

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

EMILY FONTAINE

LICENSE NO. 11519

CONSENT ORDER

NUMBER: 2025-I-003

CONSENT ORDER

EMILY FONTAINE (“Ms. Fontaine” or “Respondent”) is a Physical Therapist (“PT”), as evidenced by License No. 11519, 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 No. 2025-I-003.

FACTUAL BASIS FOR CONSENT ORDER

1. Respondent received her Physical Therapist license, number 11519, on or about May 17, 2023.
2. On February 2, 2025, the Board received a complaint from Respondent’s former employer, Pediatric and Autism Center, advising that Respondent abandoned her clients and failed to complete documentation, including evaluations, treatment notes, and reassessments from November and December of 2024, when she failed to return to work after taking time off work in December, 2024. Respondent was further alleged to have failed to appropriately document the transfer the care of her clients.
3. After receipt of the complaint, an investigation was conducted relative to the allegations contained therein. Interviews were conducted of relevant individuals and records reviewed regarding the conduct of Respondent while employed at Pediatric and Autism Center, which were obtained by subpoena.

4. On March 21, 2025, Respondent was sent a notice letter detailing the allegations made in the complaint 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. Respondent was directed therein to provide a written statement to the Board giving her review of the situation, explaining fully the circumstances related to the allegations.
5. By letter dated May 5, 2025, Respondent provided a response to the Board, addressing the allegations of the complaint.
6. On June 18, 2025, the Board sent Respondent another notice of the allegations against her, adding that Respondent resigned on January 8, 2025, and failed to update her employment information with the Board office as required by rule. The letter also offered Respondent an opportunity to attend an Informal Conference with the Investigative Committee to show compliance with all lawful requirements for the retention of her license as a physical therapist.
7. On August 5, 2025, Respondent attended an Informal Conference with the Investigative Committee and addressed the allegations contained in the complaint.

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)(h) - 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: (h) abandoning a patient without documenting the transfer of care or by inappropriately terminating the patient/practitioner relationship;

5. LAC 46:LIV §345(B)(3)(d) - 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: (3) failing to create or maintain medical record—a licensee shall create and maintain adequate and legible patient records. In addition, a licensee shall: (d) make arrangements, or assist another PT practicing in the same group to make arrangements, for access by a patient to his medical records after the PT has left a physical therapy practice, relocated a practice to a new location, closed a practice, or retired;

6. LAC 46:LIV §345(B)(3)(f) - 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: (3) failing to create or maintain medical record—a licensee shall create and maintain adequate and legible patient records. In addition, a licensee shall : (f) not abandon or desert medical records.

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 license shall be on probation for a minimum of one (1) year. Respondent shall submit to the Board Executive Director in writing not less than thirty (30) calendar days prior to completion of the probationary period a request for a letter from the Board formally acknowledging the close of the probationary period. Respondent's probationary period concludes upon receipt by respondent of a letter from the Board acknowledging the close of the probationary period and a final exit interview with the Board to be scheduled by the Board Executive Director;
2. During the probationary period, the Board may make random unannounced monitoring visits to Respondent's work site. In the event of a monitoring visit, Respondent shall fully cooperate with the Board representative making the visit and Respondent shall provide complete access to her place of employment, employment and/or business records, patient

treatment and billing records, and all other documentation necessary for a full legal compliance review. Respondent shall reimburse the Board for expenses related to the monitoring visit as invoiced and must be paid within 30 days of receipt of invoice;

3. Within the first six (6) months of the probationary period, Respondent shall complete the FSBPT Healthy Practice Self-reflection Tool. Respondent shall provide documentation in the form of a course completion certificate to the Executive Director within five (5) calendar days of receipt of such documentation;
4. The one (1) year probation period shall be extended for any period of time in which Respondent is not employed as a physical therapist within the State of Louisiana and regularly working at least an aggregate over the month that is at least eighty (80) hours per month. If Respondent ceases to be regularly employed as a physical therapist in Louisiana, she shall notify the Executive Director in writing within ten (10) calendar days of the last date she has practiced physical therapy in Louisiana. Likewise, if Respondent returns to work as a physical therapist within the State of Louisiana, she shall notify the Executive Director in writing within ten (10) calendar days of his return to practice.
5. During the one-year probationary period, Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to her employer(s), direct supervisor(s), and any physical therapist(s), physical therapist assistant(s), or physical therapy technician(s) who are supervised by, work for, or contract with Respondent at any business, including, but not limited to, any business(es) Respondent owns, operates or manages before providing physical therapy services and shall have such person(s) notify the Executive Director in writing that he/she has received and reviewed a copy of this Consent Order prior to Respondent providing physical therapy services. Respondent shall do this also with any new or subsequent employer(s), direct supervisor(s), physical therapist(s), physical therapist assistant(s), or physical therapy technician(s) during the probationary period;
6. Ms. Fontaine shall pay the Board the sum of \$1,946.86 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 twelve (12) months 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).
7. Respondent shall comply with La. R.S. 37:2415(B) and notify the Executive Director of the Louisiana Physical Therapy 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 6 pertaining to reimbursement of legal and administrative expenses, are suspended until Respondent again resides within Louisiana, notifies the Executive Director of her Louisiana residence, and receives written confirmation from the Executive Director;
8. Respondent shall meet with the Board, or with the Board's representative, whenever requested during the probationary period, and shall fully cooperate in providing information and documents requested in such meetings;

9. Respondent shall have reliable access to a computer, internet, and telephone. In accordance with Board Rule §385, Respondent shall provide to the Executive Director her preferred telephone number and/or email address in writing for expedited communications regarding compliance with this Board 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 her preferred telephone number and/or email address immediately upon such change;
10. Respondent declares that, before signing this Consent Order, she is of sound mind has carefully read this document, understands the contents, and freely consents to it as valid and binding upon her. She is aware of her 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, she has had the opportunity to be represented by legal counsel in this matter and in the negotiation of this Agreement;
11. Respondent acknowledges that her failure to comply with any term of this Consent Order is a basis for the immediate summary suspension of her license and for further disciplinary action by the Board;
12. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order only addresses the specific violations outlined above;
13. Respondent authorizes the Investigative Committee Board Members, and legal counsel assisting the Investigating Board Members, 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, including in executive session and in her absence. 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 her, 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, her right to have notice of any allegations or charges against her, to administrative adjudication of such allegations or charges, and to a subsequent final decision rendered upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law;
14. Respondent acknowledges that presentation to and consideration by the Board of this Consent Agreement, 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;
15. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order becomes effective only upon signature by the Board Chair; and
16. 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, EMILY FONTAINE, have read this Consent Order, understand it, and agree to be bound by its terms and conditions.


EMILY FONTAINE

SWORN TO and subscribed before me, Notary Public this 19 day of September, 2025,
in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

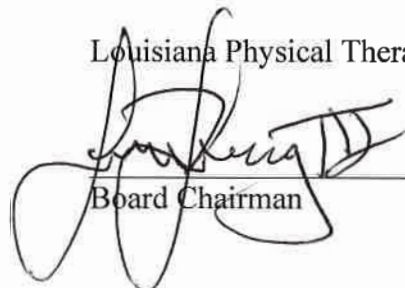


WILLIAM LANCE FOUTS
Notary Public
Notary ID No. 138509
Caddo Parish, Louisiana
My Commission is for life.


Notary Public

William Lance Fouts
Notary Name printed (#) 138509

AGREED AND ACCEPTED by official action of the Board, this 5th day of
November, 2025, at Lafayette, Louisiana.

Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

Board Chairman