

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of	§	AGREED
Registered Nurse License Number 745269	§	
& Vocational Nurse License Number 207396	§	
issued to KIMBERLY D SUDDERTH	§	ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of KIMBERLY D SUDDERTH, Registered Nurse License Number 745269 and Vocational Nurse License Number 207396, 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 12, 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 suspended status. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in suspended status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from North Harris Community College, Houston, Texas, on August 18, 2006, and an Associate Degree in Nursing from North Harris Community College, Houston, Texas, on May 11, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 14, 2006, and Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 24, 2007.

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5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

Unknown-10/16

RN

High Hope Care Brenham, Texas

Present

Unemployed in Nursing

- 6. On or about December 20, 2013, Respondent's license to practice professional and vocational nursing was issued an Agreed Order requiring her to participate in and complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nursing (TPAPN). Respondent has not completed the terms of this order. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated December 20, 2013, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with High Hope Care, Brenham, Texas.
- 8. On or about September 7, 2016, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on December 20, 2013.

 Non-compliance is the result of her failure to comply with all requirements of the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) participation agreement. Stipulation number three (3) of the Agreed Order dated April 8, 2014, states:

"RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current."

On or about September 7, 2016, Respondent was dismissed from the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) for testing positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS), metabolites of alcohol. Additionally, Respondent admitted to her case manager she knowingly drank alcohol the night before she tested on August 26, 2016.

- 9. Formal Charges were filed and Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas was/were temporarily suspended on October 7, 2016.
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on October 7, 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(9)&(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 745269 and Vocational Nurse License Number 207396, heretofore issued to KIMBERLY D SUDDERTH, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 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, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 745269 and Vocational Nurse License Number 207396, previously issued to KIMBERLY D SUDDERTH, to practice nursing in Texas are hereby SUSPENDED with the suspension STAYED and Respondent is hereby placed on PROBATION, in accordance with the terms of this Order, for a minimum of two (2) years AND until Respondent fulfills the requirements 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. SUPERCEDING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction and conditions of this Order SHALL supercede all previous stipulations required by any Order entered by the Texas Board of Nursing.

IV. 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 <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 not being offered by a preapproved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

V. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) 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.

VI. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. Any quarterly period without continuous employment 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 registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as appropriate, will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

- A. Notifying Present and Future Employers: RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- B. Notification of Employment Forms: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. Direct Supervision: For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on 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. No Night or Rotating Shifts, Overtime, or On-Call: For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice as a nurse on the night shift, rotate shifts, work overtime, accept on-call assignments, or be used for coverage on any unit other than the identified, predetermined unit(s) to which Respondent is regularly assigned.
- E. No Critical Care: For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice as a nurse in any critical care area. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care units, emergency rooms, operating rooms, telemetry units, recovery rooms, and labor and delivery units.

- F. Indirect Supervision: For the remainder of the probation period, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse, who is on the premises. The supervising nurse 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 nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the Respondent is currently working. 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.
- G. Nursing Performance Evaluations: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer 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 nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for twelve (12) quarters [three (3) years] of employment as a nurse.

VII. 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, 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

Cannabinoids Opiates

Cocaine Phencyclidine Ethanol Propoxyphene

tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)

<u>A Board representative may appear</u> 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.

C. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week, one of which must be for substance abuse and provided by Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or another comparable recovery program that has been pre-approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least: the date of each meeting; the name of each group attended; and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by RESPONDENT. RESPONDENT SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) month quarterly period. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

VIII. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

IX. 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.

Thave 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.

> Signed this \ day of December . 2016. Kimbely DSUDDERTH, Respondent

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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14 day of Documber. 20/6

SEAL.

GREGORY K MOORE

Notary ID 13020079-9

otary Public, State of Texas omm. Expires 04-23-2019 Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form and substance.

Marc M Meyer, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 1471 day or December 2016.

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 14th day of December, 2016, by KIMBERLY D SUDDERTH, Registered Nurse License Number 745269 and Vocational Nurse License Number 207396, and said Order is final.

Effective this 16th day of December, 2016.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

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BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING





In the Matter of
Registered Nurse License Number 745269
& Vocational Nurse License Number 207396

§

issued to KIMBERLY D. SUDDERTH § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of KIMBERLY D. SUDDERTH, Registered Nurse License Number 745269, and Vocational Nurse License Number 207396, 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)(9),(10),(12)&(13) 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 November 15, 2013.

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).
- Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State
 of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from North Harris Community College, Houston, Texas, on August 18, 2006, and an Associate Degree in Nursing from North Harris Community College, Houston, Texas, on May 11, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 14, 2006, and Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 24, 2007.
- Respondent's complete nursing employment history is unknown.

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accurate, and true copy of the document whit is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing

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Contractor of the Board

- 6. On or about September 1, 2013, through September 19, 2013, while utilizing the multi-state Nurse Licensure Compact privilege associated with her license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas, and while employed as a Registered Nurse with Areus Medical Group, Omaha, Nebraska, and assigned to Valley Regional Hospital, Claremont, New Hampshire, Respondent withdrew medications from the medication dispensing system for patients without a valid physicians' order. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that the administration of medications without a valid physicians' order could result in the patient suffering from adverse reactions.
- 7. On or about September 1, 2013, through September 19, 2013, while utilizing the multi-state Nurse Licensure Compact privilege associated with her license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas, and while employed as a Registered Nurse with Areus Medical Group, Omaha, Nebraska, and assigned to Valley Regional Hospital, Claremont, New Hampshire, Respondent withdrew medications from the medication dispensing system for patients but failed to document, or completely and accurately document the administration of the medications, including signs, symptoms and responses to the medications in the patients' Medication Administration Records and/or nurses notes. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patient which could result in an overdose, and Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code
- 8. On or about September 1, 2013, through September 19, 2013, while utilizing the multi-state Nurse Licensure Compact privilege associated with her license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas, and while employed as a Registered Nurse with Areus Medical Group, Omaha, Nebraska, and assigned to Valley Regional Hospital, Claremont, New Hampshire, Respondent falsely documented that she had administered medications to patients, in the patients' Medication Administration Record; however, there were not any medication withdraws from the medication dispensing system associated with the documented times of administration. Respondent's conduct created an inaccurate medical record, defrauded the facility and the patients thereof of the cost of the medications, and is in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 9. On or about September 1, 2013, through September 19, 2013, while utilizing the multi-state Nurse Licensure Compact privilege associated with her license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas, and while employed as a Registered Nurse with Areus Medical Group, Omaha, Nebraska, and assigned to Valley Regional Hospital, Claremont, New Hampshire, Respondent withdrew medications from the medication dispensing system for patients but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedures for wastage of any of the unused portions of the medications. Respondent's conduct left medications unaccounted for, was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy, and placed them in violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).

- On or about September 1, 2013, through September 19, 2013, while utilizing the multi-state Nurse Licensure Compact privilege associated with her license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas, and while employed as a Registered Nurse with Areus Medical Group, Omaha, Nebraska, and assigned to Valley Regional Hospital, Claremont, New Hampshire, Respondent misappropriated medications from the facility or patients thereof or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Additionally, Respondent admitted to taking Fentanyl, Toradal and Phenergan from the medication dispensing system for her own personal use. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
- On or about September 15, 2013, while utilizing the multi-state Nurse Licensure Compact privilege associated with her license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas, and while employed as a Registered Nurse with Valley Regional Hospital, Claremont, New Hampshire, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Opiates, Benzodiazepines, Tricyclic antidepressants, and Fentanyl, in that she submitted a specimen for a drug screen which resulted positive for Opiates, Benzodiazepines, Tricyclic antidepressants, and Fentanyl. Unlawful possession of Opiates, Benzodiazepines, Tricyclic antidepressants, and Fentanyl is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Opiates, Benzodiazepines, Tricyclic antidepressants, and Fentanyl by a nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 12. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Six (6) through Eleven (11), Respondent states she has prescriptions for Opiates, Benzodiazepines, Tricyclic antidepressants, but not Fentanyl. Respondent states she took the Fentanyl that was not wasted from the facility; she also took Toradal and Phenergan from the Pyxis system and also consumed them. Respondent states she did not always document the required responses to the pain medication, and she had problems charting because she was told two different things by the nurse who trained her. Respondent states she tried to chart correctly, but time always got away from her due to patient care. Respondent request to be admitted to the TPAPN program.
- 13. 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.
- 14. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
- 15. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.

16. 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 $\S217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(D)\&(1)(T)$ and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE $\S217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(E),(4),(5),(6)(A),(6)(G),(6)(H),(8),(10)(A),(10)(B),(10)(C),(10)(D),(10)(E)\&(11)(B).$
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 745269, and Vocational Nurse License Number 207396, heretofore issued to KIMBERLY D SUDDERTH, 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 745269, and Vocational Nurse License Number 207396, previously issued to KIMBERLY D SUDDERTH, 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, 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 16 day of DRCember 2013.

KIMBERLY D. SUDDERTH, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \ \(\text{day of} \)

day

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SEAL

MARIA R ESPITIA
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
January 20, 2017

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 accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the 16th day of <u>December</u>, 2013, by KIMBERLY D. SUDDERTH, Registered Nurse License Number 745269, and Vocational Nurse License Number 207396, and said Order is final.

Effective this 20th day of December, 2013.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

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