#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of § AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 153324 §

issued to SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, Vocational Nurse License Number 153324, 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), 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 26, 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.
- Respondent's license to practice as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from North Central Texas College, Gainesville, Texas, on August 10, 1995. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 6, 1995.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

09/95 - 02/97 LVN Parkland Memorial Hospital

Dallas, Texas

02/97 - 10/97 LVN Medical City Hospital of Dallas

Dallas, Texas

xecutive Director of the Board

# Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

10/97 - 08/98	Unknown	
10/9/ - 06/98	Chriown	
08/98 - 10/00	LVN	Children's Medical Center of Dallas Dallas, Texas
10/00 - 02/09	Unknown	
02/09 - 04/09	LVN	Walnut Place Dallas, Texas
04/09 - 10/12	Unknown	
10/12 - 07/13	LVN	Lake Village Nursing & Rehab Lewisville, Texas
08/13 - 01/14	LVN	Denton Rehab & Nursing Center Denton, Texas
01/14 - 03/14	Unknown	
03/14 - 10/14	LVN	Corinth Rehabilitation Suites Corinth, Texas
10/14 - 01/15	Unknown	
01/15 - 03/15	LVN	Landing at Watermere Southlake, Texas
04/15 - 12/15	LVN	Hollymead Nursing Center Flower Mound, Texas
01/16 - 04/16	LVN	Autumn Leaves of Flower Mound Flower Mound, Texas
04/16 - Unknown	LVN	Bethesda Gardens Assisted Living Frisco, Texas
11/16 - 01/17	LVN	Saddle Brook Frisco, Texas
01/17 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. On or about December 4, 2000, Respondent was issued an Order of the Board by the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas accepting the surrender of her license. A copy of the Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order dated December 4, 2000, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.
- 7. On or about April 17, 2008, Respondent was issued a Reinstatement Agreed Order by the Texas Board of Nursing. Respondent successfully completed the terms of the Agreed Order on January 6, 2015. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated April 17, 2008, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order
- 8. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Saddle Brook, Frisco, Texas, and had been in that position for fifty-eight (58) days.
- 9. On or about December 29, 2016, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Saddle Brook, Frisco, Texas, Respondent misappropriated narcotics, including, but not limited to Methadone belonging to Resident M.B. Subsequently, on or about March 21, 2017, Respondent was arrested by the Denton County Sheriff's Office, Denton, Texas, for POSS CS PG 1<1G, a State Jail felony offense. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients, thereof, of the cost of the medications, and is a violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states on January 3, 2017, she 10. was driving home after working a long shift at Saddle Brook Memory Care. Respondent states she was very tired, still in her scrubs, and on her way home to go to sleep. Respondent states as she was driving home, her automobile was hit by another vehicle that had run a red light. Respondent states the police officer who questioned her inspected her purse, and found prescription pain medications. Respondent states all the prescription pain medications in her system and in her purse were in her possession pursuant to valid prescriptions. Respondent states she has prescriptions for each and every medication in her body, and was under the care and treatment of a physician who was monitoring her medications. Respondent states with regard to the allegation that she misappropriated narcotics, including Methadone belonging to Resident M.B. is completely false. Respondent states this misappropriation was not alleged until thirteen days after the fact. Respondent states it is important to emphasize that Saddle Brook does not keep narcotics like Xanax or Methadone locked, and medications are not counted between shifts. Respondent states this made her very uncomfortable during the two months she worked at the facility. Respondent states Saddle Brook is attempting to pin the alleged medication shortage on her after the fact, given that she has already been fired.
- 11. 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(4),(6)(G),(8),(10)(E)&(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 153324, heretofore issued to SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, 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 Vocational Nurse License Number 153324, previously issued to SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, to practice nursing in Texas is hereby **SUSPENDED** and said suspension is **ENFORCED** until Respondent:

- A. Completes an appropriate treatment program approved by the Board;
- B. Provides documentation of successful completion; and
- C. Obtains twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety, which may be demonstrated by monthly urine drug screens consistent with the "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS" of this Order.

Any relapse prior to the completion of the required twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety will result in revocation or, at a minimum, an extension of the enforced suspension until such twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety and additional treatment have been attained.

- 4 -

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of successful completion of the above

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requirements, the Suspension will be **STAYED**, and RESPONDENT will be placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum of three (3) years **AND** until Respondent fulfills the requirements of this Order.

- D. 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.
- E. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- F. This Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- G. 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. 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.

#### 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 courses within one (1) year of the suspension being stayed, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

- A. A 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 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 suspension being stayed. 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 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.
- 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.
- G. 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.
- 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.

#### VII. 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:

and of their metaconies.		
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
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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. THERAPY

While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL participate in therapy with a professional counselor with credentials approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written

reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the RESPONDENT'S progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the RESPONDENT'S stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. For the first three (3) month quarterly period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, reports are to be submitted to the Board each and every month. If therapy is recommended by the counselor for an additional period of time, the reports shall then be submitted to the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period in which the RESPONDENT is working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, for the remainder of the term of the Order, or until RESPONDENT is dismissed from therapy, whichever is earlier.

#### 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. SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, should the Respondent's conduct, as outlined in the findings of fact of this Order, result in subsequent judicial action, including a deferred disposition, Respondent may be subject to further disciplinary action, up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

#### XI. 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 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 11 day of Sackmaker 2018

	Shui	Diane O	Whatto-
	SHERLDIANE	ALLBRITTC	N, Respondent
Sworn to and subscribed before me	this day of	·	, 20
SEAL			
	Notary Public i	n and for the S	State of
	Approved as to	form and subs	stance.
	Nicole Goldste	in, Attorney fo	or Respondent
	Signed this	day of	, 20

153324:196

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018, by SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, Vocational Nurse License Number 153324, and said Order is final.

Effective this 25th day of October, 2018.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

In the matter of Permanent License Number 153324 issued to SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON

#### ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON 8519 SOUTHWESTERN BLVD. DALLAS TX 75206

WHEREAS, SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON has submitted to the Board an affidavit that he/she no longer desires to be licensed as a vocational nurse, and that he/she is voluntarily surrendering their license, the Board takes the following action:

#### ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Ilcense number 153324, heretofore issued to SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is hereby revoked without formal charges, Notice of Hearing, or a formal hearing before the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners.

Entered this the 4th day of December, 2000.

Mary M Strange, BSN, RN, CNA

Executive Director

Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me, the under signed authority, on this the 4 day December, 2000.

NOTARY PUBLIC IN A

STATE OF TEXAS

SANDY GARDNER

SANDY GARDNER

State of Texas

My Cummission Expires

April 13, 2003

BOARD ORDER RE: SHERI ABBRITTON, LVN #153324

PAGE: 2

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Board Order, notarized on the 12<sup>TH</sup> day of September, 2000 by SHERI ALLBRITTO, license number 153324 and that Said Order is Final.

Effective this  $4^{TH}$  day of December, 2000.

Mary M. Strange, BSN, RN, CNA Executive Director

On Behalf of Said Board

BOARD ORDER - REVOKE RE; SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, LVN #153324 PAGE: 3

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 8th day of December, 2000, a true and correct copy of the foregoing BOARD ORDER was served by placement in the U.S. Mall first class mail, and addressed to the following person(s):

> SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON 8519 SOUTHWESTERN BLVD. APT. NO. 2140 DALLAS TX 75206

Mary M. Strenge, BSN, RN, CNA Executive Director

Agent for the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners



# BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSE EXAMINERS

333 GUADALUPE STREET, SUITE 3-400 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701 512/305-8100

May 9, 2000

Sherri Alibritton 8519 Southwestern Blvd. No. 2140 Dallas, Texas, 75206

Dear Ms. Allbritton:

This office is in receipt of information alleging that, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Children's Medical Center in Dallas, Texas, from about July 18, 1999 through about August 27, 1999, you were responsible for discrepancies in the administration and documentation of narcotics. Furthermore, on or about August 25, 1999, you were requested to submit to a drug screen. Said drug screen revealed a positive reading for PROPOXYPHENE.

Additionally, this office is in receipt of information alleging that, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with LifeCare Hospital in Dallas, Texas, on or about October 5, 1999; you were responsible for discrepancies in the administration and documentation of MORPHINE to Patient J.B. As a result of said discrepancies, on or about October 7, 1999, you were requested to submit to a drug screen. Said drug screen revealed positive readings for BENZODIAZEPINES and OPIATES.

Furthermore, it is alleged that, while participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN), you displayed behavior inconsistent with good recovery. On or about March 31, 2000, you were requested by TPAPN to submit to a random drug screen that revealed a positive reading for BARBITURATES.

We have initiated an investigation into this matter to determine if you have violated any of the provisions of the Texas Occupations Code.

You are afforded this opportunity to respond to the allegations that have been made and to show that you have complied with all requirements of the law, i.e., the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 302, for the retention of your license to practice vocational nursing in Texas.

We have enclosed Order Forms for a copy of the Texas Occupations Code and Rules and Regulations.

You may be interested in a provision of the Texas Occupations Code (302.410) for the Voluntary Surrender of a license. The return of the license along with your notarized statement that you no longer desire to be licensed will enable the Board to revoke your license without formal charges, notice or a hearing.

We are enclosing such an affidavit form for your consideration. To execute it, please sign the affidavit before a notary public and return it to the Board office, along with any vocational nursing license(s)/renewal form that you have in your possession.

### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse § REINSTATEMENT License Number 153324 § AGREED ORDER

issued to SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON §

On this day came to be considered by the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, the Petition for Reinstatement of Vocational Nurse License Number 153324, held by SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

An informal conference was held on January 29, 2008, at the office of the Texas Board of Nursing, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code.

Petitioner appeared in person. Petitioner was notified of her right to be represented by legal counsel and elected to waive representation by counsel. In attendance were Carol Marshall, MSN, RN, Nurse Consultant, Executive Director's Designee; Victoria Cox, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director of Enforcement; Denise Benbow, MSN, RN, Nurse Consultant; Scott Torres, Investigator; and Carolyn Hudson, Investigator.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Prior to institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was served on Petitioner and Petitioner was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Petitioner received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from North Central College, Gainesville, Texas, on August 10, 1995. Petitioner was originally licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 6, 1995.

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4. Petitioner's vocational nursing employment history includes:

9/95 - 2/97	LVN	Parkland Medical Center Dallas, Texas
3/97 - 10/97	LVN	Medical City Hospital of Dallas Dallas, Texas
11/97 - 8/98	LVN	Favorite Nurses Agency Dallas, Texas
9/98 - 10/00	LVN	Childrens Medical Center Dallas, Texas
11/00 - Present	Not employed in nursing	

- 5. On December 4, 2000, the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas accepted the voluntary surrender of Petitioner's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas. A copy of the December 4, 2000, Order of the Board is attached and incorporated, by reference, as a part of this Order.
- 6. On January 22, 2004, Petitioner plead guilty to Fraudulent Possession of a Controlled Substance, a 3rd Degree Felony, in the 211th District Court of Denton County, Texas. Petitioner's adjudication of guilt was deferred and she was placed on Community Supervision for a period of three (3) years. On May 19, 2006, Petitioner was discharged from probation.
- 7. On or about August 7, 2007, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of her License to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
- 8. Petitioner presented the following in support of her petition:
  - 8.1. Letter of support, dated July 18, 2007, written by Paul Spangenberger, LCDC, Carrollton, Texas, states that on May 29, 2003, he evaluated Petitioner and has had numerous contacts with her since that date. Petitioner continues to make progress in all areas of her life and has maintained continuous sobriety. Mr. Spangenberger recommends reinstatement of Petitioner's nursing license.

- 8.2. Letter of support, dated July 9, 2007, written by Margaret E. Mike, M.D., Dallas, Texas, states that he has treated Petitioner for a sleep disorder and she has always been compliant with her medications which have included Provigil for Hypersomnia and Klonopin for periodic limb movements in sleep. Dr. Mike recommends reinstatement of Petitioner's nursing license.
- 8.3. Letter of support, written by Warren N. Abrams, Attorney at Law, Dallas, Texas, states that he represented Petitioner on her drug charge in 2004. Petitioner attended drug counseling prior to and during her period of deferred probation, and has successfully completed substance abuse counseling, chemical dependency classes, anxiety and depression classes, drug and alcohol evaluations, and drug and therapy counseling. Mr. Abrams states that Petitioner has submitted to random drug testing and all results were negative. Petitioner's diligence and hard work in completing all the conditions of her deferred probation resulted in early release of probation. Mr. Abrams recommends reinstatement of Petitioner's nursing license.
- 8.4. Letter of support, dated July 1, 2007, written by Garry M. Johnson, President, CEO, JJ Enterprises, Alvord, Texas, states that Petitioner has worked with his company for almost five (5) years. Mr. Johnson states that Petitioner provides excellent customer service and works well with her co-workers. Mr. Johnson recommends reinstatement of Petitioner's nursing license.
- 8.5. Letter of support, dated July 2, 2007, written by Don Burgess, states that he has known Petitioner and her family since August 1991. Mr. Burgess states that Petitioner is mature and ready to return to her chosen profession. Petitioner can resume her career competently, professionally, and with maturity earned through life experiences.
- 8.6. Verification of successful completion of twenty (20) Type I Continuing Education Contact Hours.
- 9. Petitioner gives May 3, 2003, as her date of sobriety.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Pursuant to Section 301.467, Texas Occupations Code, the Board may refuse to issue or renew a license, and may set a reasonable period that must lapse before reapplication. Pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that a Petitioner must satisfy before reissuance of an unrestricted license.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that the petition of SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, license number 153324, to practice vocational nursing in the state of Texas, be and the same is hereby DENIED, WITH THE DENIAL STAYED, AND SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS SOLONG AS THE PETITIONER complies 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 §211.01 et. seq. and the stipulations contained in this Order:

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Petitioner's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice vocational 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 multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the State of Texas and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Petitioner wishes to work.

- (1) PETITIONER SHALL NOT seek employment or practice nursing for compensation until she has completed the following pre-licensure conditions and obtained a license to practice vocational nursing from the Board.
- (2) PETITIONER SHALL apply for a "Six-Month Clinical Permit" for the limited purpose of completing a refresher course. PETITIONER SHALL NOT, in any way, attempt to use this clinical permit for any purpose other than attending this course.

- (3) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order and prior to practicing as a vocational nurse, successfully complete a nursing refresher course. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course's content shall include: 1) the role and scope of the vocational nurse; 2) a review of the nursing process to include focused assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation; 3) pharmacology review; 4) medication administration review for all standard routes of administration; 5) documentation, ethical and legal implications for nursing practice; and 6) current CPR certification. This course shall include a minimum of the clinical components, providing direct patient care supervised by another nurse, as stated on the Board's website, <a href="https://www.bon.state.tx.us/6mth-lvn.pdf">https://www.bon.state.tx.us/6mth-lvn.pdf</a>.
- (4) Upon completion of the refresher course, PETITIONER SHALL return the clinical permit to the office of the Board, and PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to notify the Board, on a form provided by the Board, of Petitioner's successful completion of the refresher course, including the required clinical component.
- (5) Upon verification of successful completion of the agreed pre-licensure conditions of reinstatement, as set out in this Order, PETITIONER SHALL pay all reregistration fees and be issued a license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, which shall bear the appropriate notation. Said license issued to SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, shall be subject to the following agreed post-licensure stipulations:

(6) PETITIONER SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00). PETITIONER SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of relicensure. 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.

(7) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of relicensure, successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not being offered by a preapproved 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) contact 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 Chemical Dependency, 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 is to be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bne.state.tx.us/about/stipscourses.html.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A VOCATIONAL NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR

OTHER CLINICAL 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 VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (8) PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in vocational nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER's license. 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.
- (9) 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 vocational nurse.
- (10) For the first year of employment as a vocational nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse or a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Direct supervision requires another professional or vocational nurse 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.

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- (11) For the remainder of the stipulation period, PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse or 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.
- (12) PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a vocational 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 Petitioner is regularly assigned for one (1) year of employment as a vocational nurse.
- (13) PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a vocational nurse in any critical care area for one (1) year of employment as a vocational nurse. 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.
- (14) PETITIONER SHALL NOT administer or have any contact with controlled substances, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates for one (1) year of employment as a vocational nurse.

(15) 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 vocational nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational 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) months for three (3) years of employment as a vocational nurse.

(16) 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 an evaluation by a Board approved physician specializing in Pain Management or Psychiatry. The performing evaluator will submit a written report to the Board's office, including results of the evaluation, clinical indications for the prescriptions, and recommendations for on-going treatment within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

(17) 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 second 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.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines
Barbiturates
Benzodiazepines
Cannabinoids
Cocaine

Ethanol

Methadone
Methaqualone
Opiates
Phencyclidine
Propoxyphene

Meperidine

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 will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action by this Board. Failure to report for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result and may result in further disciplinary action by this Board.

(18) PETITIONER SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week, one of which shall be for substance abuse; and PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER. PETITIONER SHALL submit the

required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) months. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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## PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Reinstatement Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Petition for Reinstatement of Licensure, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of convictions, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

I have reviewed this Order. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law. Order, and any conditions of said Order. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to reinstating my license to practice vocational nursing in the state of Texas. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including revocation of my license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 11 day of march, 2008.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this I day of With

SEAL

**DORIS FINCH** Commission Expires March 17, 2009

Notary Public in and for the State of No.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby
ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on thelthday of
March , 2008, by SHERI DIANE ALLBRITTON, Vocational Nurse License
Number 153324, and said Order is final.
Effective this 17th day of April , 2008
Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board