

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

MALLORY LIGHTFOOT

PT LICENSE NO. 11884

COMPLAINT NUMBER 2025-I-025

CONSENT ORDER

Mallory Lightfoot ("Ms. Lightfoot" or "Respondent") is a Physical Therapist ("PT"), as evidenced by License No. 11884, 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-025

FACTUAL BASIS FOR CONSENT ORDER

- 1. On May 7, 2025, Respondent self-reported to the Board that she took prescription medication (Adderall) from a co-worker's purse without the co-worker's approval or knowledge and did not have a prescription for the medication at that time.
- 2. After receipt of the self-report, the Board subpoenaed records related to Respondent's employment and interviewed relevant witnesses related to the incident.
- 3. On June 12, 2025, a notice letter was sent to Respondent directing her to participate in a fit for duty evaluation to assess her fitness and ability to practice physical therapy with reasonable skill and safety to patients, in accordance with LAC 46:LIV §351(C).

- 4. Respondent participated in an outpatient evaluation on July 16, 2025, at Palmetto Addiction Recovery Center. In the evaluation report, the treatment team recommended the following regarding Respondent:
 - a. Sign and follow a two-year Louisiana Physical Therapy Board monitoring contract. Any violations of contract or positive drug or alcohol screens should result in further inpatient evaluation.
 - b. Complete a PT Board approved Intensive Outpatient Treatment Program that is experienced in the treatment of chemically dependent professionals.
 - c. We recommend that Mallory refrain from future use of stimulant type medications for the treatment of ADHD.
 - d. We believe that Mallory is ready to practice her profession with skill and safety once she has engaged in an approved IOP program and received your permission to return to duty.
 - e. She should contact you as soon as possible after this evaluation to receive your instructions.
- 5. Respondent reported that she has started an IOP program with Palmetto.

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 the 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)(5) 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: (5) Been habitually intemperate or abused controlled dangerous substances as defined by federal or Louisiana law;
- 3. LAC 46:LIV §343(A) The board, after due notice and hearing as set forth herein and in the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 and following, may refuse to issue a license or provisional license, or may suspend, revoke, or impose probationary conditions and/or restrictions on a licensee upon finding that the licensee has violated the Practice Act, or any of the Rules promulgated by the board;
- 4. LAC 46:LIV §343(B) Board orders in [a] disciplinary proceeding may require the respondent to reimburse the board in accordance with R.S. 37:2405(B)(11);

- 5. LAC 46:LIV §343(C) In placing a respondent on suspension or probation, the board may impose such additional terms, conditions and restrictions as it deems appropriate for the period of suspension or probation. The board shall specify in its order the exact duration of the suspension or probationary period. Upon finding that a respondent placed on probation has failed to comply with the terms and conditions of the board order, the board may take such additional disciplinary action as it deems appropriate, following notice and hearing;
- 6. LAC 46:LIV §345(A) The board shall deem a violation any charge of conduct which fails to conform to the Practice Act, and board rules to carry out the provisions of the Act, and shall take appropriate action where violations are found. The rules of this Chapter complement the board's authority to deny, suspend, revoke or take such other action against a licensee, or Compact Privilege holder as it deems appropriate;
- 7. 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 licensees 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;
- 8. LAC 46:LIV §351(A)(1)(2) As used in R.S. 37:2420.A (5) of the Practice Act, "habitually intemperate" means: (1) repeated excessive use or abuse of alcohol; or (2) the ingestion, self-administration, or other use of legally controlled substances or medications which affect the central nervous system, other than pursuant to and used in accordance with a lawful prescription and/or medical advice;
- 9. LAC 46:LIV §351(B) As used in R.S. 37:2420.A of the Practice Act, the phrase "abused controlled dangerous substances as defined by federal or Louisiana law" means physiological or psychological dependence on any legally controlled substance or medication with a potential for inducing physiological or psychological dependence or tolerance;
- 10. LAC 46 LIV §365(A) As authorized by R.S. 37:2420(A)(5), 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 a person has been habitually intemperate or abused controlled dangerous substances as defined by federal or Louisiana law;

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 two (2) years. 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. Respondent agrees to follow all treatment recommendations resulting from the Palmetto Outpatient Evaluation treatment team recommendations and as set forth in the Palmetto Report. If individual therapy/treatment for chemically dependent professionals is recommended by the treatment team following the treatment program, the individual treatment provider must meet the LPTB Criteria for Individual Treatment Providers. Respondent shall sign all necessary medical release forms for any reports and any treatment discharge summaries to be released directly to the individual treatment provider. Participant agrees to allow the LPTB to send a copy of this Consent Order to the individual treatment provider and any other professionals involved with Respondent's treatment. Individual therapy reports shall be sent directly to the LPTB from the individual therapy provider on a quarterly basis, to be received no later than the 15th of January, April, July, and October;
- 3. Respondent shall complete a RPTP Participation Agreement. During the probationary period, Respondent shall participate in the RPTP and follow all terms and conditions set forth in the RPTP Participation Agreement.
- 4. Respondent agrees to be personally responsible for all costs incurred in complying with the terms of this agreement, including, but not limited to therapy, assessments, evaluations, supervision, drug/alcohol screens and the monitoring and reporting thereof, medical care and treatment and reproduction of treatment or other records.
- 5. In addition to the costs listed in item 4, respondent agrees to pay \$200/month for monitoring costs associated with the Recovering Physical Therapy Program. Respondent will be invoiced monthly for the monitoring fee. Failure to pay the invoice in a timely manner will result in transferring the debt 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);

- 6. 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 within thirty (30) days of receipt of invoice;
- 7. During the two-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;
- 8. The two-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 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, he shall notify the Executive Director in writing within ten (10) calendar days of the last date he has practiced physical therapy in Louisiana. Likewise, if Respondent returns to work as a physical therapist within the State of Louisiana, he shall notify the Executive Director in writing within ten (10) calendar days of her return to practice;
- 9. Respondent shall pay the Board the sum of \$591.86 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 twenty-four (24) 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);
- 10. 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 8 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;
- 11. 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;
- 12. 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;

- 13. 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 Consent Order;
- 14. 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;
- 15. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order only addresses the specific violations outlined above;
- 16. 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;
- 17. 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;
- 18. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order becomes effective only upon signature by the Board Chair; and

- 19. 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, Mallory Lightfoot, have read this Consent Order, understand it, and agree to be bound by its terms and conditions.

SWORN TO and subscribed before me, Notary Public this 27 day of Adoust, 2025,

in NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana.

C. KELLY LIGHTFOOT Notary Public State of Louisiana

My Commission Expires At Death

SBA# 17027, Notary ID# 12455

Notary Name printed (#

SUBMITTED FOR BOARD APPROVAL BY:

Investigative Committee Board Member

AGREED AND ACCEPTED by official action of the Board, this /ob day of

, 2025, at Lafayette, Louisiana.

Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

Board Chairman