of April, 2011.



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



Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

08/06 - present                      unknown

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately six (6) years.
7. During March 2005 and June 2006, while employed with the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas, Respondent withdrew medications from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients, but failed to accurately and completely document the administration of this medication in the patients' Medication Administration Record and/or Nurses Notes, as follows:

Date	Patient's MR#	Physician's Order	Medication Dispensing System Record (Pyxis) Time and Quantity	Medication Administration Record	Nurses Notes
3/13/05	715567Q	hydrocodone 5/500mg 1-2 tabs q 4-6 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 1130 (2)	No Entry	1130 - med for o/o pain
3/13/05	697814Q	vicodin i-ii tabs q 4 hrs po	Vicodin 5/500 1253 (2)	No Entry	1300 - med for pain
3/13/05	548861Q	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 1254 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
3/14/05	728381P	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 1639 (2)	No Entry	1600 - Rep 1 pain
3/20/05	573953Q	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 1148 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
3/21/05	735524Q	hydrocodone 5/500mg 1-2 tabs q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 0059 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
3/22/05	737542Q	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 2044 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
6/27/06	515596P	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Norco 5/325 tab 1514 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
6/27/06	831208Q	No Order	Norco 5/325 tab 1601 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
6/27/06	359673P	No Order	Norco 5/325 tab 1501 (2)	No Entry	No Entry

Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patients which could result in an overdose.

8. On or about June 27, 2006 and June 28, 2006, while employed with the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas, Respondent withdrew Norco 5/325mg from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients without a valid physician's order, as follows:

Date	Patient's MR#	Physician's Order	Medication Dispensing System Record (Pyxis) Time and Quantity	Medication Administration Record	Nurses Notes
6/27/06	831208Q	No Order	Norco 5/325 tab 1601 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
6/27/06	359673P	No Order	Norco 5/325 tab 1501 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
6/28/06	831208Q	No Order	Norco 5/325 tab 0730 (2)	Norco 3/325 0730	0730 - med for pain
6/28/06	831208Q	No Order	Norco 5/325 tab 1246 (2)	Norco 3/325 1300	1300 - med for pain

Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that the administration of Norco without a physician's order could result in the patient suffering from adverse reactions.

9. During March 2005 and June 2006, while employed with the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas, Respondent withdrew medications from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients, but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of the unused portions of the medications, as follows:

Date	Patient's MR#	Physician's Order	Medication Dispensing System Record (Pyxis) Time and Quantity	Medication Administration Record	Wastage
3/13/05	548861Q	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 1254 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
3/20/05	573953Q	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 1148 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
3/21/05	735524Q	hydrocodone 5/500mg I-2 tabs q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 0059 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
3/22/05	737542Q	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Vicodin 5/500 2044 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
6/27/06	515596P	vicodin i-ii po q 4 hrs prn pain	Norco 5/325 tab 1514 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
6/27/06	831208Q	No Order	Norco 5/325 tab 1601 (2)	No Entry	No Entry
6/27/06	359673P	No Order	Norco 5/325 tab 1501 (2)	No Entry	No Entry

Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy and placed them in violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).

10. On or about March 2005 and June 2006, while employed with the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas, Respondent misappropriated, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation of Norco from the facility and the patients thereof. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
11. 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.

#### 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 Sections 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(B)(C)(D) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A)(C),(6)(G)(H)&(10)(B)(C)&(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 671341, heretofore issued to AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON LESTER, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice professional 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 a WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code, §§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 privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing in compact states.

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 that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-sized license issued to AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON LESTER, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing within ten (10) days from the date of ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.

(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) contact 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 Chemical Dependency, 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/disciplinary.action>.*

(3) 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/disciplinary action](http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinary%20action).*

(4) 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/disciplinary.action>

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED 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 STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) 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 STIPULATION PERIOD:

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations 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 stipulations 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) 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.

(8) 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) months for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

(9) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except

as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to an evaluation by a Board approved physician specializing in Pain Management or Psychiatry. The performing evaluator will submit a written report to the Board's office, including results of the evaluation, clinical indications for the prescriptions, and recommendations for on-going treatment within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

(10) RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances, tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram), and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the next three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month. For the next six (6) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines	Meperidine
Barbiturates	Methadone
Benzodiazepines	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
Ethanol	Propoxyphene
tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)	

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT's place of employment at any time during the stipulation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random

drug screening during the stipulation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action by this Board. Failure to report for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result and may result in further disciplinary action by this Board.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

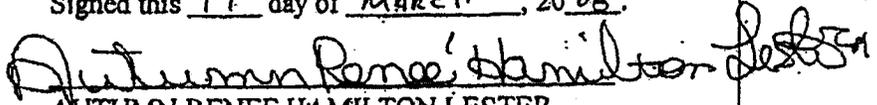
BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

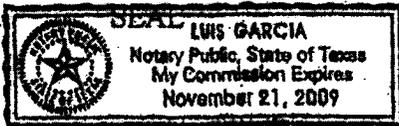
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

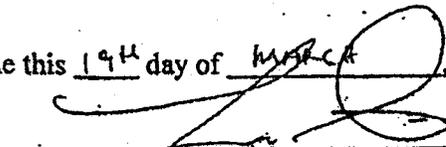
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that 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 to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2008.

  
AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON LESTER,  
Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2008.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 19th day of March, 2008, by AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON LESTER, Registered Nurse License Number 671341, and said Order is final.

Effective this 17th day of April, 2008.

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

Re: Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 671341  
Issued to AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON-LESTER  
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 11th day of December, 2013, a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the following person(s), as follows:

Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

AUTUMN RENEE HAMILTON-LESTER  
2922 DANFORTH  
TEXAS CITY, TX 77590

BY:



---

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD