Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

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TLALOC S. ALFEREZ, M.D. (Certificate No. 016902)
Respondent.

IN THE MATTER OF

No. 11-I-130

CONSENT ORDER FOR REPRIMAND

The above-entitled proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following the receipt of apparently reliable information which indicated that Tlaloc S. Alferez, M.D. ("Dr. Alferez"), a physician who at all times material to the facts and matters alleged herein is licensed to practice medicine in this state, became involved in pattern and practice of authorizing certain diagnostic tests that were not indicated.

Predicated upon the foregoing information, the Investigating Officer assigned by the Board with respect to this matter determined that reasonable cause existed such that a formal Administrative Complaint could be filed against Dr. Alferez, charging her with violations of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(14).

On her behalf, Dr. Alferez represents that she can provide a justification for the tests performed, however, it appears that certain tests were ordered without Dr. Alferez's knowledge and appear to have been generated from a business relationship from which Dr. Alferez is no longer associated.

As evidenced by her subscription to this Order, Dr. Alferez acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgment, and the reported information, could provide the Investigating Officer with probable cause to pursue formal administrative proceedings against her for violation of the Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§37:1285(A)(14), respectively and, further, that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing would establish grounds under the Act for the suspension, revocation or imposition of such other

Pursuant to La. R.S. §37:1285A(4), the Board may suspend, revoke, or impose probation or other restrictions on the license of an individual licensed to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana as a result of: (14) Continuing or recurring medical practice which fails to satisfy the prevailing and usually accepted standards of medical practice in this state

terms, conditions or restrictions on her license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana as the Board might deem appropriate.

Recognizing her right to have administrative adjudication of such charges, at which time she would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence on her own behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made and to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§49:955-965, Dr. Alferez, nonetheless, hereby waives her right to notice of charges, formal adjudication and written decision and pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D) consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Moreover, by her subscription hereto, Dr. Alferez also waives any right to which she may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act. La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951, et seq. or which otherwise may be afforded to her by law to contest her agreement to or the force and effect of this document in any court or other forum or body relating to the matters referred to herein. By her subscription hereto, Dr. Alferez also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto to present this Consent Order to the Board for its consideration and to fully disclose to and discuss with the Board the nature and results of the investigation and she waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Furthermore, Dr. Alferez expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to pursue an Administrative Complaint against her or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such Complaint should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order.

Based upon the information provided, the Board has concluded that the public interest would be properly protected and served by allowing Dr. Alferez to maintain her license subject to appropriate specified terms, conditions and restrictions. In consideration of this finding, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Investigating Officer, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to insure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter by consent. Accordingly, in consideration of the foregoing, and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285 and La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D);

IT IS ORDERED that Tlaloc S. Alferez, M.D. is hereby issued an OFFICIAL REPRIMAND and that Dr. Alferez's license to practice medicine and her continuing exercise of the rights and privileges granted to her thereby, shall be subject to her acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms and conditions:

- (1) Payment of Fine. Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Order Dr. Alferez shall pay to the Board a fine in the amount of One Thousand and no/100 (\$1,000.00) Dollars.
- (2) Attendance at Approved Seminar/Course on Professionalism and Medical Ethics. Within one hundred eighty days (180) of issuance of his order, Dr. Alferez shall provide written confirmation that she has attended and successfully completed one or more courses of study, acceptable to and pre-approved in writing by the Board, in the area of professionalism

and medical ethics. All courses required by this provision shall be comprehensive in nature (greater than 20 credit hours) and shall be acceptable to and pre-approved in writing by the Board or its designee.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions set forth by this Order by Dr. Alferez shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such other action against Dr. Alferez's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record.

> LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

> > By: MELVIN G. BOURGEOIS, M.D.

President

Acknowledgement and Consent Follows on Next Page

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSENT

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STATE OF
COUNTY/PARISH OF
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The Con Same will
TLALOC S. ALFEREZ, M.D.
witnesses:
Signature Signature Martine Z
Signature
Helly Vinet MARYE MARTINEZ
Printed Name
Address Address Address Address Active St. Andrew St. 4000 Wichers Nr. 4200 Address Address
Address Address
N.C. LA Paris Thank Laciona
City, State, Zip Code City, State, Zip Code
Sworn to and subscribed before me at NOW Ollecis (State)
(City) (State)
this day of, 2012, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.
TRACY A. SALVAGGIO
Notary Public (Signature & Seal) State of Louisiana
My Commission is issued for life.
Printed Name/Notary Number (or Stamp)