



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
Phone: (504) 568-6820; Fax: (504) 324-0994
Web site: <http://www.lsbme.la.gov>

BEFORE THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

No. 2024-I-511

IN THE MATTER OF:

JAMES S. ROBERTSON, M.D.
(Credential No. MD.13566R),
Respondent

CONSENT ORDER

James S. Robertson, M.D. ("Dr. Robertson") is a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana pursuant to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act ("the Act"), La. R.S. 37:1261 *et seq.*, as evidenced by Credential No. MD.13566R, who at all relevant times has been engaged in the practice of internal medicine in and around Shreveport, Louisiana. Dr. Robertson has no prior disciplinary action before the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board"). Dr. Robertson had previously entered into a monitoring agreement with the Healthcare Professionals Foundation of Louisiana (the "HPFL"), which ended in 2003.

On or around July 23, 2024, the Board received apparently reliable information that Dr. Robertson allegedly arrived at work late. On July 13, 2024, Dr. Robertson arrived at 2:00 p.m. for a procedure scheduled at 1:00 p.m., and he was reported to be in an impaired state and made inappropriate comments at about 2:00 p.m. on July 13, 2024. Dr. Robertson was asked to submit to testing for impairment, but he left the facility and did not return until approximately 9:00 p.m. when he tested positive for amphetamines without a valid prescription.

Dr. Robertson's employer suspended him, and Dr. Robertson underwent an evaluation at a Board-approved facility from August 5-7, 2024. Dr. Robertson's evaluators diagnosed him with opioid use disorder in relapse and adjustment disorder due to, *inter alia*, ongoing legal proceedings. The evaluators concluded that Dr. Robertson was not fit to practice at that time, and they recommended that he enter into an HPFL monitoring agreement and undergo inpatient treatment. Dr. Robertson completed the recommended inpatient treatment on October 25, 2024, and entered into a five-year monitoring agreement with the HPFL on October 29, 2024.

In his response to the Board, Dr. Robertson explained that his late arrival was due to miscommunication with his patient's parents about the timing of the procedure scheduled that day. He also explained that, due to his prior experience, he believed that any drug test he was ordered to take must be completed the same day but not immediately. Dr. Robertson also denied having any alcohol the day of the incident.

In a November 14, 2024 meeting with the assigned Investigating Officer, Dr. Robertson acknowledged that he began drinking during contentious legal proceedings and that he had been drinking the night before the procedure. He also acknowledged that he tested positive for amphetamines due to taking Adderall without a current valid prescription. Dr. Robertson acknowledged that behavior like that alleged could result in disciplinary action against his license.¹

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Robertson acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgment and the reported information would provide the Investigating Officer with probable cause to pursue administrative proceedings against him for violations of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), and that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing would establish sufficient cause to take action against his license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana. In consideration of this finding, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Investigating Officer, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of this state against the unprofessional, unqualified, and unsafe practice of medicine, La. R.S. 37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter by consent.²

Recognizing his right to notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be asserted against him in these proceedings, at which time Dr. Robertson 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. 49:975 *et seq.*, Dr. Robertson, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to notice and formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. R.S. 49:975(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Dr. Robertson acknowledges that he hereby waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:950 *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 Consent Order in any court or other forum. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Robertson 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 he waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:977.2. Dr. Robertson 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 Consent Order. 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);

¹ See La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(12) ("An inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill or safety due to mental illness or deficiency, including but not limited to deterioration through the aging process or the loss of motor skills or excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol.").

² 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. La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, §§ 9714; 9716.

IT IS ORDERED that the license of James S. Robertson, M.D., to engage in the practice of medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Credential No. MD.13566R, be and the same is hereby **OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED**, for the above-described conduct.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within one-hundred and eighty (180) days of the effective date of this Order, Dr. Robertson shall complete the free online course “Laws and Rules for Louisiana Physicians,” which may be accessed through the following link, <https://www.lsbme.la.gov/content/board-orientations-online-courses>. Upon completion of the course, Dr. Robertson shall complete the verification process and obtain a certificate of completion that will be submitted to the Board or its designee by the course provider.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the date of this Order, Dr. Robertson shall pay to the Board a fine in the amount of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Robertson shall, within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the date of this Order, pay to the Board the costs incurred in this matter, including attorneys’ fees, in the amount of one-thousand, three hundred and thirty and No/100 Dollars (\$1,330.00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Robertson shall continue to maintain and comply with his monitoring agreement with the HPFL for a period of no less than five (5) years from the Effective Date of the Agreement. Dr. Robertson agrees that the HPFL shall report any violation of his agreement to the Board or its designee. The Board may take disciplinary action against Dr. Robertson based on any future violation of his HPFL agreement, as if such violation was enumerated among the causes provided in La. R.S. 37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation of or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms set forth by this Order by Dr. Robertson shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such other action against Dr. Robertson’s license to practice medicine 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. 37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that 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 this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record, and shall likewise be reported 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 24th day of February, 2025.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:



RODERICK V. CLARK, M.D., MBA
President

Acknowledgment and Consent on Following Page

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

STATE OF LOUISIANA

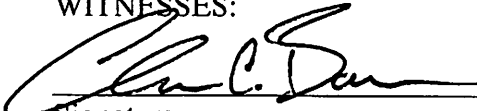
PARISH OF Caddo

I, JAMES S. ROBERTSON, 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 20th day of January, 2025.



JAMES S. ROBERTSON, M.D.

WITNESSES:



Signature

Chase C. Bowers


Typed Name

7600 Fern Ave Ste. 100

Street Address

Shreveport LA 71105

City/State/Zip Code



Signature

Susan N. Bowers

Typed Name

7600 Fern Ave Ste. 100

Street Address

Shreveport LA 71105

City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
20th day of Jan, 2025, in the
presence of the two stated witnesses.



Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Clinton M. Bowers
Notary/Bar No.: 32355
Commission expires: life

