



Arkansas Department of Health

State Board of Physical Therapy

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Governor Asa Hutchinson

Renee Mallory, RN, BSN, Interim Secretary of Health

Nancy Worthen, Director

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

IN THE MATTER OF MARCI CHRONISTER, PTA 975

CONSENT ORDER

An allegation that Marci Chronister, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, violated the Arkansas Physical Therapy Act was received by the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy, hereinafter referred to as the Board. In lieu of a formal hearing on these issues and in the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of the above-captioned matter, consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements and the responsibilities of the Board, the undersigned parties enter into this Consent Agreement as a final disposition of this matter. The Respondent admits the following Findings of Fact, and does not contest the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order:

- A. Respondent, having read the proposed Consent Order, acknowledges that she has the right to consult with counsel and now enters into this Consent Order on her own volition and without any reliance upon any representations by the Board or any officer, employee, agent or other representative thereof, other than as expressly set forth herein.
- B. Respondent hereby waives any further procedural steps including, without limitation, the right to a hearing and all rights to seek judicial review or to otherwise challenge or contest the validity of this Consent Order.
- C. Respondent agrees that the Board will review and determine whether to approve this Consent Order. Furthermore, Respondent agrees that should this Consent Order not be approved by the Board, the presentation and consideration of this Consent Order by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from further

participation, consideration or resolution of the matters involved herein at any subsequent hearing.

- D. Respondent understands and agrees that approval and entry of this Consent Order shall not preclude additional proceedings by the Board against Respondent for acts or omissions not specifically addressed herein.
- E. Respondent understands and acknowledges that this Consent Order and the Board's records concerning this matter are public records and available to the public pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-19-101, *et seq.*
- F. This agreement shall not become a valid and enforceable order of this Board unless and until accepted and approved by the Board at an official meeting and executed by the Chair of the Board.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. At all times relevant, Respondent has been a licensed physical therapist assistant ("PTA") in the State of Arkansas.
- 2. Respondent was employed at all relevant times by Kindred at Home until she was terminated on January 20, 2022.
- 3. Kindred At Home filed a complaint with the Board on February 7, 2022 alleging that Respondent falsely documented patient services not rendered.
- 4. Respondent admitted that on April 10, 2021, she documented for a patient a visit that she did not actually make.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 5. Arkansas Code Ann. § 17-93-308(a)(3) permits the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy to take disciplinary action against a licensee who is, in the judgment of the Board, guilty of immoral or unprofessional conduct;
- 6. Pursuant to the Board Rules, Section VIII(A)(4), "unprofessional conduct" includes charging unreasonable or fraudulent fees for services performed or not performed.

ORDER


THEREFORE, IT IS SO ORDERED THAT:

1. No later than six (6) months from the date of this Order, Marci Chronister shall complete an ethics course and submit to Board staff sufficient documentation of her attendance.
2. Marci Chronister's physical therapist assistant license is placed on probation for six (6) months from the date of this Order.
3. The Board shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of implementing and enforcing this Consent Agreement, and Respondent's failure to comply with any term or condition of this Consent Agreement shall constitute grounds to impose disciplinary action pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 17-93-301 *et seq*.

ARKANSAS STATE BOARD
OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

08/25/2022

Date

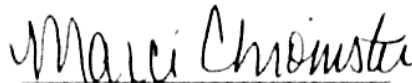


Robert Jordan, Chair
Ark. State Bd. of Physical Therapy

Text

8-16-22

Date



Marci Chronister
Respondent