In the Matter of LAJUANA WALLACE License No. A6699 Respondent * LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF

PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

*

Case Number 2005-I16

CONSENT ORDER

Respondent took and failed the national physical therapy examination for physical therapist assistants on October 25, 2004 and December 13, 2004 but misrepresented this information to her employers at Touro Infirmary. As a result of these misrepresentations, Respondent practiced from August 16, 2004 through September 20, 2004 and December 16, 2004 to January 4, 2005 without a valid permit or license issued by the Board. Respondent participated in an informal conference at the Board Office on January 19, 2005 with Board Member Pat Adams, Executive Director Cheryl Gaudin and Board Counsel Glenn Ducote participating .

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent began working at Touro as a physical therapy assistant on August 16, 2004 and started treating patients on September 1, 2004 although she did not submit a completed application to the Board until September 14, 2004, resulting in the issuance of her first temporary permit on September 21, 2004.
- 2. Respondent actively misrepresented to Touro Infirmary supervisory personnel her status involving examinations for licensure as a physical therapist assistant and the status of her permit when she had failed the examination. Respondent registered to take the examination a second time but failed to provide to the Board the required application and supervision certification.
- 3. As a result of inaccurate and incomplete information provided by Respondent to her employer, Respondent was allowed to provide patient care from December 16, 2004 until January 4, 2005, during which period she did not have a valid permit from the Board.
- 4. Respondents applications filed with the Board contained inaccurate and incomplete information.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Respondent worked providing patient care without a temporary permit before submitting an application to the Board and then worked as a physical therapist assistant after being notified by the Board that she had failed the first examination and failed to reapply to the Board for authority to take the exam and obtain a new temporary permit. La. R.S. 37:2404 and Rule 155.
 - 2. Respondent continued to work as a physical therapist assistant after being notified of her

failure to pass the examination for the second time, in violation of Rule 155.

3. Respondent provided inaccurate and misleading information regarding her examination and permit status to her employer and provided inaccurate and incomplete information in her applications to the Board, both of which constitute unprofessional conduct in violation of Rule 327E.

DECISION

Pursuant to the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, Respondent and the Board, by vote of quorum, agree as follows:

A. Respondent will be allowed to take the examination for licensure as a physical therapist assistant again upon submission to the Board of a complete and wholly accurate application;

B. If and when Respondent successfully completes the examination required for licensure, her license will be placed on probation for a one year period, during which she shall accept employment only in a setting, and with a supervising physical therapist approved in advance by the Board; and

C. If and when Respondent obtains a license from the Board she will attend the jurisprudence course on the Louisiana Physical Therapy Practice Act and Rules which is offered by the Board during the first year of her licensure and will meet with a presenting Board member at the end of that course to be interviewed to determine that she is then cognizant of the applicable law and rules.

D. Respondent shall meet with the Board as requested at any time during the probationary period.

E. Respondent's failure to comply with any term of this Consent Order shall constitute just cause for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license as a Physical Therapist under the auspices of this Board, and may subject her to any other disciplinary action within the statutory and regulatory authority of the Board.

F. Respondent declares that, before signing this Consent Order, she has carefully read this document, understands the contents, freely consents to it as valid and binding upon her. She is aware of her right to a formal hearing and she waives that right. She has been informed of her right to seek counsel and hereby waives that right.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED on this 16th day of Jebruary 005.

Lajuana Wallace.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED by official action of the Board, the 20th day of January, 2005 at Lafayette, Louisiana.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

Pat Adams, P.T., Chair

LAJUANA WALLACE

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent began working at Touro as a physical therapist assistant on August 16, 2004 and started treating patients on September 1, 2004 although she did not submit a completed application to the Board until September 14, 2004, resulting in the issuance of her first temporary permit on September 21, 2004
- Respondent actively misrepresented to Touro Infirmary supervisory personnel her status when she had failed the examination. Respondent registered to take the examination a second time but failed to provide to the Board the required application and supervision certification.
- As a result of inaccurate and incomplete information provided by Respondent to her employer, Respondent was allowed to
 provide patient care from December 16, 2004 until January 4, 2005, during which period she did not have a valid permit from the
 Board.
- 4. Respondents applications filed with the Board contained inaccurate and incomplete information.

DECISION

- A. Allowed to take the exam for licensure upon submission to the Board of a complete and wholly accurate application
- B. Upon successful completion of the exam, her license will be placed on **probation for one year** during which she shall accept employment only in a setting, and with a supervising physical therapist approved in advance by the board;
- C. If and when she obtains a license she will attend the jurisprudence course on the LA PT Practice Act and Rules which if offered by the board during the first year of her licensure and will meet with a presenting Board member at the end of that course to be interviewed to determine that she is then cognizant of the applicable law and rules.
- D. Will meet with the board as requested at any time during the probationary period.
- E. Failure to comply with any term of the CO shall constitute just cause for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license as a PTA and may subject her to further disciplinary action within the statutory and regulatory authority of the board.

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510 WEST WEGO AVE. BRIDGE CITY, LA 70094 504-319-1938

WORK: 800-774-9251

3500 PARK ST.

75401