

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

Telephone: (504) 666-1100  
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No. 2022-I-241

IN THE MATTER OF:

**DONALD JAMES REED, M.D.**  
*(Credential No. MD.013834),*  
*Respondent*

**CONSENT ORDER  
FOR REPRIMAND**

The Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") has received reliable information that Dr. Donald James Reed ("Dr. Reed"), a physician who at all times pertinent has been licensed by the Board, as evidenced by Credential No. MD.013834, and engaged in the practice of medicine in and around Lafayette, Louisiana, failed to properly supervise a radiologic technologist working in his office.

On March 11, 2022, the Louisiana State Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners (the "LSRTBE") received a formal complaint from Dr. Reed explaining that a former employee, who had been previously worked at Dr. Reed's practice for over ten years, had been discovered forging his signature on prescriptions for Adderall since at least 2018. Dr. Reed indicated that the employee had been employed as a radiologic technologist. In response to Dr. Reed's complaint, the LSRTBE informed Dr. Reed that the former employee had not held a valid license issued by the LSRTBE since May 31, 2009. The LSRTBE forwarded a copy of the complaint and its response to the Board. Subsequently, on March 23, 2022, the Board sent notice to Dr. Reed that a preliminary review had been initiated.

On April 23, 2022, Dr. Reed sent a response to the Board's notice of preliminary review, in which he explained how he became aware, through other office staff, of the former employee's taking a blank prescription form from his prescription pad and forging prescriptions for Adderall. Dr. Reed thereafter reviewed over a year's worth of prescriptions for Adderall that a pharmacy had on file for the former employee, all of which had apparently been fraudulently signed with a close replica of Dr. Reed's signature. Dr. Reed ran a PMP search on the employee and also found that in June of 2021 and December of 2021, the employee filled prescriptions for Ambien and Xanax, which were not documented in her chart, leading Dr. Reed to believe the employee also had forged those prescriptions. Upon discovering this information, Dr. Reed notified local law enforcement, the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, and the LSRTBE. Dr. Reed has since put procedures in place to ensure that his employees are properly supervised and his prescription pads are properly secured.

Dr. Reed also explained that the former employee was hired in 2007 and that his office staff had verified that the former employee was licensed as a radiologic technologist by the LSRTBE at the time of hiring. Dr. Reed acknowledged that his practice did not have sufficient procedures in place to document the date of expiration of his employees' licenses or to confirm that licensed employees maintain licensure. Since this incident, Dr. Reed has implemented policies requiring confirmation of current licensure for all employees.

Because the former employee was unlicensed by the LSRTBE and employed as a radiologic technologist, Dr. Reed was required to "report to the board annually as a condition of or issuance or renewal of that physician's licensure to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana for each person so employed" several categories of information, *e.g.*, name, address, and a "certification by the physician that the person employed as a private radiologic technologist is proficient in, and is competent to perform, the functions of a private radiologic technologist."<sup>1</sup> Dr. Reed, however, did not provide this information annually on his licensure renewals.

Predicated upon the foregoing information, the Investigating Officer assigned by the Board with respect to this matter has determined that sufficient cause exists to file formal charges against Dr. Reed for violations of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), pursuant to La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(13)<sup>2</sup> and (30).<sup>3</sup>

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Reed acknowledges that the information developed by the Board's investigation would constitute sufficient cause for the institution of administrative proceedings against his medical license and that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing could establish grounds under the Act for disciplinary action against his license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana as the Board might deem appropriate.

Recognizing his right to have notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be filed in this matter, at which time Dr. Reed would be entitled to be represented by legal

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<sup>1</sup> La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, § 2917(B).

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to La. R.S. 37:1285(A), the Board may take action against the license of a physician as the result of: "(13) Unprofessional conduct, including but not limited to, . . . improperly delegating or supervising[.]"; *see also* La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, § 7603(A)(5) ("*Improperly Delegating or Supervising*—physicians retain responsibility to their patients for the training, delivery and results of medical services rendered to their patients. A physician shall not: a. delegate professional responsibilities to a person the physician knows or has reason to know is not qualified by training, experience or licensure to perform them; or b. fail to exercise appropriate supervision over a person who is authorized to practice only under physician supervision[.]").

<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to La. R.S. 37:1285(A), the Board may take action against the license of a physician as the result of: "(30) Violation of any rules and regulations of the board, or any provisions of this Part"; *see also* La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, § 2917(B) (requiring that each physician who "employs any person to perform diagnostic or therapeutic radiological examinations or treatments or both in his private office or in the clinic in which that physician practices shall report to the board annually as a condition of or issuance or renewal of that physician's licensure to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana for each person so employed" several categories of information, *e.g.*, name, address, and a "certification by the physician that the person employed as a private radiologic technologist is proficient in, and is competent to perform, the functions of a private radiologic technologist.").

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. R.S. 49:951 *et seq.*, Dr. Reed, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to notice of charges, formal adjudication and written decision and pursuant to La. R.S. 49:955(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Moreover, by his subscription hereto, Dr. Reed also 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 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 or body relating to the matters referred to herein. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Reed also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer 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. R.S. 49:960. Further, Dr. Reed expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of such information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to proceed with the filing and adjudication of an Administrative Complaint against him, or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate any charges that may be filed in this matter should the Board decline to approve this Order.

Based upon the information provided, accordingly, and upon the recommendation of the Investigating Officer assigned to this matter, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state, pursuant to La. R.S. 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. R.S. 37:1285 and La. R.S. 49:955(D);

**IT IS ORDERED** that Donald James Reed, M.D., is hereby **OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED** for the conduct described above.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Dr. Reed shall, within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the date of this Order, pay to the Board a fine in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

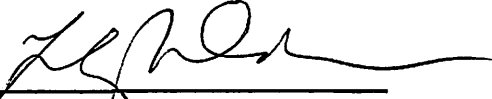
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Dr. Reed shall, within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the date of this Order, provide confirmation that he has registered for, attended, and successfully completed a continuing medical education course on proper prescribing. Such course shall be acceptable to and approved by the Board or its designee in writing prior to registering for and completing such course.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions set forth by this Order by Dr. Reed shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Reed's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, or for such other action as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. R.S. 37:1285.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:   
LESTER W. JOHNSON, M.D.  
*President*

*Acknowledgment and Consent on Following Page*

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
AND CONSENT**

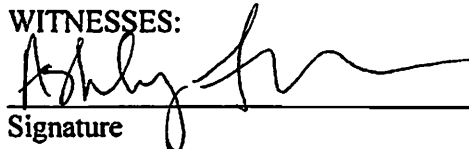
STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF Lafayette

I, DONALD JAMES REED, M.D., hereby acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to seek the advice and guidance of legal counsel with respect to this Consent Order 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 Order without duress and of my own free will and accord, this 22 day of July, 2022.

  
DONALD JAMES REED, M.D.

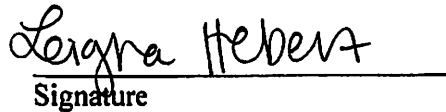
WITNESSES:

  
Signature

Ashly Foco  
Typed Name

1415A Julia St.  
Street Address

New Iberia, LA 70560  
City/State/Zip Code

  
Signature

Leigna Hebert  
Typed Name

111 Saint Brum St  
Street Address

Youngsville, LA 70592  
City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22 day of July, 2022, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

  
Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Julie Savoy

Notary/Bar No.: 28214

Commission expires: upon my death