

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
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**BEFORE THE
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

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(504) _____

IN THE MATTER OF:

OTTO CRAWFORD ALLANSON, LRT
(Credential No. 321377)
Respondent

No. 2021-I-639

CONSENT ORDER

The above-captioned matter was docketed for review by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following the arrest of Otto Crawford Allanson, LRT, ("Mr. Allanson") on May 30, 2021 for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. At all times pertinent, Mr. Allanson had been licensed and engaged in practice as a respiratory therapist in and around New Orleans, Louisiana, as evidenced by Credential No. 321377.

Review of the captioned matter was assigned to Lawrence H. Cresswell, III, D.O., J.D., Director of Investigations (the "Investigating Officer") for the Board. Mr. Allanson was arrested on May 30, 2021 for reckless operation of a motor vehicle in violation of La. R.S. 14:99 and operation of a vehicle while in intoxicated in violation of La. R.S. 14:98. Mr. Allanson had been licensed to practice respiratory therapy in November 2019 and agreed to one year of monitoring upon issuance of his license due to a past history of alcohol and substance use. Mr. Allanson had been released from the monitoring agreement on November 19, 2020, having satisfied all requirements. This new arrest, however, raised concerns that Mr. Allanson may be suffering from a condition that could affect his ability to practice as a respiratory therapist.

Mr. Allanson was referred for an evaluation at a Board-approved facility. The evaluation report indicated that Mr. Allanson would benefit from an intensive outpatient program ("IOP") for substance use disorders. The report stated that Mr. Allanson is safe to practice with reasonable skill and safety and can continue practicing while attending an IOP. Further, the evaluation report recommended that Mr. Allanson adhere to a monitoring contract and complete IOP aftercare in accordance with program recommendations which should include participation in self-help recovery groups.

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Mr. Allanson acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that proof of such information upon administrative

evidentiary hearing would establish sufficient cause to take action with respect to his respiratory therapist license pursuant to the Respiratory Therapist Act.¹

Recognizing his right to have notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be asserted against him in these proceedings, at which time Mr. Allanson 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. R.S. 49:955–65, Mr. Allanson, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to notice and formal adjudication and pursuant to La. R.S. 49:955(D) consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Mr. Allanson acknowledges that he hereby waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:951 *et seq.*, or which may be afforded to him by any other law to contest or appeal his agreement to or the force and effect of the Board’s investigation or this Order in any court or other forum. By his subscription hereto, Mr. Allanson also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto to present this 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. R.S. 49:960. Mr. Allanson expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of such information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer’s authority to proceed with the adjudication of an administrative complaint against him or to the Board’s capacity to adjudicate such complaint should the Board decline to approve this order.

Based upon the information provided, and upon the recommendation of the Investigating Officer, the Board hereby concludes that, consistent with its mandate under La. R.S. 37:1261, the interests of public health, safety, and welfare 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 vested in the Board by La. R.S. 37:3358 and La. R.S. 49:955(D);

IT IS ORDERED that the license of Otto Crawford Allanson, LRT, to engage in the practice of respiratory therapy in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Credential No. 321377 be, and the same is hereby, placed **ON PROBATION** for a period of three (3) years (the “probationary period”); *provided, however*, that Mr. Allanson’s continuing exercise of rights and privileges granted thereby, shall be conditioned upon and subject to his acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms, conditions and restrictions:

- (1) Maintenance of Complete Abstinence.** Mr. Allanson shall maintain complete and total abstinence from the use of alcohol, controlled and any mood-altering substance for the duration of the probationary period, except as may be prescribed by a treating physician for a *bona fide* medical condition. Mr. Allanson shall personally inform the Board’s Probation and Compliance Officer, both orally and in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours of the prescription or administration of any controlled or mood-altering substance received by him from any physician for treatment of a *bona fide* medical

¹ Pursuant to La. R.S. 37:3358(A), “The board may deny, refuse to renew, suspend, revoke, or impose probationary conditions on a license if the licensee or applicant for license has been found guilty of unprofessional conduct which has endangered or is likely to endanger the health, welfare, or safety of the public. Such unprofessional conduct shall include... (7) Habitual or recurring abuse of drugs, including alcohol, which affect the central nervous system and which are capable of inducing physiological or psychological dependence.”

condition. If the prescription is from another physician, he shall also inform his treating/monitoring physician in this same manner.

- (2) Allied Professionals Health Program Agreement, Reports to Board.** Mr. Allanson shall enroll in and continue to maintain a monitoring agreement with the APHP for a period of no less than three (3) years. Mr. Allanson shall continue in, abide by and strictly adhere to all recommendations for ongoing treatment and monitoring which are contained in such agreement, as well as those recommended by his treating physicians and those prescribed by any other health care provider involved in his care to the extent that they continue to follow him. Mr. Allanson shall, in addition, authorize and cause the APHP to submit to the Board or its designee, not less frequently than quarterly, written reports and/or verbal reports, should the Board or its designee desire the latter, on his compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Order and his monitoring agreement.
- (3) Notification of Order and Authorization.** During the probationary period, Mr. Allanson shall provide a copy of this Order to each hospital, clinic, facility or other employer or prospective employer at which or for whom he provides services as a respiratory therapist in this state. Additionally, upon request of the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer Mr. Allanson shall immediately execute and provide, as may be necessary, authorization to obtain any and all peer review records or other employment records pertaining to Mr. Allanson from any hospital, institution, physician, or other health care entity where Mr. Allanson is employed.
- (4) Drug and Alcohol Screens.** Mr. Allanson shall submit to blood, urine, saliva and/or hair collection for testing for the presence of alcohol and/or controlled and other mood-altering substances at a frequency determined by the APHP. Unless and until this condition is modified or rescinded by the Board or its designee, he shall authorize and cause such testing facility to report the results of such drug screens to the Board or its designee for the duration of the probationary period.
- (5) Self-Reporting of Violations.** Mr. Allanson shall immediately self-report in writing to the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer any violation of or failure to adhere to the terms, conditions, or restrictions of this Order. Furthermore, Mr. Allanson shall immediately self-report in writing to the Board any personal action or inaction which constitutes a violation of the Act.
- (6) Cooperation with Board's Probation and Compliance Officer.** Mr. Allanson 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 Order to the attention of the Probation and Compliance Officer. Mr. Allanson shall cooperate with the Probation and Compliance Officer on all matters and inquiries pertaining to his compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order, specifically including without limitation providing cooperation and assistance to the Board, its designee, or the APHP in obtaining any records under Sections 2, 3, and 4 of this Consent Order.
- (7) Absence from the State/Practice/Effect on Probation.** Should Mr. Allanson at any time be absent from the State of Louisiana, relocate to and/or take up residency in another state or country, or discontinue practicing as a respiratory therapist for a period


- of thirty (30) days or more he will so advise the Board in writing. In such instance, the probation ordered herein and all terms, conditions and restrictions thereof shall be deemed interrupted and extended and shall not commence again until Mr. Allanson notifies the Board in writing that he has resumed the practice of respiratory therapy in Louisiana.
- (8) Probation Monitoring Fee.** For each year of the probationary period, Mr. Allanson shall pay the Board an annual probation monitoring fee of Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars. Payment of the initial fee shall be due not later than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Order. All subsequent annual payments shall be due on or before the anniversary date of the initial fee payment.
- (9) Effect of Violation/Sanction.** By his subscription hereto, Mr. Allanson acknowledges that his receipt of written notification that the Board has received reliable information indicating his failure to comply with the requirements set forth by this Order in any respect shall, without the need for formal hearing or for providing him with any right to which he may otherwise be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:951, et seq., or which otherwise may be afforded to him by law, constitute his irrevocable consent to the immediate suspension of his license to practice respiratory therapy in this state pending a hearing before the Board and the conclusion of the administrative proceeding by issuance of a final decision following administrative adjudication of such charges.
- (10) Certification of Compliance with Probationary Terms.** At least sixty (60) days prior to the conclusion of the probationary period imposed herein, Mr. Allanson shall provide the Board with an affidavit certifying that he has complied with each of the terms of probation imposed by this Order. The probationary period and all of its terms and conditions shall be, and shall be deemed to be, extended and continued in full force and effect pending Mr. Allanson's compliance with the requirements of this provision.
- (11) Effective Date.** This Consent Order shall be effective as of the date it is approved and accepted by the Board as shown by the signature of the Board's representative below.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation of or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms set forth by this Order by Mr. Allanson shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such other action against Mr. Allanson's license to practice respiratory therapy in the state of Louisiana as the Board may deem appropriate as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. R.S. 37:3358.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 24th day of January, 2022.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 
LESTER W. JOHNSON, M.D.
President

Acknowledgment and Consent on Following Page

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF Jefferson

I, Otto Crawford Allanson, LRT, hereby acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to seek the advice and guidance of legal counsel with respect to this Consent Order and that all of its terms and conditions have been fully explained to me and/or that I fully understand them. I further acknowledge that I approve, accept, and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 8 day of December, 2021

[Signature]
OTTO CRAWFORD ALLANSON, LRT

WITNESSES:

[Signature]
Signature

DAPHNE SMITH
Typed Name

2122 N CAUSEWAY BLVD
Street Address

METAIRIE LA 70001
City/State/Zip Code

[Signature]
Signature

Rhoda G Dufrene
Typed Name

2122 N Causeway Blvd
Street Address

metairie, LA 70001
City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8 day of December, 2021 in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

[Signature]
Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Jean M Gambino

Notary/Bar No.: 80856

Commission expires: at death

