LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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In The Matter Of:

BURT S. STRUG, M.D. (Certificate No. 010880)

No. 95-I-034

CONSENT ORDER

The above-entitled proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following receipt of information relating to Burt S. Strug, M.D. ("Dr. Strug"), 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 Arizona, but who is also licensed by the Board to engage in the practice of medicine in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 010880. Such information reveals, more particularly, that Dr. Strug voluntarily entered into a Stipulation and Order ("Order") with the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners ("Arizona Board"). Pursuant to such Order, Dr. Strug was required to undergo counseling with a counselor approved by the Board, at a frequency to be determined by the counselor, regarding coping with the death and dying of patients. The Order further required that such counselor provide quarterly written reports to the Board regarding Dr. Strug's progress during the months of March, June, October and December, 1994. Such investigation further indicates that Dr. Strug failed to advise the Board of the existence of the Arizona Board's investigation or action on his 1994 or 1995 renewal applications for his Louisiana medical license.

¹Stipulation and Order, *In the Matter of Burt Strug, M.D.*, License No. 9782, pending before the Ariz. Bd. Med. Exam. (Dec. 21, 1994).

Investigation of the captioned matter was assigned to John B. Bobear, M.D., the Medical Consultant/Director of Investigations for the Board. Dr. Bobear's review and analysis of the matter confirms to his satisfaction that just cause exists for recommending that a formal Administrative Complaint be filed against Dr. Strug, charging him with violations of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act).²

Although Dr. Strug denies any violation of the Act he, nevertheless, acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information as recited hereinabove and, further, that proof of such information upon an administrative evidentiary hearing would establish grounds under the Act for the suspension, revocation or imposition of such other terms, conditions or restrictions as the Board might deem appropriate on his license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana.

Recognizing his right to have notice of such allegations and charges asserted against him, to administrative adjudication of such 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. §§49:955-965, Dr. Strug, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to notice of charges and formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D), consents to entry of the Consent Order set forth hereinafter and acknowledges and waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act 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 relating to the matters referred to herein. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Strug 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. Strug expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of information to the Board by the Investigating Officer or his legal counsel shall

²La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A(3) provides that the Board may take action against the license of a physician as the result of '[F]raud, deceit, or perjury in obtaining any diploma, license, or permit pertaining to this Part.'

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.

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 Consent 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 the license of Burt S. Strug, M.D. to engage in the practice of medicine in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 010880, be, and the same is hereby, effective as of the date hereof, placed ON PROBATION for a period of two (2) years from the date hereof; provided, however, that Dr. Strug's continuing exercise of the rights and privileges thereunder, shall be conditioned upon his acceptance of and strict compliance with the following minimum terms, conditions and restrictions:

- a) Practice of Medicine in Louisiana Prohibited During the Term of Probation. Dr. Strug shall not engage in the practice of medicine in the state of Louisiana during the term of the probationary period imposed hereinabove.
- b) Satisfaction of Terms and Conditions Imposed on His License by the Arizona Board. Dr. Strug shall, if he has not heretofore done so, successfully complete each of the terms imposed upon his Arizona medical license by the Arizona Order and/or any subsequent Order which may be issued by the Arizona Board, all of which are incorporated herein by reference. Dr. Strug shall, and does by his subscription hereto, authorize the Arizona Board to provide the Board with written and verbal reports relative to the status of his license and his compliance with the terms and conditions imposed by the Order.
- c) Notice of Relocation to Louisiana and Personal Appearance Before Board. Following the satisfaction of those terms set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) above, in the event that Dr. Strug should decide to relocate to Louisiana for the purpose of practicing medicine, he shall

contact the Board at least sixty (60) days in advance of his return to Louisiana to arrange an appearance before the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting. At such meeting, Dr. Strug shall demonstrate his compliance with each and all of the terms imposed upon him by this Consent Order, and he shall discuss with the Board his intended plans for the practice of medicine in this state.

d) Verification of Compliance/Probation Officer. Dr. Strug shall immediately notify the Board's Compliance/Probation Officer of any change in his current home and professional addresses and telephone numbers, and he shall cooperate with the Compliance/Probation Officer on all matters or inquiries pertaining to the conditions of this Consent Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation of or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions set forth by this Consent Order by Dr. Strug shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Strug's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, 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.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 21 day of September, 1995.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

BY:

F. P. BORDELON, JR.,

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSENT

I, BURT S. STRUG, M.D., hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Consent Order, this <u>Uthan</u> day of <u>September</u>, 1995.

BURT S. STRUG, M.D.

WITNESS: