

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



830 Union Street, Suite 100  
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New Orleans, LA 70112-1499

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	:	NO. 89-A-047
In The Matter of	:	
ROBERT M. STARNES, M.D.	:	
(Certificate No. 8876 )	:	
	:	
<i>Respondent</i>	:	<b>CONSENT</b>
	:	<b>ORDER</b>

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The Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") has alleged that Robert M. Starnes, M.D. ("Dr. Starnes"), a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana has written, issued, dispenses and/or administered controlled substances to various patients without legitimate medical justification and in other than a legal or legitimate manner.

Predicated upon such information, the above-entitled and numbered proceeding was noticed and docketed for hearing before the Board upon Administrative Complaint lodged by the Investigating Officer, Dr. F. P. Bordelon, Jr., specifying alleged violations of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, to wit: [p]rescribing, suspending, or administering habit-forming or legally controlled substances in other than a legal or legitimate manner," LSA-R.S. §37-1285(A)(6); [c]ontinuing or recurring medical practice which fails to satisfy the prevailing and usually accepted standards of medical practice in this State," LSA-R.S. §37:1285(A)(14); and "[p]rofessional or medical incompetency" in connection with the indications, contra-indications and dependency inducing potential of such controlled substances, LSA-R.S.,§37-1285(A)(12).

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Starnes acknowledges and admits to the violations of the Medical Practice Act as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Dr. Starnes, recognizing his right to administrative adjudication of such charges pursuant to LSA-R.S. §49:955-58, and to a final decision rendered upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, nonetheless waives his right to such formal adjudication and final decision and, pursuant to LSA-R.S. §49:955(D), consents to the order set forth hereinafter. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Starnes also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto 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.

Based upon the information provided, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Investigating Officer, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to insure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the State of Louisiana, pursuant to LSA-R.S. §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 invested in the Board by LSA-R.S. §37:1285 and LSA-R.S. §49:955(D):

IT IS ORDERED that the license of Robert M. Starns, M.D. to engage in the practice of medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 8876 be and the same is hereby SUSPENDED for a period of one (1) year effective as of April 5, 1990.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Starns medical license be and the same is hereby placed on PROBATION for a period of three (3) years from the effective date hereof.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that that the above mentioned order of suspension be and the same is hereby SUSPENDED 6 MONTHS henceforth, as of October 6, 1990, at which time Dr. Starns shall be permitted to return to the practice of medicine; provided, however, that Dr. Starns' right and entitlement to return to the practice of medicine on October 6, 1990, shall be expressly conditioned on his strict compliance with the following probationary terms and conditions:

(a) *RESTRICTION ON PRESCRIPTION, DISPENSATION, AND ADMINISTRATION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.* Dr. Starns may not, at any time following the date of execution hereof, and for the duration of the probationary period defined herein, prescribe, dispense, or administer any scheduled controlled substance which may be classified, defined, enumerated, or included in 21 C.F.R. §§1308, et seq and/or LSA-R.S. §49:964 and any substance which may hereinafter be included and identified as a scheduled controlled substance by amendment or revision of the cited regulations or statute. This probation shall not extend to medications ordered or prescriptions written by Dr. Starns for institutional or hospitalized in-patients under the permit or license of said institution or hospital. Nor shall this probation pertain to an enumerated listing of controlled substances which the Board has specifically permitted and authorized Dr. Starns to prescribe, dispense and/or administer, which listing is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference. Moreover, during the probationary period defined hereinabove, the Board shall retain the full discretion to modify or limit Exhibit "A" at the request of Dr. Starns or upon its own motion.

(b) *Monetary Fine.* Dr. Starns shall pay to the Board a fine in the amount of TWO THOUSAND AND NO/100 (\$2,000.00) DOLLARS, to be paid in full on or before April 30, 1990.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation of or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions of this Consent Order by Dr. Starns shall, upon proof of such violation or failure be deemed just cause for imposition of the original term of suspension contained hereinabove, and the further suspension or revocation of the medical license of Robert M. Starns, M.D., or for such other disciplinary action as the Board deems appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in LSA-R.S. §37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Administrative Complaint filed on December 7, 1989, be and the same is hereby, dismissed, without prejudice.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 5 day of April, 1990.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF  
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: Ike Muslow  
IKE MUSLOW, M.D., President

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSENT

I, Robert M. Starns, M.D., hereby ACKNOWLEDGE, APPROVE, ACCEPT, AND CONSENT to entry of the above and foregoing Order of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and the terms, conditions, and restrictions imposed therein and do so of my own free will and accord this 5 day of April, 1990.

Robert M. Starns, M.D.  
ROBERT M. STARNs, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Virginia Dickens  
Wendy Annina

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In The Matter of

ROBERT M. STARNES, M.D.  
(Certificate No. 88760)

Respondent

: NO. 89-A-047

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:  
: CONSENT  
ORDER  
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**EXHIBIT A**

The substances enumerated below constitute an inclusive list of all controlled substances which Robert M. Starnes, M.D. is authorized to prescribe, dispense, and/or administer pursuant to the terms of the Consent Order executed by him and approved by the Board on April 5, 1990.

APAP C Codeine Tabs No. 2	Codeine 1.8gm/100ml c 1 or more non-nar ing.9804
APAP C Codeine Tabs No. 3	Codeine 1.8gm/100ml c 1 or more non-nar ing.9804
Amytal Tabs	Amobarbital 2125
Ascriptin/Codeine Tab No.2	Codeine 1.8gm/100ml c 1 or more non-nar ing.9804
Ascriptin/Codeine Tab No. 3	Codeine 1.8gm/100ml c 1 or more non-nar ing.9804
Aspirin C Codeine Tabs 60mg	Codeine 1.8gm/100ml c 1 or more non-nar ing.9804
Aspirin C Codeine Tabs 50mg	Codeine 1.8gm/100ml c 1 or more non-nar ing.9804
Ativan Tabs	Lorazepam 2885
BuSpar	Buspirone HC1
	Butalbital 2100
Butisol Sod Elix	Butabarbital 2100
Butisol Sod Tab	Butabarbital 2100
Calcitrine Syr	Codeine 200mg/100ml c 1 or more non-narc.ing
Centrax Caps	Prazepam 2764
Centrax Tabs	Prazepam 2764
Dalmane Caps	Flurazepam 2767
Darvocet-N 100 Tabs	Dextropropoxyphene 9278
Darvocet-N 50 Tabs	Dextropropoxyphene 9278
Darvon Caps	Dextropropoxyphene 9278
Darvon-N Susp	Dextropropoxyphene 9278
Darvon-N c ASA	Dextropropoxyphene 9278
Equagesic Tabs	Meprobamate 2820
Florinal Caps	Butalbital 2100
Genagesic Tabs 65mg	Dextropropoxyphene 9278
Halcion Tabs	Triazolam 2887
Libritabs	
Librium Amps	
Librium Caps	
Limbitrol DS Tabs 10/25	
Lomtil Liq.	

Lomtil Tab	
Loprazolam	
<del>Lorcet HD Caps</del>	} <i>Rms</i>
<del>Lorcet Plus Tabs</del>	
<del>Lorcet Tabs</del>	
Lormetazepam	
Mepro Analgesic No.2	
Mepro Compound Tabs	
Meprobamate Tabs	
Meprospan Tabs	
Meprospan Caps 400 mg	
Micrainin Tabs	
Miltown Tabs	
Noctec Caps 500 mg	
Noctec Syr	
Nucofed Pediatric Exp.	
Oxazepam Caps	
Oxazolam	
Pediacof Syr	
Phazyme c Phenobarbital Tabs	Phenobarbital 2285
Phenergan Sry VC c Codeine	
Phenobarbital Elix	
Phenobarbital Sod.Inj.	
Phenobarbital Tabs	Phenobarbital 2285
Placidyl Caps	
Polyhistine CS Syrup	
Restoril Caps	
Serax Caps	
Soma Compound Tabs c Codeine	
Synalgos DC Caps	
Tranxene Tabs	
Xanax Tabs	