

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

General Correspondence Address: Post Office Box 30250, New Orleans, LA 70190-0250

[www.lsbme.org](http://www.lsbme.org)



Telephone: (504) 568-6820

FAX: (504) 568-8893

Writer's Direct Dial:

Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

----- X  
: **In The Matter Of** :  
: :  
: :  
: **PAULA K. LOVE, M.D.** :  
: **(Certificate No. 021613)** :  
: :  
: :  
: :  
----- X

**No. 03-I-017**

**CONSENT  
ORDER**  
\_\_\_\_\_

Paula K. Love, M.D. ("Dr. Love"), a physician who has been licensed to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana since 1993, but who at all times pertinent has been engaged in the practice of medicine in the state of Florida, has informed the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") that she entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board of Medicine for the State of Florida ("Florida Board"). A review of the information received by the Board in connection with this matter reveals, more particularly, that during the year 2002 Dr. Love entered into a Consent Agreement with the Florida Board whereby which she waived a finding of probable cause and the filing of an administrative complaint concerning allegations that she was unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness or impairment, in violation of Florida statutory provision.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to the Agreement Dr. Love's Florida medical license was suspended pending evaluation and recommendation by the Florida Physicians Recovery Network (the "PRN") that Respondent could return to practice with reasonable skill and safety to patients. The Consent Agreement also required Dr. Love's execution of a monitoring contract, participation in and compliance with the recommendations of the PRN, abstinence from controlled substances except those prescribed by another physician for a medically justifiable reason, payment of the costs of the Florida Board's investigation and prosecution and provided that reinstatement would be dependent upon such probationary terms and conditions as the Florida Board may determine to be reasonable. The Consent Agreement was approved by the Florida Board and became effective on February 25, 2003.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Consent Agreement*, Department of Health v. Paula Kay Love, pending before the State of Florida, Dept. of Health, Board of Med., DOH Case Number: 2002-16027 (Approved Nov. 12, 2002).

<sup>2</sup>*Final Order*, Department of Health v. Paula Kay Love, M.D., pending before the State of Florida, Dept. of Health, Board of Med., DOH Case Number: 2002-16027 (Feb. 25, 2003).

Investigation of the captioned matter was assigned to John B. Bobear, M.D., Medical Consultant/Director of Investigations for the Board. Dr. Bobear's review and analysis of the matter confirms to his satisfaction that just cause exists for recommending that a formal Administrative Complaint be filed against Dr. Love, charging her with violations of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act.<sup>3</sup>

As evidenced by her subscription hereto, Dr. Love acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information as recited herein above and, further, that proof of such information upon an administrative evidentiary hearing would establish grounds under the Louisiana Medical Practice Act for the suspension, revocation or imposition of such other terms, conditions or restrictions as the Board might deem appropriate on her license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana.

On the basis of apparently reliable information, however, the Board is persuaded that the conditions from which Dr. Love suffers may be susceptible to effective medical treatment, resulting in the maintenance or restoration of her capacity to engage in the practice of medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, provided that Dr. Love strictly observes and complies with appropriate restrictions on and conditions to maintenance of her medical license. In consideration of this finding, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Investigating Officer respecting the pending investigation, 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. Rev. Stat. §37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter, by consent.

Recognizing her right to have notice of such allegations and charges asserted against her, to administrative adjudication of such charges, at which time she 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

---

<sup>3</sup> La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(5) provides that the Board may take action against the license of a physician as a result of '[H]abitual or recurring abuse of drugs, including alcohol, which affect the central nervous system and which are capable of inducing physiological or psychological dependence;' La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(25) provides that the Board may take action against the license of a physician as a result of '[I]nability to practice medicine . . . with reasonable skill or safety to patients because of . . . excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol;' and La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(29) provides that the Board may take action against the license of a physician as a result of '[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 . . .'

by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955-965, Dr. Love, nonetheless, hereby waives her right to notice of charges and formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter and acknowledges and waives any right to which she may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951, *et seq.*, or which otherwise may be afforded to her by law, to contest her agreement to or the force and effect of this document in any court relating to the matters referred to herein. By her subscription hereto, Dr. Love 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 she waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Dr. Love 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 file a formal Administrative Complaint against her or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such Complaint 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 the license of Paula K. Love, M.D., to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 021613, and her continuing exercise of the rights and privileges thereunder shall be and are hereby conditioned upon her acceptance of and strict compliance with the following minimum terms, conditions and restrictions:

**(a) Compliance with Florida Order.** Dr. Love shall comply fully with the Consent Agreement and Final Order entered into with and by the Florida Board on November 12, 2002 and February 25, 2003, respectively, which are incorporated herein by reference.

**(b) Abstinence, Continuing Treatment, Reports to Board.** Dr. Love shall remain abstinent from controlled and other mood-altering substances, except

as may be prescribed by another physician for treatment of a *bona fide* medical condition. She shall, in addition, continue under treatment consistent with the prescription and recommendations of the treating health care professionals involved in the ongoing monitoring, therapy and treatment of her condition.

**(c) Notice of Relocation to Louisiana and Personal Appearance before the Board's Physicians' Health Committee or Designee.** In the event that Dr. Love should ever decide to return to Louisiana for the purpose of practicing medicine, she shall contact the Board and arrange an appearance before its Physicians' Health Committee or designee. At such meeting Dr. Love shall demonstrate her compliance with the terms and conditions imposed upon her license by the Florida Board, those imposed on her Louisiana medical license by this Order, discuss the status of her then-current condition and treatment regimen, as well as her intended plans for practice.

**(d) Additional Probationary Terms.** In addition to such other terms and conditions as are placed upon her Louisiana medical license by this Order, Dr. Love hereby consents to, agrees with and acquiesces in the imposition of any additional probationary terms, conditions or restrictions, as well as the length or nature thereof which the Board in its sole discretion may deem necessary or appropriate to impose upon her Louisiana license should she, at any time during her lifetime, decide to return to the state of Louisiana for the purpose of engaging in the practice of medicine.

**(e) Cooperation with Board's Probation and Compliance Officer.** Dr. Love shall immediately notify the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer of any change in her current home and professional addresses and telephone numbers, and she shall direct all matters required pursuant to this Consent Order to the attention of the Probation and Compliance Officer, with whom she shall cooperate on all matters and inquiries pertaining to her compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Consent Order.

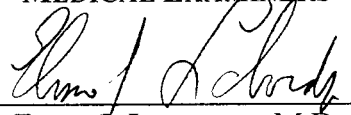
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms or conditions set forth by this Order by Dr. Love shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of her license to practice medicine 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 22 day of July, 2003.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF  
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

BY:

  
ELMO J. LABORDE, M.D.  
PRESIDENT

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
AND CONSENT ON  
FOLLOWING PAGE**

ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
AND CONSENT

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF Putnam

I, PAULA K. LOVE, M.D., hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the  
above and foregoing Order, this 23 day of June, 2003.

Paula K. Love, M.D.  
PAULA K. LOVE, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Kathy M. Goodson  
Signature  
Kathy M Goodson  
Typed Name  
913 N Summit St  
Address  
Crescent City, FL 32112  
City, State, Zip Code

Joanne Gilyard  
Signature  
Joanne Gilyard  
Typed Name  
913. N. Summit St.  
Address  
Crescent City FL 32112  
City, State, Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Crescent City, FLORIDA, this 23rd day of  
JUNE, 2003, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

Kathy M. Goodson  
Notary Public

FLORIDA DRIVER'S LICENSE # L100671536720  
ISSUED 4/18/03 EXP 5/12/09

