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# BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson #1051 Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230

KSBN

IN THE MATTER OF TAMMY L. GERING

License No. 23-29050-072 Case Nos. 14-1261-9 & 15-1227-9 OAH Nos. 16BN0083 17BN0005

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEFAULT ORDER AND PROPOSED DEFAULT ORDER

This matter comes on for prehearing before the Kansas State Board of Nursing (Board/Petitioner). Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-514, Sandra L. Sharon was appointed Administrative Law Judge (ALJ)/Presiding Officer. The Board appears through Bryce D. Benedict, Disipliary Counsel for the Board. The respondent, Tammy L. Gering, failed to appear. In consideration of this matter, a Proposed Default Order is entered against respondent.

# The presiding ALJ finds as follows:

- 1. The respondent is licensed to practice nursing in Kansas.
- 2. The Petitioner, the Kansas State Board of Nursing Board, has jurisdiction over the respondent and the subject matter of this action.
- 3. On November 19, 2015 and July 29, 2016, Petitions were filed by the Board seeking revocation of the respondent's nursing license. They were sent to her at her last known address and were not returned as undeliverable.
- 4. On July 29, 2016, a Notice of Prehearing Conference was sent to the respondent. The conference was scheduled for October 25, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. The notice was not returned as undeliverable.
- 5. On October 25, 2016, a prehearing conference was convened. The Board appeared by disciplinary counsel, Bryce D. Benedict. The respondent did not appear in person or by phone.
- 6. Pursuant to Kansas Statutes Annotated (K.S.A.) 77-520(a), "[i]f a party fails to attend or participate in a prehearing conference, hearing or other

stage of an adjudicative proceeding, the presiding officer may serve upon all parties written notice of a proposed default order."

- 7. The respondent is in default pursuant to K.S.A. 77-520.
- 8. This Proposed Default Order shall become effective and deemed an initial order, seven days after service or ten days after mailing of this order unless the respondent files a written motion stating why the Proposed Default Order should be vacated and the order is then vacated. A motion to vacate shall be mailed or personally delivered to: Kansas State Board of Nursing, Legal Division, Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson, Ste. 1051, Topeka KS 66612-1230, with a copy to be mailed or personally delivered to: Sandra L. Sharon, Administrative Law Judge, Office of Administrative Hearings, 1020 S. Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612-1327.
- 9. If this Proposed Default Order becomes effective, the allegations contained in the Petition will be deemed uncontroverted and the Petition will be granted and incorporated into this order as if fully set forth herein. The respondent's license to practice nursing will be revoked. The respondent will immediately forward his or her original Kansas nursing license to the Board.
- 10. In addition, costs of the action in the amount of \$100.00 will be assessed to the respondent to be paid to the Board by cashier's check or money order within 30 days of the effective date of this order.

The presiding ALJ, being well and duly advised in the premises, now enters this Proposed Default Order against the respondent. It shall take effect as specified in the above findings.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

## Appeal Rights and Other Administrative Relief

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-520, if the proposed default order becomes effective, it is deemed an initial order, as set forth above. Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-527, either party may request review of the initial order by filing a petition for review with the Kansas State Board of Nursing within 15 days from date the order is deemed an initial order. Failure to timely request review may preclude further judicial review. Petitions for review shall be mailed or personally delivered to: Kansas State Board of Nursing, Legal Division, Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson, Ste. 1051, Topeka, KS 66612-1230.

If neither party requests review, the initial order becomes a final order and is binding on the 30th day following its mailing.

A party may seek judicial review of a final order by filing a petition for judicial review pursuant to K.S.A. 77-601, *et seq*. Reconsideration of a final order is not a prerequisite to judicial review. A copy of any petition for judicial review shall be served on Mary Blubaugh, Executive Administrator, Kansas State Board of Nursing, 900 SW Jackson, Suite 1051, Topeka, KS 66612-1230.

Sandra L. Sharon

Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

1020 S. Kansas Ave.

Topeka, KS 66612-1327

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Mary Blubaugh Executive Administrator Kansas State Board of Nursing 900 SW Jackson, LSOB, Ste. 1051 Topeka, KS 66612 Telephone: 785-296-4325

and a copy of this document through State Building Mail to:

Bryce D. Benedict Assistant Attorney General Disciplinary Counsel for the Kansas State Board of Nursing 900 SW Jackson, LSOB, Ste. 1051 Topeka, KS 66612 Telephone: 785-296-4325

and a copy of this document through first class mail to:

Tammy L. Gering 218 Green Tree Road Atchison, KS 66002

Staff Person

Office of Administrative Hearings

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#### BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson #1051 Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230

KSBN

IN THE MATTER OF Tammy L. Gering

OAH no. \_\_\_\_\_

License No. 23-29050-072 Case No. 15-1227-9

#### **PETITION**

COMES NOW the petitioner, the Kansas State Board of Nursing, by and through
Assistant Attorney General assigned to the Board, Bryce D. Benedict, and for its cause of action
states that:

- Respondent, Tammy Gering, is licensed to practice nursing in Kansas through July 31,
   The Board has jurisdiction over the respondent and the subject matter of this action.
- 2. Respondent's address of record is 218 Green Tree Road, Atchison KS 66002.
- 3. 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 et seq., and referred this matter for further proceedings.
- 4. 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 levy administrative fines consistent with K.S.A. 74-1110, if a violation of K.S.A. 65-1120(a) is established.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 5. (a) On or about July 1, 2015, while employed at Maple Heights Nursing in Hiawatha, Kansas, the respondent displayed aberrant behavior to such a degree that the employer had respondent submit to a drug test.
- (b) The drug test was positive for oxazepam and temazepam, neither of for which the respondent had a prescription.

## **VIOLATIONS**

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

K.S.A. 65-1120(a)(4), to be unable to practice with skill and safety due to current abuse of drugs or alcohol.

WHEREFORE, petitioner requests a finding that the respondent has violated the Nurse Practice Act, that respondent's license to practice nursing in Kansas be revoked, and that costs of this action be assessed to the respondent.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek Schmidt Kansas Attorney General

By:

Bryce D. Benedict, #11663
Assistant Attorney General
Kansas State Board of Nursing
Landon State Office Building
900 SW Jackson #1051
Topeka, KS 66612
(785) 295-4325

bryce.benedict@ksbn.state.ks.us

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On the day of July, 2016, I deposited a copy of this Petition with the United States Postal Service, postage pre-paid, addressed to:

Tammy Gering 218 Green Tree Road Atchison KS 66002

Bryce Benedict