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Michelle P. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Advanced Practice Registered §
Nurse License Number AP122943 §
& Registered Nurse License Number 864100 §
issued to MELISSA COX CRAIG §

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MELISSA COX CRAIG, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP122943 and Registered Nurse License Number 864100, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. 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.
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree from the University of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee on December 17, 1994, and received a Master's Degree in Nursing from the University of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, on December 1, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 4, 2014, and was licensed to practice advanced practice registered nursing in the role of Nurse Anesthetist in the State of Texas on December 5, 2012.

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(1)(B),(1)(E),(4),(5),(10)(A),(10)(D)&(11)(B).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP122943 and Registered Nurse License Number 864100, heretofore issued to MELISSA COX CRAIG, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

TERMS OF ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER** of Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License Number AP122943 and Registered Nurse License Number 864100, heretofore issued to MELISSA COX CRAIG, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of 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 herself 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.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself 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.

3. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until:
 - A. At least one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and,
 - B. RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition.
4. 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.

Effective this 19th day of April, 2018.

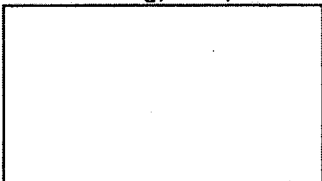
TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

By:



Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board

Melissa Craig, BSN, MSN



April 19, 2018

Ms. Artley-Jenkins,

It is with great sadness that I am in a situation which requires me to say that I would like to voluntarily surrender my RN and APRN licenses at this time. I know that you can't advise me, yet I do not like the words "formal charges" and "revoked."

I have been diagnosed with a rare health condition, [redacted] I see several specialists at UT Southwestern. [redacted]

It would not be possible for me to function as a CRNA in any manner in my current state. I have extreme difficulty doing most ADL's, writing and typing are at the top of the list. I generally use the speaker to talk on the phone since I have difficulty even attempting to hold it. I can no longer drive, so my mother has come here from Tennessee to help. It is altogether a horrible situation and losing my licenses, that I worked so hard to get, is breaking my heart.

I became a nurse in January of 1995 and a CRNA in September of 2000. I have spent 40+ hours per week for 23 years walking the halls of hospitals caring for patients. I have never had a patient complaint, in fact it was quite the opposite. Then in December of 2015, two weeks after receiving the flu vaccine, I woke up one morning and couldn't raise my arm higher than shoulder level. Initially everything was numb but over weeks the pain intensified. I am not going to tell you the entire story because it's a long one.

I did attempt to call you on March 23rd but I never received a return call, as far as I know. We live in the country and frequently miss or drop calls. I usually have one or two MD appointments each week. [redacted]

I was trying to prevent the formal charges. I am overwhelmed right now and it's so incredibly HARD to let go. The condition I have is progressive, so even though I pray that I will be able to apply for relicensure at some point, my gut feeling says it will most likely never going to happen.

I do have some questions for you. I am going to both FAX and mail this letter so if you don't mind, please give me a call, at your convenience, upon the receipt of this letter.

Thank you for your time,

Melissa Craig

Melissa Craig