



# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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## BEFORE THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

No. 2022-I-353

IN THE MATTER OF:

CONSENT ORDER

**EBONY AYANA JUAKALI, M.D.**

*(Credential No. MD.325147)*

*Respondent*

The above-captioned matter was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following the receipt of apparently reliable information that a drug screen indicated that Ebony Ayana Juakali, M.D. ("Dr. Juakali"), a physician who at all times pertinent has been licensed to practice medicine as evidenced by credential No. MD.325147, had a return to use.

Dr. Juakali had previously participated in the Healthcare Professionals Foundation of Louisiana ("HPFL") and executed a new five-year monitoring agreement with the HPFL on or around November 24, 2021. In her HPFL monitoring agreement, Dr. Juakali agreed to maintain "complete and total abstinence from any mood altering drugs (alcohol, tranquilizers, narcotics, etc.) unless prescribed in an appropriate manner for an illness with full agreement of the HPFL and my primary care physician." Dr. Juakali also agreed to undergo random screens for drugs and/or alcohol.

Investigation of the captioned matter was assigned to Lawrence H. Cresswell, III, D.O., J.D., Director of Investigations (the "Investigating Officer") for the Board. During the course of the investigation, the Investigating Officer confirmed that a urine drug screen collected on or around April 21, 2022, indicated that Dr. Juakali tested positive for opiates. The Investigating Officer further confirmed that a hair drug screen collected on or around April 26, 2022, also indicated that Dr. Juakali tested positive for opiates. Dr. Juakali thereafter completed an inpatient relapse treatment program at a Board-approved facility in July 2022. Dr. Juakali's treating providers determined that she was fit to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety as long as she followed various recommendations from her treating providers.

Predicated upon the information outlined above, the Investigating Officer assigned by the Board with respect to this matter determined that reasonable cause exists to pursue administrative

proceedings against Dr. Juakali for violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(5) and (12).<sup>1</sup>

As evidenced by her subscription hereto, Dr. Juakali acknowledges that the foregoing information would constitute probable cause for the institution of administrative proceedings against her medical licensure, pursuant to Administrative Complaint, and that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing would establish grounds under the Act for the suspension or revocation of her license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana or other such action as the Board might deem appropriate.

Recognizing her right to have notice of any allegation or charge asserted against her, to administrative adjudication of such allegation or charge pursuant to La. R.S. 49:951 et. seq. and to a subsequent final decision rendered upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, Dr. Juakali, nonetheless, hereby waives her right to formal charges and formal adjudication and pursuant to La. R.S. 49:955(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. By her subscription hereto Dr. Juakali acknowledges that she hereby waives any right to which she may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Practice Act, La. R.S. 49:951 et. seq. or otherwise may be afforded to her by law to contest her agreement to or the force and effect of the Board's investigation or this document in any court. Dr. Juakali, furthermore, 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 she waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:960. Dr. Juakali expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of the information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to file a formal Administrative Complaint against her or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such Complaint should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order.

Based upon the information provided, and upon the recommendation of the Investigating Officer, the Board hereby concludes that, consistent with its mandate under La. R.S. 37:1261, the interests of public health, safety, and welfare 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 the license of Ebony A. Juakali, M.D. to engage in the practice of medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Credential No. MD.325147, be and the same is hereby placed **ON PROBATION** for a period of five (5) years (the "probationary period") commencing on the effective date of this Order, *provided however*, that Dr. Juakali's continuing exercise of any rights and privileges granted thereby, shall be conditioned upon and subject to her acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms, conditions, and restrictions:

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to La. R.S. 37:1285(A), "[t]he board may refuse to issue, or may suspend or revoke any license or permit, or impose probationary or other restrictions on any license or permit issued under this Part for the following causes:...(5) Habitual or recurring abuse of drugs, including alcohol, which affect the central nervous system and which are capable of inducing physiological or psychological dependence....[and] (12) An inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill or safety due to mental illness or deficiency, including but not limited to deterioration through the aging process or the loss of motor skills or excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol.

- (1) **Continuing Treatment, Participation in HPFL, Reports to Board.** Dr. Juakali shall continue to maintain a monitoring agreement with the HPFL for the duration of the probationary period. Dr. Juakali shall continue in, abide by and strictly adhere to all recommendations for ongoing treatment and monitoring which are contained in her current monitoring agreement and any amendments thereto, or any subsequent agreement or amendments thereto which may be recommended by the HPFL as well as those recommended by her treating physicians and those prescribed by any other health care provider involved in her care to the extent that they continue to follow her. Dr. Juakali shall, in addition, authorize and cause her treating and monitoring physicians and/or the HPFL to submit to the Board or its designee, not less frequently than quarterly, written reports and/or verbal reports, should the Board or its designee desire the latter, on her then-current treatment diagnosis, prognosis, course of treatment, her fitness and ability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, and her compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Order and her HPFL monitoring agreement.
- (2) **Maintenance of Complete Abstinence.** Dr. Juakali shall maintain complete and total abstinence from the use of alcohol, controlled and any mood-altering substance for as long as she holds a license to practice medicine in this state, except as may be prescribed by a treating physician other than herself for a *bona fide* medical condition. Dr. Juakali shall personally inform the HPFL and the Board's Compliance Officer, both orally and in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours of the prescription or administration of any controlled or mood-altering substance received by her from any physician for treatment of a *bona fide* medical condition. If the prescription is from another physician, she shall also inform her treating/monitoring physician in this same manner.
- (3) **Drug and Alcohol Screens.** Dr. Juakali shall submit to periodic, unannounced blood, urine, saliva and/or hair collection and/or other screens, including EtG and PEth levels, to detect the presence of alcohol or other mood-altering substances for the duration of the probationary period. Such screenings shall be random and shall occur at a frequency determined by the HPFL or its designee. Unless and until this condition is modified or rescinded by the Board or its designee, Dr. Juakali shall authorize and cause such physician or testing facility and/or the HPFL to report the results of such drug screens to the Board or its designee not less frequently than quarterly throughout the probationary period.
- (4) **Participation in Required Alcoholics/Narcotics Anonymous Meetings.** Dr. Juakali shall participate in Alcoholics Anonymous ("AA") and/or Narcotics Anonymous ("NA") meetings at the specified frequency required by her monitoring agreement with HPFL.
- (5) **Aftercare and Outpatient Programs.** Dr. Juakali shall, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order, provide confirmation that she is enrolled in individual aftercare on a weekly basis that is consistent and compliant with her HPFL monitoring agreement and that is acceptable to and has been approved by the Board

or its designee in writing. Dr. Juakali shall update the Board or its designee annually on her continuing participation in the aftercare program.

- (6) **Board Access to Treatment Records and Reports.** Dr. Juakali shall, and does by her subscription hereto, authorize any physician, healthcare professional or any institution at which she undergoes treatment, as well as any physician under whose care she may come at such an institution, who has or may hereafter evaluate, diagnose, treat or monitor her, to provide the Board or its designee with copies of all medical reports relating to Dr. Juakali's history, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis and to provide the Board or its designee with written and verbal reports relative thereto. Dr. Juakali expressly waives any privilege that may otherwise be afforded the disclosure of such records pursuant to state or federal law and acknowledges that she shall immediately provide the Board or its designee written authorization to obtain such records upon request.
- (7) **Board Approval of Practice Setting.** For the duration of the probationary period, before continuing or accepting any employment with any clinic, hospital, physician or other entity providing healthcare services to patients, Dr. Juakali shall obtain from the Board or its designee written approval of her employment setting and shall provide any and all information that the Board or its designee may require in connection with such approval. Dr. Juakali shall not engage in the practice of medicine in advance of the Board or its designee's specific written approval of such practice setting.
- (8) **Individual Counseling.** Dr. Juakali shall, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order, provide confirmation that she is enrolled in individual counseling that is consistent with her treating providers' recommendations and her HPFL monitoring agreement and who has been approved by the Board or its designee in writing. Dr. Juakali further shall ensure that such approved counselor provides a monthly written report to the Board or its designee confirming her participation in individual counseling.
- (9) **Notification and Authorization.** Dr. Juakali shall provide a copy of this Order to each hospital, clinic, facility or other employer or prospective employer at which or for whom she provides services as a physician in this state, and upon request of the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer Dr. Juakali shall immediately execute and provide, as may be necessary, authorization to obtain any and all peer review records or other employment records pertaining to her from any hospital, institution or other health care entity where she has or has had privileges.
- (10) **Cooperation with Board's Probation and Compliance Officer.** Dr. Juakali shall immediately notify the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer of any change in her current home and professional addresses and telephone numbers and she shall direct all matters required pursuant to this Order to the attention of the Probation and Compliance Officer. Dr. Juakali shall cooperate with the Probation and Compliance Officer on all matters and inquiries pertaining to her compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order, specifically including without limitation providing

cooperation and assistance to the Board, its designee, or the HPFL in obtaining any records required under this Consent Order.

- (11) **Absence from the State/Practice/Effect on Probation.** Should Dr. Juakali at any time be absent from the State of Louisiana, relocate to and/or take up residency in another state or country, or discontinue practicing as a physician for a period of thirty (30) days or more she will so advise the Board in writing. In such instance, the probation ordered herein and all terms, conditions and restrictions thereof shall be deemed interrupted and extended and shall not commence again until Dr. Juakali notifies the Board in writing that she has resumed the practice of medicine in Louisiana.
- (12) **Probation Monitoring Fee.** For each year of the probation, Dr. Juakali shall pay the Board an annual probation monitoring fee of Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars. Payment of the initial fee shall be due not later than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Order. All subsequent annual payments shall be due on or before the anniversary date of the initial fee payment.
- (13) **Effect of Violation/Sanction.** By her subscription hereto, Dr. Juakali acknowledges that her receipt of written notification that the Board has received reliable information indicating her failure to comply with the requirements set forth by this Order in any respect shall, without the need for formal hearing or for providing her with any right to which she may otherwise be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:951, et seq., or which otherwise may be afforded to her by law, constitute her irrevocable consent to the immediate suspension of her license to practice medicine in this state pending a hearing before the Board and the conclusion of the administrative proceeding by issuance of a final decision following administrative adjudication of such charges.
- (14) **Certification of Compliance with Probationary Terms.** At least sixty (60) days prior to the conclusion of the probationary period imposed herein, Dr. Juakali shall provide the Board with an affidavit certifying that she has complied with each of the terms of probation imposed by this Order. The probationary period and all of its terms and conditions shall be, and shall be deemed to be, extended and continued in full force and effect pending Dr. Juakali's compliance with the requirements of this provision.
- (15) **Effective Date.** This Consent Order shall be effective as of the date it is approved and accepted by the Board as shown by the signature of the Board's representative below.

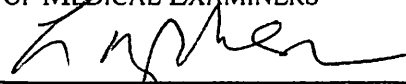
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any violation of or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms set forth by this Order by Dr. Juakali shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such other action against Dr. Juakali's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 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 Rapides

I, EBONY AYANA JUAKALI, 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 21 day of October, 2022.

Ebony Ayana Juakali  
EBONY AYANA JUAKALI, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Alex Diebold  
Signature

Alex Diebold  
Typed Name

4501 Jackson St STE-C  
Street Address

Alexandria LA 71303  
City/State/Zip Code

Taylor Grant Adams  
Signature

Taylor Grant Adams  
Typed Name

4501 Jackson St STE-C  
Street Address

Alexandria, LA, 71303  
City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21 day of October, 2022, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

Diane H. Deville  
Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Diane H. Deville

Notary/Bar No.: 33254

Commission expires: at death

