Kristin K. Beath, DUP, RN
Executive Director
Texas Board of Nursing

Texas Board of Nursing

1801 Congress Avenue, Ste. 10-200, Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 305-7400 Fax: (512) 305-7401 www.bon.texas.gov Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN Executive Director

March 25, 2025

Certified Mail No. 9214 8901 9403 8300 0006 6277 29 Return Receipt Requested, Copy Via USPS First Class Mail

Kristie Lynn Collins 455 Ferry Dr Bridge City, TX 77611

Dear Ms. Collins:

Your Petition for Licensure Reinstatement and the supporting information related to your potential ineligibility for relicensure was considered by the Executive Director.

Pursuant to the Occupations Code Chapter 53 and §§301.257, 301.452, and 301.453, you have been found to be ineligible for reinstatement of licensure as a nurse in the State of Texas based upon the grounds discussed below. This is a final determination of licensure reinstatement denial.

Our records indicate the following:

Your Vocational Nursing license was revoked on September 13, 2016, based on:

On or about June 9, 2015, you entered a plea of Guilty and were convicted of the POSS DANGEROUS DRUGS/FUROSEMIDE, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on February 27, 2015, in the County Court at Law of Hardin County, Texas, under Cause No. 68,803. As a result of the conviction, you were sentenced to confinement in the Hardin County Jail for a period of sixty-eight (68) days and ordered to pay court costs.

On or about June 9, 2015, you entered a plea of Guilty and were convicted of the POSS DANGEROUS DRUGS/PROMETHAZINE, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on February 27, 2015, in the County Court at Law of Hardin County, Texas, under Cause No. 68,804. As a result of the conviction, you were sentenced to confinement in the Hardin County Jail for a period of sixty-eight (68) days and ordered to pay court costs.

• On or about October 10, 2024, you completed a forensic psychological evaluation performed by John K. Reid, Ph.D., Clinical and Forensic Psychology, with a polygraph examination. According to Dr. Reid, there were indications that you could benefit from psychological counseling or therapy to improve some mild to moderate psychological interpersonal problems. Test data, as well as what you reported during interviews, also was consistent with those of individuals who have

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experienced very significant and prolonged problems with substance abuse. Also, despite the acknowledged significant level of your substance abuse problem, you reported that you have not participated in any aftercare or even in support groups, other than possibly attending two NA group meetings. The polygraph examiner asked you about any illegal drug use or distribution beyond what you had reported, as well as about any other crimes. Based on your responses during the polygraph exam, testing and interview it is not possible at this time to respond to the Board's referral questions by affirming that you are unlikely to engage in problematic behaviors again. It also is not currently possible to predict with certainty that you will behave in accordance with Board Rules and standards and will avoid unprofessional behavior. It is recommended that you engage in individual psychotherapy to address the psychological issues mentioned above. If the Board were to determine that it is appropriate to give you another opportunity to practice nursing, it would be recommended that you participate in randomized drug screening for a significant period, and that you should avoid working in a position that required you to work nights.

You are subject to denial of licensure for this conduct pursuant to the following subsections of the Occupations Code §301.452(b):

- §301.452(b)(3): "a conviction for, or placement on deferred adjudication community supervision or deferred disposition for, a felony or for a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;"
- §301.452(b)(12): "lack of fitness to practice because of a mental or physical health condition that could result in injury to a patient or the public;"

Further, the Board has adopted rules, located at 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.28, including the Board's Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct, that set forth the considerations and criteria for determining the effect of criminal offenses on the eligibility of a person to obtain a license. An individual is subject to denial of licensure or to disciplinary action for a conviction for, or placement on deferred adjudication community supervision or deferred disposition for, a felony that is directly related to the practice of nursing or for a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude that is directly related to the practice of nursing. Further, the Board's Rules apply to crimes that have been adjudicated through agreement or judicial order by a state or federal criminal justice system, without re-litigation of the underlying factual basis for the agreement or judicial order. A review of your file indicates that you are ineligible for licensure based upon the factors set forth in §213.28.

The Board has determined that your criminal conviction(s) are directly related to the practice of nursing using the following factors: the nature and seriousness of the crime, the relationship of the crime to the purposes for requiring a license to engage in the occupation, the extent to which a license might offer an opportunity to engage in further criminal activity of the same type as that in which the person previously had been involved, the relationship of the crime to the ability or capacity required to perform the duties and discharge the responsibilities of the licensed occupation, and any correlation between the elements of the crime and the duties and responsibilities of the licensed occupation (as required by Occupations Code §53.022). In determining whether to take action on your directly related conviction(s), the Board has considered the following factors: the extent and nature of the your past criminal activity, your age when the crime was committed, the amount of time that has elapsed since your last criminal activity, your conduct and work activity before and after the criminal activity, evidence of your rehabilitation or rehabilitative effort while incarcerated or after release, and evidence of your fitness, including letters of recommendation (as required by Occupations Code §53.023).

The Board also requires petitioners to demonstrate their ability to consistently conform to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing

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practice; to possess good professional character; and to pose no threat to the health and safety of patients and the public. The Board has adopted a rule, located at 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.27, that sets forth the factors and disciplinary and eligibility policies and guidelines that must be used in evaluating good professional character in eligibility and disciplinary matters. Based upon the factors specified in §213.27, you have failed to provide sufficient evidence of good professional character required by §213.27.

The Board has also adopted a rule, located at 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.29, regarding fitness to practice. You have failed to provide sufficient evidence of current fitness to practice based upon the criteria set forth in this rule.

Texas Occupations Code Chapters 53 and 301, as well as the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.27 - §213.33, the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies, and the Board's Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct are hereby incorporated by reference herein and may be located on the Board's website at www.bon.texas.gov.

Please refer to Occupations Code §53.052 and Government Code Chapter 2001. Further, Occupations Code §53.026 requires the State Auditor to develop and publish a guide of best practices for applicants with prior convictions to utilize when applying for licensure. A link to the State Auditor's Office may be found at: https://www.sao.texas.gov/.

You will not be allowed to petition for reinstatement until at least one (1) year from the date of this denial and until you have satisfied any conditions outlined in your order and any requirements required by law at the time of your application.

Due to this denial, you have the right to a public hearing before an Administrative Law Judge with the State Office of Administrative Hearings. Should you decide to appeal the decision to deny you licensure, please submit a written request for a public hearing, to the attention of Office of General Counsel, 1801 Congress Avenue, Suite 10-200, Austin, Texas, 78701. Your written request to appeal this decision must be received in our office within sixty (60) days of the date of this letter. Further, if this office receives information regarding additional criminal conduct or behavior that has not been previously disclosed to or discovered by this office, please be advised that evidence of such additional criminal conduct or behavior may be used against you during the public hearing in this matter to show that you lack the good professional character and other requirements for licensure.

Further, should the decision to deny your licensure be upheld by the State Office of Administrative Hearings, you will be entitled to judicial review by filing an action in the district court of Travis County, Texas. A petition for such an action must be filed not later than the 30th day after the date the licensing authority's decision is final and appealable.

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If you have any questions, please contact Enforcement at (512) 305-6838.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN Executive Director

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