BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

KIMBERLY MARIE CRIPE 163 Epworth Hwy Palmer Lake, CO 80133

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Registered Nurse License No. 706183

RESPONDENT

Case No. 2014-1295

DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

[Gov. Code, §11520]

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On or about April 18, 2014, Complainant Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN, in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, filed Accusation No. 2014-1295 against Kimberly Marie Cripe (Respondent) before the Board of Registered Nursing. (Accusation attached as Exhibit A.)
- On or about July 2, 2007, the Board of Registered Nursing (Board) issued Registered 2. Nurse License No. 706183 to Respondent. The Registered Nurse License expired on November 30, 2008, and has not been renewed.
- On or about April 18, 2014, Respondent was served by Certified and First Class Mail copies of the Accusation No. 2014-1295, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request

for Discovery, and Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7 to Respondent's address of record which, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 136 and/Title 16, California Code of Regulation, section 1409.1, is required to be reported and maintained with the Board, which was and is:

163 Epworth Hwy

Palmer Lake, CO 80133.

On or about May 7, 2014, Respondent was re-served by Certified and First Class Mail copies of the Accusation No. 2014-1295, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7 to Respondent's alternate address as follows:

205 1/2 S Main Street

Aberdeen, SD 57401.

- 4. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of Government Code section 11505, subdivision (c) and/or Business & Professions Code section 124.
- 5. On or about May 6, 2014, the Certified Mail documents addressed to respondent's address of record and sent through the U.S. Postal Service were returned bearing the indicia, "Return to Sender, Insufficient Address, Unable to Forward." On or about May 29, 2014, the signed Certified Mail Receipt addressed to respondent's alternate address was returned to our office indicating a delivery.
 - 6. Business and Professions Code section 2764 states:

The lapsing or suspension of a license by operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, or the voluntary surrender of a license by a licentiate shall not deprive the board of jurisdiction to proceed with an investigation of or action or disciplinary proceeding against such license, or to render a decision suspending or revoking such license.

- 7. Government Code section 11506 states, in pertinent part:
- (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent files a notice of defense, and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts of the Accusation

not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing.

- 8. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service of the Accusation upon her, and therefore waived her right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. 2014-1295.
 - 9. California Government Code section 11520 states, in pertinent part:
- (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at the hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to respondent.
- 10. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Board finds Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further hearing and, based on Accusation No. 2014-1295 and the documents contained in Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this matter which includes:
 - Exhibit 1: Pleadings offered for jurisdictional purposes; Accusation Case No. 20141295, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense (two blank copies),
 Request for Discovery and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections
 11507.5, 11507.6 and 11507.7), proofs of service; and if applicable, mail
 receipt or copy of returned mail envelopes;
 - Exhibit 2: License History Certification for Kimberly Marie Cripe, Registered Nurse License No. 706183:
 - Exhibit 3: Affidavit of Kami Pratab;
 - Exhibit 4: Out of State Discipline (Colorado, Texas and Washington Boards of Nursing);
 - Exhibit 5: Declaration of costs by Office of the Attorney General for prosecution of Case No. 2014-1295.

The Board finds that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2014-1295 are separately and severally true and correct by clear and convincing evidence.

11. Taking official notice of Certification of Board Costs and the Declaration of Costs by the Office of the Attorney General contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet, pursuant to the Business and Professions Code section 125.3, it is hereby determined that the reasonable costs for Investigation and Enforcement in connection with the Accusation are \$1,982.50 as of July 25, 2014.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

- 1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Kimberly Marie Cripe has subjected her following license(s) to discipline:
 - a. Registered Nurse License No. 706183
 - 2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.
- 3. The Board of Registered Nursing is authorized to revoke Respondent's license(s) based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation, which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this case.
 - a. Violation of Business and Professions Code section 2761(a)(4) Disciplinary action by another State Board of Nursing.

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ORDER

IT IS SO ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 706183, heretofore issued to Respondent Kimberly Marie Cripe, is revoked.

Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.

This Decision shall become effective on <u>December 12, 2014</u>.

It is so ORDERED <u>November 13, 2014</u>.

Board of Registered Nursing
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California

Attachment:

Exhibit A: Accusation No. 2014-1295

Accusation No. 2014-1295

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1	KAMALA D. HARRIS	
2	Attorney General of California DIANN SOKOLOFF Supervision Depute Attorney General	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General ASPASIA A. PAPAVASSILIOU Deputy Attorney General	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 196360	
5	1515 Clay Street, 20th Floor P.O. Box 70550	
6	Oakland, CA 94612-0550 Telephone: (510) 622-2199 Telephone: (510) 622-2199	
7	Facsimile: (510) 622-2270 E-mail: Aspasia.Papavassiliou@doj.ca.gov Attorneys for Complainant	
8	BEFORE THE	
.9	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. Z014-1295	
12	KIMBERLY MARIE CRIPE	
13	163 Epworth Hwy Palmer Lake, CO 80133 ACCUSATION	
14	Registered Nurse License No. 706183	
15	Respondent.	
16		
17	Complainant alleges:	İ
18	PARTIES	
19	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her	
20	official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of	
21	Consumer Affairs.	
22	2. On or about July 2, 2007, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse	
23	License Number 706183 to Kimberly Marie Cripe (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License	
24	expired on November 30, 2008, and has not been renewed.	
25	JURISDICTION	
26	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board),	
27	Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section	
28	references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.	
	1 Accusation	<u>.</u>

- 4. Section 2750 of the Business and Professions Code (Code) provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 5. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under section 2811, subdivision (b) of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

6. Section 2761 of the Code states, in part:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- "(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- "(4) Denial of licensure, revocation, suspension, restriction, or any other disciplinary action against a health care professional license or certificate by another state or territory of the United States, by any other government agency, or by another California health care professional licensing board. A certified copy of the decision or judgment shall be conclusive evidence of that action."

COST RECOVERY

7. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case, with failure of the licentiate to comply subjecting the license to not being renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be included in a stipulated settlement.

Washington Discipline (License Denial)

8. On or about August 27, 2008, the Washington State Department of Health denied

Respondent's application to be credentialed as a registered nurse. The basis for the denial was Respondent's failure to provide the agency with an "Authorization to Release Confidential Records." Respondent did not appeal the denial.

Colorado Discipline

9. On or about August 20, 2010, the Colorado State Board of Nursing (Colorado Board), in a disciplinary action, indefinitely suspended Respondent's Colorado professional nurse and practical nurse licenses after Respondent failed to comply with various requirements of the "Nursing Peer Health Assistance or Nurse Alternative to Discipline Program" (diversion program). Respondent agreed to comply with the diversion program on or about September 23, 2008, but, beginning in or around November 2009, she provided urine samples that either tested positive for alcohol or where too dilute to be tested; she failed to provide required reports; and she failed to keep meetings with her therapist. Further, a psychologist who evaluated Respondent in May 2010 and June 2010 opined: "At this point in treatment, it does not appear that additional services are likely to lead to any additional benefit, as Ms. Cripe has demonstrated an entrenched unwillingness to engage in any prolonged introspection that could lead to lasting change in her life."

Texas Discipline

10. On or about February 14, 2012, the Texas Board of Nursing (Texas Board), in a disciplinary action, revoked Respondent's Texas vocational nurse license by default. Respondent had failed to respond to formal charges filed by the Texas Board in October 2011 regarding the Colorado discipline described above.

CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Unprofessional Conduct: Out of State Discipline) (Bus. and Prof. Code § 2761, subd. (a)(4))

11. Respondent has subjected her registered nurse to disciplinary action because she had a health care license denied or disciplined in another state. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 2761, subd.

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1	(a)(4).) The circumstances are described in the "Factual Background" section above.
2	DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATION
3	12. To determine the discipline to be imposed, Complainant further alleges that when
4	Respondent applied for her California registered nurse license on or about December 12, 2006,
5	she falsely answered "no" to the application question of whether she been convicted of any
6	offense other than a minor traffic violation. In fact, Respondent had a 1983 petty theft conviction
7	but the Board approved Respondent's application due to the age of the offense.
8	PRAYER
9	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters alleged in this
10	Accusation, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:
11	1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 706183, issued to
12	Kimberly Marie Cripe;
13	2. Ordering Kimberly Marie Cripe to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the
14	reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and
15	Professions Code section 125.3;
16	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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18	DATED: APRIL 18, 2014 Jouise R. Saileys
19	LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN Executive Officer
20	Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs
21	State of California Complainant
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Accusation