



Jeff Landry  
Governor

State of Louisiana  
Department of Health and Hospitals

Charlotte F. Martin, M.P.A.  
Executive Director

## Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**RONALD DOUCETTE, JR.**

**LICENSE NO. A7966**

**NUMBER 2025-I-043**

### CONSENT ORDER

RONALD DOUCETTE, JR. (“Mr. Doucette” or “Respondent”) is a Physical Therapist Assistant (“PTA”), as evidenced by License No. A7966, and is subject to the jurisdiction and the Rules and Regulations of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Practice Act (La. R.S. 37:2401, *et seq.*), and the Rules and Regulations of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board (“LPTB” or “Board”) (LAC 46:LIV §103, *et seq.*), and enters in the following agreement relative to Complaint Number 2025-I-043.

### FACTUAL BASIS FOR CONSENT ORDER

1. Respondent received his Physical Therapist Assistant license, number A7966, on or about November 22, 2010.
2. On or about August 26, 2025, the Board received evidence indicating that Respondent had provided physical therapy home exercises to a patient without proper supervision and without an evaluation or plan of care directed by a supervising physical therapist, as well as information alleging that Respondent had failed to appropriately terminate physical therapy services and had made unprofessional remarks to a patient, which included remarks of a sexual nature.
3. On September 17, 2025, the Board initiated a complaint to investigate potential violations by Mr. Doucette of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Practice Act (“Practice Act”) and Board Rules and Regulations (“Rules”) including, but not limited to, unprofessional

conduct and boundary violations (“Complaint No. 2025-I-043”).

4. Pursuant to LAC 46:LIV §123, an investigative committee of the Board was formed to review and address the complaint against the Respondent.
5. On September 29, 2025, Respondent was sent a notice letter detailing the allegations made in Complaint No. 2025-I-043, and providing the potential laws and rules of the Board that may have been violated by such conduct if the allegations were found to be true. The Board notified the Respondent therein of his opportunity to show compliance with all lawful requirements for the retention of his physical therapist assistant license at an informal conference to take place on October 30, 2025.
6. On October 30, 2025, the Investigative Committee and Respondent conducted an informal conference. During the conference, Respondent asserted that he had only provided massage therapy services to the identified patient, but admitted that he had texted home exercises to her, as well as reviewed and provided guidance to her on home exercises which she had presented to him in a binder. Although he intended to only provide massage therapy services to this client as a licensed massage therapist, he acknowledged the blurring of professional boundaries between his massage therapy and physical therapy assistant licenses by introducing home exercise suggestions and recommendations. Because his intention was to provide these services as a massage therapist, he had no physical therapy or discharge notes, and no documented initial evaluation, plan of care, or treatment goals for her. Respondent further acknowledged that he had developed a friendship with the individual outside of the client relationship, which led to discussions of a personal and sexual manner with her.

## **VIOLATIONS RELATED TO RESPONDENT’S CONDUCT**

Respondent’s conduct described above and otherwise reviewed in this action is subject to and/or in violation of the following provisions of law regarding his practice of physical therapy:

1. La. R.S. 37:2420(A)(1) - After due notice and hearing, the board may refuse to license any applicant, or may refuse to renew the license of any person, or may restrict, suspend, or revoke any license upon proof that the person has: (1) Practiced physical therapy in violation of the provisions of this Chapter, the rules of the board, or standards of practice;
2. La. R.S. 37:2420(A)(7) - After due notice and hearing, the board may refuse to license any applicant, or may refuse to renew the license of any person, or may restrict, suspend, or revoke any license upon proof that the person has: (7) Been found guilty of unprofessional conduct, including but not limited to departure from, or failure to conform to, the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing physical therapy practice, in which proceeding actual injury to a patient need not be established;
3. LAC 46:LIV §345(B)(1)(a) - As used in R.S. 37:2420(A)(7) of the Practice Act and in these rules, the term unprofessional conduct does not require actual injury to a patient, and includes, but is not limited to, the following: (1) departure from, failure to conform to, or failure to perform on a continuing basis to the minimal standards of acceptable and

prevailing physical therapy practice as defined in §123, or the commission of any act contrary to honesty, justice, good morals, patient safety or the best interest of the patient, whether committed in the course of the licensee's practice or otherwise, regardless of whether actual injury to a patient results therefrom, including, but not limited to; (a) failure to use sound professional judgment;

4. LAC 46:LIV §345(B)(1)(i) - As used in R.S. 37:2420(A)(7) of the Practice Act and in these rules, the term unprofessional conduct does not require actual injury to a patient, and includes, but is not limited to, the following: (1) departure from, failure to conform to, or failure to perform on a continuing basis to the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing physical therapy practice as defined in §123, or the commission of any act contrary to honesty, justice, good morals, patient safety or the best interest of the patient, whether committed in the course of the licensee's practice or otherwise, regardless of whether actual injury to a patient results therefrom, including, but not limited to: (i) providing services as a PTA without the knowledge or supervision of a PT;
5. LAC 46:LIV §345(B)(5) - As used in R.S. 37:2420(A)(7) of the Practice Act and in these rules, the term unprofessional conduct does not require actual injury to a patient, and includes, but is not limited to, the following: (5) sexual misconduct—inappropriate sexual or intimate conduct, includes, but is not limited to sexual intimacy, contact, exposure, gratification, abuse, exploitation or other sexual behavior with or in the presence of a patient or any other individual in connection to the licensee's practice of physical therapy regardless of consent by the patient. Such conduct may be verbal, physical, visual, written or electronic, or it may consist of expressions of thoughts, feelings or gestures that are sexual or reasonably may be construed by a patient or other individual as sexual or which may reasonably be interpreted as intended for the sexual arousal or gratification of the practitioner, the patient, or another individual. Sexual misconduct between a licensee and a former patient after termination of the therapist–patient relationship may also constitute unprofessional conduct if the sexual misconduct is a result of the exploitation of trust, knowledge, influence or emotions derived from the professional relationship.

## **ORDER**

Pursuant to the foregoing Factual Basis for Consent Order and Violations Related to Respondent's Conduct, and, in order to avoid further administrative and judicial proceedings, Respondent and the Board, by vote of quorum, agree as follows:

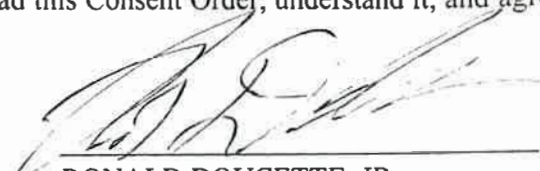
1. Respondent's physical therapist assistant license (License No. A7966) shall be and is hereby REPRIMANDED;
2. Within three (3) months of the date all parties sign this Consent Order, Respondent shall complete the following continuing education course: PBI Education - Professional Boundaries (PB-24), (<https://pbieducation.com/courses/pb-24/>). Respondent shall provide documentation in the form of a course completion certificate to the Board Executive Director within five (5) calendar days of receipt of such documentation;

3. Respondent shall pay the Board the sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Five and No/100 Dollars (\$4,525.00) in partial reimbursement for legal and administrative expenses incurred in this matter. Failure to reimburse associated fees will require the Board to take further action in collection of this debt. Respondent has twenty-four (24) months from the signing of this Order by all parties to reimburse the expenses before the debt will be considered final and transferred to the Louisiana Office of Debt Recovery (ODR). After transfer, the debt is subject to an additional collection fee of up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the total debt liability, as provided for in La. R.S. 47:1676(E);
4. Respondent shall comply with La R.S. 37:2415(B) and notify the Executive Director of the Board in writing and prior to a change of residence to another country, state, or jurisdiction. Upon relocation, all provisions of this Consent Order, except Paragraph 3 pertaining to reimbursement of legal and administrative expenses, are suspended until Respondent again resides within Louisiana, notifies the Executive Director of his Louisiana residence, and receives written confirmation from the Executive Director;
5. Respondent shall have reliable access to a computer, internet, and telephone. In accordance with Board Rule §385, Respondent shall provide to the Executive Director his preferred telephone number and/or email address in writing for expedited communications regarding compliance with this Consent Order within forty-eight (48) hours of signing the Consent Order. Respondent shall reply to Board emails and telephone calls within four (4) hours of such communication. Respondent shall notify the Executive Director in writing of any change to his preferred telephone number and/or email address immediately upon such change;
6. Respondent declares that, before signing this Consent Order, he is of sound mind, has carefully read this document, understands the contents, and freely consents to it as valid and binding upon him. He is aware of his right to a notice of hearing, to a formal administrative hearing, and to judicial review of an administrative finding, and freely waives those rights. Further, he has had the opportunity to be represented by legal counsel in this matter and in the negotiation of this Consent Order;
7. Respondent acknowledges that his failure to comply with any term of this Consent Order is a basis for the immediate summary suspension of his license and for further disciplinary action by the Board;
8. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order only addresses the specific violations outlined above, and that the Board reserves the right to proceed with further disciplinary action should the Board receive new information and/or complaints, or if Respondent should have any criminal action taken against him;
9. Respondent authorizes the Investigating Board Member and legal counsel assisting the Investigating Board Member to present this Consent Order to the full Board for its consideration and to fully disclose and discuss with the Board the nature and results of the investigation. Respondent waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:977.2 and expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of such information to the Board shall be without prejudice to the Investigative Board Member's authority to file a formal Administrative Complaint against him, or to the Board's capacity, as currently comprised,


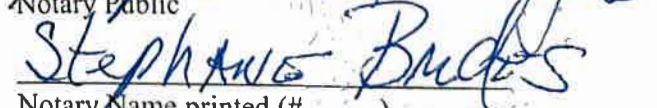
or any future composition of the Board, to adjudicate such Complaint, should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order. Should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order, Respondent retains all rights to due process including, but not limited to, his right to have notice of any allegations or charges against him, to administrative adjudication of such allegations or charges, and to a subsequent final decision rendered upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law;

10. Respondent acknowledges that presentation to and consideration by the Board of this Consent Order, including presented documentary evidence and information, shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice or preclude the Board, or any of its members, as the Board is currently constituted, or any future appointments to the Board, from further participation in hearings or resolution to these proceedings;
11. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order becomes effective only upon signature by the Board Chair; and
12. Respondent acknowledges that all communication(s) regarding compliance with and/or fulfillment of the requirements of this Consent Order shall be in writing between Respondent and the Board Executive Director. No verbal communication(s) shall be considered proof of compliance or commitment. Respondent acknowledges that it is the responsibility of the Respondent to fully comply with the Consent Order and proactively communicate with the Board Executive Director.

I, RONALD DOUCETTE, JR., have read this Consent Order, understand it, and agree to be bound by its terms and conditions.


  
RONALD DOUCETTE, JR.

SWORN TO and subscribed before me, Notary Public this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June,  
2020 in New Orleans Louisiana.

  
Notary Public  
  
Notary Name printed (# 310645)

AGREED AND ACCEPTED by official action of the Board, this 21 day of  
January, 2021, at Lafayette, Louisiana.

Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

  
Board Chairman