

ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF)
MEDICAL EXAMINERS,)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.)
)
LEAH N. TORRES, M.D.)
)
Respondent.)

BEFORE THE MEDICAL LICENSURE
COMMISSION OF ALABAMA

CASE NO. 2020-207

**ORDER TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING LICENSE
AND SETTING HEARING**

Upon the verified Administrative Complaint of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners, and pursuant to the authority of Ala. Code §§ 34-24-361(f) and 41-22-19(d), it is the ORDER of the Commission that the license to practice medicine in Alabama, license certificate number MD.41207, of LEAH N. TORRES, M.D., be, and the same is hereby, immediately suspended. LEAH N. TORRES, M.D., is hereby ORDERED and DIRECTED to surrender the said license certificate to Sam Aikens, a duly authorized agent of the Medical Licensure Commission. LEAH N. TORRES, M.D., is hereby ORDERED to immediately CEASE and DESIST from the practice of medicine in the State of Alabama until such time as the Administrative Complaint of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners shall be heard by the Commission and a decision rendered thereon.

This action is made consistent with the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Medical Examiners and the Medical Licensure Commission and Ala. Code § 34-24-361(f), based upon the request of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners upon the Board's finding and certification that the Board presently has evidence in its possession that the continuance in practice of LEAH N. TORRES, M.D. may constitute an immediate danger to her patients and/or the public.

It is the further ORDER of the Medical Licensure Commission that the Administrative Complaint of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners be, and the same is hereby, set for hearing on the 9th day of December, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Medical Licensure Commission, 848 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama.

LEAH N. TORRES, M.D., is ORDERED to appear before the Commission at the aforesaid time and date to answer the allegations of the Administrative Complaint filed by the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners.

It is the further ORDER of the Commission that a copy of the verified Administrative Complaint of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners and a copy of this order shall be forthwith served upon LEAH N. TORRES, M.D., by personally delivering the same to her at her office or at her residence or such place as she may be found in the State of Alabama, or by certified mail, return receipt requested, to her last known address if she cannot be found in the State of Alabama. The Commission further directs that the service of process shall be made by Sam Aikens, who is designated as the duly authorized agent of the Medical Licensure Commission.

It is further ordered that the parties and their attorneys immediately check their calendars for scheduling conflicts. No requests for continuances based upon scheduling conflicts of attorneys or parties will be considered unless such request is made forty-five (45) days prior to the scheduled hearing date.

ORDERED at Montgomery, Alabama, this 26 day of August 2020.



George C. Smith, Sr., M.D.
Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama



ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
E. WILSON HUNTER, GENERAL COUNSEL

E. Wilson Hunter
General Counsel

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August 20, 2020

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Leah N. Torres, M.D.
535 Jack Warner Pkwy NE Ste 1
Tuscaloosa AL 35404

RE: Letter of Notice of Denial of Application

Dear Dr. Torres:

On August 19, 2020, the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners (“the Board”) considered your application for a certificate of qualification for a license to practice medicine in Alabama. Based on information contained in your application, and information received in connection with that application, the Board found the following:

1. That you have committed fraud in applying for a certificate of qualification to practice medicine in Alabama when you submitted or caused to be submitted to the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners an application for a certificate of qualification in which you answered “No” to question 6, when, in fact, your staff privileges at a hospital or health care facility had been revoked, suspended, curtailed, limited, or placed under conditions restricting your practice, in violation of Ala. Code § 34-24-360(1).
2. That you have committed fraud in applying for a certificate of qualification to practice medicine in Alabama when you submitted or caused to be submitted to the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners an application for a certificate of qualification in which you answered “No” to question 8, when, in fact, a medical malpractice action relating to your performance of professional service was settled on or about August 28, 2018, in violation of Ala. Code § 34-24-360(1).
3. That you have committed fraud in applying for a certificate of qualification to practice medicine in Alabama when you submitted or caused to be submitted to the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners an application for a certificate of qualification in which you answered “No” to question 10, when, in fact, on or about March 13, 2019, you, through counsel, raised the issue of a mental, emotional, nervous, or behavioral disorder or condition as a defense, mitigation, or explanation for your actions in the course of a judicial proceeding in the United States District Court for the District of Utah, case number 2:19-cv-175-BSJ, in violation of Ala. Code § 34-24-360(1).

4. That you have submitted or caused to be submitted false, misleading, or untruthful information to the Board in connection with your application for a certificate of qualification to practice medicine in Alabama when you answered "Yes" to question 14 and, in explanation, stated that you worked as a locum tenens physician between June 2018 and February 2019, when, in fact, you were unable to find employment from March 2018 to December 2018, in violation of Ala. Code § 34-24-360(1).
5. That you have committed unprofessional conduct as defined in the rules promulgated by the Medical Licensure Commission; specifically, you have made public statements related to the practice of medicine which violate the high standards of honesty, diligence, prudence, and ethical integrity demanded from physicians licensed to practice in Alabama and which evidence conduct which is immoral and which is willful, shameful, and which shows a moral indifference to the standards and opinions of the community, in violation of Rule 545-X-4-.06 of the Rules and Regulations of the Medical Licensure Commission, all in violation of Ala. Code § 34-24-360(2).

Accordingly, the Board decided to deny your application for a certificate of qualification pursuant to Ala. Code §34-24-70(d) and Board Rule 540-X-3-.19.

You have the right to appeal the decision of the Board denying your application for a certificate of qualification to the Medical Licensure Commission pursuant to Rules 540-X-3-.21 and 540-X-5-.08 of the Rules and Regulations of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners. Copies of these rules are enclosed for your information. The time for the filing of an appeal is limited to thirty (30) days from the date of this letter.

If you desire to appeal the decision of the Board, your notice of appeal must be filed with the Commission on or before September 21, 2020. Any written notice of appeal should be directed to George C. Smith, Sr., M.D., Chairman, Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama, P.O. Box 887, Montgomery, Alabama 36101-0887, phone 334-242-4153 or 1-800-227-2606, e-mail ksilas@almlc.org.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact our office.

Sincerely,
Alabama Board of Medical Examiners



E. Wilson Hunter
General Counsel

EWH:chk
Enclosures

cc: Tiffany Seamon, Director of Credentialing (w/o enclosures)
Karen Silas, Executive Assistant, Medical Licensure Commission (w/o enclosures)