

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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In The Matter Of

No. 03-I-043

GEORGE RONALD WALTERS, M.D.
(Certificate No. 013487)

**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 George Ronald Walters, M.D. ("Dr. Walters"), a physician who 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. 013487.¹ The information indicates that Dr. Walters voluntarily informed the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Texas Board") of his intemperate use of alcohol from November 2000 through March 21, 2002. On December 13, 2002, the Texas Board and Dr. Walters entered into an Agreed Order for a period of ten years. During this time period, the Texas Board has and will conduct to monitor Dr. Walter's compliance with the terms and conditions of the Agreed Order. The terms and conditions include, but are not limited to the following: abstain from consumption of alcohol, random testing, participation in Alcoholics Anonymous, participation in an impaired physicians program and seeing a psychiatrist. To date, Dr. Walters is in full compliance with the Agreed Order.²

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Walters 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(13), (25) and (29).³

¹ Although Dr. Walters 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 George Ronald Walters, M.D., License No. E-4749, Tx. St. Board Med. Exam. (Dec. 13, 2002).

³ 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 '[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,

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. Walters, 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 hereto Dr. Walters 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. Walters 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. Walters 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 or entitlement of George Ronald Walters, M.D., to renewal or reinstatement of his license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 013487, shall be and the same is hereby conditioned upon his acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms:

permit, or certificate issued by such licensing authority which prevents or restricts practice in that state . . .,' La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(29).

(A) PRACTICE IN LOUISIANA/COMPLIANCE WITH TEXAS BOARD'S ORDER. Dr. Walters 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. Walters shall have successfully completed all terms, conditions and restrictions imposed upon his Texas medical license by the Texas Board's Agreed Order 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 the paragraph (A) above, and in the event that Dr. Walters should decide to seek reinstatement or renewal of his Louisiana medical license and/or wish to relocate to this state 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. Walters shall demonstrate his compliance with the Texas Agreed Order by providing the Board a copy of the Order terminating the Texas Agreed Order or evidence submitted by the Texas Board of an active unrestricted license to practice in Texas.

(C) ADDITIONAL TERMS. In addition to such other terms as are placed upon his right or entitlement to renewal or reinstatement of his Louisiana medical license by this Order Dr. Walters 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 medical 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. Walters shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Walters' 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.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 17th day of August, 2004.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

BY:


KIM EDWARD LEBLANC, M.D., PH.D.
President

***Acknowledgement and Consent
on Following Page***

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STATE OF TEXAS
PARISH/COUNTY OF Cameron

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

I, GEORGE RONALD WALTERS, M.D., hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 13 day of July, 2004.

George Ronald Walters, M.D.
GEORGE RONALD WALTERS, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Eleanor Busch
Signature

Lori Ridings
Signature

Eleanor Busch
Printed Name

Lori Ridings
Printed Name

1409 W A/A BAMA
Address

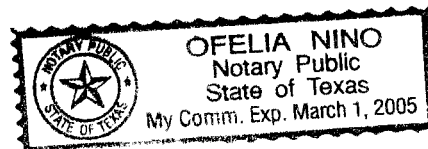
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City, State, Zip Code

Hqn, TX 78550
City, State, Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Harlingen, Tx, Louisiana, this 13th day of July, 2004, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

Ofelia Nino
Notary Public (Signature)
Ofelia NINO
Notary Printed Name



Notary No.

Bar No.