SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE PROCEEDINGS

RE: HEATHER BENSON,
License Nos. R031288, CR000895
Licensee.

WHEREAS, Heather Benson, CRNA ("Licensee"), is licensed to practice as a registered nurse under license number R031288 and was previously licensed to practice as a CRNA under license number CR000895;

WHEREAS, the Board mandated Licensee participate in the South Dakota Health Professionals Assistance Program (HPAP) on December 2, 2016, and suspended Licensee’s CRNA license through a voluntary surrender consent order entered on December 16, 2016;

WHEREAS, the Board, pursuant to SDCL § 36-9-57, in its discretion may grant a petition to reinstate Licensee’s CRNA license upon a request being submitted and upon a showing of good cause;

WHEREAS, the Licensee made a reinstatement request and presented evidence of her participation and program with the South Dakota Health Professionals Assistance Program (HPAP), along with a recommendation from HPAP to grant the reinstatement with a continued mandate for Licensee to participate in HPAP; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the Licensee’s request, the statement and documents provided by the Licensee, and being fully advised in the premises,
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, by the South Dakota Board of Nursing on the 11th day of May, 2022, by a vote of [number]:

1. The Board has jurisdiction over the person of the Licensee and the subject matter of this Order.

2. The Board finds that good cause exists to reinstate Licensee’s South Dakota license to practice as a CRNA in the State of South Dakota on the condition that Licensee continue to be mandated to participate in HPAP.

3. The Board hereby mandates Licensee’s continued participation in the Health Professionals Assistance Program (HPAP).

4. All terms and conditions, including but not limited to duration of Licensee’s participation in HPAP, clearance to return to employment, and any restrictions or requirements shall be set by the HPAP, and Licensee shall fully comply with all of such terms and conditions.

5. Licensee shall pay for all costs and expenses in carrying out the terms and conditions established by HPAP.

6. If the Licensee violates and terms of this reinstatement, the Licensee agrees that the Board may take such action against Licensee’s license as the Board deems necessary, up to and including an immediate suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary action.

7. Licensee’s license number CR000895 is hereby reinstated consistent with the terms of this Order.
Dated this 2nd day of June, 2022.

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

[Signature]
Linda Young, RN, MS, FNE
Executive Director