BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse License Number 191098 issued to SONDRA DAWN MILNER § REINSTATEMENT
 § AGREED ORDER
 §

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Reinstatement, hereinafter referred to as the Petition, of Vocational Nurse License Number 191098, held by SONDRA DAWN MILNER, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

Petitioner waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Reinstatement Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on September 26, 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 Petitioner and Petitioner was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license(s).
- 2. Petitioner waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Reinstatement Agreed Order.
- 3. Petitioner received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Schreiner College, Kerrville, Texas, on August 8, 2003. Petitioner was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 14, 2003.
- 4. Petitioner's nursing employment history includes:

11/2003-01/2004

LVN

Sid Peterson Regional Medical Center Kerrville, Texas

J10

Petitioner's nursing employment history continued:

| 01/2004-04/2004 | Unemployed | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| 04/2004-04/2004 | LVN | Care Inn Management Inc. San Antonio, Texas |
| 04/2004-02/2005 | LVN Floor Nurse | North Texas Jobs Corps McKinney, Texas |
| 02/2005-09/2005 | Unemployed | |
| 05/2005-04/2007 | Charge Nurse | Senior Care at Lake Pointe Rockwall, Texas |
| 04/2007-04/2007 | Field Nurse | Angels of Care Senior Home Health Corp. Howe, Texas |
| 04/2007-01/2008 | Field Nurse | Heart of Texas Home Health Rockwall, Texas |
| 01/2010-02/2010 | Clinic Nurse | Community Educations Center West Caldwell, New Jersey |
| 03/2010-01/2011 | Field LVN | PRN Staffing Commerce, Texas |
| 03/2010-02/2012 | Charge Nurse | Leonard Manor Inc. Leonard, Texas |
| 02/2011-03/2012 | Field Nurse | Voyager Hospice Care Nashville, Tennessee |

- 5. On or about February 7, 2012, the Board accepted the Voluntary Surrender of Petitioner's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas through an Order of the Board. A copy of the February 7, 2012, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Reinstatement Agreed Order.
- 6. On or about September 17, 2017, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of License to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

- 7. Petitioner presented the following in support of said petition:
 - A. Letter of recommendation dated October 15, 2017, from Amanda Brooks, LCSW, Department of Veterans Affairs, stating she has known Petitioner since grade school. Petitioner displays integrity, responsibility, and ambition.
 - B. Letter of recommendation dated October 20, 2017, and December 14, 2017, from Karee Earnhart stating she has known Petitioner for almost two (2) years. Petitioner is a hard worker, she is also attentive, professional, thorough, and compassionate.
 - C. Letter of recommendation dated November 4, 2017, from Dezire' Dusold, stating Petitioner has compassion and is everything a patient would ever want.
 - D. Letter of recommendation dated December 16, 2017, from Mark A. Owens, stating Petitioner is a wonderful person, dutiful daughter, doting mother, and extremely reliable friend.
 - E. Letter of recommendation dated December 15, 2017, from Debra Kennedy, stating Petitioner is known to be responsible, dependable, honest, and courteous.
 - F. Letter of recommendation dated April 14, 2008, from B. Griffin, RN, BSN, CCHP, Facility Nurse Manager, UTMB, stating she could not be more pleased with Petitioner's performance as a staff nurse and employee. Petitioner is calm, honest, dependable and an excellent nurse. Petitioner is also kind, fair and conscientious.
 - G. Letter of recommendation dated December 14, 2017, from Melissa Sohares, stating Petitioner is prompt, kind, courteous, reliable and trustworthy.
 - H. Documentation of the required continuing education contact hours.
- 8. On or about April 4, 2018, Petitioner completed a mental health evaluation performed by Steven Futrell, Psy.D., Denison, Texas. The results of Dr. Futrell's evaluation indicated no mental health diagnosis and no overt psychological reason was present to prevent her return to nursing practice at the time of contact. Dr. Futrell indicates that Petitioner should pursue appropriate services should mental health concerns arise.
- 9. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the factors set out in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for relicensure.
- 10. Relicensure 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.
- 11. The Executive Director's review of Petitioner's eligibility for relicensure has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Sections 301.452 and 301.555, Texas Occupations Code, 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.
- 3. The Board may relicense an individual upon evaluation of the factors in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27, and pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.33, if 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.
- 4. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

TERMS OF ORDER

I. REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSURE AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that the petition of SONDRA DAWN MILNER for reinstatement of license to practice nursing in the State of Texas be **GRANTED** and Vocational Nurse License Number 191098 is/are hereby **REINSTATED** in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. As a result of this Order, PETITIONER'S license(s) will be designated "single state" and PETITIONER 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, PETITIONER agrees to comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nursing Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 *et seq.*, and this Reinstatement Agreed Order.

III. REQUIREMENTS FOR VOCATIONAL NURSING REFRESHER COURSE, EXTENSIVE ORIENTATION, OR NURSING PROGRAM OF STUDY IN VOCATIONAL NURSING

Prior to practicing as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas, PETITIONER SHALL:

- A. Apply for a Six Month Temporary Permit to Complete Refresher Course, Extensive Orientation, or Nursing Program of Study in Vocational Nursing for the limited purpose of completing a refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program of study in vocational nursing. The application for the Six Month Temporary Permit is available on the Board's website (www.bon.texas.gov) under Forms / Applications / Six Month Permits / LVN Six Month Limited Permit. PETITIONER SHALL NOT, in any way, attempt to use the temporary permit for any purpose other than completing the refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program of study in vocational nursing.
- B. Successfully complete a Board approved refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program of study for vocational nursing. Petitioner MUST obtain Board approval of the nursing refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program, as applicable, prior to enrollment. In order for the course to be approved:
 - 1. The target audience shall include vocational nurses;
 - 2. The course instructor must be a qualified registered nurse who meets or exceeds the Board's minimum criteria for eligibility as an instructor;
 - 3. The course's content shall, at a minimum, include:
 - o Review of NPA, Rules, and Position Statements;
 - Determination of Individual Scope of Practice and role in patient safety;
 - Review of the clinical problem solving process for the provision of individualized, goal directed nursing care to include: (i) Collecting data & performing focused nursing assessments; (ii) Participating in the planning of nursing care needs for clients; (iii) Participating in the development & modification of the comprehensive nursing care plan for assigned clients; (iv) Implementing appropriate

aspects of care within the LVN's scope of practice; and (v) Assisting in the evaluation of the client's responses to nursing interventions and the identification of client needs;

Pharmacology review;

o Medication administration;

 Documentation, quality assurance, and legal implication for nursing practice; and

O Documentation of current CPR certification prior to beginning

precepted clinical learning experience; and

- 4. The course must contain no less than a total of 80 hours of clinical practice providing direct patient care precepted by a qualified registered or vocational nurse. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- C. Upon completion of the refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program of study for vocational nursing, PETITIONER SHALL return the temporary permit to the Board's office 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 80 hours of precepted clinical practice.
- D. <u>Upon verification of successful completion of the conditions</u> as set out in Paragraphs A through C of this Section, PETITIONER SHALL submit a completed License Reactivation Form for Vocational Nurses, which is available on the Board's website (www.bon.texas.gov) under Forms / Applications / Renewals / LVN Reactivation form for a Licensed Vocational Nurse. PETITIONER shall pay all re-registration fees and, subject to meeting all other requirements for licensure in Texas, shall be issued the applicable license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, which shall be subject to the terms of this Order.

IV. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, PETITIONER SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) within one (1) year of relicensure, 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 and video programs will not be approved.

B. 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/these course(s), PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. PETITIONER SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is <u>not</u> being offered by a pre-approved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at <u>www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</u>.

V. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, PETITIONER must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, <u>for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month</u> for four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) 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 <u>and will not count towards completion of this requirement.</u>

A. Notifying Present and Future Employers: PETITIONER 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, PETITIONER 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: PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER 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. Indirect Supervision: PETITIONER 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 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 of 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.
- D. Nursing Performance Evaluations: 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 individual who supervises the PETITIONER and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising individual to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

VI. THERAPY REPORTS

While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL participate in therapy with a professional counselor with 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. For the first three (3) month quarterly period PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER is working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, for the remainder of the term of the Order, or until PETITIONER is dismissed from therapy, whichever is earlier.

VII. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Reinstatement Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONER'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, PETITIONER may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges if any.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I understand this Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of my petition and disclosures. I further understand that subsequently discovered discrepancies in my petition and/or disclosures will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of my license(s).

I have reviewed this Order. I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I waive representation by counsel. 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(s) to practice 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(s) and/or nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 5 day of November

SONDRA DAWN MILNER, Petitioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of Toxas

5th day of November, 2018.

CHRIS ELY
Notary ID # 525882-9
My Commission Expires
May 14, 2020

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the _5th__ day of _November_, 20_18_, by SONDRA DAWN MILNER, Vocational Nurse License Number 191098, and said Reinstatement Agreed Order is final.

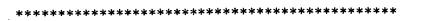
Effective this _11th_ day of _December_, 20_18_.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of Vocational Nurse

AGREED

License Number 191098

§

issued to SONDRA DAWN MILNER

ORDER

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Bo: accepted the voluntary surrender of Vocational Nurse License Number 191098, issued to SONDRA DAWN MILNER, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was provided to 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 informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Schreiner College, Kerrville, Texas on August 8, 2003. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 14, 2003.
- 5. Respondent's complete vocational nursing employment history is unknown.
- 6. On or about May 11, 2008, Respondent submitted an Online Renewal Document to the Texas Board of Nursing in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "No" to the question:

C10vs

ecutive Director of the Board

"In the past 5 years, have you been diagnosed with or treated or hospitalized for schizophrenia or other psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder..."

Specifically, Respondent was admitted to Behavioral Health Center at Texoma Medical Center in Sherman, Texas, for bipolar issues around the end of December in 2007. Respondent spent four (4) days there and was discharged and went to therapy on Tuesday nights, has completed the 90 meetings in 90 days, and voluntarily attends N.A./A.A. meetings. Respondent's conduct was deceptive and may have affected the Board's decision to license Respondent.

- 7. On or about August 17, 2009, Respondent plead guilty to the offense of FORGERY FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT, (a State Jail Felony offense committed on December 19, 2008), in the 336th District Court of Fannin County, Texas, under Case Number 23040. As a result of the guilty plea, Respondent received deferred adjudication and was sentenced to three (3) years community supervision, assessed a fine and court costs.
- 8. On or about October 28, 2011, Respondent was discharged early from community supervision she had received on August 17, 2009, under Case Number 23040.
- 9. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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 violations of Section 301.452(b)(2),(3),(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(B), and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(B),(5),(6)(I)&(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.453(a), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 191098, heretofore issued to SONDRA DAWN MILNER, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
- 6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose

conditions for reinstatement of licensure.

7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Vocational License Number 191098, heretofore issued to SONDRA DAWN MILNER, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

- 1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice vocational nursing, use the title "vocational nurse" or the abbreviation "LVN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a vocational nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a vocational nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
- 2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
- 3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

BALANCE OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

DOT LANGOLOGO L-TOO

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 violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, 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 this Order becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this 7th day of February, 20 12.

SONDRA DAWN MILNER, Respondent

Swom to and subscribed before me this 1th day of Feb , 2012

STEPHANIE GAIL BOOTH My Commission Expires September 28, 2014

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form that substance.

BENJAMIN A. BAKER, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this Th day of February, 2012-

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Vocational Nurse License Number 191098, previously issued to SONDRA DAWN MILNER.

Effective this 7th day of February, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board