

## LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 Phone: (504) 568-6820; Fax: (504) 324-0994 Web site: http://www.lsbme.la.gov

## BEFORE THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

TINA TRAHAN WELLS, M.D. (Credential No. MD.022798), Respondent

No. 2023-I-463

CONSENT ORDER

Tina Trahan Wells ("Dr. Wells") is a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board"), pursuant to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), La. R.S. 37:1261 et seq., as evidenced by Credential No. MD.022798, who had practiced family medicine in and around Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The above-entitled proceeding was docketed to the Director of Investigations of the Board (the "DOI" or "Investigating Officer") upon the receipt of apparently reliable information that Dr. Wells had taken opioids in violation of her then-active monitoring agreement with the Healthcare Professionals Foundation of Louisiana (the "HPFL").

Dr. Wells was the subject of a prior investigation after she was hospitalized and executed a five-year monitoring agreement with the HPFL on April 18, 2023 that prohibited her from taking potentially addictive substances, including opioids and controlled substances. On June 23, 2023, the HPFL informed the Board that Dr. Wells self-reported that she took Lortab and Dilaudid in violation of her then-active HPFL monitoring agreement. In her response to the Board, Dr. Wells explained that she fell and injured her shoulder, for which she was prescribed and took Lortab and Dilaudid. Throughout the next year and a half, Dr. Wells experienced several health issues for which she was prescribed opioids and other controlled substances. Dr. Wells did not practice medicine during this time and remained in contact with the Board on the status of her health issues.

On February 19, 2025, Dr. Wells completed an evaluation at a Board-approved facility during which she admitted that she had not attended her required recovery meetings for several months, along with other violations of her prior HPFL monitoring agreement. Her evaluators concluded that she could not practice medicine with skill and safety until she completed sixmonths of complete abstinence from any addictive substance, including alcohol, opioids, sedatives, and other controlled substances. Dr. Wells' evaluators also concluded, *inter alia*, that she needed to execute a new five-year HPFL monitoring contract.

As evidenced by her subscription hereto, Dr. Wells acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that the reported information would provide the Investigating Officer with sufficient cause to pursue administrative proceedings against her for violations of the Act, and that such information, if proven upon administrative evidentiary hearing, would establish sufficient cause to take action against her license to practice medicine 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 medicine, La. R.S. 37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter by consent.

Recognizing her right to notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be asserted against her in these proceedings, at which time Dr. Wells 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., Dr. Wells, 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. Dr. Wells 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, Dr. Wells 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 she waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:977.2. Dr. Wells 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 Tina Trahan Wells, M.D., to engage in the practice of medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Credential No. MD.022798, be and the same is hereby *INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED* by consent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(5), (12), (25) ("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...(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...(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...(25) Inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill or safety to patients because of mental illness or deficiency; physical illness, including but not limited to deterioration through the aging process or loss of motor skills; or excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol.").

<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.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Wells shall not practice medicine in any form in the State of Louisiana until and unless the Board issues and serves a written decision reinstating her license to practice following: (1) the receipt of a satisfactory report from a Board-approved evaluation or treatment facility documenting that Dr. Wells has successfully completed all recommendations from her evaluation or treatment providers and demonstrated her competence to return to the practice of medicine with skill and safety; (2) a meeting with the acting Director of Investigations or his designee; and (3) the conclusion of the pending investigation by administrative hearing and final decision of the Board on any charges that may be filed in these proceedings including, but not limited to, those identified in this Order; or alternatively, by the Board's acceptance of a Consent Order or other disposition of the pending investigation, which may include probationary conditions for reinstatement at the Board's discretion or on the recommendation of her evaluation or treatment providers.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Wells shall pay to the Board the reasonable costs incurred in this matter, including attorneys' fees, the assessment and collection of which will be deferred until any reinstatement of or other discipline against Dr. Wells' license in a subsequent Consent Order or adjudication.

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 this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record, and shall likewise be available 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").

New Orleans, Louisiana, this Agraday of April , 2025.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

RODERICK V. CLARK, MD, MBA

President

(Acknowledgment and Consent on Following Page)

Notary Public (Signature)

Notary/Bar No.: \_\_\_ Commission expires:

Name:

Donnie L. Floyd Bar Roll No. 5623

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT** AND CONSENT

STATE OF LOUISIANA .		
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STATE OF LOUISIANA,		
PARISH OF ASCENSION		
I, TINA TRAHAN WELLS, 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 conser	nt to entry of the above and foregoing Order	
without duress and of my own free will and accord	i, this $\mathcal{A}$ day of $Aocil$ , 2025.	
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	Tina Trahan Wells, M.D.	
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WITNESSES:/	O 8	
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Signature	Signature	
Stephanie L. Watts	<b>J</b> essica Fox	
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Prameville H Tolleg	Praincull, UA 70349 City/State/Zip Code	
City/State/Zip Code	City/State/Zip Code	
Sworn to and subscribed before me this		
<u>12025</u> , in the		
presence of the two stated witnesses.		