

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 30250, New Orleans, LA 70190-0250
www.lsbme.la.gov



Telephone: (504) 568-6820
FAX: (504) 568-8893
Writer's Direct Dial:

(504) _____

In the Matter of:

No. 17-I-537

MICHAEL WESLEY DRIGGS, ATH
(Certificate No. *ATH.200048*)
Respondent

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

The above-entitled proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following receipt of Michael Wesley Driggs application for reinstatement of license by the Board to practice as an athletic trainer ("ATH") in this state. Mr. Driggs was first licensed in Louisiana as an athletic trainer ("ATH") in December 2006 and has practiced in Louisiana continuously since that time; however, he failed to timely renew his license in 2014. While it appears from information available as supplied by Mr. Driggs' application and otherwise that he is generally qualified for issuance of such licensure, as acknowledged by him in his application, he reported that he has been working as an athletic trainer in Louisiana since June 2014 without a state license.

In connection with this matter, Mr. Driggs submitted a written statement to the Investigating Officer of the Board (the "I/O"), explaining that although he annually pays his National Athletic Trainers' Association ("NATA") membership dues, he mistakenly failed to submit a separate renewal form and fee for his state license. Mr. Driggs now acknowledges that his state license must be renewed annually, has cooperated with this investigation, and has accepted his responsibility to understand and comply with all laws and regulations regarding licensure in this state.

As evidenced by his subscription to this Order Mr. Driggs acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgment and information could provide the Board with sufficient cause to deny his reinstatement 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 Mr. Driggs is a 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.¹

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

Recognizing his right to have notice of such allegations and charges asserted against him, 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 on his 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.*, Mr. Driggs, nonetheless, hereby waives his 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. Mr. Driggs further acknowledges and waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951 *et. seq.*, or which otherwise may be afforded to him by law to contest his agreement to or the force and effect of this document in any court or other forum relating to the matters referred to herein. By his subscription hereto Mr. Driggs 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 he waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Mr. Driggs 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 him 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 Michael Wesley Driggs 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 Michael Wesley Driggs.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within six (6) months of the date of this Order Michael Wesley Driggs shall pay the Board a fine in the amount of Six Hundred (\$600.00) Dollars, which represents the licensure fee for the past three years, plus a penalty of an equal amount.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with this Order by Mr. Driggs 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

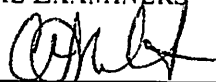
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to

be, a public record.

Signed in New Orleans, Louisiana, and effective this 18th day of September
2017.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

BY:



CHRISTY L. VALENTINE, 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 St. Landry

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

I, MICHAEL WESLEY DRIGGS, ATH APPLICANT, hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 11 day of Sept, 2017.

Michael Wesley Driggs
MICHAEL WESLEY DRIGGS, ATH APPLICANT

WITNESSES:

Kayla Duplechin
Signature

Kayla Duplechin
Printed Name

1230 Duck Avenue
Address

Eunice, LA 70535
City/State/Zip Code

Lorinda Guillory
Signature

Lorinda Guillory
Printed Name

129 Aquilla Dr.
Address

Eunice, LA 70535
City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Eunice, Louisiana, this

11 day of September, 2017, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

Randall J. Vise 46022
Notary Public (Signature) and Seal

Randall J. Vise
Notary (Printed Name) & Bar/Notary No.