BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA MEDICAL IMAGING & RADIATION THERAPY TECHNOLOGY BOARD OF EXAMINERS

WEST VIRGINIA MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION THERAPY TECHNOLOGY BOARD OF EXAMINERS,

Complainant,

v.	Case No. 09-FY-202	23
MICHELE LIFE,	Respondent.	
	CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER	

After due investigation of a written complaint, the West Virginia Medical Imaging & Radiation Therapy Technology Board of Examiners (Board) determined that there was probable cause to believe that Michele Life (Respondent) performed medical imaging procedures in West Virginia without a valid West Virginia medical imaging license in violation of the provisions of W. Va. Code § 30-23-2(a), and 30-23-22. Respondent was provided with written notice of the allegations against her pursuant to the rules of the Board and the laws of this State.

Now, in lieu of hearing, the parties have reached an agreement as to the appropriate disposition of this matter, with consideration to the necessary safeguards for protection of the public, and do hereby agree to the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Michele Life is a licensee of the Board and is subject to the license requirements of said Board. She holds license number 5345 in radiography, and has been licensed since February 16, 2006.
- 2. On March 4, 2023, the Board initiated a complaint against Respondent pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-23-25 for performing medical imaging procedures in West Virginia without a valid West Virginia medical imaging license.
- 3. Respondent is employed at Jackson General Hospital in Ripley, West Virginia, as a medical imaging technologist.
- 4. The Board learned that Respondent's license expired on February 28, 2022. She did not renew her license until March 4, 2023.
- 5. Respondent indicated that she completed two of the seven steps to renew her license on February 27, 2022. The Board emailed and texted her reminders to renew her license on February 14, 2022, and February 24, 2022. Respondent did not receive reminders for the 2023 year because her license had been expired for one year.
- 6. Respondent submitted a written response to the Board via email on March 14, 2023, wherein she admitted the allegations in the Board's Complaint. She indicated that she did not realize that her license was not in good standing until March 3, 2023, and she immediately took action to renew her license.
- 7. An Informal Conference was held on March 16, 2023, regarding this matter before the Board's Ethics Committee. In attendance to discuss the facts and circumstances of this matter

with the Ethic's Committee were Respondent and Jackson General Hospital Supervisor Steven Radabaugh.

- 8. The Board's Ethics Committee recommended a finding of probable cause in violation of W. Va. Code § 30-23-2(a) and 30-23-22.
- 9. The Board's Ethics Committee further acknowledged that Respondent has taken full responsibility for her actions.
- 10. The Board, at its March 16, 2023, meeting, did by unanimous vote, find probable cause that Respondent violated W. Va. Code § 30-23-2(a) and 30-23-22.
- 11. Respondent's actions constitute a violation of W. Va. Code § 30-23-2(a) and 30-23-22.
- 12. The Board and Respondent desire to resolve this complaint through the use of this negotiated Consent Agreement and Order as follows:

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. That the Board has jurisdiction to take disciplinary action against Respondent.
- 2. The Board is a regulatory board created for the purpose of regulating the practice of medical imaging and radiation therapy technology. W. Va. Code § 30-23-6.
- 3. In order to carry out its regulatory duties, the Board is empowered to suspend, revoke or otherwise discipline an individual's license because of authority granted to it by W. Va. Code § 30-23-24.
- 4. That based upon the allegations set forth above in the *Findings of Fact* section, the Board is authorized to suspend, revoke, or otherwise restrict the license. W.Va. Code § 30-23-24.

5. Respondent's actions violate W. Va. Code § 30-23-2(a) and 30-23-22. Such conduct is therefore grounds for disciplinary action.

CONSENT OF LICENSEE

Respondent, by affixing her signature hereto, acknowledges the following:

- 1. Respondent acknowledges that the Board has jurisdiction over her and her conduct which precipitated this Consent Agreement and Order.
- 2. Respondent has been given the opportunity to consult with counsel and execute this Consent Agreement voluntarily, freely, without compulsion or duress and is mindful that it has legal consequences.
- 3. That no person or entity has made any promise or given any inducement whatsoever to encourage Respondent to make this settlement other than as set forth herein.
- 4. Respondent is aware that she may pursue this matter through appropriate administrative and/or court proceedings, and is further aware of her legal rights regarding this matter, but intelligently, knowingly and voluntarily waives such rights.
- 5. Respondent expressly acknowledges that the entire agreement is contained in this Consent Agreement and Order and that no representations, promises, or inducements have been made by or to Respondent other than as appear in this Consent Agreement and Order.
- 6. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Agreement and Order is a public document available for inspection by the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in the West Virginia Freedom of Information Act (W. Va. Code § 29B-1-1, et seq.) and may be reported to other governmental agencies, professional boards and organizations.

7. Respondent waives any defenses including, but not limited to, laches, statute of limitations, and estoppel, that she may have otherwise claimed as a condition of this Consent Agreement and Order.

8. The Respondent, Michele Life, by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Board does hereby ORDER and DECREE that:

- 1. Respondent is hereby REPRIMANDED for her action in this matter.
- 2. Respondent shall reimburse the Board for administrative and legal expenses in the amount of \$250.00 incurred by the Board in the investigation and disposition of this case within thirty (30) days of entry of this Consent Agreement and Order.
- 3. The Board is bound by agreement and law to report the results of all disciplinary actions, including the instant matter, for posting to the Board's website, to the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office, and ARRT.
 - 4. That this document is a public record as defined in W. Va. Code § 29B-1-2(5).
- 5. This Consent Agreement and Order constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

WEST VIRGINIA MEDICAL IMAGING & RADIATION THERAPY TECHNOLOGY BOARD OF EXAMINERS

By:

Tyson Judy, Chairperson

Entered:	DATE
Agreed to by:	Mcheefhile Michele Life, Respondent
Witness!	DATE DATE LET, RICT, CIUMT



Deborah & Burge 4/25/2023