

In the Matter of **BEFORE THE TEXAS** 8888 **Permanent Vocational Nurse** License Number 178551 Issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Respondent **BOARD OF NURSING** 

# ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

TO: Mario Gonzalez 2315 40th St Snyder, TX 79549

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing was held on January 18, 2024 at 1801 Congress Avenue, Suite 10-200, Austin, Texas, in which the Temporary Suspension of Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ was considered pursuant to Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE. Staff of the Texas Board of Nursing presented evidence and information concerning the conduct of MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ and whether his continued practice as a nurse would constitute a continuing and imminent threat to the public welfare.

After review and due consideration of the evidence and information presented, the Board finds that the following charges are substantiated:

- On or about December 6, 2022, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to Respondent on July 19, 2021, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Section VII. "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS", Part A, of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: "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..."
  - On or about December 6, 2022, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) 264 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 164 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol.
- On or about July 19, 2023, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to Respondent on July 19, 2021, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Section VII. "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS", Part A, of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: "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..."

On or about July 19, 2023, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) 611 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 683 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol.

On or about November 22, 2023, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued
to Respondent on July 19, 2021, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result
of Respondent's failure to comply with Section VII. "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED
REQUIREMENTS", Part A, of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: "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..."

On or about November 22, 2023, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) 986 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 813 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol.

The Texas Board of Nursing further finds that, given the nature of the charges concerning his fitness to practice, the continued practice of nursing by MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ constitutes a continuing and imminent threat to public welfare and that the temporary suspension of Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, is justified pursuant to Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/are, hereby SUSPENDED IMMEDIATELY in accordance with Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE.

This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas. Further, RESPONDENT'S license(s) will be designated "single state" as applicable and RESPONDENT may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state using a Texas compact license.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a probable cause hearing be conducted in accordance with Section 301.455(c) not later than seventeen (17) days following the date of the entry of this order, and a final hearing on the matter be conducted in accordance with 301.455(d) not later than the 61<sup>st</sup> day following the date of the entry of this order.

Entered this 18 day of January, 2024.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY: Kirstin K. Benton, DNP, PDV

Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

D4551(2023.12.20)

In the Matter of \$ BEFORE THE TEXAS Permanent Vocational Nurse \$ License Number 178551 \$ Issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Respondent \$ BOARD OF NURSING

#### **FORMAL CHARGES**

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 178551, 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 6, 2022, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to Respondent on July 19, 2021, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Section VII. "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS", Part A, of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: "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..."

On or about December 6, 2022, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) 264 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 164 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

#### CHARGE II.

On or about July 19, 2023, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to Respondent on July 19, 2021, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Section VII. "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS", Part A, of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: "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..."

On or about July 19, 2023, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) 611 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 683 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

#### CHARGE III.

On or about November 22, 2023, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to Respondent on July 19, 2021, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Section VII. "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS", Part A, of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: "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..."

On or about November 22, 2023, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) 986 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 813 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

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, <u>www.bon.texas.gov</u>.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on adopted policies related to Substance Use Disorders and Other Alcohol and Drug Related Conduct, 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, <a href="https://www.bon.texas.gov">www.bon.texas.gov</a>.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order(s) which is/are attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Order(s) of the Board dated August 14, 2012, February 12, 2013, December 11, 2018, November 10, 2020, and July 19, 2021.

Filed this 18 day of January, 2024.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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Board Certified - Administrative Law

Texas Board of Legal Specialization

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Attachment(s): Order(s) of the Board dated August 14, 2012, February 12, 2013, December 11, 2018, November 10, 2020, and July 19, 2021.

D(2023.12.20)

#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED ORDER Vocational Nurse License Number 178551 \$ issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ \$

Of Aud hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which Z is on file or is of record in the offices of the Z is on file or is of record in the offices of the Z is on file or is of record in the offices of the Z is on the control of the Board

TEXAS

Executive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, 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)(1)&(10), 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 April 21, 2021.

### 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 suspended status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Western Texas College, Snyder, Texas, on August 24, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 2, 2000.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

08/2000

GVN

University Medical Center Lubbock, Texas

# Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

1/2002	LVN	Covenant Medical Center Lubbock, Texas
08/2005	LVN	Epic Health Service Lubbock, Texas
01/2006	LVN	Epic Home Health Lubbock, Texas
01/2007	LVN/Agency Nurse	Texas PRN LLC Odessa, Texas
2010	LVN	Home Health Nurses Unlimited Odessa, Texas
06/2009 - 07/2009	LVN	Nurses Unlimited Odessa, Texas
2011 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. On or about August 14, 2012, Respondent was issued the sanction of Warning with Stipulations through an Order of the Board. A copy of the August 14, 2012, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 7. On or about February 12, 2013, Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas was Revoked through an Order of the Board. A copy of the February 12, 2013, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 8. On or about December 11, 2018, Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas was Reinstated through an Order of the Board. A copy of the December 11, 2018, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 9. On or about November 10, 2020, Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas was Suspended with the Suspension stayed and Respondent was placed on probation through an Order of the Board. A copy of the November 10, 2020, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 10. On or about December 11, 2020, January 27, 2021, and March 12, 2021, while employed with Martin County Hospital District, Stanton, Texas, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to him on November 10, 2020, by the Texas Board of Nursing.

On or about December 11, 2020, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (Etg) 2851 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 1684 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol. On or about January 27, 2021, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (Etg) 340 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 436 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol. On or about March 12, 2021, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (Etg) 595 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 691 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Seven (VII), Subsection A, which states, in pertinent part: "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..."

- 11. Formal Charges were filed and Respondent's license was suspended on April 13, 2021.
- 12. Respondent's date of sobriety is May 10, 2021.
- 13. Respondent entered into a treatment program at The Springboard Center in Midland, Texas on May 10, 2021.
- 14. In response to Findings of Fact Nos. 6-9, Respondent states that his prior history with the Board stems from him not receiving adequate treatment as part of his BON monitoring requirements. Respondent states that through his treatment program at the Springboard Center, he has now gained significant insight into his past noncompliance behaviors and is committed to employing his newfound coping skills to remaining abstinent and complying with this Agreed Order. In response to Findings of Fact No. 10, Respondent states that he was experiencing significant stress related to the COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledges that he should have handled the stress differently, which he now feels prepared to do. Respondent further states that his past BON history and the current allegations have never in any way affected his practice as a nurse, job performance, or patient care, and he has received excellent recommendations from his supervisors.

#### **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 (11)(B).

- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, heretofore issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ.
- 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 178551, previously issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are 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 sobricty, 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of successful completion of the above 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 additional requirements of this Order.

D. RESPONDENT SHALL submit an application for licensure renewal/reactivation, as applicable, and pay all re-registration fees, if any, and RESPONDENT'S

- licensure status in the State of Texas will be activated and updated to current status and 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. As a result of this Order, RESPONDENT'S license(s) will be designated "single state" as applicable and RESPONDENT may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state using a Texas compact license.

## 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 Nursing Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 et seq., and this Agreed Order.

## III. SUPERSEDING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction and conditions of this Agreed Order SHALL supersede all previous stipulations required by any Order entered by the Texas Board of Nursing.

### IV. 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.

# V. 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 course(s) within one (1) year of the suspension being stayed, 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), 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 pre-approved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

## 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 clapsed. 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. 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.
- D. 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.
- E. 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.
- F. 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.
- G. Indirect Supervision: For the remainder of the stipulation/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 of 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 individual who supervises the RESPONDENT 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 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 the 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 all 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:

Methamphetamine	MDMA
Alprazolam	Diazepam
Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam	Clonazepam
Lorazepam	Midazolam
Temazepam	Amobarbital
Butalbital	Pentobarbital
Secobarbital	Codeine
Hydromorphone	Methadone
Opiates	Oxycodone
Propoxyphene	Cannabinoids
Phencyclidine	Ethanol
Fentanyl	Tramadol
Carisoprodol	Butorphanol
Ketamine	Propofol
	Alprazolam Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam Lorazepam Temazepam Butalbital Secobarbital Hydromorphone Opiates Propoxyphene Phencyclidine Fentanyl Carisoprodol

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. SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, should the RESPONDENT'S conduct, as outlined in the findings of fact of this Agreed 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.

# IX. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against 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. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'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, 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 Order. I waive representation by counsel. 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 becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing and 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) and/or privileges to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

	Signed this 9 day of 12 MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, RE	<u> </u>
Sworn to and subscribed before	e me this, 20_	
SEAL		
	Notary Public in and for the State of	of
	Approved as to form and substance	ı.
	Elisabeth Statt.	
	Elisabeth "Betty" Smith, Attorney	for Respondent
	Signed this 19th day of July	_, 2021

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 19th day of July, 2021, by MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 19th day of July, 2021.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board



#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED ORDER Vocational Nurse License Number 178551 \$ issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ \$ \$

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, 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)(1)&(1), 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 October 9, 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 Western Texas College, Snyder, Texas, on August 24, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 2, 2000.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.
- 6. On or about August 14, 2012, Respondent was issued the sanction of Warning with Stipulations through an Order of the Board. A copy of the August 14, 2012, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.

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- 7. On or about February 12, 2013, Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas was Revoked through an Order of the Board. A copy of the February 12, 2013, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 8. On or about December 11, 2018, Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas was Reinstated through an Order of the Board. A copy of the December 11, 2018, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 9. On or about June 10, 2020, Petitioner failed to comply with the Reinstatement Agreed Order issued to him on December 12, 2018, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Petitioner's failure to comply with Section VI. "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS," Part A, of the Reinstatement Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: "While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose..." On or about June 10, 2020, Petitioner produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) 765 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 732 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol.
- 10. On or about June 27, 2020, Petitioner failed to comply with the Reinstatement Agreed Order issued to him on December 12, 2018, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Petitioner's failure to comply with Section VI. "DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS," Part A, of the Reinstatement Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part: "While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose..." On or about June 10, 2020, Petitioner produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) 850 ng/ml and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) 982 ng/ml, metabolites of alcohol.
- 11. Respondent agrees to withdraw his Petition for Declaratory Order submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing on or about September 20, 2020 regarding his ability to obtain a Registered Nurse license. Respondent further agrees to abstain from submitting future Petitions for Declaratory Orders or other requests to obtain a Registered Nurse license until one year of verifiable proof of employment history as a Licensed Vocational Nurse under this order has been successfully completed.

#### **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 (11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, heretofore issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ.
- 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 178551, previously issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is STAYED and RESPONDENT is hereby placed on PROBATION for a minimum of three (3) years AND until RESPONDENT fulfills the additional requirements of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. As a result of this Order, RESPONDENT'S license(s) will be designated "single state" as applicable and RESPONDENT may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state using a Texas compact license.
- D. Respondent further agrees to abstain from submitting future Petitions for Declaratory Orders or other requests to obtain a Registered Nurse license until one year of verifiable proof of employment history as a Licensed Vocational Nurse under this order has been successfully completed.

#### 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 Nursing Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 et seq., and this Agreed Order.

#### III. SUPERSEDING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction and conditions of this Agreed Order SHALL supersede all previous stipulations required by any Order entered by the Texas Board of Nursing.

### IV. 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.

## V. 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 course(s) within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, 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), 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 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>.

## 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. Indirect Supervision: 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 of 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.
- D. 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 individual who supervises the RESPONDENT 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 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 the 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 requirements.
- B. While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all

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 [1st 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.

Specimens shall be screened for any or all of the following substances and/or their metabolites:

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
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.

## VIII. SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, should the RESPONDENT'S conduct, as outlined in the findings of fact of this Agreed 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.

#### IX. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against 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. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'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, 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 Order. I waive representation by counsel. 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.

Signed this 14 day of october, 2070.

MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14 day of October, 20

CHARLI BOONE GROPE
Comm. Expires 12-28-2021
Comm. Expires 12-28-2021
Motety ID 129659001

Notary Public in and for the State of War

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <a href="14th">14th</a> day of <a href="October">October</a>, 20 <a href="20">20</a>, by MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of November, 20 20.

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 License Number 178551 issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ

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 178551, held by MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, 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 October 2, 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 Western Texas College, Snyder, Texas, on August 24, 2000. Petitioner was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 2, 2000.
- 4. Petitioner's nursing employment history includes:

08/2000

GVN

University Medical Center Lubbock, Texas

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Petitioner's nursing employment history continued:

01/2002	LVN	Covenant Medical Center Lubbock, Texas
08/2005	LVN	Epic Health Service Lubbock, Texas
01/2006	LVN	Epic Home Health Lubbock, Texas
01/2007	LVN/Agency Nurse	Texas PRN LLC Odessa, Texas
2010	LVN	Home Health Nurses Unlimited Odessa, Texas
06/2009-07/2009	LVN	Nurses Unlimited Odessa, Texas

- 5. On or about August 14, 2012, Petitioner was issued the sanction of Warning with Stipulations through an Order of the Board. A copy of the August 14, 2012, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Reinstatement Agreed Order.
- 6. On or about February 12, 2013, Petitioner's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas was Revoked through an Order of the Board. A copy of the February 12, 2013, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Reinstatement Agreed Order.
- 7. On or about June 18, 2013, Respondent entered a plea of guilty to and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree felony offense committed on October 27, 2012, in the 132<sup>nd</sup> District Court, Scurry County, Texas, under Cause No. 9981. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to incarceration in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for a period of five (5) years; however, imposition of confinement was suspended and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of five (5) years.
- 8. On or about May 21, 2018, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of License to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 9. Petitioner presented the following in support of said petition:
  - A. Support group attendance records showing Petitioner's dates of attendance beginning November 2, 2013, to January 31, 2014.

- B. Letter of recommendation from Lacy Williams stating she has known Petitioner for five years from MSN, Home Health Agency. Petitioner worked evening/night for their daughter. Ms. Williams highly recommends Petitioner as a nurse and employee. Petitioner was professional, qualified, and dependable.
- C. Letter of recommendation dated October 10, 2014, from Terry M. Brown, President of Texas PRN Staffing, Texas, Odessa, Texas, stating she has known Petitioner for several years, working through PRN. Mr. Brown has found Petitioner to be a good nurse with no problems.
- D. Letter of recommendation from James, Sara & Nathaniel Hendricks, stating Petitioner worked for them for seventeen months caring for their child. He was an amazing nurse who went above and beyond his duties.
- E. Letter of recommendation from James Hendricks, stating Petitioner worked for their family as a night nurse for fourteen months. Petitioner taught them about caring for a special needs child. Petitioner was amazing, a great friend, and teacher.
- F. Letter of support from John Grope, stating Petitioner is dedicated and loves nursing. Petitioner has earned the respect of many friends in AA, working tirelessly to complete and maintain the 12 step principles of AA.
- G. Documentation of the required continuing education contact hours.
- 10. On or about August 24, 2018, Petitioner presented to Mark Rhodes, Psy. D., Amarillo, Texas, for psychological testing and an interview. As a result, Dr. Rhodes was able to offer the following Conclusion and Recommendation: Mr. Gonzalez does not currently present with significant psychiatric or behavioral disturbances. Test results suggest no current significant psychopathology...
  - Mr. Gonzales currently appears to be capable of practicing nursing with reasonable skill and safety. Due to the nature and number of alcohol related offenses, it may be advisable to involve him in a program of routine supervision and monitoring...
  - Mr. Gonzales does not appear to meet criteria for a diagnosis of a substance use disorder; and completion of a SUDS treatment program does not appear to be indicated at this time.
- 11. 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.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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 301.452 301.555, 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 his 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 MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ for reinstatement of license to practice nursing in the State of Texas be GRANTED and Vocational Nurse License Number 178551 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;
    - o 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;

- o Pharmacology review;
- o Medication administration;
- o 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 AFTER APRN LICENSURE

Upon becoming licensed as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, in order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as an advanced practice registered 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 eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as an advanced practice registered nurse have elapsed. Periods of unemployment or of employment that do not require the use of an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) license will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement. Further, Respondent may not work as a registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as applicable, while under the terms of this Order.

- A. Notifying Present and Future Employers, Practice Sites and Credentialing Agencies: PETITIONER SHALL notify each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers, practice sites and/or credentialing agencies in nursing and present a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, to each future employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing prior to accepting an offer of employment and/or assignment.
- B. Notification of Employment Forms: PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing to submit the Board's "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 nurse.
- C. Indirect Supervision: 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 of 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
- D. Nursing Performance Evaluations: PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each supervising Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician 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 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician who supervises the PETITIONER and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician 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.

## VI. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER 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, 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 the prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and PETITIONER 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, PETITIONER SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all 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 PETITIONER obtains employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.
  - For the first three (3) month [1<sup>st</sup> quarter] period PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

Specimens shall be screened for any or all of the following substances and/or their metabolites:

Amphetamine	Methamphetamine	MDMA
MDA	Alprazolam	Diazepam
Alpha-o-alprazolam	Alpha-Hydroxytriazoiam	Cionazepam
Desmethyldiazepam	Lorazepam	Midazolam
Oxazepam	Temazepam	Amobarbital
Butabarbital	Butalbital	<b>Pentobarbital</b>
Phenobarbital	Secobarbital	Codeine
Hydrocodone	Hydromorphone	Methadone
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, PETITIONER SHALL, on a daily basis, call or login online to the Board's designated drug and alcohol testing vendor to determine whether or not PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require PETITIONER to produce a specimen for screening.

Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens. Any positive result for which PETITIONER does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject PETITIONER to further disciplinary action, including TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Petitioner'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.

# 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.

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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 TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, and/or 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 25 day of October, 20 18.

MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Pentioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of October, 2018.

SEAL CHARLI BOONE GROPE Notary Public, State of Texas Comm. Expires 12-28-2021 Notary ID 129659001

Notary Public in and for the State of TX

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the \_25th\_ day of \_October\_, 20\_18\_, by MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, and said Reinstatement Agreed Order is final.

Effective this \_11th\_ day of \_December\_, 20\_18\_.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Salvini a Momas

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

IN THE MATTER OF \$ BEFORE THE TEXAS

PERMANENT VOCATIONAL NURSE \$

LICENSE NUMBER 17855! \$ BOARD OF NURSING

ISSUED TO \$

MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ \$ ELIGIBILITY AND

\$

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE



## ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ 2301 N PECOS, APT 134 MIDLAND, TX 79705

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on February 12, 2013, 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 Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, previously issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, 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.

Entered this 12th day of February, 20 13.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

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

Karrina Ohman

Attachment: Formal Charges filed January 10, 2013.

Re: Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 178551
Issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 15 day of Floruary, 2013, a true and 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
MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ
2301 N PECOS, APT 134
MIDLAND, TX 79705

BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD In the Matter of \$ BEFORE THE TEXAS

Permanent Vocational Nurse \$

License Number 178551 \$

Issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, \$

Respondent \$ BOARD OF NURSING

#### FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, is a Vocational Nurse holding License Number 178551, 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 October 27, 2012, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to him by the Texas Board of Nursing on August 14, 2012. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to abstain from consuming alcohol in that he was arrested for "Driving While Intoxicate 3rd," a 3rd Degree Felony, by the Texas Department of Public Safety, Scurry County, Texas. Furthermore, Respondent admitted to the arresting officer that he had been drinking alcohol prior to being stopped. Stipulation Number Six (6) of the Agreed Order issued August 14, 2012, states:

"(6) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances..."

A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated August 14, 2012, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) & (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

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 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 and Tex. OCC. Code Ch. 53. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board coursel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, Board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

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, <u>www.bon.texas.gov</u>.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct and on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder, for Lying and Falsification, and for Fraud, Theft and Deception, which 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 the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at <a href="https://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html">www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html</a>.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order(s) which is/are attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Agreed Order dated August 14, 2012.

Filed this 10 day of Uanuary, 20 1-

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

James W. Johnston, General Counsel

Board Certified - Administrative Law Texas Board of Legal Specialization

State Bar No. 10838300

Jena Abel, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 24036103

Lance Robert Brenton, Assistant General Counsel State Bar No. 24066924

State Dar 190, 24000924

John R. Griffith, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 24079751
Robert Kyle Hensley, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 50511847

Nikki Hopkins, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 24052269

John F. Legris, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 00785533

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460

Austin, Texas 78701

P: (512) 305-6811

F: (512) 305-8101 or (512)305-7401

Attachments: Agreed Order dated August 14, 2012.

D/2012.06 19

### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse

AGREED

License Number 178551

issued to Mario Sainz Gonzalez.

**ORDER** 

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. .

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 302.402(a)(10)(eff. 9/1/01) and Section 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent warved informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on July 16, 2012, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these - 1. 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).
- Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this 2. Order.
- Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas. 3.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Western Texas College, Snyder, Texas, on August 24, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 2, 2000.
- Respondent's vocational nursing employment history is unknown. 5.



- 6. On or about January 18, 2002, Respondent pled Guilty and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on June 19, 2001, in the County Court at Law No. 1 of Lubbock, Texas under Cause No. 2001-475,424. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Lubbock County Jail for a period of ninety (90) days; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of twenty-four (24) months, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs. On or about December 21, 2004, Respondent's probation granted under Cause No. 2001-475424 was revoked and Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Lubbock County Jail for a period of seventy-five (75) days.
- 7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent states: He was leaving a friend's home in the early morning after sleeping for a couple of hours after having a party and was pulled over and arrested for a DUI and taken to jail. He states he pled guilty in court and received community service and probation.
- 8. On or about December 21, 2004, Respondent pled Guilty and was convicted of DWI 2ND, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on August 27, 2004, in the County Court at Law No. 1 of Lubbock County, Texas, under Cause No. 2004-491054. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Lubbock County Jail for a period of seventy-five (75) days, and ordered to pay court costs.
- 9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states: He was leaving a softball game and was pulled over for speeding. He states he and his co-workers had some beers at the game and after being pulled over and completing several different sobriety tests, he was arrested for a DUI. Respondent states he went to court in November and spent time in jail, but that he did not receive probation, community service, or any fines for either DUI.
- 10. On or about January 8, 2006, Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal Document to the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas in which he provided false, deceptive and/or misleading information in that he answered "No" to the question:

"Have you been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrests (excluding minor traffic violations) since your last renewal? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt. Please note that DUIs, DWIs, and PI's must be reported and are not considered minor traffic violations. (One time minor in possession [MIP] or minor in consumption [MIC] does not need to be disclosed; therefore, you may answer "No." If you have two or more MIPs or MICs, you must answer "Yes".)"

Respondent failed to disclose that, on or about December 21, 2004, Respondent pled Guilty and was convicted of DWI 2ND, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on August 27, 2004, in the County Court at Law No. 1 of Lubbock County, Texas, under Cause No. 2004-491054.

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

- 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 of Section 302.402(a)(10)(eff. 9/1/01 and Section 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §239.11(29)(A)(eff. 9/1/01), and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I)&(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, heretofore issued to MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice pursing in the State of Texas.

### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS, and RESPONDENT SHALL 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that, while under the terms of this Order, this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

### IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved 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) 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. RESPONDENT 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 RESPONDENT'S successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND

PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND RESPONDENT MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) MONTHS 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 STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (2) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT'S license(s). RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT'S license(s). RESPONDENT 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.
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to immediately submit any and all incident, counseling, variance, unusual occurrence, and medication or other error reports

involving RESPONDENT, as well as documentation of any internal investigations regarding action by RESPONDENT, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office.

- (5) 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. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month period for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.
- (6) RESPONDENT 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, 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.
- (7) RESPONDENT 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 next 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. All random screens SHALL BE

conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines Meperidine
Barbiturates Methadone
Benzodiazepines Methaqualone
Cannabinoids Opiates
Cocaio Phencyclidine
Ethanol Propoxyphene

tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the stipulation period and require RESPONDENT 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. RESPONDENT 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 or failure to report for a drug screen, which may be considered the same as a positive result, will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that 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 shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

## 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 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 understand that if I fall 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) to practice mursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 17 day of July , 20 12	
_ to 20	
MARIO SAINZ OONEALEZ, Respondent	

Approved at to form and substance.

OSCAR SAN MIQUEL, Anomey for Respondent

Signed this B Hay or July 2012

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does bereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 17th day of July, 2012, by MARIO SAINZ GONZALEZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 178551, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of August, 2012...

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board