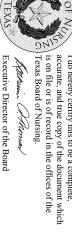


In the Matter of \$ AGREED Registered Nurse License Number 738487 \$ & Vocational Nurse License Number 195724 \$ issued to MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA \$ ORDER



On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA, Registered Nurse License Number 738487 and Vocational Nurse License Number 195724, 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 September 8, 2017.

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 is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. Respondent holds a license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, which is in delinquent status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from San Jacinto College North, Houston, Texas, on August 13, 2004, and received an Associate Degree in Nursing from San Jacinto College, Pasadena, Texas, on December 15, 2006. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 12, 2004, and Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 13, 2007.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

02/20/2015-07/2017

RN

Kelsey-Seybold Clinic Houston, Texas

- 6. On November 10, 2014, Respondent was issued a Confidential Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program by the Board which required her to apply to and be accepted into the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). Additionally, Respondent was to comply with all the requirements of the TPAPN contract throughout its terms. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated November 10, 2014, 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 Kelsey-Seybold Clinic, Houston, Texas, and had been in that position for approximately two and a half (2 1/2) years.
- 8. On or about July 5, 2017, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on November 10, 2014, by the Texas Board of Nursing. On or about July 5, 2017, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for marijuana 35 ng/mL. Additionally, Respondent admitted to smoking the marijuana in violation of the TPAPN agreement.
- 9. 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.

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 and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(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 738487 and Vocational Nurse License Number 195724, heretofore issued to MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA, 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 738487 and Vocational Nurse License Number 195724, previously issued to MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA, 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 three (3) 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. UNDERSTANDING BOARD ORDERS

Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Order, RESPONDENT must successfully complete the Board's online course, "Understanding Board Orders," which can be accessed on the Board's website from the "Discipline & Complaints" drop-down menu or directly at: http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp. Upon successful completion, RESPONDENT must submit the course verification at the conclusion of the course, which automatically transmits the verification to the Board.

V. 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 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.

A.

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 <u>not</u> being offered by a pre-approved 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>.

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 twelve (12) quarterly periods [three (3) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until twelve (12) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. 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. No Administration of Controlled Medications: For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT administer or have any contact with controlled substances, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, Propofol, or other synthetic opiates.
- Indirect Supervision: For the remainder of the probation period, G. 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 Ì 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.

H. 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.

VI. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol 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, nalbuphine, propofol 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. 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 any or all of the following substances and/or their metabolites:

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Amphetamine	Methamphetamine	MDMA
MDA	Alprazolam	Diazepam
Alpha-o-alprazolam	Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam	Clonazepam
Desmethyldiazepam	Lorazepam	Midazolam
Oxazepam	Temazepam	Amobarbital
Butabarbital	Butalbital	Pentobarbital
Phenobarbital	Secobarbital	Codeine
Hydrocodone	Hydromorphone	Methadone
Morphine	Opiates	Oxycodone
Oxymorphone	Propoxyphene	Cannabinoids
Cocaine	Phencyclidine	Ethanol
Heroin	Fentanyl	Tramadol
Meperidine	Carisoprodol	Butorphanol
Nalbuphine	Ketamine	Propofol
-		

Upon enrollment in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program, RESPONDENT SHALL, on a daily basis, call or login online to the Board's designated drug and alcohol testing vendor to determine whether or not RESPONDENT has been selected to produce a specimen for screening that day and SHALL, if selected, produce a specimen for screening that same day at an approved testing location and/or comply with any additional instructions from the vendor or Board staff. Further, 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.

Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens. 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. 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.

Signed this 21 day of Septemb 20 17.

Maria D Linga

MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2 day of September, 2017.

SEAL

michael Sodams

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

MICHAEL SODANO
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
September 22, 2019

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>21st</u> day of <u>September</u>, 20<u>17</u>, by MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA, Registered Nurse License Number 738487 and Vocational Nurse License Number 195724, and said Order is final.

Effective this 26th day of October, 2017.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of
Registered Nurse License Number 738487
& Vocational Nurse License Number 195724
issued to MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA
issued to MIARIA DEL ROSARIO ZOTTO:

CONFIDENTIAL § §

AGREED ORDER

FOR

PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA, Registered Nurse License Number 738487, and Vocational Nurse License Number 195724, 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)(10)&(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 offered under the authority of Section 301.466(d), Texas Occupations Code, and approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on July 24, 2014.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these 1. 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 2. agreed to the entry of this Order.
- Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. 3. Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas is currently in delinquent status.
- Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from San Jacinto College North, 4. Houston, Texas, on August 13, 2004 and received an Associate Degree in Nursing from San Jacinto College, Pasadena, Texas, on December 15, 2006. Respondent was licensed to

practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 12, 2004, and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 13, 2007.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

08/2004 - 03/2007	LVN	Memorial Hermann Healthcare Houston, Texas
03/2006 - 03/2007	LVN	The Right Solutions, LLP Houston, Texas
04/2007 - 09/2010	RN	Healthcare Corporation of America/East Houston Regional Medical Center Houston/Texas
12/2007 - 01/2014	RN	Harris County Hospital Direct/ Ben Taub General Hospital Houston, Texas
03/2010 - 11/2010	RN	All About Staffing Houston, Texas
01/2014 - Current	Unknown	

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with East Houston Regional Medical Center, Houston, Texas, and had been in this position for three (3) years and five (5) months.
- 7. On or about September 1, 2010 through October 4, 2010, while employed with East Houston Regional Medical, Houston, Texas, Respondent misappropriated narcotics belonging to the facility and patients thereof. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
- 8. On or about September 1, 2010 through October 4, 2010, while employed with East Houston Regional Medical, Houston, Texas, Respondent withdrew narcotics from the Accudose Medication Dispensing System for patients, but failed to follow the policy and procedures for the wastage of unused portions of the medications. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy and placed the pharmacy in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 9. On or about September 1, 2010 through October 4, 2010, while employed with East Houston Regional Medical, Houston, Texas, Respondent removed narcotics from the Accudose Medication Dispensing System for patients but failed document, or accurately and completely document the administration of the medications in the patients' Medical

Administration Record (MAR) and 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 violations of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

- 10. On or about December 19, 2013, December 23, 2013, December 26, 2013, December 27, 2013, December 30, 2013, and December 31, 2013, while employed with Ben Taub General Hospital, Houston, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Hydromorphone belonging to the facility and patients thereof. Respondent is conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
- 11. On or about December 19, 2013, December 23, 2013, December 26, 2013, December 27, 2013, December 30, 2013, and December 31, 2013, while employed with Ben Taub General Hospital, Houston, Texas, Respondent withdrew Hydromorphone from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients but failed to follow the policy and procedures for the wastage of unused portions of the Hydromorphone. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy and placed the pharmacy in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- On or about December 19, 2013, December 23, 2013, December 26, 2013, December 27, 2013, December 30, 2013, and December 31, 2013, while employed with Ben Taub General Hospital, Houston, Texas, Respondent removed Hydromorphone from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients but failed to document, or accurately and completely document the administration of the Hydromorphone in the patients' Medical Administration Record (MAR) and 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 violations of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 13. On or about December 19, 2013, December 23, 2013, December 26, 2013, December 27, 2013, December 30, 2013, and December 31, 2013, while employed with Ben Taub General Hospital, Houston, Texas, Respondent removed Hydromorphone from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients and administered the medication without physician's orders. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure patients, in that the administration of medications without a valid physician's order could result in the patient suffering from adverse reactions, and Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 14. In response to Findings of Fact Number Seven (7) through Thirteen (13), Respondent states that she did misappropriate narcotics for her personal use and explains she had been severely depressed for three (3) years prior to the events and began drinking alcohol and self-medicating with opiates. In November 2010, Respondent states she was diagnosed with chemical dependency and Major Depressive Disorder and immediately enrolled in inpatient rehabilitation treatment at Memorial Hermann PaRC in Houston, Texas. Respondent completed inpatient treatment and transitioned into Partial Hospitalization followed by

/738487/195724:17) - 3 - C40 (2013.09.01)

Intensive Outpatient Treatment and continued to attend 12 step meetings and Aftercare. Respondent states that she voluntarily enrolled in TPAPN and she participated in the program from December 2010 to January 2014, however, in December 2013 she relapsed and misappropriated Hydromorphone from Ben Taub Hospital for her own personal use.

- 15. The Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 16. 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.
- 17. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.
- 18. 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 301.451-301.455, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
- The evidence received is sufficient to prove violation(s) of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(D) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(C),(6)(G),(10)(C)&(11)(B)
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 738487, and Vocational Nurse License Number 195724, heretofore issued to MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA, 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 that RESPONDENT SHALL comply

with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement 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.
- (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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§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 and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a

multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that, while RESPONDENT remains in compliance with the terms of this Order, this Order shall remain confidential in accordance with the authority outlined in Section 301.466(d), Texas Occupations Code. However, should Respondent fail to successfully complete the terms of this Order or should Respondent commit a subsequent violation of the Nursing Practice Act or Board Rules, this Order shall be treated as prior disciplinary action and will become public information.

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.

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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 do 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 Conditions 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 20 day of October, 20 14.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20 day of

SEAL

otary Public. State of Texas Commission Expires August 28, 2015

Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Confidential Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program that was signed on the 20th day of October, 2014, by MARIA DEL ROSARIO ZUNIGA, Registered Nurse License Number 738487, and Vocational Nurse License Number 195724, and said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 10th day of November, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board