LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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In The Matter Of

RICKY LAWAYNE OWERS, M.D.

(Certificate No. MD. 201645),

Respondent.

No. 18-I-096

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF MEDICAL LICENSE

This *Stipulation and Agreement* is made by Ricky Lawayne Owers, M.D. ("Dr. Owers"), a physician licensed as of the date hereof to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, and at all times pertinent engaged in practice in the state of Louisiana, with and in favor of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board").

- 1. Acknowledgment and Stipulations. Dr. Owers hereby acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that:
 - (a) An investigation was initiated in 2018 following the Board's receipt of information indicating that

Dr. Owers' employment arrangement was terminated with a Louisiana hospital following his submission to an alcohol screen which tested positive at while at work.

- (b) Dr. Owers was referred to the Healthcare Professionals' Foundation of Louisiana ("HPFL") and thereafter submitted to a three day evaluation at a facility approved by the Board. At the conclusion of his evaluation, the evaluating professionals diagnosed Dr. Owers with a condition that impaired his ability to practice medicine with skill and safety recommended, among other items, inpatient treatment and a monitoring agreement with the HPFL
 - (b) Dr. Owers has failed to undergo recommended treatment for his condition or to enroll in the HPFL.
 - (c) Investigation of the captioned matter was assigned to the Director of Investigations for the Board, whose review and analysis has confirmed to his satisfaction that just cause exists for recommending that a formal Administrative Complaint be filed charging Dr. Owers with violations of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), La. Rev. Stat

§37:1285 A(5), (13) and (25)1

- (d) Pursuant to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§37:1261, et. seq., and the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951 et. seq., Dr. Owers would be entitled, prior to final disciplinary action against his medical license, to have notice of the allegations and charges asserted against him, and to administrative adjudication of such charges, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§ 49:955-958. At such hearing, Dr. Owers would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to have those charges proved against by evidence, to appear and confront adverse witnesses, to call witnesses and present evidence on his own behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made, to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§49:955-965, and to any other right to which he may be afforded by the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951 et seq., or otherwise.
- 2. Voluntary Surrender of License. Notwithstanding his right to notice of formal charges, administrative hearing and a decision thereon, as provided by La. Rev. Stat. §49:951 et. seq., in recognition of the stipulations set forth hereinabove toward final disposition of the investigation now pending in this matter and in lieu of the institution and prosecution of formal administrative proceedings, Dr. Owers, nonetheless, acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the information received by the Investigating Officer in this matter and hereby waives his right to notice of charges and formal adjudication and voluntarily surrenders to the Board, for cancellation, his license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. MD. 201645. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Owers also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto to present this Stipulation and Agreement for Voluntary Surrender of Medical License 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.
- 3. Effect of Voluntary Surrender of License. Dr. Owers acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that the voluntary surrender of his medical license affected hereby in the presence of an administrative investigation shall have, and shall be deemed by the Board to have, the same effect as if the Board had entered an order of revocation upon the conclusion of formal administrative proceedings. Dr. Owers further acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that as a result of the voluntary surrender of his medical license affected hereby he shall not have any right or entitlement to reinstatement or renewal of his license to practice medicine in the state of

¹The Board may take action against the license of a physician as a result of La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A:(5) '[H]abitual or recurring abuse of drugs, including alcohol, which affect the central nervous system and which are capable of inducing physiological or psychological dependence;' (13) Unprofessional conduct. Including but not limited to . . . practicing or enabling practicing by an impaired provide; (25) '[I]nability to practice medicine with reasonable skill or safety to patients because of mental illness or deficiency; physical illness, including but not limited to deterioration through the aging process or loss of motor skills; and/or excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol.

Louisiana, nor shall he hereafter be entitled to apply for or otherwise attempt to obtain any original, reinstated or renewed license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana.

- 4. Termination of Proceedings. By the voluntary surrender of his medical license, and the attendant dismissal of the investigation occasioned hereby Dr. Owers, moreover, acknowledges, stipulates and agrees 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 otherwise may be afforded to him by any law, to contest his agreement to, or the force and effect of this document in any court or other forum relating to the stipulations, agreements, acknowledgments and other matters referred to herein.
- 5. Advice of Counsel. Dr. Owers acknowledges that he has had the opportunity to seek the advice and guidance of legal counsel with respect to this Stipulation and that all of the terms, conditions, restrictions and limitations contained herein have been explained to him and/or that he fully understands them.
- 6. *Public Record*. Dr. Owers acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that this Stipulation and Agreement for Voluntary Surrender of Medical License shall be, and shall be deemed, to be a **PUBLIC RECORD**.

Stipulation and Agreement Follows

Notary or Bar Number (or Stamp)

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

PARISH/COUNTY OF LADDO			
I, RICKY LAWAYNE OWERS, M.D., hereboonsent to entry of the above and foregoing Stipul of Medical License, without duress and of my own	٠ ١٠		
Nathan Fallett Signature WITNESS	SES: M. Wurphy Signature		
Haitlyn Balliett Printed Name 1051 E 70th St Shrewfort LA 7105 Address	Wragan Murphy Printed Name [1051 & 7051 87. Shreuport, 14 71105 Address		
Sworn to and subscribed before me at (City) State Local (State) Local And Stated witnesses. Sworn to and subscribed before me at (City) State of the two stated witnesses. Sworn to and subscribed before me at (City) State of the two stated witnesses.			
Printed Name NOTARY PUBLIC - LOUISIANA CADDO - BOSSIER PARISH NOTARY ID NUMBER 056297 My Commission Is For Life			

ACCEPTANCE

CONSIDERING THE ABO	OVE AND FOREGOING, the Stipulation and Agreement for
Voluntary Surrender of Medical	License is nereby APPROVED AND ACCEPTED by the
Louisiana State Board of Medical	Examiners, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on this 39+
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LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

CHRISTY L. VALENTINE, M.D.

President