BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of § AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 812591 §
issued to ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as considered the matter of ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL, Registered Nurse License Number 812591, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on September 17, 2014.

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 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 a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from the University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas on December 15, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on January 26, 2012.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

01/2012 - 04/2012

Unknown

- 1 - C40esp

812591:149

Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

05/2012 - 08/2012	Charge Nurse	Northgate Plaza Nursing and Rehab Center Irving, Texas
08/2012 - 11/2012	RN	Kindred Dallas Dallas, Texas
07/2012 - 11/2012	Weekend Supervisor	Alvarado Meadows Nursing and Rehab Center Alvarado, Texas
10/2012 - Present	PRN Staff RN	Health South Plano Plano, Texas
12/2012 - 04/2013	RN	Dallas Independent School District Dallas, Texas
03/2013 - Present	RN	Texas Health Huguley Burleson, Texas

- 6. On December 11, 2007, Respondent was issued a Conditional Order of Eligibility by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and December 11, 2007, Eligibility Order is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse with Texas Health Huguley, Burleson, Texas, and had been in this position for six (6) months.
- 8. On or about September 16, 2013, through September 23, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Huguley, Burleson, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing in that she was hospitalized for Major Depression with psychotic features, including delusions. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.
- 9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states: "From September 16, 2013, to September 23, 2013, I was indeed hospitalized at a mental health floor at Texas Presbyterian Dallas for Major Depression with psychotic features. At the time I was currently working as a Registered Nurse at Texas Health Huguley in Burleson, Texas. I self-reported the hospitalization after being released. During my hospital stay it was determined that lack of sleep (working night shift) and a recent robbery was the leading factors to this

- particular hospitalization. After being released I informed my employer that I needed to work day shift. The request was granted. My employer was informed at the time of hire of the psychiatric conditions and at the time I was hospitalized in September 2013."
- 10. 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.
- 11. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's disorder mental illness.
- 12. 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 301.451-301.555, 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(1)(A),(1)(E),(4)&(5).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 812591, heretofore issued to ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL, up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice 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, subject to ratification by the Texas

Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 812591, issued to ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL, to practice nursing in Texas is/are hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is ENFORCED until Respondent complies with Stipulation Numbers One (1) and Two (2):

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL apply to and be accepted into the TPAPN and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of compliance with Stipulation Numbers One (1) and Two (2), the SUSPENSION will be stayed, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the TPAPN:

- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice 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.

RESPONDENT SHALL pay all re-registration fees, if applicable, and RESPONDENT'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be updated to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.

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 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 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.

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 may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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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. I 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 Stipulation Numbers 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this day of White 20 M

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of OCTOBER.

SEAL

VICTORIA SUJANSKY
My Commission Expires
February 2, 2017

2195

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 6th day of October, 2014, by ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL, Registered Nurse License Number 812591,, and said Order is final.

Effective this ___7th__ day of _October , 2014.

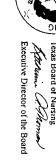
Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Kethim a. Moman

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board





In the Matter of
ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL
PETITIONER for Eligibility for
Licensure

§ ORDER OF CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY

On the date entered below, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as uncertainty Considered the Petition for Declaratory Order and supporting documents filed by ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL, 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 have violated Section 301.452 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order, offered on July 11, 2007, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about May 29, 2007, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review.
- 3. Petitioner is currently enrolled in a Baccalaureate Nursing Program at The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas.
- 4. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order and answered "yes" to Question Number Six (6), which reads as follows: "Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder?"

- 5. A letter dated May 2, 2007, was submitted to the Board by Corinne Fribley, MD, Children's Medical Center of Dallas, Dallas, Texas, stating that Petitioner has been a patient of hers since October, 2005, for the diagnosis of Schizoaffective Disorder. Petitioner's symptoms are currently stable. Petitioner has never warranted psychiatric hospitalization, and has good insight into her illness. Petitioner will need to continue taking medication in the future to ensure continued current functioning. Petitioner is currently cognitive, affective and emotionally stable.
- 6. Petitioner presented evidence of current fitness to practice professional nursing, provided Petitioner complies with the stipulation as outlined in this Order.
- 7. The safety of patients and the public requires that all persons licensed to practice nursing be fit, and able to consistently practice nursing in autonomous roles under demanding and stressful conditions.
- 8. The Board considered evidence of Petitioner's mental illness and subsequent rehabilitation as provided in §213.29, 22 Texas Administrative Code.
- 9. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of the information provided by Petitioner.
- 10. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Application for Licensure by Examination, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with the Board's character requirements in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27.
- 11. On July 11, 2007, the Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior 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.
- 12. In consideration of Petitioner's past conduct and subsequent evidence of rehabilitation, the Executive Director finds that Petitioner should be declared conditionally eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board of Nurse Examiners has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

- 2. Petitioner has submitted a petition in compliance with Section 301.257, Texas Occupations Code.
- 3. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452, Texas Occupations Code.
- 4. The Board of Nurse Examiners may license an individual who has a history of mental illness, after consideration of the criteria set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.29, the Board determines the Petitioner does not currently pose a direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
- 5. 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 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, ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL, 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, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code §§301.001 et seq., the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional 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 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 stipulation.

(1) PETITIONER SHALL participate in therapy with a "professional counselor" possessing credentials approved by the Board. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the PETITIONER's progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice professional nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the PETITIONER'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 one (1) year, or until PETITIONER is dismissed from therapy.

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.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all relevant information in conformity with Rule 213.29 at Texas Administrative Code. 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 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 Board Rules 213.27, 213.28, and 213.29 at 22 Texas Administrative Code, which are incorporated by reference as a part of this Order. I agree with all terms of this Order, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any stipulations 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 Texas Board of Nursing.

Signed this <u>37"</u> day of <u>atober</u>, 7007.

ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL, PETITIONER

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22 day of october, 2004.

SEAL

Notary Public STATE OF TEXAS My Comm. Exp. 01-31-10

Wendi Scott :063

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Order of Conditional Eligibility that was signed on the <u>22nd</u> day of <u>October</u>, <u>2007</u>, by ASHLEY KIMTASHI KIRKENDOLL, PETITIONER, for Petition for Declaratory Order, and said Order is final.

Entered this 11th day of December, 2007.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director

on behalf of said Board