

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130  
www.lsbme.la.gov



Telephone: (504) 568-6820  
FAX: (504) 568-8893  
Writer's Direct Dial:

(504) \_\_\_\_\_

No. 19-I-510

In The Matter Of

**PADMINI NAGARAJ, M.D.**  
(Certificate No. MD.06609R),

Respondent.

**SUPERSEDING ORDER  
FOR REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE  
ON PROBATION**

The above-entitled matter came before the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") on the request of Padmini Nagaraj, M.D. ("Dr. Nagaraj"), a physician that is, and was at all times material to the facts and matters alleged herein, licensed by the Board as a physician pursuant to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, (the "Act"), La. Rev. Stat. §§37:1261-92, as evidenced by Certificate No. MD.06609R, seeking to have her license to practice medicine in this State reinstated. Previously, Dr. Nagaraj's license had been indefinitely suspended via Consent Order<sup>1</sup> pursuant to her serving a sentence arising from a guilty plea in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana<sup>2</sup> to Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud, a felony count related to the practice of medicine.<sup>3</sup>

In connection with her request, the Board during its meeting on October 2021, received information that a United State District Court Judge ordered an early termination of Dr. Nagaraj's criminal probation, confirming that she had complied with the plea terms of paying a fine and restitution, and performing her community service obligations. The Board reviewed and discussed Dr. Nagaraj's status and compliance with the Consent Order previously entered in this matter. Based on its review, the Board concluded that Dr. Nagaraj had satisfied the necessary terms of the prior Consent Order to seek reinstatement of her license to practice medicine, and that the public interest would be properly served and protected by reinstating her license to practice medicine consistent with the remaining terms of the prior Consent Order. Accordingly, in consideration of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285(D) and the Consent Order previously entered herein:

<sup>1</sup> Consent Order, *In the Matter of Padmini Nagaraj*, No. 19-I-510, La. Bd Med Exam. (April 27, 2020).

<sup>2</sup> The case is entitled *United States v. Muhammad Kaleem Arshad, MD, et. al.*, Crim. No. 18-032, Sect. E, Mag. 3, USDC, E.D. LA.

<sup>3</sup> May 2, 2019 Minute Entry (Doc. No. 88), *U.S. v. Arshad, et. al.*, 18-032, USDC, ED La.

**IT IS ORDERED** that the license of Padmini Nagaraj, M.D. to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. MD.06609R, is hereby **REINSTATED** and placed on **PROBATION** for one (1) year upon: (A) Dr. Nagaraj completing the appropriate application and satisfying the eligibility and other requirements (including, but not limited to a challenge examination if one has not been taken in the past ten years) of the Board's rules governing license issuance, renewal and/or reinstatement, pursuant to La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, ch. 3; and (B) provided, however, that such license and Dr. Nagaraj's continuing exercise of rights and privileges thereunder, shall be conditioned upon and strict compliance with the following terms, conditions and restrictions:

- (1) **Board Approval of Medical Practice.** Dr. Nagaraj shall provide the Board with information including a complete and accurate description, and such further information as the Board may request, concerning any practice setting in which Dr. Nagaraj intends to practice medicine during the period of probation. Dr. Nagaraj shall not engage in the practice of medicine in any practice setting in advance of the Board's specific written approval of such practice setting.
- (2) **Practice Monitoring and Quarterly Reports.** Prior to re-commencing the practice of medicine, Dr. Nagaraj shall enter into a contract with a Board-approved practice monitor program to monitor and review Dr. Nagaraj's medical practice during the probationary period. The program will work in conjunction with the Board to develop parameters for monitoring Dr. Nagaraj's practice, including a review of Dr. Nagaraj's patient records and charts. The practice monitor shall review no less than ten (10) records per quarter. The practice monitoring program will provide quarterly reports to the Board that will include an opinion as to whether Dr. Nagaraj is practicing medicine and documenting her patient's evaluation and treatment in accordance with the prevailing standards of medical practice. This practice monitoring of Dr. Nagaraj shall not conclude until the Board has received at least four (4) positive quarterly reports from the practice monitor. After the Board has received four (4) positive quarterly reports in which the practice monitoring program has opined that Dr. Nagaraj is practicing in accordance with the prevailing standards of medical practice, Dr. Nagaraj may petition the Board to terminate this condition of her probation, which request the Board in its sole discretion may grant or deny. In the event the Board denies such a request, the practice monitoring will continue at the Board's

discretion. Dr. Nagaraj shall bear all costs associated with the practice monitor program.

- (3) **Limitations on Prescribing – Use of Controlled Substances in the Treatment of Chronic Pain and Obesity.** Dr. Nagaraj shall not prescribe controlled substances to patients for the treatment of chronic pain or obesity. Until and unless otherwise modified by the Board, in its sole discretion, the restrictions contained in this provision shall survive the probationary period and remain in effect so long as Dr. Nagaraj shall hold any form of license or permit to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana.
- (4) **Continuing Medical Education.** Dr. Nagaraj shall obtain not less than fifty (50) credit hours per year during her probationary term through attendance at and participation in continuing medical education programs (“CME”), concentrating on psychiatry, accredited by the American College of Physicians, the American Medical Association, or such other national accrediting association or organization as the Board may approve in writing. On or before the anniversary of the effective date of this Order, Dr. Nagaraj shall cause to be submitted to the Board written certification of the CME programs and credits completed by her during the preceding twelve (12) months.
- (5) **Absence from State/Practice/Effect on Probation.** Should Dr. Nagaraj at any time during the period of probation ordered herein be absent from the state of Louisiana for more than 30 days, relocate to and/or take up residency in another state or country, discontinue practicing medicine for a period of thirty (30) days or more, or should she fail to renew her license to practice medicine in this state, she shall advise the Board in writing. In such instance, the probationary period ordered herein and all terms, conditions and restrictions thereof shall be deemed interrupted and extended and shall not commence to run until Dr. Nagaraj notifies the Board in writing that she has returned to, relocated or taken up residency in, resumed the practice of medicine in this state, or renewed her Louisiana medical license.
- (6) **Certification of Compliance with Probationary Terms.** At least sixty (60) days prior to the conclusion of the probationary term imposed herein, Dr. Nagaraj shall provide the Board with an affidavit certifying that she has complied with each of the terms of

probation imposed by this Order. The probationary period and all of its terms and conditions shall be, and shall be deemed to be, extended and continued in full force and effect pending Dr. Nagaraj's compliance with the requirements of this provision.

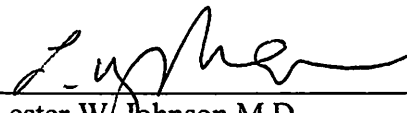
- (7) **Cooperation with Board's Probation and Compliance Officer.** Dr. Nagaraj shall immediately notify the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer of any change in her current home and professional addresses and telephone numbers and she shall direct all matters required pursuant to this Consent Order to the attention of the Probation and Compliance Officer, with whom she shall cooperate on all matters and inquiries pertaining to her compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Order.
- (8) **Probation Monitoring Fee.** For each year of the probationary term Dr. Nagaraj shall pay the Board a probation monitoring fee of Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars. Payment of the initial fee shall be due not later than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Order. All subsequent annual payments shall be due on or before the anniversary date of the initial fee payment.
- (9) **Payment of Fine.** If she has not already done so, within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, Dr. Nagaraj shall pay to the Board a fine in the amount of Two Thousand Five Hundred (\$2,500.00) Dollars.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record.

Signed at New Orleans, Louisiana, and effective on this 2 day of November, 2021.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By:

  
Lester W. Johnson M.D.  
President