

## LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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Web site: <a href="http://www.lsbme.la.gov">http://www.lsbme.la.gov</a>
BEFORE THE
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

No. 2021-I-993 & 2022-I-922

CONSENT ORDER

## IN THE MATTER OF:

EFFIE JEANNE MARIE MICHOT, CPM

(Credential No. MDW.200010), Respondent

Effie Jeanne Marie Michot, CPM ("Ms. Michot") is a midwife licensed to practice midwifery in the State of Louisiana pursuant to the Louisiana Midwife Practitioners Act ("the Act"), La. R.S. 37:3240 et seq., as evidenced by Credential No. MDW.200010, who at all relevant times has been engaged in the practice of midwifery in and around New Orleans, Louisiana. Investigation of the captioned matter was assigned to the Director of Investigations for the Board (the "Investigating Officer" or "DOI") after the receipt of apparently reliable information that Ms. Michot had failed to comply with the Act regarding the care of two patients.

The investigation into the first complaint revealed the first patient ("Patient A") was transferred to the Labor and Delivery division at a hospital after "attempting a home birth" where "fetal decelerations were noted." However, the initial fax of Patient A's records to the hospital failed, causing the records to arrive after Patient A gave birth. Ms. Michot explained, however, that she gave Patient A's information to Patient A and to the "head nurse" at the hospital. Further, the birth occurred on or around November 16, 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, and Ms. Michot was prohibited from accompanying Patient A into the hospital to drop off her records due to the hospital's COVID guidelines.

The investigation into the second complaint revealed that between March and October 2021, Ms. Michot provided care to the second patient ("Patient B"), who was adamant about having a home birth and not going to the hospital due to active COVID restrictions. Ms. Michot explained that most of the allegations were untrue or misplaced, and that delays and missed appointments were caused in large part by Patient B's own COVID diagnosis and Hurricane Ida. Review of Patient B's medical records also revealed that she had a self-reported history of six prior miscarriages ranging in gestational age from four weeks to six weeks, and had a history of postpartum hemorrhage that her health care providers had managed through the administration of Pitocin and fluids.

In a September 9, 2024 meeting, Ms. Michot reviewed both cases with the Director of Investigations. It was noted that both mothers ultimately had successful deliveries without injury to the mother or child. Ms. Michot also explained that because of COVID restrictions, she could

not go to the hospital with Patient A and hand off her records, though she would under ordinary circumstances. After being informed that Patient B was not low-risk due to her history, Ms. Michot explained that she would not accept Patient B as a patient again. Ms. Michot also stated that she has significantly reduced her patient load since the end of the COVID-19 pandemic for personal and professional reasons. Additionally, less than two weeks following the meeting with the Director of Investigations, Ms. Michot successfully completed the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners online course Laws and Rules for Licensed Midwives course and submitted her Certificate of Completion to the Board.

As evidenced by her subscription hereto, Ms. Michot acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgment and the reported information would provide the Investigating Officer with probable cause to pursue administrative proceedings against her for violations of the Louisiana Midwife Practitioners Act (the "Act"), La. R.S. 37:3251(1). and that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing would establish sufficient cause to take action against her license to practice midwifery in the State of Louisiana. In consideration of this finding, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Investigating Officer, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of this state against the unprofessional, unqualified, and unsafe practice of midwifery, La. R.S. 37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter by consent.<sup>2</sup>

Recognizing her right to notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be asserted against her in these proceedings, at which time Ms. Michot would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence on her 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. 49:975 et seq., Ms. Michot, nonetheless, hereby waives her right to notice and formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. R.S. 49:975(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Ms. Michot acknowledges that she hereby waives any right to which she may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:950 et seq., or which may be afforded to her by any other law to contest or appeal her agreement to or the force and effect of the Board's investigation or this Consent Order in any court or other forum. By her subscription hereto, Ms. Michot 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See La. R.S. 37: 3251(1) ("The board may refuse to issue, suspend for a definite period, or revoke a permit or license for any of the following causes: (1) Being derelict in any duty imposed by law."); see also La. Admin. Code. tit. 46, pt. XLV, § 5343(A) ("The licensed midwife practitioner shall accompany to the hospital any mother or infant requiring hospitalization, giving any pertinent written records and verbal report to the physician assuming care. If possible, she should remain with the mother and/or infant to ascertain outcome. In those instances where it is necessary to continue providing necessary care to the party remaining in the home, the midwife may turn over the care of the transport of mother or child to qualified emergency or hospital personnel. All necessary written records shall be forwarded with such personnel and a verbal report must be given."); see also La. Admin. Code. tit. 46, pt. XLV, § 5317(A) ("The licensed midwife practitioner must require that the client have a physician evaluation and examination and be found to be essentially normal or at low risk of developing complications during pregnancy and childbirth before her care can be assumed.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Board has considered the guidelines for minimum and maximum disciplinary dispositions and the aggravating and mitigating circumstances apparent from the particular facts and circumstances of this matter. See La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, §§ 9714; 9716.

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**CONSENT ORDER** 

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results of the investigation and she waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:977.2. Ms. Michot 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 adjudication of an administrative complaint against her or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such complaint should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order. 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 the license of Effie Jeanne Marie Michot, CPM, to engage in the practice of midwifery in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Credential No. 200010, be and the same is hereby, *REPRIMANDED* for the above-described conduct.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Michot shall, within one-hundred and twenty (120) days of the Effective Date of this Order, pay to the Board a fine in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Michot shall, within one-hundred and twenty (120) days of the Effective Date of this Order, pay to the Board all costs of this matter, including attorney's fees, in the amount of One Thousand, Eight-Hundred and Sixty Dollars (\$1,860.00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation of or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms set forth by this Order by Ms. Michot shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such other action against Ms. Michot's license to practice midwifery 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. 37:3251.

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 (the "Effective Date").

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, <a href="https://www.lsbme.la.gov/">https://www.lsbme.la.gov/</a>, under "Disciplinary Actions," and shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank ("NPDB").

day of Decem

New Orleans, Louisiana, this

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD

**OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS** 

By:

RODERICK V. CLARK, M.D., MBA

President

Acknowledgment and Consent on Following Page

Commission expires:

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSENT

STATE OF LOUISIANA PARISH OF Oceans	
I, EFFIE JEANNE MARIE MICHOT, CPM, hereby ac seek the advice and guidance of legal counsel wit its terms and conditions have been fully explaine further acknowledge that I approve, accept, and convitions to the without duress and of my own free will and according to the conditions.	h respect to this Consent Order and that all of d to me and/or that I fully understand them. I nsent to entry of the above and foregoing Order
	EFFIR PEANE MARIE MICHOT, CPM
WITNESSES:  Signature  Hannah Pepper-Cunningham  Typed Name  2428 La Penrouse  Street Address	Signature Sarah Grenzeback Typed Name  24 Polvaden Pl
New Orleans, LA 70119 City/State/Zip Code	Street Address  Youngsville, NM 87064  City/State/Zip Code
Sworn to and subscribed before me this  25 day of November, 2024, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.  Notary Public (Signature)	