

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA
RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:)
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CONSENT ORDER

Robbie J. Lowman, RCP
License Number – 4225

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 Robbie J. Lowman (the “Licensee”). His mailing address is 3203 Providence Mill Road, Maiden, NC 28658. The Licensee holds North Carolina Respiratory Care License number 4225 (the “License”), first issued on June 7, 2005, with a current expiration date of June 30, 2013.

3. Waiver of Rights

I, Robbie J. Lowman, the Licensee, understand that I have each of the following rights: (Licensee notes waiver of each right by entering Initials in each blank space.)

RJL The right to a hearing before the Board;

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

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

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

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

RJL 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 each of 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. Stipulated Facts

The Licensee and the Board stipulate to the following facts:

A. The Licensee held a license to engage in the practice of respiratory care in North Carolina when the events occurred that led to the initiation of this matter.

B. On March 15, 2012 Jimmy Phillips, RCP of Catawba Valley Medical Center, Hickory, NC called the Board office and reported that the Licensee had self-reported a drug addiction. The Licensee also called the Board office to self-report the addiction.

C. On March 16, 2012 the Board received documentation from Catawba Valley Medical Center of a positive drug screen for Xanax.

D. The Licensee admitted during an interview with the Board's Investigation and Informal Settlement Committee held on June 12, 2012 that he had an addiction to Xanax that was prescribed for back pain and he was under treatment with the EAP at Catawba Valley Medical Center where he remains employed. He stated that he receives random drug screens from the hospital and the screens have been negative.

5. Stipulated Order

A. Stipulation to Sections of Law Violated:

I, Robbie J. Lowman, the Respiratory Care Practitioner, admit that the allegations against me, if proven true, would constitute violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-659 (a)(1)(d) and the regulations set forth in 21 N.C. Admin. Code § 61 .0307 (10) and 21 N.C. Admin. Code § 61 .0307 (14).

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 Licensee agrees to accept a license to practice respiratory care on Probationary Status for a period of 12 months from the date of execution of this order; and as a specific condition of that Probationary Status the Licensee agrees to all of the following terms and limitations.

2. Cause his immediate supervisor to submit written quarterly reports to the Board during the time the Licensee is on Probation. Each such written report shall document the Licensee's performance in the delivery of Respiratory Care, and detail any concerns of the supervisor about the Licensee's practice of Respiratory Care.

3. During the entire time that the Licensee holds a license on Probationary Status, the Licensee agrees to sign a release of information form and furnish it to each current and future Abuse Counselor allowing the Abuse Counselor to provide quarterly written reports to the Board of all visits with his Counselor during the probationary period. The Licensee agrees to follow any Plan of Treatment suggested by the Counselor.

4. During the entire time that the Licensee holds a license on Probationary Status, the Licensee agrees to permit the Board to conduct random drug testing of the Licensee, and further agrees that the entire costs of all drug testing will be paid by the Licensee. The Board will determine the laboratory where the testing would be performed and the manner in which the sample will be collected, and will instruct the Licensee regarding these and any other details of how any drug test should occur. The Board may accept drug screens performed by other state or federal agencies from those other agencies as proof of Licensee's ongoing compliance.

5. The RCP accepts and agrees to the assessment of 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 and to remit this sum to the Board no later than ninety (90) days following the execution of this Consent Order.

6. The RCP accepts and agrees to the assessment of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) in costs pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-666(d) and to remit this sum to the Board no later than ninety (90) days following the execution of this Consent Order.

7. The RCP also assumes financial responsibility for any costs associated with fulfilling the terms of this Consent Order.

8. 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. Noncompliance with Consent Order

Failure by the RCP 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 RCP 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, and may impose additional disciplinary sanctions.

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 RCP is compliant with the terms of this Order. Therefore, any period of noncompliance or inactive practice will not accrue towards fulfillment of those terms.

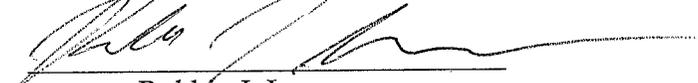
Should circumstances arise that affect the RCP's ability to remain in compliance with the terms of this Consent Order, the RCP shall immediately notify the Board in writing by return receipt mail, fully describing the situation and making any attendant request for modification.

9. Effective Date/Modification

All provisions of this Consent Order are effective upon the date that the Executive Director of the Board signs this Order. Any modification of this Consent Order must be approved in writing by the Board before it becomes effective.

CONSENT TO ISSUANCE OF CONSENT ORDER BY RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER

I, Robbie J. Lowman, 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.


Robbie J. Lowman

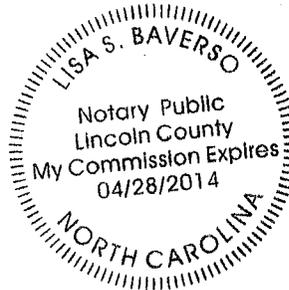
**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF LINCOLN**

There personally appeared before me, a Notary Public in and for the County of LINCOLN, State of North Carolina, Robbie J. Lowman, 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 2nd day of August 2012.


Notary Public

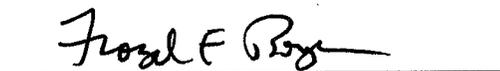
My Commission Expires: 4-28-2014



(SEAL)

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

The foregoing Consent Order is entered at Raleigh, North Carolina, this 10th day of August, 2012.


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