BEFORE THE BOAR OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS



I do hereby certify this to be a comp accurate, and true copy of the document is on file or is of record in the office.

Texas Board of Nursing.

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Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of KAYLA RACHELLE BLAIR APPLICANT for Eligibility for Licensure

§ ORDER OF
 § CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY

On the date entered below, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as Board, considered the Application for Licensure by Examination and supporting documents filed by KAYLA RACHELLE BLAIR, hereinafter referred to as APPLICANT, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and APPLICANT's Certificate contained herein. Information received by the Board produced evidence that APPLICANT may be ineligible for licensure pursuant to the Occupations Code 301.452(b)(3)&(10).

APPLICANT waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on February 24, 2010, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about April 2, 2009, Applicant submitted an Application for Licensure by Examination requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.252 and 301.257, of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rules at 22 Texas Administrative Code Sections 213.30 and 217.2.
- 2. Applicant waived representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review.
- 3. Applicant received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Western Texas College, Snyder, Texas, on August 27, 2009.
- 4. On or about March 30, 2009, Applicant completed the Application for Licensure by Examination and answered "Yes" to the question which reads in part as follows: "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 <u>cited</u> 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?"
- 5. Applicant disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:
 - A. On or about November 8, 2001, Applicant was arrested for the offense of ENGAGING IN ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, a First Degree felony, and MAN/DEL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG 1>=1G <4G, a Third Degree felony, in Garza County, Texas.

On or about June 11, 2002, Applicant entered a plea of "Guilty" to ENGAGING IN ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, (a First Degree felony offense committed on November 8, 2001), and POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG 1>=1G<4G, (a Third Degree felony offense committed on November 8, 2001), under Cause No. 02/2121, in the 106th Judicial district court of Garza County, Texas. Proceedings were deferred without an adjudication of guilt and Applicant was placed on probation for four (4) years.

B. On or about February 4, 2008, Applicant was arrested for the offense of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor, in Garza County, Texas.

On or about December 29, 2008, Applicant was issued an order of Dismissal in the County Court of Garza County, Texas, for the offense of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, under Cause No. 10,410, (a class B misdemeanor committed on February 4, 2008), after Applicant pled guilty to PUBLIC INTOXICATION, in Justice of Peace Court and paid an appropriate fine and court costs.

- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Five (5) Section (A), Applicant states that at the age of 19 she got mixed up with a bad group of people. She ended up at a house that got busted by the cops. There were drugs in the house and in her possession.

In response to Finding of Fact Number Five (5) Section (B), Applicant states that she knows how dangerous drinking and driving is. Applicant realizes that this stupidity can cause death not only to herself but to others and will never to it again.

- 8. On December 8, 2009, Applicant was seen by Richard Lee Wall, Ph.D., H.S.P., Clinical Psychologist, to undergo a chemical dependency evaluation. Dr. Wall states that Applicant appears to be a person who is capable of performing the duties required of a professional nurse. Arriving at that capability did not come easy and was not a guarantee when she started on that quest. At this time, Dr. Wall, is unable to find any significant reason why Applicant should not be able to perform successfully as a member of the nursing profession as specified in her credentials and training.
- 9. Licensure of Applicant poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public, provided Applicant complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.
- 10. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of the information provided by Applicant.
- 11. Applicant has sworn that her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements. Applicant presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- 12. Applicant has been advised that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect, or misleading will be considered and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through misrepresentation.
- 13. On February 24, 2010, the Executive Director considered evidence of Applicant's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27 and determined that Applicant currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Texas Board of Nursing has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- 2. Applicant has submitted an Application for Licensure by Examination requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.252 and 301.257, of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rules at 22 Texas Administrative Code Sections 213.30 and 217.2.
- 3. Applicant's criminal history reflects criminal conduct which is grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.

- 4. Applicant shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.
- 5. The Board may license an individual who has been previously convicted, adjudged guilty by 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 seg.*, Texas Occupations Code.
- 6. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's 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 to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.

<u>ORDER</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon meeting the requirements for graduation and payment of any required fees, KAYLA RACHELLE BLAIR, APPLICANT, is CONDITIONALLY ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN® Examination). APPLICANT SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Vocational Nurse in the State of Texas.

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

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while APPLICANT's license is encumbered by this Order the APPLICANT 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 APPLICANT wishes to work.

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

(1) APPLICANT SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure in the State of Texas, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. APPLICANT 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. APPLICANT 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 APPLICANT'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 APPLICANT PRACTICE AS A VOCATIONAL NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, APPLICANT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND APPLICANT 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 VOCATIONAL NURSE (VN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (2) APPLICANT SHALL notify each employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on APPLICANT's license. APPLICANT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order to each employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- (3) APPLICANT SHALL CAUSE each employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Applicant by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (4) APPLICANT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse or a Licensed Vocational Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as APPLICANT, 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 Applicant is currently working. APPLICANT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). APPLICANT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency,

hospice, or home health agency. APPLICANT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

- (5) APPLICANT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Applicant by the Board, periodic reports as to APPLICANT's capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse who supervises the APPLICANT. 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 one (1) year of employment as a nurse.
- (6) APPLICANT 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, APPLICANT 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 APPLICANT 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.
- (7) APPLICANT 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. 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

Meperidine

Barbiturates

Cannabinoids

Methadone Methagualone

Benzodiazepines

Opiates

Cocaine

Phencyclidine

Ethanol

Propoxyphene

tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)

A Board representative may appear at the APPLICANT's place of employment at any time during the stipulation period and require APPLICANT 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. APPLICANT 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 Applicant's license and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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

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APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Applicant 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 Application for Licensure by Examination, 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 application, 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 Vocational 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-PN® 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 vocational 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 29 day of March, 2010

KAYLARACHELLE BLAIR, APPLICANT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of March, 2010

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Notary Public in and for the State of 1- 21- 2013

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 <u>29th</u> day of <u>March</u>, <u>2010</u>, by KAYLA RACHELLE BLAIR, APPLICANT, for Licensure by Examination, and said Order is final.

Entered this <u>11th</u> day of <u>May</u>, <u>2010</u>.

BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

By:

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director

on behalf of said Board