

DEC 30 2019

**LOUISIANA BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY**

**IN THE MATTER OF
ASHLEY ALLEMAND**

**LICENSE NO. 6653
COMPLAINT NO. 2019-17**

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

WHEREAS, Ashley Allemand was and is licensed as a Speech-Language Pathologist, subject to the jurisdiction, Practice Act, and Rules and Regulations, of the Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Board"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a complaint and an investigation, Ashley Allemand has indicated her desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order as provided for in Rule No. 501(J) of the board's Rules and Regulations and LA R.S. 49:955(D) of the Louisiana Administrative Procedures Act; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Allemand has admitted to the following:

1. Pertinent to the facts and matters alleged herein, the Respondent was and is licensed by the Board as a Speech-Language Pathologist through June 30, 2020, and was authorized to engage in the practice of speech-language pathology, in the State of Louisiana pursuant to the Louisiana Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act, LA R.S. 37:2650, et seq., as evidenced by License Number 1433.

2. At all times pertinent hereto, Respondent was actively engaged in the practice of speech-language pathology.

3. At all times pertinent hereto, Ashley Allemand was employed as the Director of Rehab for Reliant Rehabilitation;

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department of Reliant Rehabilitation performed a one-day billing review/audit on March 13, 2019, wherein a Human Resource staff member sat in the building and recorded the time that Ms. Allemand, along with other therapists under Ms. Allemand's supervision, arrived and departed, and compared it to the billing for that particular day. This billing review proved that the times billed for services were not accurate. Ms. Allemand was given the opportunity to correct the billing for this particular day.

WHEREAS, Ms. Allemand admitted to Reliant Rehabilitation's Compliance Department and the Board's Investigator, that she improperly billed on March 13, 2019, by billing individually instead of with a group code.

WHEREAS, by failing to maintain adequate records and failing to document her time spent with patients appropriately, Ms. Allemand has violated her ethical and professional duty as set forth by LA R.S. 37:2662(4), and as defined by the rules established by the Board, is a violation of the code of ethics adopted and published by the Board as identified in 701(E)(1)(g) which states that individuals shall maintain adequate records of professional services rendered and products dispensed and shall allow access to these records when appropriately authorized.

WHEREAS, by billing fraudulently, Ms. Allemand has violated her ethical and professional duty as set forth by LA R.S. 37:2662(A)(6), and as defined by the rules established by the Board, is a violation of the code of ethics adopted and published by the Board as identified in 701(E)(1)(i) which states individuals shall not charge for services not rendered, nor shall they misrepresent, in any fashion, services rendered or products dispensed, as well as, 701(E)(3)(c) which states individuals shall not misrepresent diagnostic information, services rendered, or products dispensed, or engage in any scheme or maneuver to defraud in connection with obtaining payment or reimbursement for such services or product.

WHEREAS, Ms. Allemand has violated her ethical and professional duty as set forth by LA R.S. 37:2662(A)(5), and as defined by the rules established by the Board, is a violation of the code of ethics adopted and published by the Board as identified in 701(E)(4)(e) which states individuals shall not engage in dishonesty, negligence, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, as well as 701(E)(4)(b) which states individuals shall not engage in dishonesty, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, harassment, or any form of conduct that adversely reflects on the professions or on the individual's fitness to serve persons professionally.

WHEREAS, the Board is persuaded that it is in the best interest of the public to enter into this Consent Agreement and Order, the conditions which are set forth hereafter;

WHEREAS, Ashley Allemand hereby formally waives any and all legal, administrative, procedural, or judicial remedies, appeals, or relief which might be available under the Administrative Procedure Act, the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act, or any other law or statute.

WHEREAS, the Board and Ashley Allemand have entered into this Consent Agreement and Order by which the Board agrees to resolve the complaint. Respondent agrees to accept the following specified conditions in resolution of the complaint.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that in consideration of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by LA R.S. 49:955(D), the Board orders and Ashley Allemand accepts the following administrative action which is a final decision pursuant to the LA R.S. 49:958:

1. Within ninety (90) days of the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order, Ms. Allemand shall successfully complete an open book examination relative to LA R.S. 37:2650-2666 (Louisiana Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act), the Board's Rules and Regulations, and Ethical Questions, Parts I and II. Ms. Allemand shall pay applicable testing fees.
2. Ms. Allemand shall pay a fine in the amount of \$2,000.00 within eighteen months from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. Quarterly payments are required with the first payment due within 90 days from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order.

3. Ms. Allemand shall pay the cost of investigation in the amount of \$1,138.33 within six (6) months from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. Quarterly payments are required with the first payment due within 90 days from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order.
4. Ms. Allemand shall complete 3 hours of continuing education in the area of ethics and 7 hours of continuing education in the area of billing. All courses must be pre-approved by the board prior to completion. A certificate of completion must be submitted at the time of the renewal, but no later than June 30, 2020. These continuing education hours are in addition to those required for renewal of your license.
5. Respondent is to be Publicly Reprimanded for violation of the Practice Act (LA R.S. 37:2650, et seq.) and the Rules and Regulations. Such reprimand shall include publication by the Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, notification to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Louisiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association (LSHA), and the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).
6. Ms. Allemand waives any and all legal, procedural, or judicial remedies, appeals, or relief which might be available under the Administrative Procedure Act, and the statutory and procedural rules of the Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

7. Ms. Allemand specifically acknowledges that failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order in a timely manner without the Board's authorization shall result in SUSPENSION of licensure without further notice until such time as the Board receives and accepts documentation of Ms. Allemand's completion of the requirements set forth above. The admissions contained herein, will be considered proven and the only issue will be failure to follow the terms of the Consent Agreement and Order.
8. Failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order will result in further publication by the Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, and notification to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Louisiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association (LSHA), and the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).

THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER is a matter of public record for violation of the above referenced sections of the Louisiana Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act and the Rules, Regulations and Procedures.

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IN WITNESS HEREOF, the Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-
Language Pathology and Audiology has entered into this Consent Agreement
and Order and executed same at Baton Rouge, Louisiana on this the
14th day of February, 2020.

Glenn Waguespack
Glenn Waguespack, L-AUD, Chair

Erica Chatelain
Erica Chatelain, L-SLP, Vice Chair

Deanna Hardy
Deanna Hardy, Secretary-Treasurer

[Signature]
Board Member

IN WITNESS HEREOF, Ashley Allemand, has entered into this Consent
Agreement and Order and executed same at Denham Springs,
Louisiana, on this 27th day of December, 2019.

Ashley Allemand
Ashley Allemand

[Signature]
Notary

NOTARIZATION REQUIRED

