BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of	§	AGREED
Registered Nurse License Number 793420	§	
issued to LORIE RENEE GRIFFITH	§	ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as

considered the matter of LORIE RENEE GRIFFITH, Registered Nurse License Number 793420,

hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c),

Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and

hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was provided to 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 representation by counsel, 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 an Associate Degree in Nursing from Mercy College, Des Moines, Iowa, on May 1, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on November 3, 2010.

5. Respondent's complete professional nursing employment history is unknown.

6. Formal Charges were filed on April 22, 2014.

7. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on April 23, 2014.

8. On or about February 1, 2013, Respondent entered a plea of "Guilty" to POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE OF 28 GRAMS OR MORE, BUT LESS THAN 200 GRAMS, NAMELY: A COMPOUND OF CODEINE, a Third Degree Felony offense committed on April 21, 2012, in the 372nd District Court, Tarrant County, Texas, under Case No. 1304250D. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and she was placed on probation for a period of two (2) years and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

9. On or about March 27, 2013, Respondent submitted a Texas Board of Nursing Online Renewal Document for Registered Nurses, in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information in that she answered "No" to the question:

"Have you, within the past 24 months or since your last renewal, for any criminal offense, including those pending appeal:
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 have 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. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) and Nine (9), Respondent states she picked up a prescription for her ex-boyfriend's friend, not knowing it was a fake prescription. She also states she did not intentionally falsify her application.

11. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

12. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.

13. 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 violation(s) of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I)&(13).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(2),(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 793420, heretofore issued to LORIE RENEE GRIFFITH, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.

6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.

7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 793420, heretofore issued to LORIE RENEE GRIFFITH, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying

herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.

2.   RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order

3.   Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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.

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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 violation(s) 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 becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this __30th__ day of __September__, 20__14__.

Lorie Renee Griffith
LORIE RENEE GRIFFITH, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this __30th__ day of __September__, 20__14__.
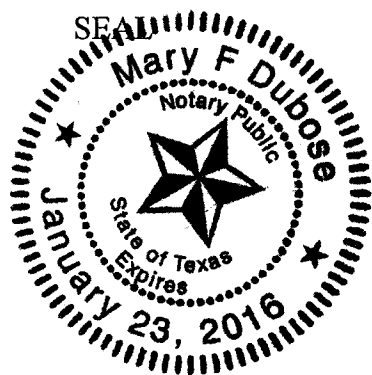
Notary Public in and for the State of __Texas__

SEAL
Mary F Dubose
Notary Public
State of Texas
Expires January 23, 2016

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 793420, previously issued to LORIE RENEE GRIFFITH.

Effective this ___3rd___ day of _____October_____, 20_14__.

Katherine A. Thomas

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