

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ REINSTATEMENT
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License \$ AGREED ORDER
Number AP111578 with Prescription \$
Authorization Number 4422 \$
& Registered Nurse License Number 595495 \$
issued to TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON

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 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422, and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, held by TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

An informal conference was conducted on January 7, 2025, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code. Petitioner was represented by Jon E. Porter, Attorney at Law.

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's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in voluntary surrendered status. Petitioner's license to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in the State of Texas with authorization as a Family Nurse Practitioner is in voluntary surrendered status with Prescription Authorization Number 4422 in inactive status.
- 4. Petitioner received an Associate Degree from Texarkana Community College, Texarkana, Texas, on May 1, 1993. Petitioner completed a Family Nurse Practitioner Program from the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, Arkansas, on December 19, 2001. Petitioner was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 22, 1993. Petitioner was licensed to practice advanced practice registered nursing in the State of

Texas with authorization as a Family Nurse Practitioner with Prescription Authorization on February 21, 2002, and was granted Prescriptive Authority in the State of Texas on March 28, 2002.

5. Petitioner's nursing employment history includes:

11/1988 – 2013	Nurse Corp	United States Navy
06/1992 - 02/2002	Staff Nurse	Wadley Regional Medical Center Texarkana, Texas
01/2000 – 02/2002	Flight Nurse	Life Net Air Ambulance Service Texarkana, Texas
2002 – 2004	Family Nurse Practitioner	Med-Select Texarkana, Texas
2004 – 10/2013	Family Nurse Practitioner	Family Medical Group of Texarkana Texarkana, Texas
10/2013 – 05/2014	Family Nurse Practitioner	Wadley Regional Medical Center Texarkana, Texas
04/2014 - 07/2022	Family Nurse Practitioner	The Knighton Center Texarkana, Texas
07/2022 - 09/2024	Sales Representative	Total Medical Supply Texarkana, Texas
10/2024 - Present	Not Employed	

- 6. On or about October 25, 2018, Petitioner's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas were Suspended with the Suspension stayed and Petitioner was placed on probation through an Order of the Board. On or about January 26, 2022, Petitioner successfully completed the terms of the Order. A copy of the October 25, 2018, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Reinstatement Agreed Order.
- 7. On or about June 6, 2022, the Board accepted the Voluntary Surrender of Petitioner's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas through an Order of the Board. A copy of the June 6, 2022, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Reinstatement Agreed Order.

- 8. On or about August 23, 2022, 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. Ninety-nine (99) letters of support.
 - B. Certificates of Completion for various classes.
 - C. Documentation of the required continuing education contact hours.
- 10. At the time of the initial incident, Petitioner was employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner and Owner of The Knighton Clinic, Texarkana, Texas, and had been in that position for three (3) years and three (3) months.
- 11. On or about July 19, 2017, July 17, 2019, and July 27, 2021, Respondent submitted an online RN Timely Renewal application to the Texas Board of Nursing in which he provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that he answered "No" to the question:

"Have you, within the past 24 months or since your last renewal, for any criminal offense, including those pending appeal:

- A. been arrested and have a pending criminal charge?
- B. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
- C. been convicted of a felony?
- D. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
- E. received deferred adjudication?
- F. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
- G. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time, or court-ordered confinement?
- H. been granted pre-trial diversion?
- I. been <u>cited</u> or charged with any violation of the law?
- J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgement/punishment/action?"

Respondent failed to disclose the following:

On or about September 28, 2009, Respondent was arrested by the Shreveport Police Department, Shreveport, Louisiana, for PUBLIC INTOXICATION.

On or about September 19, 2016, Respondent was convicted of DISTURBING THE PEACE and RESISTING AN OFFICER, both misdemeanor offenses committed on July 24, 2016, in the Bossier City Court, Bossier City, Louisiana, under Cause No. 2016-CRM-941644. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine.

On or about December 18, 2018, Respondent was charged with PUBLIC INTOXICATION, a Class C misdemeanor offense committed on December 16, 2018, in the District Court, Miller County, Arkansas, under Docket No. 201808741.

On or about December 18, 2018, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of DISORDERLY CONDUCT, a Class C misdemeanor offense committed on December 16, 2018, in the District Court, Miller County, Arkansas, under Docket No. 201808740. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

On or about December 18, 2018, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of FAILURE TO SUBMIT TO ARREST, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on December 16, 2018, in the District Court, Miller County, Arkansas, under Docket No. 201808742. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

On or about July 9, 2019, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to OPERATING A VEHICLE WHILE INTOXICATED – FIRST OFFENSE, a misdemeanor offense committed on September 30,2018, in the First judicial District Court, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, under Case No. 361613. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and he was placed on probation for a period of six (6) months, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

- 12. On or about September 21, 2020, while employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner and Owner of The Knighton Clinic, Texarkana, Texas, Respondent documented that he prescribed Clonazepam to Patient HL for anxiety, although he was restricted from prescribing controlled substances through an Order of the Board, dated October 25, 2018. Additionally, Respondent exceeded the FNP scope of practice by providing psychiatric/mental health care to Patient HL including a failure to perform and document appropriate assessments, prior to the medications being prescribed. Additionally, the documentation was inaccurate and/or incomplete related to patient education regarding all medications to be initiated and those to be discontinued and in relation to the role of the consulting and supervising APRN.
- 13. On or about August 23, 2022, Respondent submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of Licensure application to the Texas Board of Nursing in which he provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that he answered "No" to the question:

"For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:

Y/N been arrested and have a pending criminal charge?

Y/N been convicted of a misdemeanor?

Y/N been convicted of a felony?

Y/N pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?

Y/N received deferred adjudication?

Y/N been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?

Y/N been sentenced to serve jail or prison time, or court-ordered confinement?

Y/N been granted pre-trial diversion?

Y/N been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgement/punishment/action?"

Respondent failed to disclose the following:

On or about September 28, 2009, Respondent was arrested by the Shreveport Police Department, Shreveport, Louisiana, for PUBLIC INTOXICATION.

On or about September 19, 2016, Respondent was convicted of DISTURBING THE PEACE and RESISTING AN OFFICER, both misdemeanor offenses committed on July 24, 2016, in the Bossier City Court, Bossier City, Louisiana, under Cause No. 2016-CRM-941644. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine.

On or about December 18, 2018, Respondent was charged with PUBLIC INTOXICATION, a Class C misdemeanor offense committed on December 16, 2018, in the District Court, Miller County, Arkansas, under Docket No. 201808741.

On or about December 18, 2018, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of DISORDERLY CONDUCT, a Class C misdemeanor offense committed on December 16, 2018, in the District Court, Miller County, Arkansas, under Docket No. 201808740. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

On or about December 18, 2018, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of FAILURE TO SUBMIT TO ARREST, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on December 16, 2018, in the District Court, Miller County, Arkansas, under Docket No. 201808742. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

On or about July 9, 2019, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to OPERATING A VEHICLE WHILE INTOXICATED – FIRST OFFENSE, a misdemeanor offense committed on September 30,2018, in the First judicial District Court, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, under Case No. 361613. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and he was placed on probation for a period of six (6) months, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

14. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eleven (11) and Thirteen (13), Respondent states that on his application for relicensure, he did mark "yes" to being cited or charged with violations of law, and he explained that he did not have any pending charges as the Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated was discharged in 2021 through deferred sentence. Respondent states that he did not fully explain his history, but the arrests in 2009, 2016, and 2018 were not charged. Respondent further states that he failed to disclose his deferred sentence on October 4, 2019, for Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated, and he also failed to disclose the misdemeanor arrests in 2016 and 2018. Respondent states that he takes responsibility for his failure to appropriately disclose these to the Board. In response to Finding of Fact Number Twelve (12), Respondent states that he does not specifically know who Patient HL is, but he did not write any narcotics in over 5 years due to not having a DEA license. Respondent explains that in his prior case, he explained his rationale for

writing medications the way he did, and he completed lengthy courses regarding this. Respondent states that his biggest issue, as he previously explained to the Board, is that he had a hard time turning people away that needed help and his documentation was poor.

- 15. 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.
- 16. 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.
- 17. 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 Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violation(s) of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE \$217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D),(1)(F),(1)(P),(1)(T),(4)(A)&(4)(B) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE \$217.12(1)(A),(1)(B,(1)(C),(1)(E),(3),(4),(6)(H),(6)(I)&(11)(B).
- 3. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1),(2),(10)&(13)[effective through 8/31/2021], Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422, and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, heretofore issued to TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON.
- 4. This reinstatement is made pursuant to Sections 301.453(c) and 301.467, Texas Occupations Code and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26.
- 5. 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.
- 6. 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).

7. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that PETITIONER'S Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422, and any privilege(s) to practice, as applicable, shall be placed in **INACTIVE** status.

Should PETITIONER decide in the future to reactivate his license to practice advanced practice registered nursing in the State of Texas, PETITIONER SHALL be required to petition the Board for reactivation of the license and satisfy all then existing requirements for reactivation. Further, PETITIONER'S reactivated advanced practice registered nurse license SHALL BE subject to, at a minimum, the remedial education courses, work restrictions, supervised practice, and employer reporting which would have been requirements of this Order had PETITIONER not chosen to inactivate his nursing license.

II. REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSURE AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that the petition of TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON for reinstatement of license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas be **GRANTED** and Registered Nurse License Number 595495 is hereby **REINSTATED** and SHALL receive the sanction of **LIMITED LICENSE WITH STIPULATIONS** in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. While under the terms of this Order, <u>PETITIONER SHALL NOT provide</u> <u>direct patient care.</u> For the purposes of this Order, direct patient care involves the formation of a relationship between the nurse and the client, and includes, but is not limited to: teaching, counseling, assessing the client's needs and strengths, and providing skilled nursing care.
- B. While under the terms of this Order, <u>PETITIONER SHALL notify each present</u> <u>employer in nursing</u> 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, <u>PETITIONER SHALL notify all future</u> <u>employers in nursing</u> and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- C. PETITIONER SHALL submit an application for licensure renewal/reactivation, as applicable, and pay all re-registration fees, if any, and PETITIONER'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be activated and updated to current status and to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.
- D. Until successfully completed, this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to PETITIONER to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- E. Until successfully completed, this Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- F. Until successfully completed, PETITIONER may not practice nursing in the State of Texas except in accordance with the terms of this Order.
- G. As a result of this Order, PETITIONER'S license(s) will be designated "single state" as applicable and PETITIONER may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state using a Texas compact license.

III. 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.

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 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.

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. RESTORATION OF PATIENT CARE PRIVILEGES AND/OR UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

SHALL petition the Board for such approval, at which time, the PETITIONER MUST satisfy all then existing requirements for restoration of the privilege to provide direct patient care. Further, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that must be satisfied by the PETITIONER before restoration of an unencumbered license, which, at a minimum, shall include the remedial education courses, work restrictions, supervised practice, and/or

employer reporting which would have been requirements of this Reinstatement Agreed Order had the license(s) not been placed in limited status.

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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. 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. Lunderstand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sauction, including REVOCATION of my license(s) and/or nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Foxas, as a consequence of my noncompliance. I further understand that, should I decide in the future to reactivate my advanced practice registered nurse license(s). I will be required to satisfy, at a minimum, the additional requirements that would have been part of this Order had the licenso(s) not been placed in inactive status, as stated herein, as well as all then existing requirements for reactivation.

Signed this 2 day of January, 20 25
TERRY ALLEN ENIGITON PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21 day of January, 20 25.

SEAL

VICTORIA FAITH POWELL Notary Public, State of Texas

Comm. Exp.res 01-30-2027 Notary ID 134174178

Victoria Powell

Notary Public in and for the State of TX

Approved as to form and substance.

Signed this 21 day of January , 2025 .

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the 21st day of January, 2025, by TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422, and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, and said Reinstatement Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of January, 2025.

Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board



BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ER

In the Matter of	§	AGREED ORDI
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License	§	
Number AP111578 with Prescription	§	
Authorization Number 4422	§	
& Registered Nurse License Number 595495	§	
issued to TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON	_	

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422, and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10), 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 November 23, 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 professional nurse in the State of Texas is in inactive status. Respondent's license to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in the State of Texas with authorization as a Family Nurse Practitioner is in delinquent status with Prescription Authorization Number in limited status with no controlled substances prescribing permitted.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Texarkana Community College, Texarkana, Texas, on May 1, 1993. Respondent completed a Family Nurse Practitioner Program from the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, Arkansas, on December

API11578/4422/595495/0:167 Clovs 19, 2001. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 22, 1993. Respondent was licensed to practice advanced practice registered nursing in the State of Texas with authorization as a Family Nurse Practitioner with Prescription Authorization on February 21, 2002.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/1988 – 2013	Nurse Corp	United States Navy
6/1992 – 2/2002	Staff Nurse	Wadley Regional Medical Center Texarkana, Texas
1/2000 – 2/2002	Flight Nurse	Life Net Air Ambulance Service Texarkana, Texas
2002 – 2004	FNP	Med-Select Texarkana, Texas
2003 – 10/2013	FNP	Family Medical Group of Texarkana Texarkana, Texas
10/2013 - 4/2014	FNP	Wadley Regional Medical Center Texarkana, Texas
4/2014 - Present	FNP	The Knighton Center Texarkana, Texas

- 6. On or about October 25, 2018, Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas were Suspended with the Suspension stayed and Respondent was placed on probation through an Order of the Board. A copy of the October 25, 2018, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 7. On or about August 2, 2021, through September 27, 2021, while owner and operator of The Knighton Center, Texarkana, Texas, and while Respondent's license to practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner was in invalid status, Respondent submitted electronic prescriptions for non-controlled substances to Brookshire Pharmacy, New Boston, Texas, to be dispensed to thirteen (13) patients. Respondent's conduct deceived patients, their families, fellow care givers, and the public in that they believed Respondent's nursing practice was in compliance with all Board Rules and Regulations.
- 8. On or about August 18, 2021, while owner and operator of The Knighton Center, Texarkana, Texas, and while Respondent's license to practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner was in invalid status, Respondent provided care to approximately sixteen (16) patients. In addition, Respondent used the username of another Family Nurse Practitioner to chart on the patient's electronic medical record and prescribe medications to the patients.

- Respondent's conduct deceived patients, their families, fellow care givers, and the public in that they believed Respondent's nursing practice was in compliance with all Board Rules and Regulations.
- 9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states he did see patients on 18th of August. Respondent states the patients had been originally scheduled to be seen by his co-worker, but he was out of the office. Respondent states it was his intention to help the patients by talking to them and then contacting his co-worker so he could conduct a phone consult. Respondent states he was logged in to the electronic medical records system under the log in information of his co-worker for documentation purposes. Respondent states his co-worker did contact each patient and reviewed their cases and the medications prescribed to them. Respondent states he did not bill the patients for these visits.
- 10. Respondent by his signature expresses his desire to voluntary surrender the licenses.

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(6)(H).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422, and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, heretofore issued to TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON.
- 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

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422, and Registered Nurse License Number 595495 is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

- 1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice advanced practice registered nursing, use the title "advanced practice registered nurse" or the abbreviation "APRN" or wear any insignia identifying himself as an advanced practice registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is an advanced practice registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
- RESPONDENT SHALL NOT prescribe medications or use or wear any title or insignia
 identifying himself as having prescription authorization or use any designation which,
 directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT has
 prescription authorization during the period in which prescription authorization is
 surrendered.
- 3. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying himself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
- 4. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until at least one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
- 5. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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

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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 Chaday of June

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

SEAL

HANNAH J DAVIS Notary Public

Notary Public in and for the State of Tells

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 6th day of June, 2022, by TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422, and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 6^{th} day of June, 2022.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Ketherine C. Thomas

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Advanced Practice Registered
Nurse License Number AP111578 with
Prescription Authorization Number 4422
& Registered Nurse License Number 595495
issued to TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON

AGREED

ORDER



On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422 and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on May 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 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 Order.
- 3. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status. Respondent's license to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Texarkana Community College, Texarkana, Texas, on May 1, 1993; and received a Master's Degree in Nursing from the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, Arkansas, on December 19, 2001. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 22, 1993; and

was licensed to practice advanced practice registered nursing in the role of Family Nurse Practitioner in the State of Texas on February 21, 2002, and was granted Prescriptive Authority in the State of Texas on March 28, 2002.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/1988 to 2013	Nurse Corp	United States Navy
6/1992 to 2/2002	Staff Nurse	Wadley Regional Medical Center Texarkana, Texas
1/2000 to 2/2002	Flight Nurse	Life Net Air Ambulance Service Texarkana, Texas
2002 to 2004	Family Nurse Practitioner	Med-Select Texarkana, Texas
2003 to 10/2013	Family Nurse Practitioner	Family Medical Group of Texarkana Texarkana, Texas
10/2013 to 4/2014	Family Nurse Practitioner	Wadley Regional Medical Center Texarkana, Texas
4/2014 to Present	Family Nurse Practitioner	The Knighton Center Texarkana, Texas

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and owner of The Knighton Center, Texarkana, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) month.
- 7. On or about May 1, 2014 through May 5, 2016, while employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner and owner of the Knighton Center, Texarkana, Texas, Respondent's practice fell below the minimum standards of nursing practice in that Respondent failed to appropriately assess and monitor eighteen (18) chronic pain patients, and failed to document medical justification for controlled substances prescribed.
- 8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that he has altered his practice. Respondent pre-screens all patients seeking treatment for pain and/or anxiety, which includes performing checks of the Prescription Monitoring Program. Respondent states he ceased taking new patients with complaints of chronic pain and/or anxiety. Respondent states existing patients with these conditions have been referred to pain specialists and psychiatrists for consultation and treatment. Respondent states all existing patients signed controlled

substance agreements and are actively monitored. Respondent states he uses the SOAPP-R evaluation tool for patients with complaints of pain. Pain patients are a fraction of his total practice. When Respondent treats for acute pain, he states he limits the controlled substances prescribed to three (3) to five (5) days. In terms of his documentation, Respondent states he now utilizes narrative charting rather than auto-population tools used by EMRs.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
- 3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violation(s) of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §\$217.11(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(D), 217.12(4), 221.13(a), and 222.8.
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422 and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, heretofore issued to TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 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

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas

Board of Nursing, that:

- A. Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 and Registered Nurse License Number 595495 previously issued to TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, to practice nursing in Texas are hereby SUSPENDED with the suspension STAYED and Respondent is hereby placed on PROBATION, in accordance with the terms of this Order, for a minimum of two (2) years AND until Respondent fulfills the requirements of this Order.
- B. Prescription Authorization Number 4422, previously issued to TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, is LIMITED and RESPONDENT SHALL NOT prescribe or order any controlled substances. Further, RESPONDENT

SHALL surrender any existing DEA (United States Drug Enforcement Administration) Controlled Substances Registration Certificate(s) and/or any other government issued certificates or authorizations to prescribe all controlled substances, if any.

C. While under the first year [four (4) quarters] of the Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT prescribe or order the following dangerous drugs:

Gabapentin (Neurontin)
Cyclobenzaprine (Flexeril)
Metaxalone (Skelaxin)

Baclofen (Lioresal) Tizanidine (Zanaflex)

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND APPLICABILITY

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 Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 et seq., and 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" and Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state.

III. 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: http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp. Upon successful completion,

RESPONDENT must submit the course verification at the conclusion of the course, which automatically transmits the verification to the Board.

IV. 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 courses within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

- A. A 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 courses and video programs will not be approved.
- B. A Board-approved academic course in advanced practice physical assessment of at least three (3) semester credit hours, including not less than one (1) semester credit hour, or three (3) clock hours per week, of clinical practicum with a minimum passing grade of not less than "C" or "Pass" if using a "Pass/Fail" grading system. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Instruction SHALL BE provided by an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse. RESPONDENT SHALL perform physical assessments on live patients in the clinical practicum component; performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. Successful completion of this course requires RESPONDENT to successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course.
- C. 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.
- D. The "PBI Prescribing Course: Opioids, Pain Management, and

Addiction," a twenty-one (21) hour course provided by the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine and Professional Boundaries, Inc.

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 not being offered by a preapproved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

V. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

VI. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as an advanced practice registered nurse, providing direct patient care in a licensed healthcare setting, clinic, or physician's office 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 a 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: RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer, practice site and/or credentialing agency 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, practice site and/or credentialing agency in nursing within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT 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: RESPONDENT 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 Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT 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 Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. Monitored Practice: RESPONDENT'S advanced practice registered nursing must be monitored by a Physician or an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse in the same advanced role and population focus area as Respondent who has been approved by the Board. RESPONDENT MUST, within ten (10) days of entry of this Order or within (10) days of employment as an advanced practice registered nurse, provide to the Board a list of three (3) Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and/or three (3) Physicians from which the Board shall select an approved monitor. For each Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and Physician, the list must include name, license number or social security number, educational background and professional employment history. Monitoring shall commence no later than thirty (30) days following the date of Respondent's receipt of the name of the approved monitor selected by the Board. The monitor will offer guidance, advice and assistance to the RESPONDENT as necessary to ensure that deficiencies such as those set forth in this Order do not reoccur. RESPONDENT SHALL meet with the monitor at least twice a month, at least one (1) hour duration each. Meetings may be longer and more frequent if the monitor determines necessary. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- D. Chart Monitoring: While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT shall cause his delegating physician(s) to review at least 33% of the total number of the clinic's patient charts where RESPONDENT has assessed a patient or prescribed for a patient, including medication refills. A review of

the patient charts under this paragraph should be appropriately documented to enable the Board to conduct a compliance audit, as deemed necessary by the Board.

E. Nursing Performance Evaluations: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each supervising/monitoring Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician 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 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Physician who supervises/monitors the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising/monitoring 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) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

VII. RANDOM PERIODIC VISITS

RESPONDENT SHALL be subject to random periodic visits for the purposes of observation and/or inspection of records involving Respondent's clinical practice and/or discussion with Respondent's supervisor(s) about Respondent's practice. A Board representative may appear at the Respondent's place of employment at any time during the probation period to observe Respondent, inspect records, or interview supervisors.

VIII. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the 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.

IX. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S) AND/OR PRESCRIBING AUTHORIZATION

Upon successful completion of four (4) quarters of the terms of this Order, and so long as William Heath Kelley, MD, continues to serve as RESPONDENT's delegating physician, RESPONDENT may petition the Board to restore his ability to prescribe controlled substances,

subject to the following additional requirements:

- A. Upon petitioning to prescribe controlled substances, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements in addition to having completed ten (10) hours of continuing education (CE) approved by the Board that relates to diagnosis and treatment of chronic pain. The topics covered by such CE must include: risk assessment, urine drug testing, addictions, evidence based conservative treatment options, care of patients with mental health comorbidities and accidental lethal drug overdose.
- B. The Board may impose additional restrictions or stipulations to accompany the re-issuance of the RESPONDENT'S authority to prescribe controlled substances, as deemed appropriate and necessary by the Board.
- C. Should William Heath Kelley, MD, cease to serve as RESPONDENT'S delegating physician, Respondent's Prescription Authorization shall remain in LIMITED status for the remainder of the stipulation period and RESPONDENT shall not be permitted to prescribe controlled substances.

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, 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 Agreed Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 13th day of September, 2018, by TERRY ALLEN KNIGHTON, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP111578 with Prescription Authorization Number 4422 and Registered Nurse License Number 595495, and said Order is final.

Effective this 25th day of October, 2018.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board