BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of	§	AGREED ORDER
JACQUELINE RAE MCKEON,	§	FOR
Vocational Nurse License Number 211817	§	DISCIPLINE &
& PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure	§	ELIGIBILITY

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Application by Examination, which has been processed as a Petition for Declaratory Order, herein referred to as the Petition, pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.2(b) and §213.30, and supporting documents filed by JACQUELINE RAE MCKEON, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section s 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, 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 subject to discipline and ineligible for licensure pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(3) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

Petitioner waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on July 1, 2019.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about April 24, 2019, Petitioner submitted the Petition requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure.
- 2. Petitioner waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order.
- 3. Petitioner received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Coastal Bend College, Pleasanton, Texas, on August 10, 2007. Petitioner received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Galen College of Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, on March 26, 2019. Petitioner was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 13, 2007.

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- 4. Petitioner's license to practice as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 5. Petitioner completed the petition and answered No to the question which reads as follows: "For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:
 - A. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
 - B. been convicted of a felony?
 - C. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
 - D. received deferred adjudication?
 - E. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
 - F. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
 - G. been granted pre-trial diversion?
 - H. been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
 - I. been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
 - J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.")

6. Petitioner failed to disclose the following criminal history, to wit:

On or about April 19, 2019, Respondent entered a plea of Nolo Contendere to THEFT \$1500-20K WELFARE FRAUD, a State Jail Felony offense committed on December 15, 2014, in the 379th District Court of Bexar County, Texas, under Cause No. 2016CR6525. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of two (2) years, and ordered to pay court costs.

- 7. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 8. Petitioner provided the following letters of support/recommendation to the Board:
- A. Letter of support dated April 5, 2019, from Amy M. Miller, San Antonio, Texas. She states she has known Petitioner personally for nine (9) years as her friend. During their relationship, she has experienced an individual who shows up earlier than asked, works hard, and carries themselves in a polite, respectable manner. In addition, Petitioner is a family person who has always presented themselves with levelheadedness and grace. She believes Petitioner is someone who possesses the character and judgment for the betterment of the community.
- B. Letter of support dated April 10, 2019, from Dr Patrick Mulroy, San Antonio, Texas. He states he has had the pleasure of knowing Petitioner for about eight (8) years. Petitioner has been a nurse working under him for quite some time. He has witnessed her growing as a smart, talented and a responsible person. Petitioner has always displayed a high degree of integrity, responsibility and is very ambitious regarding

- nursing. Petitioner is constantly studying on Petitioner's lunch break and quizzing her fellow nurses or education them on new things she has learned. Petitioner is more mature than her years, expressed by her compassion and bedside manner to that of Petitioner's patients. Petitioner is a natural skilled leader who has always maintained her professionalism and is respected by her fellow colleagues.
- C. Letter of support from Dr. Kristin Ryan Ramirez, SPHR. She states she has known Petitioner on both a personal and professional level for the past 31 years. Petitioner is her sister and her professional peer and colleague. Petitioner is a person with a solid moral compass, willing and determined to help those around her. Petitioner is a community activist and serves as a catalyst for change and prosperity in the San Antonio, area. She and Petitioner has served on numerous non-profits and networking boards together. Petitioner has a heart for people and a passion for helping others leverage resources and partnerships to better themselves and the community.
- 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 licensure.
- 10. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past criminal conduct in light of the considerations and criteria provided in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§213.28 & 213.33, and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 11. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. On or about April 24, 2019, Petitioner submitted the Petition requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.2(b) and §213.30.

- 3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for discipline and denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(3), 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 been previously convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to any crime whether or not a sentence was imposed upon consideration of the factors set out in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 6. The Board may license 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.
- 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).
- 8. 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. ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSURE AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that the PETITION is hereby GRANTED, and Vocational Nurse License Number 211817, previously issued to JACQUELINE RAE MCKEON, to practice nursing in the State of Texas is hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is STAYED and PETITIONER is hereby placed on PROBATION for a minimum of two (2) years AND until PETITIONER fulfills the additional requirements of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that:

- A. Upon meeting the requirements for graduation of an appropriate program in nursing education and payment of any required fees, PETITIONER is ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination).
- B. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Nurse (GN) in the State of Texas.
- C. Upon payment of any required fees and upon attaining a passing grade on the applicable National Council Licensure Examination, PETITIONER shall be issued the applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- D. Until successfully completed, any and all licenses issued to Petitioner shall be subject to the terms of this Order.
- E. This Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- F. As a result of this Order, PETITIONER'S license 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 Agreed Order.

III. 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 the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

- A. <u>A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics</u> 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. <u>The course "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), 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>.

IV. 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 eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. 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 eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

V. PROBATION REPORTS

PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE his/her probation officer to submit written reports on forms provided to the PETITIONER by the Board. The reports shall indicate the PETITIONER'S compliance with the court ordered probation. The reports shall be furnished each and every three (3) month period until PETITIONER is released from probation.

VI. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONER'S license(s) and/or privilege(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.

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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/petition, 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) and/or nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, 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 by counsel, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review of this Order and request that the Texas Board of Nursing ratify this Order.

Signed this Way of Sept

JACQUELINE RAE MCKEON, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 16th day of September, 2019, by JACQUELINE RAE MCKEON, Vocational Nurse License Number 211817 & PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 24th day of October, 2019.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board