#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of § AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 909067

issued to BROOKE MACALE MUHLENKORT § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of BROOKE MACALE MUHLENKORT, Registered Nurse License Number 909067, 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 June 5, 2018.

#### **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 professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Western Iowa Technical Community College, Sioux City, Iowa, on May 1, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 26, 2016.
- 5. Respondent's complete professional nursing employment history is unknown.
- 6. On or about September 13, 2016, Respondent was issued an Eligibility Agreed Order by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated September 13, 2016, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order

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xecutive Director of the Board

- 7. On or about July 25, 2017, Respondent became noncompliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on September 13, 2016. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to abstain from the use of alcohol, in that on or about October 30, 2017, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on July 25, 2017, in the County Court of Law #4 of Montgomery County, Texas, under Case No. 17-324444. Stipulation Number Nine (9) of the Agreed Order, dated September 13, 2016, states, in pertinent part:
  - " (9) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose."
- 8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states she has not been working in any nursing capacity since she received her license in 2016, due to inability to find employment with stipulations. Respondent states she has no plans to re-enter nursing school at this time.
- 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 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 909067, heretofore issued to BROOKE MACALE MUHLENKORT, 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.

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#### 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 909067, previously issued to BROOKE MACALE MUHLENKORT, to practice nursing in Texas is 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. As a result of this Order, Respondent's license(s) will be designated "single state" and Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state.

#### 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: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp">http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp</a>. 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. 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 <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>.

#### VI. 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.

# VII. 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.** 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.
- E. 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.

# VIII. 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 [1<sup>st</sup> 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 [2<sup>nd</sup> quarter] period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month.
  - For the next six (6) month period [3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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:

Amphetamine MDA Alpha-o-alprazolam Desmethyldiazepam Oxazepam Butabarbital Phenobarbital	Methamphetamine Alprazolam Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam Lorazepam Temazepam Butalbital Secobarbital	MDMA Diazepam Clonazepam Midazolam Amobarbital Pentobarbital Codeine
Phenobarbital	Secobarbital	<del>-</del>
Hydrocodone	Hydromorphone	Methadone

**Opiates** Oxycodone Morphine Cannabinoids Propoxyphene Oxymorphone Ethanol Phencyclidine Cocaine Fentanyl Tramadol Heroin Butorphanol Meperidine Carisoprodol **Propofol** Ketamine Nalbuphine

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.

#### IX. 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.

# X. 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, subject to meeting all existing eligibility requirements in Texas Occupations Code Chapter 304, Article III, 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 day of W, 20 8.

BROOKE MACALE MUHLENKORT, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16 day of 3//y, 2018

**SEAL** 

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

LUKAS TOTH

Notery Public, State of Texas

Comm. Expires 06-22-2022

Notary ID 131616189

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 20 18, by BROOKE MACALE MUHLENKORT, Registered Nurse License Number 909067, and said Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of August, 20 18.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board



## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of BROOKE M MUHLENKORT, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure

AGREED

ELIGIBILITY ORDER

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Endorsement Application, which has been processed as a Petition for Declaratory Order pursuant to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(f) and §213.30, and supporting documents filed by BROOKE M MUHLENKORT, 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 ineligible for licensure pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(8),(9),(10)&(13), 301.453 and 304.001, Article 5, Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on August 9, 2016, subject to ratification by the Board.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about March 9, 2016, PETITIONER submitted an Endorsement Application requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.257, and 301.260, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(f) and §213.30.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.

- 3. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Western Iowa Technical Community College, Sioux City, Iowa, on May 1, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of South Dakota on June 21, 2011.
- 4. On March 24, 2016, Petitioner's Voluntary Refrain From Practice Statement was accepted by the South Dakota Board of Nursing. A copy of the March 24, 2016, Voluntary Refrain From Practice Statement is attached and incorporated by reference as part of this Order.
- 5. After considering the action taken by the South Dakota Board of Nursing, along with Petitioner's subsequent conduct, the Executive Director is satisfied that Petitioner should be able to meet the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.
- 6. On or about July 31, 2014, through March 9, 2016, Respondent failed to endorse her Registered Nurse license into Texas, as required when she changed her primary state of residence to Texas from South Dakota in accordance with the Nurse Licensure Compact. Respondent maintained a current address in Texas and held a current Texas Driver License, but continued to declare the State of Missouri as her home state in an effort to avoid addressing a potential eligibility issue with the Texas Board of Nursing. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the Board regarding her primary state of residence.
- 7. On or about July 31, 2014, through March 9, 2016, while employed as a registered nurse with multiple employers in Texas, Respondent practiced as an Registered Nurse in violation of the Nurse Licensure Compact. Respondent had previously established residency in the State of Texas but continued to use her Privilege to Practice from the State of South Dakota. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the Board regarding her primary state of residence and was likely to deceive her employers regarding Respondent's compliance with nurse licensure compact requirements and provisions, in that they relied on the Multistate Licensure Compact Privilege associated with Respondent's South Dakota license to continue her employment as a Registered Nurse.
- 8. On or about February 18, 2016, while utilizing a Privilege to Practice (PTP) nursing from the State of South Dakota, and employed with Heartis Conroe, Conroe, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Hydrocodone, Tramadol and Morphine belonging to the facility and patients thereof, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
- 9. On or about February 18, 2016, while utilizing a Privilege to Practice (PTP) nursing from the State of South Dakota, and employed with Heartis Conroe, Conroe, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of opiates in that she submitted a specimen for a drug screen which resulted positive for opiates. Unlawful possession of opiates is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of opiates by a Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, 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.

- 10. Respondent presented for a chemical dependency evaluation by Joyce M. Gayles, Ph.D., on June 16, 2016. Respondent admitted to Dr. Gayles that she did misappropriate Hydrocodone, Morphine and Tramadol for her use. Respondent stated to Dr. Gayles she took the medications from the facility on 'on two different times.' Dr. Gayles found that Respondent seems to have a pattern of 'coping with drugs,' especially when she is experiencing work-related stress. Dr. Gayles recommends Respondent participate in psychotherapy focused on the development of effective stress management skills and critical thinking skills which should provide her with alternatives to drugs for coping with stress. The therapist should, over the course of treatment, also further evaluate and monitor her use of medications.
- 11. Petitioner provided letters of support/recommendation to the Board from the following:
  - Stephanie Van Gelder, RN, Office Manager, LA Greene, LLC, Beresford, South Dakota.
  - Grace Paredes, former coworker at The Woodlands Healthcare Center.
  - Breezn' Hayes, LVN, The woodlands Healthcare Center.
  - Jessica Mason, former coworker.
  - Sonya Thibert, Ministry Coordinator for Families and Children, Sts. Simon and Jude Catholic Parish, The Woodlands, Texas.
  - Alyssa Minchew, Business Administrator, Sts. Simon and Jude Catholic Parish, The Woodlands, Texas.
  - Judy Evans, mother of a patient.
- 12. The safety of patients and the public requires that all persons licensed to practice nursing be fit, sober, and able to consistently practice nursing in autonomous roles under demanding and stressful conditions.
- Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Endorsement Application, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.
- 14. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- 15. 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.
- 16. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's substance abuse/chemical dependency, and subsequent rehabilitation as provided in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.29 and in accordance with 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.33.

- 17. 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.
- 18. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 19. 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.
- 20. 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 March 9, 2016, PETITIONER submitted an Endorsement Application requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.257, and 301.260, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(f) and §213.30.
- 3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(8),(9),(10)&(13) and 304.001, Article 5, 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 a history of substance abuse and/or chemical dependency after consideration of the criteria set out in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.29 if the Board determines the individual does not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
- 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).

#### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED that the application of PETITIONER is hereby GRANTED, 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, which shall be subject to the following stipulations:

PETITIONER SHALL obtain and read the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure, and Practice.

PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while PETITIONER'S license is encumbered by this Order, PETITIONER may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where PETITIONER wishes to work.

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of licensure, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is <u>not</u> being offered by a pre-approved provider. 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) 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. PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'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. Boardapproved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

- (2) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of licensure, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," 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 program, PETITIONER SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this program to the Board's office, to the attention of Monitoring. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. Information regarding Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.
- (\$500). PETITIONER SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of licensure. 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A

NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT

Page 6 of 13

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CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND PETITIONER MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR TWO (2) YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS 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 STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (4) PETITIONER SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER 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 within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- (5) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (6) For the first year of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Page 7 of 13 S10End/

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 PETITIONER and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. PETITIONER SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

- (7) For the remainder of the stipulation period, PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed and practicing as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed and practicing 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 PETITIONER, 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 PETITIONER is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- (8) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month period for two (2) year(s) of employment as a nurse.

(9) PETITIONER SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER 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.

(10) PETITIONER SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances, tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram), and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the next three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month. For the next six (6) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month. For the remainder of the stipulation period, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) months. All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances and their metabolites:

Amphetamines
Barbiturates
Benzodiazepines
Cannabinoids
Cocaine

Meperidine Methadone Methaqualone Opiates Phencyclidine

## tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)

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

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. PETITIONER SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action, including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Petitioner'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.

(11) PETITIONER SHALL participate in therapy with a "professional counselor" possessing credentials approved by the Board. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the PETITIONER'S progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the PETITIONER'S stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. Such reports are to be furnished each and every month for three (3) months. If therapy is recommended for beyond three (3) months, the reports shall then be required at the end of each three (3) month period for the duration of the stipulation period, or until PETITIONER is dismissed from therapy.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order,

all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONER'S license 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, 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, 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 23 day of August, 206.

BROOKE M MUHLENKORT, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23" day of Hugust,

SEAL

LESA D'ANN SCHUBERT Notary Public STATE OF TEXAS My Comm. Exp. August 6, 2018 Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Eligibility Order that was signed on the <u>23rd</u> day of <u>August</u>, <u>2016</u>, by BROOKE M MUHLENKORT, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of September, 2016.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board



# SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

#### SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

4305 S. LOUISE AVENUE SUITE 201 ♦ SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106–3115 (605) 362–2760 ♦ FAX: 362–2768

# VOLUNTARY REFRAIN FROM PRACTICE STATEMENT

This statement is being provided to the South Dakota Board of Nursing to insure that I will voluntarily refrain from practicing nursing effective immediately.

This statement does not constitute an admission of any sort.

I relinquish my current South Dakota issued nursing certificate(s) along with this statement.

- I agree to voluntarily refrain from the practice of nursing in any state.
- I agree that the South Dakota Board of Nursing may inform the Board(s) of Nursing of any jurisdiction, government agencies and healthcare employers that an investigation is pending and that I have voluntarily agreed to refrain from nursing practice in South Dakota.
- I agree that I will not work as a Certified Nurse Aide, Medication Aide, or Medical Assistant in South Dakota while this agreement is in effect.
- I understand the Voluntary agreement to refrain from practice pending completion of BON investigation is reportable to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

I am submitting my current renewal certificate card along with this statement.

Licensee:	Brooke M. Muhlenkort	SD License: R040370
_	March 24_day of2016.	
Dated this	24_day of, 2016.	
	Blimlants.	
Signed	TXMMMAR	