

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

www.lsbme.la.gov



Telephone: (504) 568-6820

FAX: (504) 568-8893

Writer's Direct Dial:

(504) _____

In The Matter Of

No. 15-I-959

PATRICIA E. THORN, POLY-TECH
Applicant:

CONSENT ORDER FOR
ISSUANCE OF POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC
TECHNOLOGIST LICENSE WITH
OFFICIAL REPRIMAND

This matter is before the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") on the application of Patricia E. Thorn, ("Ms. Thorn") for issuance of a polysomnographic technologist license. While it appears from information available as supplied by Ms. Thorn's application and otherwise that she is generally qualified for issuance of such license, as acknowledged by her in her application, she reported that she has worked as a polysomnographic technologist in this state without a permit or license.

On her own behalf, Ms. Thorn advised the Board that she had worked at Sleep Rite in Metairie for a number of years remotely scoring sleep studies while she lived in Florida. On her own behalf, Ms. Thorn explained that she thought this activity was not the practice of polysomnography. When informed of her misunderstanding, she immediately began the application process for licensure in Louisiana, and voluntarily stopped this practice of polysomnography. Ms. Thorn had passed the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists ("BRPT") examination in 1999, which is currently active through 2017. Ms. Thorn has now acknowledged that her prior understanding was in error, and she has accepted her responsibility to understand and comply with all rules and regulations regarding licensure in this state.

As evidenced by her subscription to this Order Ms. Thorn 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 respecting polysomnographic technologists.¹

Investigation of the captioned matter was assigned to the Investigating Officer of the Board (the "I/O"). While it appears to the I/O that Ms. Thorn is a conscientious and well-trained polysomnographic technologist, the I/O's review and analysis of the matter confirms *to her* satisfaction that sufficient cause exists to charge Ms. Thorn with one or more *violations* of the

¹La. Rev. Stat. §37:2867, 2870.

Polysomnographic Practice Act ("the Law"), La. R.S. §§37:2870 and 37:2867.

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. Thorn, 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. Thorn 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. Thorn 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. Thorn 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. §37:2863, 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. §37:2867 and La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D);

IT IS ORDERED that Patricia E. Thorn is hereby **OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED** for the conduct asserted hereinabove.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a license to practice as a polysomnographic technologist in the state of Louisiana shall be issued to Patricia E. Thorn.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within twelve (12) months of the date of this Order Ms. Thorn shall pay the Board a fine in the amount of Fifteen Hundred (\$1500.00) Dollars, which represents the licensure fees for ten (10) years, plus a penalty of an equal amount.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with this Order by Ms. Thorn 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. §37:2867.

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 11th day of JAN.
2016.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

BY: 

J. MICHAEL BURDINE, M. D.
President

*Acknowledgement and Consent
on Following Page*

*Acknowledgement and Consent
on Following Page*

*Acknowledgement and Consent
on Following Page*

*Acknowledgement and Consent
on Following Page*

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF Lincoln

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

I, PATRICIA E. THORN, hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 24 day of November, 2015.

Patricia E. Thorn

PATRICIA E. THORN, POLYTECH APPLICANT

[Signature]

Signature

Rebaya P. Thorn

Printed Name

232 Wesley Dr

Address

Ruston LA 71270

City, State, Zip Code

WITNESSES:

[Signature]

Signature

Rebaya P. Thorn

Printed Name

232 Wesley Dr

Address

Ruston LA 71270

City, State, Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Lincoln Parish, Louisiana this 24th day of November, 2015, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

[Signature]

Notary Public (Signature)

Lindsay Tomlinson 135521

Notary (Printed Name) & Bar/Notary No.