

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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## IN THE MATTER OF:

**LAURA ANN WAPLES, ATH**  
*Applicant*

**No. 15-I-331**

**CONSENT ORDER FOR  
ISSUANCE OF LICENSE WITH  
REPRIMAND**

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The above-entitled proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following receipt of Laura Ann Waples' application for licensure by the Board to practice as an athletic trainer ("ATH") in this state. While it appears from information available as supplied by Ms. Waples' application and otherwise that she is generally qualified for issuance of such licensure, as acknowledged by her in her application, she reported that she has been working as an athletic trainer in Louisiana since August 2014 without Board licensure.

In connection with this matter, Ms. Waples submitted a written statement to the Investigating Officer of the Board (the "I/O"), explaining that she had been working in an outreach program for a private religious high school in Louisiana and she thought that to practice as an athletic trainer in this state, she only needed national certification by the Board of Certification, Inc. ("BOC"), and membership in the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) and Louisiana Athletic Trainers' Association (LATA). In December 2014, when she was informed of the revised Louisiana Athletic Trainers Law (the "Law"), she immediately began the licensure application process. Ms. Waples has now stopped practicing as an athletic trainer, has acknowledged that her understanding was in error, and has accepted her responsibility to understand and comply with all laws and regulations regarding licensure in this state.

As evidenced by her subscription to this Order Ms. Waples acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgment and information could provide the Board with sufficient cause to deny her application pursuant to the Law and/or the Board's rules respecting athletic trainers.

Investigation of the captioned matter was assigned to the I/O for the Board. While it appears to the I/O that Ms. Waples is a conscientious and well-trained athletic trainer, the I/O's review and analysis of the matter confirms to her satisfaction that the actions identified hereinabove may implicate one or more violations of the Law, and/or the Board's rules respecting athletic trainers.<sup>1</sup>

Recognizing her right to have notice of such allegations and charges asserted against her, to 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. §§49:951 *et. seq.*, Ms. Waples, nonetheless, hereby waives her right to notice of charges and formal adjudication and pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D) consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Ms. Waples further acknowledges and 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 Ms. Waples 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. Ms. Waples 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 file a formal 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 foregoing information, as well as the recommendation of the I/O, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:3303, 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. §37:3303 and La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D);

**IT IS ORDERED** that Laura Ann Waples is hereby **OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED** for the conduct asserted hereinabove.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that licensure to practice as an athletic trainer in the state of Louisiana shall be issued to Laura Ann Waples.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that within six (6) months of the date of this Order Ms. Waples shall pay the Board a fine in the amount of Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars, which represents the licensure fee for the past year, plus a penalty of an equal amount.

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<sup>1</sup> La. Rev. Stat. §37:3305.1, 3308.1; La. Adm. C. 46XLV.5709.

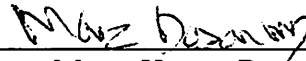
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any violation or failure of strict compliance with this Order by Ms. Waples shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such disciplinary action as the Board deems appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. Rev. Stat. §37:3308.1

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

Signed in New Orleans, Louisiana, and effective this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July 2015.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF  
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

BY:



MARK HENRY DAWSON, M.D.  
President

*Acknowledgement and Consent  
on Following Page*

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on Following Page*

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF Orleans

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
AND CONSENT**

I, LAURA ANN WAPLES, ATH APPLICANT, hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 2 day of June, 2015.

[Signature]  
LAURA ANN WAPLES, ATH APPLICANT

WITNESSES:

[Signature]  
Signature

Karen Murphy  
Printed Name

504 St. Andrew St.  
Address

NOLA 70130  
City/State/Zip Code

[Signature]  
Signature

Seguile Paul  
Printed Name

504 St. Andrew St.  
Address

NOLA 70130  
City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me at New Orleans, Louisiana this 2nd day of June, 2015, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

[Signature]  
Notary Public (Signature) and Seal

John D. Murphy III 87713  
Notary (Printed Name) & Bar/Notary No.

