



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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BEFORE THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Nos. 2022-I-311

IN THE MATTER OF:

JOHN MAC CHANDLER, M.D.
(Credential No. MD.019412),
Respondent

CONSENT ORDER

The above-entitled proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following receipt of reliable information that the Patient Compensation Fund had settled a malpractice case on behalf of John Mac Chandler, M.D. ("Dr. Chandler"), a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, and principally practicing emergency medicine in and around Vivian, Louisiana. According to a report from the National Practitioner Data Bank ("NPDB"), the allegations involved the failure to diagnose with diabetes a thirteen-year-old patient who presented to the emergency room with vomiting, shortness of breath, dizziness, nausea, and a genital rash. The NPDB report further provided that the alleged failure to diagnose "led to subsequent problems and death of the patient."

Investigation of the above-captioned matter was assigned to Lawrence H. Cresswell, III, D.O., J.D., Director of Investigations (the "Investigating Officer") for the Board. The investigation revealed that Dr. Chandler practiced family medicine from 1990 to 2016, and in 2016 he took a full-time position practicing emergency medicine at the North Caddo Medical Center in Vivian, Louisiana.¹ The investigation also revealed that the patient presented with his father to the emergency room at the North Caddo Medical Center on or around August 9, 2020, with complaints of vomiting for the past four days and shortness of breath. Dr. Chandler conducted a physical examination, during which the patient further complained of a rash on his penis. On physical examination, it is documented that the patient was both tachycardic as well as tachypneic. Dr. Chandler ordered a chest x-ray and an EKG, both of which were normal, but did not order a blood glucose test.

Believing the patient to have a genital yeast infection and stress/anxiety, Dr. Chandler prescribed the patient a topical cream and discharged him with instructions to follow up with his

¹ Dr. Chandler is not trained or board-certified in emergency medicine.

primary care physician in a week. The patient collapsed the next day from severe diabetic ketoacidosis and died three days later.

As part of the investigation, Dr. Chandler met with the Investigating Officer, and represented that the patient's symptoms did not appear consistent with previous cases of diabetic ketoacidosis that he had seen and that he did not include in his differential diagnosis that a genital rash linked to Type I diabetes may present in a thirteen-year-old adolescent. Dr. Chandler also represented in a written response to the complaint that "[m]asks were being worn during this Covid time period and it is possible that this made it difficult to detect a fruity breath or perhaps some other outward signs that this patient had a diabetic condition." The Investigating Officer expressed concern that, given the patient's symptoms, a blood test to evaluate the patient's glucose levels should have been ordered prior to discharge regardless of the patient's age.

Dr. Chandler has cooperated with the investigation, including by providing a written response to the complaint and twice meeting with the Investigating Officer to discuss the investigation. Dr. Chandler also has accepted responsibility for his actions in this matter and acknowledged that he would handle the case differently if a patient presented to him today under similar circumstances.

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Chandler acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing could establish sufficient cause to take action with respect to his license pursuant to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act") pursuant to La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(14).²

Recognizing his right to notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be asserted against him in these proceedings, at which time Dr. Chandler 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. R.S. 49:950 *et seq.*, Dr. Chandler, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to notice and formal adjudication and pursuant to La. R.S. 49:975(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Dr. Chandler acknowledges that he hereby waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:950 *et seq.*, or which may be afforded to him by any other law to contest or appeal his agreement to or the force and effect of the Board's investigation or this Order in any court or other forum. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Chandler also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto to present this 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 49:977.2. Dr. Chandler 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

² "The board may refuse to issue, or may suspend or revoke any license or permit, or impose probationary or other restrictions on any license, permit, or certificate issued pursuant to this Part or Part I-D of this Chapter for the following causes:...(14) Medical incompetency, including but not limited to, incompetency manifested by continuing or recurring medical practice which fails to satisfy the prevailing and usually accepted standards of medical practice in this state.").

adjudication of an administrative complaint against him or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such complaint should the Board decline to approve this 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. 49:975(D);

IT IS ORDERED that John Mac Chandler, M.D., is hereby **OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED** for the conduct described above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Chandler shall, within one hundred and eighty (180) days of this Order, provide confirmation that he has successfully taken and completed thirty (30) hours of continuing medical education courses related to the practice of emergency medicine, such as the American College of Emergency Physicians Scientific Assembly or a similar program approved by the Board or its designee. These courses shall be in addition to the twenty (20) hours of CME required by La. Admin. Code tit. 46 pt. XLV § 435.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Chandler shall, within one hundred and twenty (120) days of this Order, pay to the Board a fine in the amount of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No/100 (\$2,500.00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Chandler shall, within one hundred and eighty (180) days of this Order, complete the free online course "Laws and Rules for Louisiana Physicians," which may be accessed through the following link, <https://www.lsbme.la.gov/content/board-orientations-online-courses>. Upon completion of the course, Dr. Chandler shall complete the verification process and obtain a certificate of completion that will be submitted to the Board or its designee by the course provider.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that 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. Chandler shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such other action against Dr. Chandler'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.

In the Matter of:
John Mac Chandler, M.D.

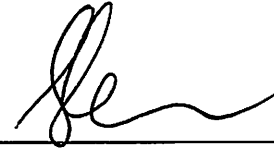
CONSENT ORDER

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New Orleans, Louisiana, this 28th day of August, 2023.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: _____



TERRIE R. THOMAS, M.D.
President

Acknowledgment and Consent on Following Page

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF Bossier

I, JOHN MAC CHANDLER, 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 7 day of August, 2023.


JOHN MAC CHANDLER, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Kennith Starnes
Signature

Kennith Starnes
Typed Name

451 Mayfair Drive
Street Address

Bossier City, LA 71111
City/State/Zip Code

Vikki LaValle
Signature

Vikki LaValle
Typed Name

973 Country Club Cr
Street Address

Minden LA 71055
City/State/Zip Code

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

Kay Gilbert
Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Kay Gilbert

Notary/Bar No.: 058232

Commission expires: at my death



**KAY GILBERT
NOTARY PUBLIC
CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA
NOTARY ID NO. 058232**