BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

xecutive Director of the Board

In the Matter of § AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 203421 §

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of YOLANDA MARIE SINGLETON, Vocational Nurse License Number 203421, 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)(2)&(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 July 11, 2016.

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 vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Isabella Graham Hart School, Rochester, New York, on September 21, 2002. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on March 14, 2006.
- 5. Respondent's Vocational nursing employment history is unknown.

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- 6. On or about March 8, 2006, Applicant was issued an ELIGIBILITY AGREED ORDER by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Eligibility Agreed Order dated March 8, 2006, is attached and incorporated herein, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. On or about January 6, 2008, Respondent submitted an Online Renewal Document to the Texas Board of Nursing 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?"

Respondent failed to disclose that, on or about October 28, 2007, Respondent was arrested by the Dallas Police Department, Dallas, Texas, for POSS MARIJ < 20Z, a Class B misdemeanor offense. Respondent was subsequently charged under Case No. MB0763661 for POSS MJ. On or about June 20, 2008, Case No. MB0763661 was dismissed in Criminal County Court 4, Dallas County, Texas. The charge was pending at the time of renewal.

- 8. On or about January 10, 2010, Respondent submitted an Online Renewal Document to the Texas Board of Nursing 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 <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?"

Respondent failed to disclose that, on or about June 4, 2009, Respondent was arrested by the Carrollton Police Department, Carrollton, Texas, for POSS CS PG 1<1G, a State Jail Felony offense. Respondent was subsequently charged under Case No. F-0913193 for POSS CS COCAINE. On or about June 1, 2010, Case No. F-0913193 was dismissed in 283rd Judicial District Court, Dallas County, Texas. The charge was pending at the time of renewal.

- 9. On or about October 8, 2012, Respondent submitted a License Renewal Document Form (Delinquent for over 90 days) to the Texas Board of Nursing 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?"

Respondent failed to disclose that, on or about April 25, 2012, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to and was convicted of THEFT 50, a Misdemeanor offense, committed on April 17, 2012, in the Criminal County Court 7, Dallas County, Texas, under Case No. MB1255789. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement for a period of twenty-seven (27) days, and ordered to pay court costs.

- 10. Formal Charges were filed on May 23, 2016.
- 11. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on May 31, 2016.

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)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 203421, heretofore issued to YOLANDA MARIE SINGLETON.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of WARNING AND 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.

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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.
- R. The course <u>"Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"</u> 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

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RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) 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.

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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 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.

Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>9th</u> day of <u>August</u>, 20<u>16</u>, by YOLANDA MARIE SINGLETON, Vocational Nurse License Number 203421, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of September, 2016.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Sterima Othomas

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of § ELIGIBILITY

YOLANDA MARIE SINGLETON §
APPLICANT for Eligibility for Licensure §

AGREED ORDER

On the date entered below, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Application for Licensure by Endorsement and supporting documents filed by YOLANDA MARIE SINGLETON, 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 have violated Section 301.452(b)(3), Texas Occupations Code.

APPLICANT waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on December 15, 2005, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about August 8, 2005, Applicant submitted an Application for Licensure by Endorsement as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas in compliance with Section 301.260 et seq., of the Texas Occupations Code.
- Applicant waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Applicant received a Diploma in Vocational Nursing from Isabella Graham Hart School, Rochester, New York, in June 2002.
- 4. Applicant completed the Application for Licensure by Endorsement and answered "no" to the question which reads as follows: "Have you been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrests? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudication with or without prejudice of guilt."

- 5. Applicant failed to disclose the following criminal history, to wit:
 - A. On or about May 18, 1992, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Disorderly With Persistence in Port Clinton, Ohio, and detained for twenty-four (24) hours.
 - B. On or about September 2, 1994, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Prostitution 1st offense in Rochester, New York. Applicant entered a plea of guilt and the proceedings were deferred for six (6) months. The charge was dismissed after the deferred period expired.
- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. In a written statement to the Board, Applicant stated that she failed to disclose her 1992 charge to the Board because she had simply forgotten about it. For the 1994 incident, Applicant stated that she was unaware that she should report this incident on her application and believed it no longer was on her criminal record.
- 8. 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.
- 9. On December 15, 2005, 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.
- 10. Licensure of Applicant poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
- 11. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Applicant's disclosures.
- 12. Applicant has been advised by the Board that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect or misleading to the Board or a subsequent discovery of a basis of ineligibility will be considered by the Board and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through fraud or deceit.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

- 2. Applicant has submitted an application in compliance with Section 301.260, Texas Occupations Code.
- 3. The Board may probate the denial of a license under conditions for a specified term pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- 4. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Applicant's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and disciplinary action.
- 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 seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 6. Applicant shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED that the application of YOLANDA MARIE SINGLETON, APPLICANT, is hereby conditionally GRANTED and shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (1) APPLICANT SHALL obtain and read the Texas Nursing Practice Act, and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Vocational Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice.
- (2) Upon payment of the necessary fees, APPLICANT SHALL be issued a license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, which shall bear the appropriate notation.
- (3) APPLICANT 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 Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 et seq. and this Order.

- (4) 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.
- (5) 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.
- successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence. APPLICANT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. 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) contact hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. 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 on the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us (under BNE events).
- (7) APPLICANT SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure in the State of Texas, successfully complete a course in nursing ethics. APPLICANT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. In order for the

course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: principles of nursing ethics; confidentiality; and professional boundaries. APPLICANT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify APPLICANT's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. Board approved courses may be found on the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us (under BNE events).

(8) APPLICANT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). APPLICANT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of initial licensure in the State of Texas. Payment is to be made directly to the Board of Nurse Examiners in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

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 Board of Nurse Examiners 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 Endorsement, has been in conformity with the Board's 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 Temporary 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 accepting any permit or license from the Board of Nurse Examiners.

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 Board of Nurse Examiners enter this Order.

Signed this <u>28</u> day of <u>Fcb</u>, 2005.

<u>Chlonda</u> Sincet

YOLANDA MARIE SINGLETON, APPLICANT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28 day of february, 2006.

DENIS E BANEGAS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
November 18, 2009

Notary Public in and for the State of ____

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Eligibility Agreed Order that was signed on the 28th day of February, 2006, by YOLANDA MARIE SINGLETON, APPLICANT, for Application for Licensure by Endorsement, and said Order is final.

Effective this 8th day of March, 2006.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board