

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

**IN THE MATTER OF
CORI DYSART GAGNARD**

**LBESPA COMPLAINT #2024-03
L-SLP LICENSE #5582**

INTERIM CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

NOW COME, Cori Dysart Gagnard ("Ms. Gagnard") and the Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "LBESPA" or "Board") which agree as follows:

1.

Ms. Gagnard is a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist subject to the jurisdiction and Rules and Regulations of LBESPA, including the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act (La. R.S. 37:2650, *et seq.*), and the Professional and Occupational Standards for Speech Pathology and Audiology (LAC 46:LXXV §103, *et seq.*).

2.

The Board received a complaint regarding Ms. Gagnard wherein it was alleged that while working for Early Steps, she inaccurately billed for services provided.

3.

During the pendency of the Board's investigation, the issue of the bills for services provided while Ms. Gagnard was employed by Early Steps was investigated by the Louisiana Department of Health and scheduled for hearing. The administrative proceedings in that matter are ongoing.

4.

Further, during the Board's investigation, Ms. Gagnard voluntarily submitted herself to inpatient treatment. Ms. Gagnard is undergoing continued treatment as part of an Integrated Recovery Therapies Intensive Outpatient Treatment program ("IRT").

5.

Counsel for the Board communicated with counsel for Ms. Gagnard, who indicated that Ms. Gagnard desires to resolve this matter through an Interim Consent Agreement and Order. Accordingly, to avoid administrative proceedings at this time while Ms. Gagnard undergoes further treatment, the parties agree to the following, to be made an Order of the Board:

- a. The license of Ms. Gagnard to practice Speech-Language Pathology in the State of Louisiana pursuant to L-SLP License #5582 is indefinitely SUSPENDED. Thus, while this Interim Consent Agreement and Order is in effect, Ms. Gagnard is precluded from providing Speech-Language Pathology services in any capacity. Ms. Gagnard represents that she has not worked as a Speech-Language Therapist since July 9, 2024.
- b. After Ms. Gagnard has entered and completed Integrated Recovery Therapies ("IRT") Intensive Outpatient Treatment program, she may seek to have her license reinstated. However, Ms. Gagnard must follow the discharge recommendations from IRT.
- c. Further proceedings in the administrative matter before the Board relative to Complaint No. 2024-03 will be stayed until February 1, 2025, when the status of the case will be reevaluated by the Board. At that time, the

complaints committee may take further steps in the prosecution of Complaint No. 2024-03, as necessary.

- d. Ms. Gagnard waives any potential defense she could make regarding the timeliness of administrative proceedings brought by the Board if proceedings are initiated after the time allowed pursuant to any administrative rule or law governing same and agrees to the suspension of such deadlines in association with this Agreement.

6.

By signing this Interim Consent Agreement, Ms. Gagnard agrees that the Board has jurisdiction in this matter, and waives her right to a formal administrative hearing and to judicial review of this Interim Consent Agreement. Specifically, Ms. Gagnard waives any and all legal, procedural, or judicial remedies, appeals, or relief which might be available under the Administrative Procedure Act, the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act (La. R.S. 37:2650, *et seq.*), the Professional and Occupational Standards for Speech Pathology and Audiology (LAC 46:LXXV §103, *et seq.*), or any other law. However, Ms. Gagnard reserves the right to a formal administrative hearing relative to the merits of this matter once the conditions at Paragraph 5 above, are met. While this Interim Consent Agreement is in effect, Ms. Gagnard shall continue to renew her license with the Board

7.

By signing this Interim Consent Agreement, Ms. Gagnard agrees that any failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement is a basis for discipline by the Board.

8.

Ms. Gagnard further understands that this Interim Consent Agreement shall constitute a Public Record pursuant to La. R.S. 44:1 *et seq.* and is considered disciplinary action by the Board. Notifications regarding this Interim Consent Agreement and Order may be made to Early Steps, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Speech-Language Hearing Association (LSHA), American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Speech Pathologists and Audiologists in Louisiana Schools (SPALS). This Interim Consent Agreement and Order will also be reported to the national Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) and the Louisiana Attorney General's office.

9.

The parties agree that this Interim Consent Order does not serve as a resolution of the captioned complaint and is merely being entered into on an interim basis until the LDH administrative proceedings and mental health treatment are resolved.

10.

Both Ms. Gagnard and the Board stipulate that this Interim Consent Agreement shall not become effective and shall not become binding on the Board unless and until approved by the Board at a meeting of a quorum of the Board.

I, Cori Dysart Gagnard, understand that this Agreement is effective upon an affirmative vote by the Board at a formal meeting. It is also understood that should the Board not approve the Interim Consent Agreement, my agreement thereon does not preclude the Board from requiring a formal hearing of my case. I further understand that should this Interim Consent Agreement not be accepted by the Board, the presentation to and consideration by the Board of this Agreement, including presented documentary evidence

Interim Consent Agreement and Order. LBESPA Complaint #2024-03

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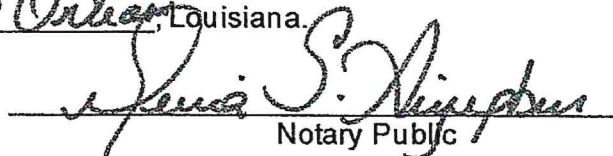
Initials

and information, shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice or preclude the Board or any of its present or future members, from further participation in hearings or resolution of these proceedings. Ms. Gagnard also specifically authorizes a member of the Investigative Committee, the Board Administrator, or the Board attorney to present this Agreement to the Board for its consideration, and to fully disclose to and discuss with the Board the nature and results of the investigation, and she waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:950, *et seq.*

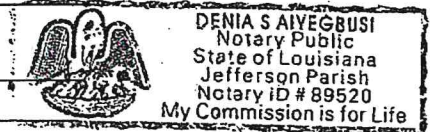
SIGNED, AGREED TO, AND ENTERED on this 17 day of October, 2024.


Cori Dysart Gagnard (License No. 15926)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 17 day of October, 2024, at New Orleans, Louisiana.


Notary Public

Print Name: _____
My Commission Expires: _____



Submitted for Board Approval By:


James R. Raines, Board Attorney

BOARD ORDER
and

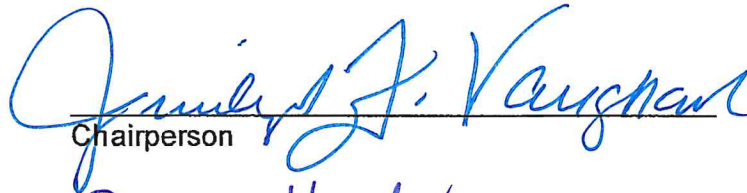
Interim Consent Agreement and Order: LBESPA Complaint #2024-03

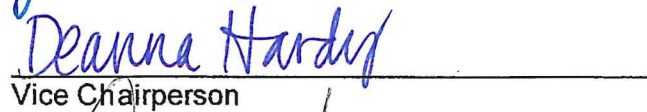
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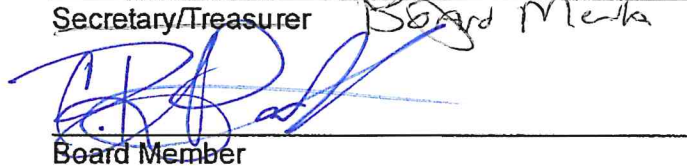
ACCEPTANCE OF THE INTERIM CONSENT AGREEMENT BY THE LOUISIANA
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND
AUDIOLOGY

By a majority vote of the Board members voting in favor of the foregoing Interim
Consent Agreement at the Board meeting on December 13, 2024, the Board hereby
adopts said Agreement, and makes it an Order of this Board.


Chairperson


Vice Chairperson


Secretary/Treasurer


Board Member