

IN THE MATTER OF: )

**CONSENT ORDER**

William F. Tate, RCP )

License Number – 2079 )

**1. Jurisdiction**

The North Carolina Respiratory Care Board (the Board) is an occupational licensing board of the State of North Carolina, organized under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-646, et seq. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-652 and 21 N.C. Admin. Code § 61.0307.

**2. Identification of Licensee**

The Respiratory Care Practitioner is William F. Tate (the "Licensee"). His mailing address is 428 Helmstetler Road, Lexington, NC 27295. The Respiratory Care Practitioner holds North Carolina Respiratory Care License number 2079 (the "License"), first issued on September 3, 2002, with an expiration date of September 30, 2011.

**3. Waiver of Rights**

I, William F. Tate, the Respiratory Care Practitioner, understand that I have each of the following rights:

(Initials)

WFT The right to a hearing before the Board;

WFT The right to present evidence to disprove all or some of the charges against me;

WFT The right to present evidence to limit or reduce any sanction that could be imposed for a violation;

WFT The right to confront and cross-examine witnesses and to challenge evidence presented by the Board against me;

WFT The right to present legal arguments in a brief; and

WFT The right to appeal from any final decision adverse to my license to practice respiratory care.

As noted by my initials above, I hereby freely and knowingly waive these rights without further process and agree to the terms of this Consent Order regarding my license. In order to resolve this matter by a Consent Order, I also agree that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board *ex parte* whether or not the Board accepts this Order as written.

#### **4. Stipulation to Facts**

The Respiratory Care Practitioner and the Board stipulate to the following facts:

A. The Respiratory Care Practitioner was engaged in the practice of respiratory care in North Carolina when the events occurred that led to the initiation of this complaint.

B. The Board received information from Board Staff alleging that the Licensee failed to produce his continuing education (CE) records. The Licensee renewed his license on September 17, 2010 and checked CE option 1 (completion of a minimum of 12 hours CE). The Licensee was on the audit list and an audit notice was mailed on September 20, 2010 and again on October 26, 2010. The Licensee failed to produce complete documentation of the required continuing education.

C. The Licensee, in a letter mailed on December 30, 2010, informed the Board he was unable to find the records for the seven (7) CE's he had failed to provide the Board for his audit. In the letter, the Licensee asked to be excused from the interview with the Board's Investigation and Informal Settlement Committee and that he accepts any disciplinary action the Board deems appropriate.

#### **5. Stipulated Order**

##### **A. Stipulation to Sections of Law Violated:**

I, William F. Tate, the Respiratory Care Practitioner, admit that the allegations against me, if proven true, would constitute violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-659 (a)(4) and the regulations set forth in 21 N.C. Admin. Code § 61 .0307 (23) and 21 N.C. Admin. Code § 61 .0401 (g).

##### **B. Stipulation to Sanction:**

Under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-652, in lieu of proceeding to hearing, the Respiratory Care Practitioner and the Board hereby enter into this consent order whereby the Respiratory Care Practitioner and the Board agree to the following terms:

1. The issuance of a Board Reprimand.
2. The Respiratory Care Practitioner is assessed a civil penalty of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-666 and 21 N.C. Admin. Code § 61.0309. The RCP shall remit this sum to the Board no later than ninety (90) days after execution of this order;

3. To complete a minimum of 7 hours of continuing education approved by the Board, the AARC or approved by the ACCME (Physician's Category 1 CME) that are directly related to the practice of respiratory care within 30 days of receipt of this Consent Order. The Licensee agrees to provide copies of the completed continuing education to the Board within 30 days of receipt of this Consent Order. The CE completed may not be used for the RCP's 2011 renewal.

4. To continue to comply with the Respiratory Care Practice Act, the Board's Rules, and the Board's published interpretation of those rules.

#### **6. Public Record**

The parties agree that this Consent Order is public record, as required by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 132-1. Documents that are part of the investigative file are not public record.

#### **7. Reporting**

This disciplinary action will be reported to the appropriate entities as outlined in Board policy and required by state and/or federal law or guidelines. Those entities include, but are not limited to, the National Databank maintained by the National Board for Respiratory Care and the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB).

#### **8. Costs**

The Respiratory Care Practitioner assumes financial responsibility for any costs associated with fulfilling the terms of this Consent Order.

The Respiratory Care Practitioner is assessed <sup>one</sup> two hundred and ~~forty~~ <sup>fifty</sup> dollars (~~\$250.00~~ <sup>100.00</sup>) in costs pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-666(d). The RCP shall remit this sum to the Board no later than ninety (90) days after execution of this order;

#### **9. Effective Date**

All provisions of this Consent Order are effective upon the date that the Executive Director of the Board signs this Order.

## **10. Noncompliance with Consent Order**

Failure by the Respiratory Care Practitioner to comply with the terms of this Order, either in substance or in timing, is a violation of 21 N.C. Admin. Code § 61 .0307(3). If, during the term of this Consent Order, the Board staff receives evidence that the Respiratory Care Practitioner has violated any of the above conditions, the Board may schedule a show cause hearing for a determination of the violations. If the Board determines that such violations have occurred, then the Board may suspend or revoke the license, revoke any stay, or may impose additional disciplinary action.

All provisions of this Order are effective upon this Order's effective date. Fulfillment of time-specific elements intended to coincide with active practice (such as, but not limited to; probation, supervision or therapy) will only accrue during periods of active practice in which the Respiratory Care Practitioner is compliant with the terms of this Order. Therefore, any period of noncompliance or inactive practice will not accrue towards fulfillment of those terms.

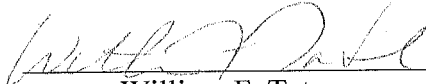
Should circumstances arise that affect the Respiratory Care Practitioner's ability to remain in compliance, the Respiratory Care Practitioner shall immediately notify the Board in writing by return receipt mail, fully describing the situation along with any attendant request for Board consideration.

Any modification of this Consent Order must be pre-approved in writing by the Board before it may occur.

**THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

**CONSENT TO ISSUANCE OF ORDER BY RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER**


I, William F. Tate, state that I have read the foregoing Consent Order; that I know and fully understand its contents; that I agree freely and without threat or coercion of any kind to comply with the terms and conditions stated herein; and that I consent to the entry of this Consent Order as a condition of maintaining my license from the North Carolina Respiratory Care Board.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William F. Tate

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF DAVIDSON

There personally appeared before me, a Notary Public, in and for the County of DAVIDSON, State of North Carolina, William F. Tate, who, after having presented documentation of his identity that was satisfactory to me, did acknowledge that he executed the foregoing Consent Order as his free and voluntary act.

This 25<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY, 2011.


  
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Notary Public



My Commission Expires: May 12, 2015

**ENTRY OF CONSENT ORDER ON BEHALF OF THE NORTH CAROLINA  
RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD**

The foregoing Consent Order is entered at Raleigh, North Carolina, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY, 2011.

  
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Floyd E. Boyer, RRT, RCP  
Executive Director, North Carolina Respiratory Care Board