

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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In The Matter Of

No. 04-I-010

ARI OMAR HALLDORSSON, M.D.
(Certificate No. 09405R)

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**CONSENT
ORDER**

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This proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following the receipt of information relating to Ari Omar Halldorsson, M.D. ("Dr. Halldorsson"), a physician at all times material to the facts and matters alleged herein was engaged in the practice of medicine in the state of Texas and also licensed to practice medicine in this state, as evidenced by Certificate No. 09405R.¹ Such information reveals, more particularly, that in November 2002 Dr. Halldorsson self-reported his abuse of Hydrocodone to the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Texas Board"). His report was preceded by the physician's hospitalization for consumption of an excessive amount of Hydrocodone. During the course of the investigation Dr. Halldorsson reported that he had formed an addiction to Hydrocodone that he had been once prescribed for lower back pain. He had been taking the drug in increasing amounts from 10 to 15 pills per day and on some occasions up to 20 pills per day, mainly in the evening after work but occasionally "prophylactically" in the morning before work. Dr. Halldorsson obtained Hydrocodone prescriptions through physicians and residents that he worked with and on occasion he would have a family member write a prescription for the pain medicine.²

Predicated on Dr. Halldorsson's self-report and its investigation, the Texas Board concluded that Dr. Halldorsson had engaged in conduct that was unprofessional and may

¹Although Dr. Halldorsson has not renewed his license for the year 2004, the fact that he is entitled to do so for a period of four (4) years from the date of last renewal provides the Board with continuing jurisdiction. La. Adm. C. 46:XLV§419.

²*Agreed Order*, In the Matter of the License of Ari Omar Halldorsson, M.D., License No. L-2300, Tx. St. Board Med. Exam. (Oct. 10, 2003).

be indicative of his inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, in violation of the Texas Medical Practice Act.³ In disposition of a then-pending investigation, Dr. Halldorsson entered into an Agreed Order with the Texas Board whereby which his license was suspended, the suspension was stayed and his license placed on probation for ten (10) years subject to his compliance with a number of specified terms and conditions. Among other items, such Order required Respondent to: maintain abstinence from the consumption of alcohol, dangerous drugs or controlled substances unless prescribed by another physician for treatment of a legitimate medical condition; submit to appropriate examinations; continue with intensive individual psychotherapy by a psychiatrist approved by the Texas Board; continue to participate in the Physician Health and Rehabilitation program with the submission of periodic written reports; attend specified meetings; refrain from treating himself or a member of his immediate family; write a paper suitable for publication regarding prescribing policies for residents and colleagues in an educational setting that contained recommendations on how to protect residents and colleagues from drug-seeking coworkers; write a letter to the chairman of his department outlining methods used to procure prescriptions for Hydrocodone from his family member, colleagues and residents. Finally, such investigation reveals that in February 2003 Dr. Halldorsson renewed his license to practice medicine in Louisiana. As part of the renewal process the physician failed to reveal his drug abuse or the fact that he had been the subject of an investigation by the Texas Board as required by question numbers 1 and 14 of such renewal.

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Halldorsson acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgment and the reported information would provide the Investigating Officer herein with probable cause to pursue formal administrative proceedings against him for violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, La. Rev. Stat. §37:1295A(3), (13), (25) and (29).⁴

Recognizing his right to have administrative adjudication of the above charges, 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. §§49:951, et seq., Dr. Halldorsson, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. By his subscription

³ *Agreed Order*, footnote 2, *infra*.

⁴ The Board may take action against the license of an individual, or against his or her right or entitlement to licensure, as a result of: '[F]raud, deceit, or perjury in obtaining any license ...', La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(3); '[U]nprofessional conduct', La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(13); '[I]nability to practice medicine with reasonable skill or safety to patients because of ... excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol', La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(25); or '[T]he refusal of a licensing authority of another state to issue or renew a license, permit, or certificate to practice medicine ... in that state or the revocation, suspension, or other restriction imposed on a license, permit, or certificate issued by such licensing authority which prevents or restricts practice in that state ...', La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(29).

hereto, Dr. Halldorsson also acknowledges that he waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951, 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, Dr. Halldorsson also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto, as well as his legal counsel assisting him in connection herewith, 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 he waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Dr. Halldorsson expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of information to the Board by the Investigating Officer or his legal counsel 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, accordingly, and upon the recommendation of the Investigating Officer assigned to this matter, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to insure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1261 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. §37:1285 and La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D);

IT IS ORDERED that any right to renewal or reinstatement of the license of Ari Omar Halldorsson, M.D., to practice medicine in the state, as evidenced by Certificate No. 09405R, shall be and the same is hereby conditioned upon his acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms:

(A) PRACTICE IN LOUISIANA/COMPLIANCE WITH TEXAS BOARD'S ORDER. Dr. Halldorsson shall not engage in the practice of medicine in any form in the state of Louisiana until and unless the Board issues and serves on him a written order renewing or reinstating his license to practice in this state. As express conditions to the issuance of such an order Dr. Halldorsson shall have successfully completed all aspects of the Agreed Order imposed upon his medical license by the Texas Board and he shall have obtained an unrestricted license to practice medicine in that state and any other state where he may then hold a current license.

(B) NOTICE OF RELOCATION TO LOUISIANA AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE BEFORE THE BOARD OR DESIGNATED COMMITTEE. Following the satisfaction of those terms set forth in paragraph (A) above, and in the event that Dr. Halldorsson should decide to seek reinstatement or renewal of his license and/or wish to relocate to Louisiana for the purpose of

practicing medicine, he shall contact the Board at least sixty (60) days in advance of his desired return and arrange an appearance before the Board or its designee at its next regularly scheduled meeting. At such meeting Dr. Halldorsson shall demonstrate his compliance with each the terms and conditions imposed upon his Texas license by the Texas Board and by this Order, and he shall discuss with the Board his intended plans for the practice of medicine in this state.

(C) **ADDITIONAL TERMS.** In addition to such other terms as are placed upon his right or entitlement to renewal or reinstatement of his Louisiana license by this Order, Dr. Halldorsson hereby consents to, agrees with and acquiesces in the imposition of any additional terms, conditions or restrictions, as well as the length or nature thereof, that the Board in its sole discretion may deem necessary or appropriate to impose upon any renewed or reinstated Louisiana license should he at any time in the future decide to relocate to the state of Louisiana for the purpose of practicing medicine.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms and conditions set forth by the Texas Board Order, or by this Order by Dr. Halldorsson, shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause upon proof of such violation or failure for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Halldorsson's right or entitlement to seek renewal or reinstatement of his license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana or for such other disciplinary action as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. Rev. Stat. §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 22nd day of June, 2004.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

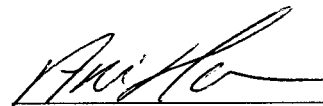
BY: K E LeBlanc MD
KIM EDWARD LEBLANC, M.D., PH.D.
President

STATE OF TEXAS

PARISH/COUNTY OF Lubbock

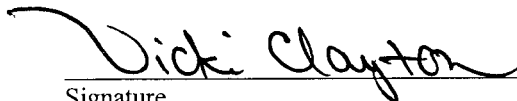
**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

I, ARI OMAR HALLDORSSON, M.D, hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 12TH day of MAY, 2004.



ARI OMAR HALLDORSSON, M.D.

WITNESSES:



Signature

Vicki Clayton

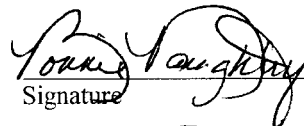
Typed Name

101 PAT ST.

Address

Levelland, Tx 79336

City, State, Zip Code



Signature

Bonnie Daughtry

Typed Name

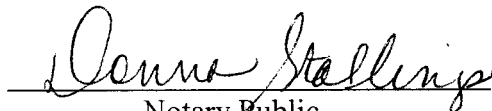
1610 24th St.

Address

Lubbock, Tx 79411

City, State, Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Lubbock, ~~Louisiana~~ ^{Texas}, this 12th day of May, 2004, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.



Notary Public

12478313-6

Notary #

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Bar #

