BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS



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In the Matter of KENEISHA SULETTE PARKER PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure

§ ORDER OF S CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY

On the date entered below, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as Board, considered the Petition for Declaratory Order and supporting documents filed by KENEISHA SULETTE PARKER, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and PETITIONER's Certificate contained herein. Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may be ineligible for licensure pursuant to the Occupations Code 301.452(b)(3)&(10).

PETITIONER waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on August 28, 2009, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On or about September 14, 2007, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Section 213.30.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation, notice, administrative proceedings, and judicial review.
- 3. Petitioner was enrolled in an Associate Degree Nursing Program at Houston Community College, Houston, Texas, at the time of this petition.
- 4. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order and answered "yes" to the question which reads, in part, as follows: "Have you been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether

or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrests? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudication with or without prejudice of guilt."

5. Petitioner disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:

On May 17, 2004, Petitioner entered a plea of guilty to the state jail felony offense of Theft of Property, Cause No. F03-35184H, in the Criminal District Court of Dallas County, Texas. Proceedings were deferred without an adjudication of guilt and Petitioner was placed on probation for five (5) years.

- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. On January 9, 2008, Petitioner's case was reviewed by the Executive Director of the Board. Based on the petition for licensure as professional nurse in the State of Texas pursuant to Section 301.257, Texas Occupations Code, as amended, Petitioner was found ineligible for licensure. A copy of the January 9, 2008, denial letter is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 8. On or about March 27, 2009, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Section 213.30.
- 9. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order and answered "yes" to the question which reads: "For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:
 - A. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
 - B. been convicted of a felony?
 - C. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
 - D. received deferred adjudication?
 - E. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
 - F. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
 - G. been granted pre-trial diversion?
 - H. been arrested or any pending criminal charges?
 - I. been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
 - J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation, or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?"
- 10. Petitioner disclosed the following, to wit:

On May 17, 2004, Petitioner was placed on deferred probation for the felony offense of Theft. On March 25, 2009, all conditions of probation were completed and Petitioner was released from probation.

- Licensure of Petitioner poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public, 11. provided Petitioner complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.
- The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on 12. the basis of the information provided by Petitioner.
- Petitioner has sworn that her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character 13. requirements. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- Petitioner has been advised that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect, or 14. misleading will be considered and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through misrepresentation.
- On August 28, 2009, the Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior 15. in light of the character factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- The Texas Board of Nursing has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453, 1. Texas Occupations Code.
- Petitioner has submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of 2. eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Section 213.30.
- Petitioner's criminal history reflects criminal conduct which constitutes grounds for denial 3. of a license under Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.
- Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a 4. ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.
- The Board may license an individual who has been previously convicted, adjudged guilty by 5. a court, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to any crime whether or not a sentence was imposed upon consideration of the factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et sea., Texas Occupations Code.
- The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's 6. character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27, the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon meeting the requirements for graduation and payment of any required fees, KENEISHA SULETTE PARKER, PETITIONER, is CONDITIONALLY ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Nurse in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that PETITIONER SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional 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 PETITIONER's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while PETITIONER's license is encumbered by this Order the PETITIONER may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the State of Texas and the Board of Nursing in the party state where PETITIONER wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that PETITIONER, upon attaining a passing grade on the NCLEX-RN®, shall be issued a license to practice nursing in the State of Texas which shall bear the appropriate notation and PETITIONER SHALL be subject to the following stipulations.

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure in the State of Texas, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'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. IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND PETITIONER 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:

- (2) PETITIONER SHALL notify all employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER's license. PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- (3) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Petitioner by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (4) PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER, 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 Petitioner is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- (5) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Petitioner by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER's capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. 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.

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

PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past criminal conduct, and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing from each jurisdiction in which I have been adjudged guilty by way of conviction or deferred order. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Petition for Declaratory Order, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of conviction, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

In connection with my petition, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Section 301.257, Texas Occupations Code, Section 301.452(a), (b) and (c), Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code, and Board Rules 213.27, 213.28, and 213.29 at 22 Texas Administrative Code. I agree with all terms of this Order, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any stipulations as set out in this Order. I acknowledge that this Order is stipulated and I understand that I am not eligible to receive a Graduate Nurse Permit to practice. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to registering for the NCLEX-RN® Examination or accepting any permit or license from the Texas Board of Nursing.

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.

I understand that I can be represented by an attorney in this matter. I waive representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review of this Order and request that the Executive Director of the Texas Board of Nursing enter this Order.

Signed this day of 1000m01, 2009

KENEISHA SULETTE PARKER, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

to and subscribed before me times

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 Order of Conditional Eligibility that was signed on the __2nd__ day of ____ November___, __2009__, by KENEISHA SULETTE PARKER, PETITIONER, for Declaratory Order, and said Order is final.

Entered this 8th day of <u>December</u>, 2009.

BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

By:

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf of said Board