

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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In the Matter of:

PETER ANDREW ZIMMERMAN, M.D.
(Certificate No. 14875R)
Respondent

No. 16-I-377

**CONSENT ORDER
FOR REPRIMAND**

An investigation was initiated on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") by its Investigating Officer (the "I/O") of Peter Andrew Zimmerman, M.D. ("Dr. Zimmerman"), a physician licensed to practice medicine in this state and at all times pertinent engaged in the practice of interventional pain management at several clinics in this state.

An investigation of Dr. Zimmerman's practice was prompted by the receipt of report from the National Practitioners Data Bank (NPDB) indicating that Dr. Zimmerman had settled a malpractice case after one of his patients died as a result of a complication from a procedure he performed in 2012. In this instance, it was the opinion of the Medical Review Panel that Dr. Zimmerman did not practice in accordance with the prevailing standard of care in that the procedure was performed in a setting that did not have adequate monitoring and resuscitative equipment.

On his own behalf, Dr. Zimmerman stated that the equipment available was consistent with his training in physical medicine and rehabilitation and his fellowship and practice in interventional pain management. He further advised that the patient failed to disclose that she had eaten on the morning prior to the procedure. Nevertheless, Dr. Zimmerman reported that since this incident he has made changes in his practice, including providing fully equipped crash carts at all locations where he performs procedures and employing RN's and CRNA's to provide monitoring.

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, but without admitting any violation of the Act or the Board's rules, Dr. Zimmerman acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgement and the information obtained in the investigation would provide the I/O herein with a lawful basis to initiate formal administrative proceedings against him for violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, constituting cause for such action

against the physician's license to practice medicine in this state as the Board may deem appropriate, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A (14) and (13).¹

Recognizing his right to written notification of any charges that may be asserted against him as a result of this investigation, as well as the right to administrative adjudication of such charges, at which time he would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence 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. Zimmerman, nonetheless, hereby waives his rights to notice, formal adjudication and written decision and, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Dr. Zimmerman also acknowledges that he hereby waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951 *et seq.*, or to which he otherwise may be afforded by any law to contest his agreement to or the force and effect of the Board's investigation or this document in any court or other forum. Moreover, by his subscription hereto Dr. Zimmerman authorizes the I/O 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 he waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Dr. Zimmerman expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of such information to the Board by the I/O shall be without prejudice to the I/O's authority to proceed with the filing and adjudication of any administrative charges that may subsequently be filed in this matter against him, 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 recommendation of the I/O assigned to this matter, and considering Dr. Zimmerman's representations, 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 Peter Andrew Zimmerman, M.D is hereby *officially reprimanded* for the conduct described hereinabove.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Zimmerman shall, within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Order, pay to the Board a fine in the amount of One Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within one hundred eighty days (180) of effective date of this order, Dr. Zimmerman shall provide written confirmation that he has attended and successfully completed one or more courses of study, acceptable to and pre-approved in writing by the Board, in clinical issues related to this incident. All courses required by this provision

¹Pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A, the Board may take action against a physician's license as a result of: '(14) Medical incompetency, including but not limited to, incompetency manifested by continuing or recurring medical practice which fails to satisfy the prevailing and usually accepted standards of medical practice in this state;' and '(13) Unprofessional conduct'.

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 this Order by Dr. Zimmerman shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such further action 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.

Signed in New Orleans, Louisiana, and effective this 13th day of Feb., 2017.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

BY: K. Barton Farris, M.D.
K. Barton Farris, M. D.
Vice President

*Acknowledgment and Consent
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STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF JEFFERSON


**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

I, **PETER ANDREW ZIMMERMAN, M.D.**, hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 3rd day of FEBRUARY, 2017.




PETER ANDREW ZIMMERMAN, M.D.

WITNESSES:



Signature



Signature

Brandy Barber

Printed Name

TERESSA LEMOINE

Printed Name


8558 Jefferson Hwy.

Address Baton Rouge, LA 70809

11040 Burgess Ave #15

Address DENHAM SPRINGS LA 70724

Sworn to and subscribed before me at East Baton Rouge, Louisiana this 3rd day of February, 2017, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.



Notary Public (Signature)

Halley S. Carter bar No. 34755

Printed Name/Notary or Bar Number