

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



830 Union Street, Suite 100

Telephone: (504) 524-6763

FAX (504) 568-8893

New Orleans, LA 70112-1499

-----X

IN RE:  
APPLICATION OF  
C. JOHN LEWIS, M.D.  
FOR MEDICAL LICENSURE

:

:

:

:

-----X

DECISION  
\_\_\_\_\_

An administrative hearing was convened before the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the Board) on Friday, December 7, 1990, to consider the application of C. John Lewis, M.D. (the Applicant) for medical licensure in the State of Louisiana. Present representing the Board was a quorum of its membership including Drs. Elmo J. Laborde, Richard M. Nunnally, and Keith C. Ferdinand, with Dr. Laborde presiding. Also present were the Applicant and his legal counsel, Mr. Don Miller; Mr. James J. Thornton, Independent Counsel for the Board; and Mr. Philip O. Bergeron, Attorney for the Board.

After consideration of the evidence and the sworn testimony of the Applicant, the Board renders the following findings of fact and decision referent to the application for licensure.

## 1.

Applicant graduated with a degree in medicine in 1964 from Sydney University, NSW, Australia. Thereafter he completed a two year internship at Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney in 1966 and a three year residency program in pediatrics, the final two years at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, New York. Applicant did a residency in psychiatry at Arizona Health Services Center in Tucson, Arizona.

## 2.

During 1981 while practicing psychiatry in Tucson, Arizona, Applicant became sexually involved with a patient. After Applicant terminated the professional relationship, the social relationship continued until 1986. When Applicant terminated the social

- 2 -

relationship, the woman complained to the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners. After an informal hearing, the Arizona Board censured Applicant for his conduct.

3.

Applicant also engaged in another sexual relationship with a former patient which occurred after the professional relationship had terminated.

4.

In July, 1987, Applicant was granted medical licensure by the North Dakota Board of Medical Examiners subject to the following conditions: (1) that upon receiving any complaint, substantiated by an affidavit, which alleged that Applicant had engaged in sexual contact with a patient or former patient, the Board would summarily revoke Applicant's license to practice medicine in North Dakota; and (2) upon receipt of such a complaint, Applicant would forfeit all rights to a hearing with reference to any action taken by the North Dakota State Board of Medical Examiners.

5.

In January, 1989, Applicant was granted medical licensure by the State of Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development (The Division of Occupational Licensing through the Office of the Attorney General) subject to the following conditions: (1) that upon approval by the Alaska Board of Medical Examiners, Applicant would be granted a conditional medical license for two years; (2) that Applicant would remain under the care of a Board approved psychiatrist for the two year period; and (3) should Applicant fail to meet the conditions attached to his license or should the treating psychiatrist report that Applicant represents a danger to his patients or the public, his license would be summarily suspended and a formal hearing scheduled.

6.

On November 1, 1990, the Alaska State Medical Board lifted the conditions on Applicant's license and issued him an unconditional license to practice medicine in Alaska.

**DECISION**

**IT IS ORDERED** that Applicant shall be issued a temporary permit to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana subject to the following condition: Applicant is to take and pass the next SPEX Examination for which he is now eligible. Should Applicant fail to

- 3 -

pass the SPEX Examination the temporary permit shall become null and void.

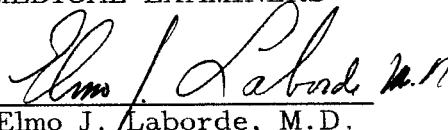
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that should Applicant pass the SPEX Examination, he shall be granted a license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana subject to the following conditions:

1. Two years after the granting of licensure, the Applicant shall make a personal appearance before the Board and at that time shall present a current written psychiatric evaluation attesting to his moral, mental, and physical competence. This shall be from a Board Certified psychiatrist acceptable to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

2. Any complaint, supported by credible evidence, received by the Board alleging sexual involvement between Applicant and a patient or former patient shall be considered grounds for the suspension or revocation of his medical license.

Lafayette, Louisiana  
15 Dec, 1990

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By   
Elmo J. Laborde, M.D.  
President