



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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BEFORE THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

No. 2022-I-663

MELISSA ROSE BARRETT, M.D.
(*Credential No. MD.026258*)
Respondent

CONSENT ORDER

Melissa Rose Barrett, M.D. ("Dr. Barrett") is a physician who is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners ("the Board"), as evidenced by Credential No. MD.026258. At all times relevant hereto, Dr. Barrett was engaged in the practice of medicine in and around Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

On October 31, 2023, Dr. Barrett was convicted, by unanimous jury verdict, of one count of tax evasion in violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7201, a felony, in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana.¹ A sentencing date has not yet been set, and the Board is aware that post-trial motions may be filed. Dr. Barrett nonetheless desires to enter into the present Consent Order to address the status of her Louisiana medical license at this time.

Predicated upon the foregoing information, the Investigating Officer assigned by the Board with respect to this matter has determined that reasonable cause exists to file formal charges against Dr. Barrett for violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), pursuant to La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(1).²

As evidenced by her subscription hereto, Dr. Barrett acknowledges that the above-described information would constitute probable cause for the institution of administrative proceedings against her medical license and that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing could establish grounds under the Act for the suspension or revocation of her license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, or for such other action as the Board might deem appropriate.

Recognizing her right to have notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be filed in this matter, at which time Dr. Barrett would be entitled to be represented by legal

¹ See Verdict Form, *United States v. Melissa Rose Barrett*, No. 3:22-cr-00071, (M.D. La. Oct. 31, 2023), ECF No. 94.

² La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(1) ("Conviction of a crime or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a criminal charge constituting a felony under the laws of Louisiana or of the United States.").

counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence on her 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. 49:950 *et seq.*, Dr. Barrett, nonetheless, hereby waives her right to notice of charges, formal adjudication and written decision and pursuant to La. R.S. 49:975(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Moreover, by her subscription hereto, Dr. Barrett also waives any right to which she may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:950 *et seq.*, or which otherwise may be afforded to her by law to contest her agreement to or the force and effect of the Board's investigation or this document in any court or other forum or body relating to the matters referred to herein. By her subscription hereto, Dr. Barrett 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 and she waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:977.2. Further, Dr. Barrett 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 filing and adjudication of an Administrative Complaint against her, or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate any charges that may be filed in this matter should the Board decline to approve this 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 ensure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state, pursuant to La. R.S. 37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter by consent.³ Accordingly, in consideration of the foregoing, and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. R.S. 37:1285 and La. R.S. 49:975(D);

IT IS ORDERED that the license of Melissa Rose Barrett, M.D., to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Credential No. MD.026258, be and is hereby placed on ***INDEFINITE SUSPENSION***.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the reissuance or reinstatement of Dr. Barrett's license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana shall be subject to her acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms, conditions and restrictions:

1. Suspension; Reissuance/Reinstatement. Dr. Barrett shall not practice medicine in the State of Louisiana until and unless the Board issues and serves on her a written order reissuing or reinstating her medical license. As express conditions to Dr. Barrett's petition or request of the Board for such an order, Dr. Barrett shall have: (1) either (a) been released from any period of incarceration or (b) received a court order vacating or overturning her criminal conviction; (2) scheduled and met with the Investigating Officer of the Board to discuss her then-current status and plans for resumption of practice; (3) satisfied the eligibility and other requirements of the Board's rules governing license issuance or reinstatement as of the date of her petition or request, La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, ch. 3; and (4) demonstrated to the Board's satisfaction her competency to resume practice with skill and safety to patients. It is within the Board's discretion to continue Dr. Barrett's suspension during any period of supervised release or

³ The Board has considered the guidelines for minimum and maximum disciplinary dispositions and the aggravating and mitigating circumstances apparent from the particular facts and circumstances of this matter. *See* La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, §§ 9714; 9716.

probation. Thereafter, any petition or request for reissuance or reinstatement of medical licensure made by Dr. Barrett shall be granted or denied, at the sole discretion of the Board, and on such probationary terms, conditions and/or restrictions as the Board may then deem appropriate.

2. **Effective Date.** This Consent Order shall be effective on the date it is approved and accepted by the Board as shown by the signature of its representative below.

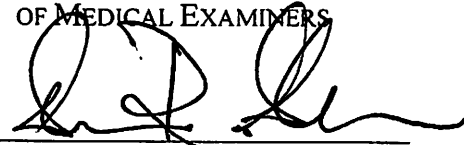
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions set forth by this Order by Dr. Barrett shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Barrett's license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, or for such other action as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. R.S. 37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a Public Record, and shall likewise be available on the Board's website, <https://www.lsbme.la.gov/>, under "Disciplinary Actions", and shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank ("NPDB").

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 25th day of March, 2024.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:



TERRIE R. THOMAS, M.D.

President

(Acknowledgment and Consent on Following Page)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT

STATE OF LOUISIANA
COUNTY/PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

I, MELISSA ROSE BARRETT, M.D., 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 without duress and of my own free will and accord, this 29th day of Feb, 2024.

Melissa Rose Barrett
MELISSA ROSE BARRETT, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Brian Hobson
Signature

Brian Hobson
Typed Name

440 Louisiana, ste 200
Street Address

Houston, TX 77002
City/State/Zip Code

John S. McLendon
Signature

JOHN S. MCLENDON
Typed Name

12345 PERKINS RD.
Street Address

B.R. LA 70610
City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of February, 2024, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

Shelby LaPlante
Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Shelby LaPlante
Notary/Bar No.: 38,232
Commission expires: at death

