### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of \$ AGREED Registered Nurse License Number 629558 \$ issued to KIMBERLY KIBBY BRATTON \$ ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of KIMBERLY KIBBY BRATTON, Registered Nurse License Number 629558, 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)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on December 15, 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 notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Masters Degree in Nursing from the University of Texas Austin, Austin, Texas on May 1, 1996. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 19, 1996.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

06/19/96 to 1997

unknown

/629558/0:259

C20

accurate, and true copy of the document we so of a confice of the orising of the offices of the Cartana Board of Nursing.

Executive Director of the Board

Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

1997 to 1999 Registered Nurse University of Texas MD Anderson Houston, Texas

1999 to 2001 Registered Nurse Memorial Pediatrics

Houston, Texas

2001 to 2009 Not employed in nursing

09/2009 to present Registered Nurse Hill Country Pediatrics

Austin, Texas

6. On or about September 1, 2013, through November 7, 2014, while employed with Hill Country Pediatrics, Austin, Texas, Respondent practiced as a Registered Nurse without a valid license. Board records indicate Respondent's license expired on August 31, 2013, and was not renewed until November 7, 2014. Respondent's conduct deceived residents, their families, fellow care givers, and the public in that they believed Respondent's nursing practice was in compliance with all Board Rules and Regulations.

7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent admits she has been practicing as a Registered Nurse at Hill Country Pediatrics consistently from September 2009 to the present. She was notified by her employer that her license had expired and immediately provided all necessary information and payment to the Texas Board of Nursing.

#### 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)(H)&(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 629558, heretofore issued to KIMBERLY KIBBY BRATTON.

#### **TERMS OF ORDER**

## I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas

Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **REMEDIAL EDUCATION**WITH A FINE in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state without first obtaining the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the nurse licensure compact party state where Respondent wishes to work.

### II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW

While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT agrees to 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.

# III. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

- A. A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics that 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. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- B. 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/these course(s), RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. RESPONDENT SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is <u>not</u> being offered by a preapproved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at <u>www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</u>.

#### IV. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) 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.

# V. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

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.

# 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 entry of this 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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 possible revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16 day of

**SEAL** 

**AMANDA KRISTENE ALLEE** Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires November 06, 2018

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 Agreed Order that was signed on the 16th day of January, 2015, by KIMBERLY KIBBY BRATTON, Registered Nurse License Number 629558, and said Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of January, 2015.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Sterning Othomas

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board