In the Matter of **Permanent Registered Nurse** License Number 440624 Issued to TERESTIA ALQUERO, Respondent

BEFORE THE TEXAS

88888 **BOARD OF NURSING**

ELIGIBILITY AND

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Terestia Alquero 10710 Newport Bridge Ln Sugar Land, TX 77478

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on September 14, 2021, the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by



reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing [22 Tex. Admin. Code § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 440624, previously issued to TERESTIA ALQUERO to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/are hereby, REVOKED.

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

Kettrenine Co. Therman

Entered this 14th day of September, 2021

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charges filed June 24, 2021

d17r(2021.08.17)

Re: Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 440624
Issued to TERESTIA ALQUERO
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the the day of the
correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the following person(s),
as follows:

Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested,
Copy Via USPS First Class Mail
Terestia Alquero
10710 Newport Bridge Ln
Sugar Land, TX 77478

BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Settrenine Co. Thomas

In the Matter of \$ BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Registered Nurse \$ License Number 440624 \$ Issued to TERESTIA ALQUERO, Respondent \$ BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, TERESTIA ALQUERO, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 440624 which is in current status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about December 10, 2020, Respondent agreed on a settlement to settle claims she knowingly and willfully paid improper kickbacks for referrals of Medicare patients to her Providence Home Health and Providence Hospice, in the United States District Court Southern District of Texas, Houston, Texas,. As a result of the settlement, Respondent was placed on five (5) years exclusion from participation from Medicare, Medicaid and all other federal health care programs, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(A).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) and/or privilege(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§ 213.27 - 213.33.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on adopted policies related to Behavior Involving Lying and Falsification, and on adopted policies related to Behavior Involving Fraud, Theft, and Deception, which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, located at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.33(b), which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

The Charge

Filed this 24th day of June, 2021.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

James W. Johnston, General Counsel

Board Certified - Administrative Law

Texas Board of Legal Specialization

State Bar No. 10838300

Jena Abel, Deputy General Counsel

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D(2021.05.26)