

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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**In The Matter Of**

**No. 14-I-967**

**JUDY COMBS LIMBAUGH, M.D.**  
(Certificate No. MD.08783R)  
*Respondent*

**CONSENT ORDER  
FOR PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

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An investigation was undertaken by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") of Judy Combs Limbaugh, M.D. (Certificate No. MD.08783R), a physician who at all pertinent times was licensed to practice medicine in Louisiana, following the receipt of apparently reliable information indicating that while serving as Medical Director at Renaissance RX laboratory in New Orleans, LA, she allowed individuals, who were otherwise eligible for licensure, to engage in the practice of clinical laboratory practice prior to obtaining proper licenses by the Board. During the course of the investigation, the Investigating Officer ("I/O") for the Board met with Dr. Limbaugh to discuss the physician's role in directing a clinical laboratory, and the Board's law and rules which requires that all persons engaged in the practice of clinical laboratory science be appropriately licensed by the Board, specifically, Louisiana Clinical Laboratory Personnel Practice Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§37:1311 *et. seq.*<sup>1</sup>

In connection with this matter Dr. Limbaugh, who cooperated fully with the investigation, acknowledged that by not implementing measures to ensure proper licensure of individuals practicing clinical laboratory science at this laboratory, she violated the laws administered by the Board.<sup>2</sup> However, in her defense, Dr. Limbaugh stated that she was unaware that the individuals were not licensed and she had been assured by the laboratory manager that the facility was in compliance with all regulations. She offered that she believed that she was only serving as a part-time medical consultant and that other persons in the organization provided the operational direction for the laboratory. She submitted that the violation was not intentional on her part. She has now ceased practicing in Louisiana and has declared her intention to only serve as medical director in laboratories where she is working on-site.

While it appears to the I/O that Dr. Limbaugh is a conscientious and well-trained physician, the I/O's review and analysis of the matter implicates a violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§37:1285.A. (13) and (18).

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1318. 'Licensure and certification. . . A. Effective January 1, 1995, no individual shall act as, or perform the duties of a clinical laboratory scientist-generalist, clinical laboratory scientist-specialist, clinical laboratory scientist-technician, laboratory assistant or cytotechnologist unless that individual possesses a current license issued pursuant to this Part . . . no individual shall act as or perform the duties of a phlebotomist unless that individual possesses a current certificate issued pursuant to this Part . . .'

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285.A. the Board may take action against the license of a physician as a result of (13) 'Unprofessional conduct'; and (18)... 'having professional connection with or lending or lending one's name to an illegal practitioner.'

Recognizing her right to have notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be filed in this matter, 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. §§49:951, *et seq.*, Dr. Limbaugh nonetheless, hereby waives her right to notice and formal adjudication and pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. By her subscription hereto, Dr. Limbaugh also acknowledges that she 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 relating to the matters referred to herein. By her subscription hereto, Dr. Limbaugh also hereby authorizes the I/O 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. Dr. Limbaugh expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of information to the Board by the I/O shall be without prejudice to the I/O's authority to pursue formal administrative charges against her or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such charges should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order.

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 Judy Combs Limbaugh, M.D., is hereby **OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED**;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that within six (6) months from the effective date of this Order Dr. Limbaugh shall pay the Board a fine in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5000.00).

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms or conditions set forth by this Order by Dr. Limbaugh shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such action against Dr. Limbaugh's license to practice medicine in this state as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violation 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.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By:

  
MARK HENRY DAWSON, M.D.  
**PRESIDENT**

STATE OF Florida  
PARISH/COUNTY OF Duval

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
AND CONSENT**

I, JUDY COMBS LIMBAUGH, M.D., hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to  
entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2015.

[Signature]  
JUDY COMBS LIMBAUGH, M.D.

**WITNESSES:**

[Signature]  
Signature

Larry Bailey  
Printed Name

2209 Thomas Dr  
Address

PC, FL 32408  
City/State/Zip Code

[Signature]  
Signature

Cassie Dortch  
Printed Name

2209 Thomas Dr  
Address

PC, FL 32408  
City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Tallahassee, Florida, this 9 day of  
Jan, 2015, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

[Signature]  
Notary Public (Signature)

Print name Stacey Forker

Bar/Notary No.: EE872611

