



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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Web site: <http://www.lsbme.la.gov>

BEFORE THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DAVID A. WRIGHTSON, CRT

*(Certificate No. 200120),
Respondent*

No. 23-I-163

CONSENT ORDER

The above-entitled proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following the receipt of apparently reliable information indicating that David A. Wrightson, CRT ("Mr. Wrightson"), a respiratory therapist licensed by the Board to engage in respiratory therapy in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 200120, had been placed on leave by his employer, Willis Knighton Health System ("WKHS") and subsequently disciplined for unprofessional behavior related to allegations of overly aggressive handling of a combative patient following that patient being extubated.

Predicated upon the foregoing information, Lawrence H. Cresswell, III, D.O., J.D., Director of Investigations (the "Investigating Officer") and the Investigative Officer assigned by the Board with respect to this matter, determined reasonable cause existed such that a formal Administrative Complaint could be filed against Mr. Wrightson, charging him with violations of the Louisiana Respiratory Therapy Practice Act, La. Rev. Stat. § 37:3351, *et seq.* ("the Act") pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. § 37:3358(A)(2).¹

Mr. Wrightson likewise acknowledges that the foregoing information would provide the Investigating Officer with probable cause to pursue formal administrative proceedings against him, and that proof of such information upon administrative

¹ La. Rev. Stat. § 37:3358(A)(2) ("The board may deny, refuse to renew, suspend, revoke or impose probationary conditions on a license if the licensee or applicant for license has been found guilty of unprofessional conduct which has endangered or is likely to endanger the health, welfare, or safety of the public. Such unprofessional conduct shall include: (2) Violating the code of ethics adopted and published by the American Association for Respiratory Therapy.

evidentiary hearing could establish grounds under the Act for the suspension, revocation or imposition of such other terms, conditions, or restrictions on his license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana as the Board may determine appropriate.

Recognizing his right to have notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be filed in this matter, 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. § 49:950, *et seq.*, Mr. Wrightson nonetheless hereby waives his right to notice and formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:975(D),² consents to the entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. By his subscription hereto, Mr. Wrightson also acknowledges that he waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. § 49:950 *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. Wrightson 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 and to discuss with the Board the nature and result of the investigation and waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. § 49:977.2.³ Mr. Wrightson expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to pursue formal administrative charges against him or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such charges 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. Rev. Stat. § 37:1261, *et seq.*, 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. Rev. Stat. §§ 37:3358 and La. R.S. 49:975(D).⁴

IT IS ORDERED that the license of David A. Wrightson, CRT to practice respiratory therapy in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 200120, is hereby **OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within one-hundred eight (180) days from the effective date of this Order, Mr. Wrightson shall participate in and successfully complete

² This statute within the APA previously had been codified under La. R.S. 49:955(D) and has since been redesignated per legislative amendment during the 2022 general session. 2022 La. Sess. Law Serv. Act 663 (S.B. 67) (WEST).

³ This statute within the APA previously had been codified under La. R.S. 49:960 and has since been redesignated per legislative amendment during the 2022 general session. 2022 La. Sess. Law Serv. Act 663 (S.B. 67) (WEST).

⁴ See *supra* footnote 2.

a course of study, pre-approved by the Board, which addresses ethics and professionalism.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within one (1) year from the effective date of this Order, Mr. Wrightson shall pay to the Board a fine in the amount of Five-Hundred and no/100 (\$500.00) Dollars.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with this Order by Mr. Wrightson shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such action against Mr. Wrightson's license to practice respiratory therapy in the State of Louisiana as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. Rev. Stat. § 37:3358(A).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be and shall be deemed to be a **PUBLIC RECORD**, and shall likewise be reported on the Board's website, <https://www.lsbme.la.gov/>, under "Disciplinary Actions."

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED 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.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 24th day of July,
2023.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 

TERRIE R. THOMAS, M.D.
President

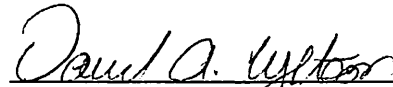
(Acknowledgement and Consent on following page)

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

STATE OF _____


PARISH/COUNTY OF _____

I, David A. Wrightson, CRT, 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 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 _____ day of _____, 2023.



DAVID A. WRIGHTSON, CRT

WITNESSES:



Signature

Donna Collins

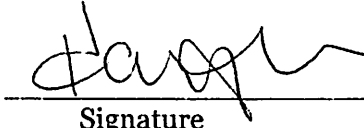
Typed Name

1280 N. Market

Street Address

Shreveport, LA 71107

City/State/Zip Code



Signature

Haylee Haritz

Typed Name

1280 N. Market

Street Address

SHREVEPORT, LA 71107

City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
14 day of June, 2023, in
the presence of the two stated
witnesses.



Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Allan Matthews

Notary/Bar No.: 62409

Commission expires: Life

ALLAN MATTHEWS
NOTARY PUBLIC #62409
COMMISSIONED FOR LIFE

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