

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
www.lsbme.la.gov



BEFORE THE
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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Writers Direct Dial:

(504) _____

IN THE MATTER OF:

CHRIS ALLEN AUTHEMENT, M.D.
(Credential No. MD.020808),
Respondent

No. 2021-I-551

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT FOR
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF MEDICAL
LICENSE

This *Stipulation and Agreement* is made by Chris Allen Authement, M.D. ("Dr. Authement"), a physician who was licensed and engaged in the practice of emergency medicine in and around Houma, Louisiana, with the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board").

1. *Acknowledgment and Stipulations.* Dr. Authement hereby acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that:

- (a) A preliminary review was initiated by the Board upon learning from the National Practitioner Data Bank ("NPDB") that Dr. Authement had settled a medical malpractice case in which he was accused of failure to properly diagnose and treat a patient. The preliminary review was assigned to the Director of Investigations (the "Investigating Officer").
- (b) During the preliminary review, Dr. Authement informed the Board of five (5) previous cases from 2004–2016 that had been settled and closed in which a Medical Review Panel ("MRP") also had found that he had failed to meet the standard of care. Dr. Authement also disclosed a currently pending case in which a MRP stated Dr. Authement "may have" breached the standard of care.
- (c) Dr. Authement was mailed a notice of formal investigation on October 26, 2021.
- (d) The Investigating Officer's review confirmed that just cause would exist for recommending that a formal Administrative Complaint be filed charging Dr. Authement with violations of La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(14).¹

¹ Under La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(14), the Board may take action against the license of a physician based on "[m]edical incompetency, including but not limited to, incompetency manifested by

- (e) Throughout this administrative process, however, Dr. Authement has cooperated with the Investigating Officer, including by providing the Board with written explanations of the circumstances of the malpractice claims against him and meeting with the Investigating Officer.
- (f) Although formal charges have not yet been filed, Dr. Authement has stated his intention to retire from the practice of medicine and that he has no further desire to retain a medical license or otherwise practice medicine in Louisiana. Accordingly, without admitting to the allegations raised in the formal investigation, he would prefer to resolve these proceedings through a stipulation for voluntary surrender of his medical license rather than undertaking an administrative hearing.
- (g) In recognition of Dr. Authement's cooperation throughout these administrative proceedings, the Investigating Officer concurs that Dr. Authement should be permitted to voluntarily surrender his license.
- (h) Pursuant to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, La. R.S. 37:1261 *et. seq.*, and the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:951 *et. seq.*, Dr. Authement would be entitled, prior to final disciplinary action against his medical license, to an administrative adjudication of such charges, pursuant to La. R.S. 49:955–958. At such hearing, Dr. Authement would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to have those charges proved against him 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. R.S. 49:958, and to any other right to which he may be afforded by the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:951 *et seq.* or otherwise.

2. *Voluntary Surrender of License.* Notwithstanding his right to an administrative hearing and a decision thereon, as provided by La. R.S. 49:951 *et. seq.*, in recognition of the stipulations set forth hereinabove toward final disposition of the pending formal investigation, Dr. Authement, nonetheless, acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and hereby waives his right to 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.020808. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Authement 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. R.S. 49:960.

continuing or recurring medical practice which fails to satisfy the prevailing and usually accepted standards of medical practice in this state.”

3. *Effect of Voluntary Surrender of License.* Dr. Authement 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. Further, Dr. Authement acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that reinstatement of such license shall be at the sole discretion of the Board and upon whatever probationary terms, conditions and restrictions that it may then determine to be appropriate. In addition, Dr. Authement acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that no request for reinstatement shall be considered by the Board until and unless he has: (i) attended a meeting at the Board office with the Director of Investigations; (ii) successfully completed all recommendations by the Director of Investigations to demonstrate to the Board that he is competent to return to the practice of medicine with reasonable skill and safety; and (iii) otherwise complied with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements for the reinstatement of an expired license. *See, e.g., La. R.S. 37:1280; 37:1281(A)(3)(c); La. Admin. Code tit. 46, Pt. XLV, § 419.*

4. *Termination of Proceedings.* By the voluntary surrender of his medical license, and the attendant dismissal of the proceedings occasioned hereby, Dr. Authement, 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. R.S. 49:951 *et. seq.* or 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. Authement acknowledges that he has had the opportunity to seek the advice and guidance of legal counsel with respect to this Stipulation and Agreement for Voluntary Surrender of Medical License 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. Authement 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**.

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**STIPULATION
AND AGREEMENT**

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF Lafayette

I, CHRIS ALLEN AUTHEMENT, M.D., hereby acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to seek the advice and guidance of legal counsel with respect to this Stipulation and Agreement for Voluntary Surrender of Medical License and that all of its terms and conditions have been fully explained to me and/or that I fully understand them. I further acknowledge that I approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Stipulation and Agreement without duress and of my own free will and accord, this 26 day of April, 2022.


CHRIS ALLEN AUTHEMENT, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Lee LeBlanc
Signature

Lee LeBlanc
Typed Name

618-A St. Mary St.
Street Address

Thibodaux, LA 70301
City/State/Zip Code

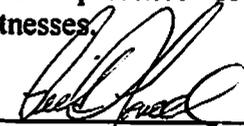
Sherry Lovell
Signature

Sherry Lovell
Typed Name

618-A St. Mary St.
Street Address

Thibodaux, LA 70301
City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 26 day of April, 2022,
in the presence of the two stated
witnesses.


Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Rick Lovell

Notary/Bar No.: 14841

Commission expires: At Death

Rick Lovell
Notary Public
I.D. #14841

ACCEPTANCE

CONSIDERING THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING, the Stipulation and Agreement for Voluntary Surrender of Medical License is hereby **APPROVED AND ACCEPTED** by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on this 27th day of June, 2022.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

BY: _____



LESTER W. JOHNSON, M.D.
President