BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Vocational Nurse License Number 337599 issued to KIMBER LEIGH HARRIS AGREED ORDER

executive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of KIMBER LEIGH HARRIS, Vocational Nurse License Number 337599, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on February 18, 2020.

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 Agreed Order.
- 3. 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 Panola College, Carthage, Texas, on May 9, 2017. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on May 25, 2017.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

5/2017 – 12/2017

Licensed Vocational Nurse

First in Pediatrics Jefferson, Texas

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

12/2017-Unknown Licensed Vocational Nurse Super Hero Kids Home Health

McAllen, Texas

4/2019-Present Licensed Vocational Nurse Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care

Tyler, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care, Tyler, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) month.

- 7. On or about April 19, 2019, through May 12, 2019, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care, Tyler, Texas, Respondent failed to clarify an order for Clonidine on multiple occasions for Patient BB. Specifically, the order stated to administer Clonidine 0.1 milligram tablet every night at bedtime for agitation and inability to fall asleep. Respondent held the regularly scheduled medication when the patient did not have trouble with agitation and sleep, without notifying the physician and requesting a change in the ordered daily dose. Additionally, Respondent failed to adequately document holding Clonidine, including rationale and signs and symptoms the patient was exhibiting. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record and exposed the patient to a risk of harm in that failure to administer medications as ordered by the physician could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment of the patient's condition.
- 8. On or about May 12, 2019, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care, Tyler, Texas, Respondent exceeded her scope of practice and inappropriately removed the peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) line of Patient BB. Respondent's conduct unnecessarily exposed the patient to risk of complications.
- 9. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that she attended Onboarding training, but that she did not receive any clinical training nor clinical policies. Respondent states that after the incident, she completed the full onboarding training. Respondent states that the nurses and the patient's mother called Thrive numerous times to have them contact the physician to change the order but it was not changed. Respondent states that she was instructed to contact the agency instead of contacting the physician directly. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states that she attended PICC line training. Respondent states that no one at Thrive PICC line training instructed her that the PICC line can only be removed by a Registered Nurse (RN), and the employer policy was not provided to them. Respondent states that she was not aware of the Texas Board of Nursing position statement regarding removal of PICC lines. Respondent states that after the Thrive training she returned to the hospital and the hospital vascular nurses trained her on the on the PICC line. Respondent states that she was trained on how to remove the PICC line, complications that could occur, and Respondent was instructed that the order was for removal in ten days.

Respondent states that the physician's order for the removal included the same information and did not state that a RN was required to remove the PICC line. Respondent states that the Thrive RN assigned to the patient also assessed the client for resumption of home care and did not state that she would return to remove this line. Respondent states that when the antibiotics finished after ten days, Respondent removed the PICC line during the night shift. Respondent states that the mistake was inadvertent and there was no patient harm. Respondent states that she has learned for the incident.

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 §217.11 (1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D),(1)(G),(1)(N),(1)(P)&(2)(A) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12 (1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 337599, heretofore issued to KIMBER LEIGH HARRIS.
- 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 that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS and RESPONDENT'S license(s) shall be placed in INACTIVE status.

Should RESPONDENT decide in the future to reactivate his/her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, RESPONDENT SHALL be required to petition the Board for reactivation of the license and satisfy all then existing requirements for reactivation. Further, RESPONDENT'S reactivated license(s) SHALL BE subject to, at a

minimum, the remedial education courses, work restrictions, supervised practice, and employer reporting which would have been requirements of this Order had RESPONDENT not chosen to inactivate his/her nursing license(s).

Until such time that RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are reactivated, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT use a Privilege to Practice Nursing in the State of Texas from any Nurse License Compact member state.

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this 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 this Order is subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing and a copy of this Order will be mailed to me once the Order becomes effective. 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) and/or privileges to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance. I further understand that, should I decide in the future to reactivate my license(s), I will be required to satisfy, at a minimum, the additional requirements that would have been part of this Order had the license(s) not been placed in inactive status, as stated herein, as well as all then existing requirements for reactivation.

Signed this 29 thay of June , 20 90
Kimberldlaus
KIMBER LEIGH HARRIS, RESPONDENT
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Swom to and subscribed before me this 29 day of 4 2020.

SEAL

TONJA J GIBSON
Notary 10 #11758163
My Commission Expires
October 5, 2023

Approvedas to form and substance.

Leanna Marchand, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 24 day of 4 fune, 2020.

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>29th</u> day of <u>June</u>, 20<u>20</u>, by KIMBER LEIGH HARRIS, Vocational Nurse License Number 337599, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 18th day of August, 2020.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board