

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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**BEFORE THE
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

In The Matter Of

**CARRIE ANN WALKER, M.D.
(Certificate No. 023267)**

Respondent

CONSENT ORDER

06-I-433

Investigation of the captioned matter was assigned by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") to the Medical Consultant/Director of Investigations ("DOI") following receipt of a self-report by **CARRIE ANN WALKER, M.D.** ("Dr. Walker" or "Respondent") in conjunction with her 2007 medical license renewal application. Dr. Walker, a physician licensed by the Board to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, was at all times pertinent engaged in the practice of medicine in connection with the Indian Health Service in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In response to Dr. Walker's disclosure, pertinent materials were requested from the facility. The materials revealed and confirmed that Dr. Walker had been the subject of an investigation and disciplinary sanctions there relating to findings that she had engaged in unprofessional conduct in two areas.

In the first case, Dr. Walker entered into a sexual and romantic relationship with a male patient while she was his primary care physician. This relationship extended from August of 2001 through June of 2002. The nature of this relationship was revealed as a result of the patient having filed a complaint against Dr. Walker with the Indian Health Service in December of 2004.

In the second case, in March of 2005, Dr. Walker engaged in a heated argument with a pharmacist at the hospital. She exhibited inappropriate behavior and used obscene language. She later expressed remorse over this incident to the facility administration. Dr. Walker's conduct violated, among other things, the facility's bylaws, rules and regulations, as well as, the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Standards of Conduct.

Consequently, the facility imposed on Dr. Walker disciplinary action of a ten (10) day suspension. Mitigating factors included her satisfactory employment of four (4) years, her lack of prior disciplinary actions, and her remorse over her lapses in judgment. She was considered a good candidate for rehabilitation and continued employment.

Following her investigation, based on the Indian Health Service investigation, findings and recommendations, the Medical Consultant/Director of Investigations confirmed and determined to her satisfaction that just cause existed for recommending that a formal Administrative Complaint be filed against Dr. Walker, charging her with violations of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), La.Rev.Stat. §37:1285 and §37:1285A (13)¹.

¹Unprofessional conduct

As evidenced by her signing the Consent Order, Dr. Walker acknowledges that she has had ample time to review this Consent Order with the benefit of legal counsel. Dr. Walker also acknowledges that she is freely and voluntarily entering into this Consent Order and hereby acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information, and, further, that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing would establish grounds under the Act for the suspension, revocation, or other such action against her license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana as the Board might deem appropriate, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285 and §37:1285A(13).

Recognizing her rights: (a) to have notice of any allegation or charge asserted against her, (b) to administrative adjudication of such charges, at which time Dr. Walker would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, (c) to call witnesses and to present evidence on her own behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made, and (d) to a written decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to La.Rev.Stat. §§49:955-965, Dr. Walker, nonetheless, hereby waives all of these rights, including her right to formal adjudication, and, pursuant to La.Rev.Stat. §49:955(D), consents to entry of this Consent Order and the terms and conditions set forth below. By signing this Consent Order, Dr. Walker acknowledges that she waives any right to which she may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act or other law(s), including but not limited to her right to withdraw or contest her agreement to this Consent Order, or to challenge the force and effect of the Board's investigation or this Consent Order in any court or other forum. By signing this Consent Order, Dr. Walker also authorizes the DOI, as well as the DOI's legal counsel assisting her in connection with her investigation, 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 of this matter, and Dr. Walker waives any objection to such disclosures under La.Rev.Stat. §49:960. Dr. Walker expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of the information to the Board by the DOI or her legal counsel shall be without prejudice to the DOI's authority to pursue and proceed with the filing of a formal Administrative Complaint against her and to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such Administrative Complaint, should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order.

Moreover, by signing this Consent Order, Dr. Walker acknowledges that her receipt of written notification from the Board that it has received reliable information that indicates her failure to abide by the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, shall, without need for formal hearing or providing her with any right to which she may otherwise 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, constitute her consent to the immediate suspension of her license to practice medicine in this state pending the issuance of a decision by the Board following administrative adjudication of such charges.

Accordingly, based upon the information provided and upon the recommendation of the DOI assigned to this matter, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to protect 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 this Consent Order.

Thus, 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 Carrie Ann Walker, M.D. to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. R031733, is hereby **OFFICIALLY**

REPRIMANDED for unprofessional conduct.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within six (6) months of the Board's approval and acceptance of this Consent Order, Dr. Walker shall take and complete a course on boundary issues and a course on professionalism, both of which courses will be pre-approved in writing by the Board. Dr. Walker will provide certificates of satisfactory completion of both courses to the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, by signing this Consent Order, Dr. Walker acknowledges that her receipt of written notification from the Board that it has received any report that indicates her failure to comply with the requirements set forth by this Consent Order in any respect, shall, without the need for formal hearing or for providing her with any right to which she may otherwise 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, constitute her consent to the immediate suspension of her license to practice medicine in this state by the Board pending the final resolution of an administrative hearing and decision by the Board or until such time as she complies with the terms and conditions of this consent order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Walker shall pay a fine of One Thousand and No/100 (\$1,000.00) Dollars to the Board within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Consent Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any provision of this Order by Dr. Walker shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Walker's 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.

This Consent Order shall be effective the date it is approved and accepted by the signature of the representative below.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 11th day of December, 2006.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 
KIM EDWARD LEBLANC, M.D., PH.D.
PRESIDENT

In the Matter of

Carrie Ann Walker, M.D.

Consent Order

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STATE OF New Mexico

COUNTY OF Santa Fe

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

AND CONSENT

I, **Carrie Ann Walker, M.D.**, hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to the entry of the above and foregoing Order this 2 day of November, 2006.

Carrie Walker, MD

Carrie Ann Walker, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Kath Aguiar

Signature

Mary S.R. Garcia

Signature

Typed Name: XKatherine Aguiar

Typed Name: Mary S.R. Garcia

Address: POB 1975, Bernalillo, NM 87004

Address: 1700 Cerrillos Rd Santa Fe N.M.

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Santa Fe, New Mexico, this 2nd day of November, 2006, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

Stan D. Garcia
NOTARY PUBLIC