

BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING
Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson #1051
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230

IN THE MATTER OF
KATIE MELESIA LEIKAM

OAH no. 15BN0152

License No. 13-100457-032
Case No. 11-1463-3 and 14-402-3

INITIAL AGREED ORDER

NOW ON THIS 9th day of May, 2016, the Kansas State Board of Nursing, represented by Assistant Attorney General, Bryce D. Benedict, and the Respondent, Katie Melesia Leikam, by and through her counsel, Danielle Sanger, hereby enter into this agreement and proffer evidence and the hearing officer adopts those recommendations and makes the following findings of fact and orders:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent, Katie Melisia Leikam, is licensed to practice nursing in Kansas. The Board has jurisdiction over the Licensee and the subject matter of the action.
2. Respondent's address of record is 1006 Elm Street, Victoria, Kansas 67671.
3. The case was submitted to the Investigative Committee on the 15th of September, 2014.
4. Review of the investigation and other information gathered by the Board revealed the following information upon which the action is based.
5. After an investigation, the Board's investigative committee found reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent violated the Kansas Nurse Practice Act, K.S.A. 65-1120, and referred the matter for further proceedings.
6. The Kansas State Board of Nursing has the authority under K.S.A. 74-1106 et seq. to examine, license and renew license for duly qualified applicants and may limit, deny, suspend or revoke a license or authorization to practice nursing, may issue a public or private censure and

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levy administrative fines consistent with K.S.A. 74-1110, if a violation of K.S.A. 65-1120 is established.

7. By entering into the Initial Agreed Order and consenting to the entry of the Initial Order, both parties waive their right to full administrative proceedings pursuant to K.S.A. 65-1120 and K.S.A.77-501 et seq. and to judicial review.

8. Based upon the agreement, and pursuant to the disciplinary remedies available in K.S.A. 65-1120, the parties agree that the Initial Agreed Order will continue through any renewal periods of respondent's nursing license until respondent completes each of the conditions and requirements of the agreement. Further, the parties agree that in the event of a lapse of Respondent's nursing license, reinstatement of Respondent's nursing license shall be contingent upon the Initial Agreed Order remaining in effect until Respondent completes each of the conditions and requirements of the agreement.

9. Respondent has the right to a hearing with evidence and witnesses and to seek review of the findings from that hearing in accordance with the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act and the Act for Judicial Review and Civil Enforcement of agency actions. Respondent is waiving those rights and voluntarily entering into the agreement instead of proceeding to such a hearing.

10. The respondent stipulates she has violated the Kansas Nurse Practice Act, that the Board of Nursing is prepared to prove that respondent has violated the act, and stipulates to the facts and violations as stated below:

- (a) According to the report, it is alleged that while licensee was employed by Hays Medical Center, Hays, Kansas, licensee diverted dilaudid from the facility.
- (b) This incident occurred on or about the 12th day of July, 2011.
- (c) Pharmacy Director reports and licensee withdrawals that were not administered.
- (d) Licensee admitted that she had been diverting narcotics.
- (e) Licensee self referred to KNAP and was terminated from her employment.
- (f) Licensee entered into KNAP program in September 2011,

- (g) On July 31st, 2012, licensee's KNAP case was closed for non compliance.
- (h) Licensee was contacted by KSBN and licensee failed to respond on the 16th day of July, 2014.

11. Respondent has violated the Kansas Nurse Practice Act as follows:

Count 1: K.S.A. 65-1120(a)(6), unprofessional conduct, by drug diversion K.A.R. 60-3-110(n);

Count 2 K.S.A. 65-1120(a)(7), willfully and repeatedly violation provisions of the Kansas Nurse Practice Act by failing to complete the requirements of impaired provider program.

POLICY STATEMENT

12. The role of the Kansas State Board of Nursing is to protect citizens of Kansas.

DISPOSITION

13. Based upon the agreement, and pursuant to the disciplinary remedies available in K.S.A. 65-1120, the parties agree that the Respondent's license to practice nursing in Kansas will be suspended for six (6) months and this suspension will be stayed providing she is in compliance with KNAP and with the terms and conditions of this agreement.

14. The Kansas State Board of Nursing will not take additional disciplinary action against respondent's nursing license for the violations stated above as long as respondent completes each of the following conditions and requirements:

15. Licensee will participate in and complete the reasonable recommendations and requirements of the Kansas Nurses Assistance Program (KNAP); sign releases of information necessary for KNAP to evaluate and monitor licensee and for KNAP to report information to the board. Licensee will be deemed to have completed the KNAP program when KNAP issues written notification that licensee has completed the program. Respondent must enroll in the KNAP program within thirty (30) days of entering this agreement. Noncompliance with KNAP is a violation of this agreement.

16. Respondent will maintain compliance with the Kansas Nurses Assistance Program (KNAP) and follow the the recommendations and requirements. There must be a determination of licensee's safety to practice nursing. Respondent shall sign releases of information necessary for KNAP to evaluate for substance abuse and to monitor Respondent and for KNAP to report information to the Board, Attorney General's office, and Office of Administrative Hearings.

Respondent must submit to random drug screens as determined or selected by KNAP. The costs of the drug screens will be paid by the respondent. Respondent agrees that a Positive Drug Screen is a violation of the agreement.

17. Respondent shall send a money order for \$100 to the Board upon entering into the agreement to pay the cost of the action.

18. The respondent shall immediately inform all medical or health related employers and prospective employers of the Initial Agreed Order and not work in agency or unsupervised positions. "Supervised" means a supervisor must be on site with the physical ability to spot check work.

19. Respondent will Submit Reports from the respondent's employer to the attention of the Legal Division, Kansas State Board of Nursing, Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 1051, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230 on the following schedule: on the 10th day of the months of January, April, July and October, to start with the first such month after the effective date of this Order, and continuing until four (4) reports have been submitted. These reports are performance reports while in a position that requires a nursing license.

20. Respondent shall not violate the Kansas Nurse Practice Act during the duration of the agreement.

21. Respondent shall not violate the laws of the United States, of State, or of any political subdivision of any State during the term of the agreement. Traffic infractions shall not be considered violations of the law.

22. The respondent will complete two (2) hours of Continuing Nurse Education (CNE) on the topic of "Kansas Nurse Practice Act" home study available online through Via Christi, and Respondent will complete 3-6 hours of CNE on the topic of Documentation, 3-6 hours on CNE on the topic of Medication Administration, and 3-6 hours of CNE on the topic of Professional Accountability. Respondent is to submit to the KSBN Legal Department the original certificates for proof of the completion of the hours within 90 days of this agreement.

Respondent may not use these hours to meet the CNE requirements of any renewal period.

23. Respondent agrees to notify the Legal Division of any changes in address and phone number as well as all employment terminations or employer changes or additions. All such notifications shall be made in writing within fourteen (14) days of such a change.

24. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that Respondent is responsible for the costs related to satisfying the conditions and requirements of the Initial Agreed Order. Respondent further acknowledges and agrees that to provide the Board with false information regarding compliance with the Initial Agreed Order is a violation of the Initial Agreed Order.

25. If Respondent does not meet these conditions and requirements, the Kansas State Board of Nursing may request additional sanctions against Respondent's license or application for a license. Respondent would be sent notice of such action and would be entitled to a hearing as to whether Respondent had complied with the Initial Agreed Order, but Respondent could not contest the violations listed in the agreement.

26. All parties understand that if an action based on failure to meet the conditions and requirements of the Initial Agreed Order is filed, K.S.A. 77-531 requires the Notice of Hearing to be served upon the Respondent and the Respondent's attorney of record, if any. All parties agree that only serving the Notice of Hearing upon the Respondent will be proper service and it is the Respondent's responsibility to contact her attorney, if any, in reference to the action.

27. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that if any action based on failure to meet the conditions and requirements of the Initial Agreed Order is filed during the term of the Initial Agreed Order, or within 30 days after the expiration date, the conditions of the Initial Agreed Order shall continue in effect until the Board or a hearing/presiding officer designated pursuant to K.S.A. 77-514 and K.S.A. 77-526, rules on the action.
28. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that upon a finding of Respondent not complying with any of the conditions or requirements of the Initial Agreed Order the stay on the Suspension of Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Kansas will be removed from the date of said finding. Respondent will not be allowed to practice nursing in the state of Kansas during the period of suspension. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that all conditions and requirements of the Initial Agreed Order remain in effect during the period of suspension.
29. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that the Suspension will be extended due to a finding of non-compliance with any of the conditions or requirements of the Initial Agreed Order, the Suspension will not be Stayed until the Respondent has, following the prescribed time period of suspension, provided written verification to the Board that Respondent is in compliance and has remained in compliance during the period of suspension, with all conditions and requirements of the Initial Agreed Order. Upon the Respondent providing said written verification the suspension will be stayed.
30. The agreement does not prohibit the agency from taking disciplinary action against Respondent's license for any additional or cumulative violation of the Kansas Nurse Practice Act committed by the Respondent before or after the agreement is entered into.
31. The agreement is a discipline and must be reported on any future renewal or reinstatement applications. The agreement is a contract entered into by the parties to resolve an investigative case. The original of the agreement shall be placed in the Agency Record. The Agreement is a public record and will be reported to national disciplinary data banks.

32. After successful completion of all of the conditions and requirements of the Initial Agreed Order by the respondent, the Initial Agreed Order will be satisfied and the case will be inactivated.

33. By signing the Initial Agreed Order, Respondent acknowledges that Respondent has read and understands the entire document, and agrees to be bound by its terms. The Initial Agreed Order constitutes the entire agreement of the parties and may not be modified except in writing and approved by all parties. The effective date of the Initial Agreed Order is the date shown on the certificate of service.

34. The hearing/presiding officer whose signature appears below has been designated pursuant to K.S.A. 77-514 and K.S.A. 77-526 to act on behalf of the Board/agency head and to hear discipline cases on behalf of the Board/agency head and to render either initial orders or final orders, if by agreement of both parties, in those discipline cases.

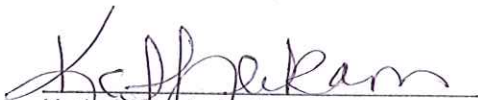
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto execute the INITIAL AGREED ORDER.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

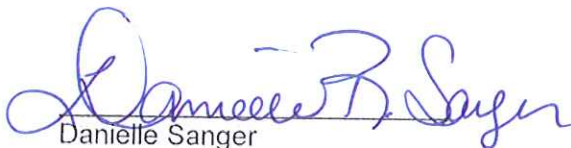


Sandra Sharon
Administrative Law Judge

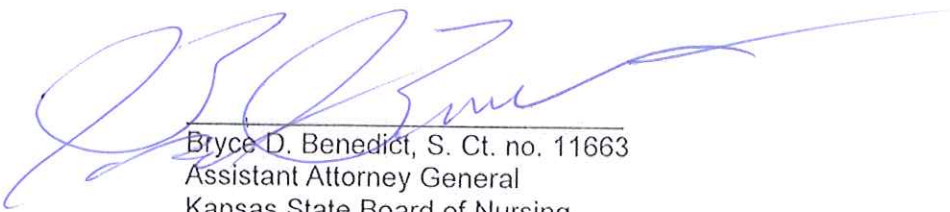
APPROVED BY:



Katie Melesia Leikam
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Victoria, Kansas 67671-9405



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Bryce D. Benedict, S. Ct. no. 11663
Assistant Attorney General
Kansas State Board of Nursing
Landon State Office Building
900 SW Jackson #1051
Topeka, KS 66612

NOTICE

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-527, either party may request a review of the initial order by filing a petition for review with the Kansas State Board of Nursing. A petition for review must be filed with 15 days from the date the final order was served. Failure to timely request a review by the Kansas State Board of Nursing may preclude further judicial review. The petition for review shall be mailed or personally delivered to: Mary Blubaugh, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, Landon State Office Building, Suite 1051, 900 SW Jackson, Topeka, KS 66612-1230.

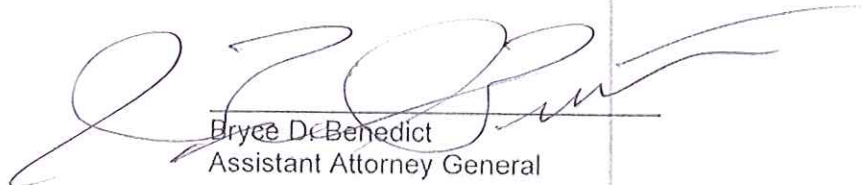
Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-531, if the final order is served by mail, three days are added to the time limits set out above.

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-530, if a request for review is not requested in the time and manner stated above, the initial order shall become effective as a final order 30 days after service.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On the 11th day of May, 2016, I mailed a copy of the INITIAL AGREED ORDER to:

Danielle Sanger
Sanger Law Office
5040 Bob Billings Parkway, Suite C-1
Lawrence, Kansas 66049



Bryce D. Benedict
Assistant Attorney General