BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED ORDER
SARAH NANJOVU, \$
Registered Nurse License Number 736781 \$ FOR
& PETITIONER for \$
Eligibility for Advanced Practice Licensure \$ DISCIPLINE & ELIGIBILITY

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of Registered Nurse License Number 736781 and the Application for Authorization for Licensure as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and Prescriptive Authority, and supporting documents filed by SARAH NANJOVU, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and Petitioner's Certification contained herein.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may be subject to discipline and ineligible for advanced practice licensure pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(10) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on August 4, 2016.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about June 13, 2016, PETITIONER submitted an Application for Authorization for Licensure as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and Prescriptive Authority in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.2(b) and §213.30.
- 2. Petitioner waived notice and hearing and consented to the entry of this Order.

xecutive Director of the Board

- 3. Petitioner received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Grambling State University, Grambling, Louisiana, on December 8, 2006. Petitioner was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on January 18, 2007.
- 4. Petitioner completed the Application for Authorization for Licensure as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and Prescriptive Authority and answered "Yes" to the question which reads as follows: "For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:
 - 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?

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)"

- 5. Petitioner disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:
 - A. On or about November 13, 2008, Petitioner entered a plea of Guilty to RECKLESS DRIVING, a misdemeanor offense, committed on March 21, 2008, in the Chandler Municipal Court of Maricopa County, Arizona, under Cause Number 08-C-3055392A. As a result of the plea, Petitioner was sentenced to confinement in the Maricopa County Jail for a period of ten (10) days; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of six (6) months and was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
 - B. On or about June 23, 2014, Petitioner entered a plea of Guilty to (DRIVING, ATTEMPTING TO DRIVE) VEH. WHILE IMPAIRED BY ALCOHOL, a misdemeanor offense, committed on August 10, 2013, in the District Court of Maryland for Anne Arundel County, Maryland, under Cause Number 2A00258393. As a result of the plea, Petitioner was placed on probation for a period of one (1) year and was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.

- 7. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Application for Authorization for Licensure as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and Prescriptive Authority, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.
- 8. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- 9. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.
- 10. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past criminal conduct in light of the considerations and criteria provided in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§213.28 & 213.33, and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
- 11. Licensure of Petitioner poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public provided Petitioner complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.
- 12. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 13. Petitioner 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.
- 14. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 301.452 and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- 2. On or about June 13, 2016, PETITIONER submitted an Application for Authorization for Licensure as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and Prescriptive Authority requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.2(b) and §213.30.
- 3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for discipline and denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code.

- 4. The Board may probate the denial of a license under conditions for a specified term pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- 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 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 6. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27, and pursuant to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.33, 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.
- 7. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND ELIGIBILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that PETITIONER SHALL receive the sanction of **WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS** in accordance with the terms of this Order, and upon payment of the required fees and meeting all other applicable requirements, PETITIONER SHALL be issued the applicable license to practice nursing in the State of Texas

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND APPLICABILITY

While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER agrees to obtain, read, and 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.

- A. Until successfully complete, any and all licenses issued to PETITIONER shall be subject to the terms of this Order.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER wishes to work.

III. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, PETITIONER 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 <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), PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER 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. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as an advanced practice registered nurse, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) quarterly periods of employment as an advanced practice registered nurse have elapsed. Any quarterly period without continuous employment as an advanced practice registered nurse with the same employer for all three (3) months will not count towards completion of this requirement. Periods of unemployment or of employment that do not require the use of a advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) license will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement. Further, Respondent may not work as a registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as applicable, while under the terms of this Order.

- A. Notifying Present and Future Employers, Practice Sites and Credentialing Agencies: RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT'S license(s). RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers, practice sites and/or credentialing agencies in nursing and present a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, to each future employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing prior to accepting an offer of employment and/or assignment.
- B. Notification of Employment Forms: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form, which is provided to the

- Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. Indirect Supervision: RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician who is on the premises. The supervising Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician is not required to be on the same unit or ward as RESPONDENT, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the Respondent is currently working. If being supervised by an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, the supervising APRN must be in the same advanced role and population focus area as Respondent. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- D. Nursing Performance Evaluations: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each supervising Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician to submit, on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician who supervises the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for four (4) quarters [one (1) years] of employment as a nurse.

V. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

Mhile under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, tramadol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

- B. While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, tramadol, and controlled substances. The Board will provide instructions on how to enroll in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program following the entry of this Order and screening will begin when Respondent obtains employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.
 - For the first three (3) month [1st quarter] period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, random screens shall be performed at least once per week.
 - For the next three (3) month [2nd quarter] period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month.
 - For the next six (6) month period [3rd & 4th quarters], random screens shall be performed at least once per month.
 - For the remainder of the probation period, if any, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) month quarterly period.

All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board. Any test result for a period of time in which the RESPONDENT is not working as a nurse under the terms of this Order will not count towards satisfaction of this requirement. All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

<u>Specimens shall be screened</u> for at least the following substances and their metabolites:

Amphetamines Meperidine
Barbiturates Methadone
Benzodiazepines Methaqualone
Compliancids Opigtes

Cannabinoids Opiates
Cocaine Phencyclidine
Ethanol Propoxyphene

tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

<u>Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens.</u> Any positive result for which RESPONDENT does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject RESPONDENT to further disciplinary

action, including TEMPORARY 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. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

VI. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONER'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and PETITIONER may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past conduct which could constitute grounds for licensure ineligibility, and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing 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 and/or petition, has been in conformity with the Board's character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past conduct 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 and/or petition, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Sections 301.157(d), 301.252, 301.253, 301.257, 301.258, 301.260, 301.452, and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code. and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§213.27, 213.28, 213.29, and 213.30. 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 nursing. 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 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(s) to practice 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 ratify this Order.

Signed this 30 day of AUGUST, 2016

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 35th day of August, 2016

SEAL

ERIC UTESCH Notary Public - Arizona Maricopa County My Comm. Expires Feb 19, 2018 Notary Public in and for the State of A

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order for Discipline and Eligibility that was signed on the 30th day of August, 2016, by SARAH NANJOVU, Registered Nurse License Number 736781 and PETITIONER for Licensure as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and Prescriptive Authority, and said Order is final.

Effective this 27th day of October, 2016.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board