

BEFORE THE  
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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In the Matter Of

Alonzo Nelson Diodene, Jr., M.D. :  
(CERTIFICATE NO. 01078) :

Respondent. :

No. 96-I-003

CONSENT ORDER  
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Alonzo Nelson Diodene, Jr., M.D. ("Dr. Diodene"), is, as of the date hereof, a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana and principally engaged in the practice of Orthopedic Surgery in the Parish of Iberville, Plaquemine, Louisiana, where he has continuously maintained a practice since the year 1993. Predicated upon apparently reliable information, the Board undertook an investigation of Dr. Diodene's patient care administered at River West Medical Center Emergency Room on or about August 30, 1995. While a minor child was being treated in the River West Medical Center Emergency Room, Dr. Diodene engaged in verbal argument with the patient's mother, asserted he was "off the case" and removed a gun from his person placing it on the Emergency Room station countertop. He displayed this weapon on two (2) occasions during the treatment of the minor patient in the Emergency Room, causing fear and alarm to the family, patient, Hospital personnel and staff. The results of such investigation indicate that Dr. Diodene may have acted in an unprofessional manner and in such a way as to constitute abandonment of a patient.\*

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Diodene acknowledges that such information, if accurate, would provide the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect to this investigation with probable cause to initiate formal administrative proceedings against his license pursuant to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§37:1261-92,<sup>1</sup> constituting cause for the revocation, suspension or imposition of such other terms and conditions upon Dr. Diodene's license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana as the Board may deem appropriate.

AND

<sup>1</sup>La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §37:1285(A)(13) and (17).

\*Following this incident, Dr. Diodene underwent psychiatric evaluation.

On the basis of the information provided to and received by the Board and with Dr. Diodene's knowledge and consent, however, the Board is persuaded that he may maintain his license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, *provided, however,* that he strictly observes and complies with appropriate restrictions on and conditions to maintenance of such licensure. In consideration of this finding, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Board's 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 his right to have notice of allegations and charges asserted against him to administrative adjudication of such charges, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§49:955-958, and to a final decision rendered upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, Dr. Diodene nonetheless hereby waives his right to notice of allegations and charges and 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. Diodene 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 waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Dr. Diodene expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of the information to the Board by the Investigating Officer or his counsel shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to file a formal Administrative Complaint against him, 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. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D);

**IT IS ORDERED** that the license of Alonzo N. Diodene, Jr., M.D., to engage in the practice of medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 01078, be, and is hereby maintained and he is officially REPRIMANDED.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Dr. Diodene is restricted and shall refrain from having any weapon on his person or in his treatment area when seeing patients in a hospital setting, office, or any treatment area in the course of his medical practice, in the State of Louisiana.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Dr. Diodene shall pay a fine in the amount of \$3,000.00 to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners within sixty (60) days of the effective date hereof.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Diodene shall immediately notify the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer of any change in his current home and professional addresses and telephone numbers, and he shall direct all matters required pursuant to this Consent Order, including payment of the fine described hereinabove, to the attention of the Probation and Compliance Officer, with whom he shall cooperate on all matters and inquiries pertaining to his compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Consent Order.

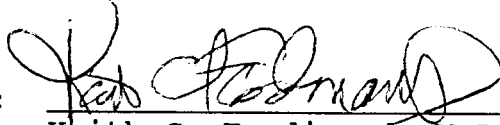
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Order as set forth hereinabove, shall be deemed adequate and/or sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the suspension and/or revocation of the medical licensure of Alonzo N. Diodene, Jr., M.D., or for such other disciplinary action as the Board deems 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.

Signed in New Orleans, Louisiana, and effective on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1997.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

BY:

  
Keith C. Ferdinand, M.D.  
President

ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
AND CONSENT

I, Alonzo N. Diodene, Jr., M.D., HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE, APPROVE, ACCEPT AND CONSENT to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1997.

  
ALONZO N. DIODENE, JR., M.D.

  
WITNESS

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