

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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## BEFORE THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

**NUMBER: 06-A-017**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DAVID GREGORY WATSON, M.D.**

**(APPLYING FOR LICENSURE)**

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### OPINION AND RULING

This matter comes before the Board pursuant to an Administrative Complaint to deny the application of Respondent, David Gregory Watson, M. D., for licensure in the State of Louisiana. The matter was heard before a panel of the Board consisting of Drs. Gage-White, Dawson, Amusa, Ferdinand, Bourgeois, and LeBlanc, President. Dr. Watson, despite proper notice, was absent and unrepresented.

The record reveals that Dr. Watson applied for a license to practice medicine in Louisiana on January 25, 2006. In his application, he answered "yes" to a number of questions. His affidavit of explanation of those answers stated that, while practicing medicine in the State of Texas, he had lost his hospital privileges on two occasions because having tested positive for cocaine. His medical license in Texas was suspended and then voluntarily surrendered. He further stated that he had successfully completed a five month course of inpatient drug rehab treatment, was enrolled in a random monitoring program administered by the Texas Medical Association, and attends from five to seven Alcoholics Anonymous meetings per week, including a Caduceus meeting. He stated that he now feels healthier and happier than at any time in his life.

The records of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, which are in evidence before us, show that Respondent was temporarily suspended on August 11, 2004, because of cocaine use. Those records further show that on June 17, 2005, the Texas Board accepted the voluntary

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surrender of Respondent's license to practice medicine in that state, and his license was therefore cancelled.


R. S. 37:1285A(5) of the Medical Practice Act, provides that the Board may refuse to license an applicant because of habitual or recurring use of drugs, which affect the central nervous system, and which are capable of inducing physiological or psychological dependence.

R. S. 37:1285A(29) provides that this Board may refuse to issue a license to an applicant who has surrendered his license to practice medicine in another state when administrative charges are pending against him.

Dr. Watson is in clear violation of both of the above provisions. It is the long standing policy of this Board to deny licensure to an applicant whose license to practice in another state has been suspended or surrendered while under threat of administrative action. We can see no reason to depart from that policy in this case. The application is therefore **DENIED**. Applicant shall pay all costs of this proceeding.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2006.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

  
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**KIM EDWARD LEBLANC, M. D., PH.D., PRESIDENT**