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

IN THE MATTER OF	**LBESPA COMPLAINT #2025-15**
BELEN LOPEZ ADDISON	**L-SLP LICENSE #7612**

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

WHEREAS, Belen Lopez Addison ("Ms. Addison") is a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist subject to the jurisdiction and Rules and Regulations of the Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Board"), 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.*); at all times referenced; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a complaint and an investigation, the Speech-Language Pathologist, Belen Lopez Addison, has indicated her desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order as provided for in Rule No. 501(H) of the Board's Rules and Regulations and La. R.S. 49:975(D) of the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act; and

WHEREAS, Belen Lopez Addison has admitted the following:

1. Ms. Lopez Addison is and was, at all times pertinent to the facts and matters alleged herein, a Speech-Language Pathologist licensed by the Board 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 No. 7612.

2. At all times pertinent hereto, Ms. Lopez Addison was actively engaged in the practice of speech-language pathology as an SLP/CEO of her private practice, Lopez Addison Therapy, LLC.

WHEREAS, the Board's investigation revealed:

a. Ms. Lopez Addison provided an Evaluation Report for JV, which showed symbols in the place of the child's name and in place of numbers that indicate scores and the child's age. Additionally, the child was referred to in the report as the wrong name.

b. Ms. Lopez Addison provided an Evaluation Report for JV, which indicated mild expressive language delay and phonological disorder. The report has multiple levels of delay, which is inconsistent with the findings of this report, indicating that the report contained a misdiagnosis.

c. Ms. Lopez Addison did not bill for the Evaluation; therefore, billing in this case was appropriate.

d. This is the second complaint that the Board has investigated within one year relating to documentation errors and sloppy documentation by Ms. Belen Lopez Addison.

e. Ms. Lopez Addison stated the following in response to the allegations: Neither she nor her company prepared an evaluation report for JV, but a staff member incorrectly forwarded a template evaluation when a copy of an evaluation was requested. She further advised that because a valid speech-

language evaluation had already been performed within the prior six months at another facility, she appropriately honored the evaluation rather than duplicating services as required by Medicaid and adopted the original SLP's diagnosis and goals.

WHEREAS, **by providing Evaluation Reports reflecting inaccurate and/or incomplete information**, Ms. Lopez Addison is in violation of **La. R.S. 37:2662(3)** and **Rule 701E(1)** of the Rules and Regulations, which states that individuals shall honor their responsibility to hold paramount the welfare of persons they serve professionally...The licensee shall take all reasonable precautions to avoid harm to the individual served professionally. She also violated **Rule 701E(1)(p)** of the Rules and Regulations, which states that individuals shall maintain timely records and accurately record...

WHEREAS, by preparing a report that includes a misdiagnosis, Ms. Lopez Addison is in violation of **Rule 701(E)(3)(c)** of the Rules and Regulations, which states that individuals shall not misrepresent...diagnostic information, services rendered....and **Rule 701E(3)(g)** of the Rules and Regulations, which states that individuals shall not make false statements regarding areas of professional practice and shall complete all materials honestly and without omission.

WHEREAS, Ms. Lopez Addison engaged in **unprofessional conduct**, which is a violation of **La. R.S. 37:2662(5)**. Such conduct is also a violation of **Rule 701E(2)**, which states that individuals shall honor their responsibility to achieve and maintain the highest level of professional competence and performance consistent with prevailing practice standards, **Rule 701E(3)** which states that individuals shall honor their responsibility to the public...and shall provide accurate information involving any aspect of the professions,

Rule 701E(3)(g) which states that individuals...shall complete all materials honestly and without omission, **Rule 701E(4)**, which states that individuals shall uphold the dignity and autonomy of the professions, maintain harmonious interprofessional and intraprofessional relationships, and accept the professions' self-imposed standards, and **Rule 701E(4)(e)**, which states that individuals shall not engage in...misrepresentation.

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 of which are set forth hereafter;

WHEREAS, Ms. Lopez Addison hereby formally waives any and all legal, administrative, procedural, or judicial remedies, appeals, or relief that may be available in 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;

WHEREAS, the Board and Ms. Lopez Addison have entered into this Consent Agreement and Order by which the Board agrees to resolve the complaint. Ms. Lopez Addison 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. 49:975(D), the Board orders and Ms. Lopez Addison accepts the following administrative action which is a final decision pursuant to La. R.S. 49:977:

1. The license of Ms. Lopez Addison to be engaged in the practice of Speech-Language Pathology in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by License Number 7612 is REPRIMANDED based upon the allegations set forth herein. Ms. Lopez

Addison accepts and shall maintain strict compliance with the following terms and conditions.

2. Ms. Lopez Addison shall successfully complete an open book examination, regarding Louisiana Revised Statute 37:2650-2666 (The Practice Act); the Board's Rules and Regulations; and Ethical Questions, within ninety (90) days from the date that all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order, and pay all related testing fees.
3. Ms. Lopez Addison shall complete ten (10) hours of continuing education in documentation. All courses must be pre-approved by the board. A certificate of completion must be submitted by May 31, 2026. These continuing education hours are in addition to those required for renewal of her Speech-Language Pathology license.
4. Ms. Lopez Addison shall pay a $1,000.00 fine within ninety (90) days from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order, which payments shall be made by credit or debit card.
5. Ms. Lopez Addison shall pay the investigative costs of adjudicating this matter in the amount of $400.00 within 90 days from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order which payment shall be made by credit or debit card.
6. Ms. Lopez Addison 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.

7. Ms. Lopez Addison specifically acknowledges that failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order in a timely manner without LBESPA's authorization shall be grounds for the **SUSPENSION** of her license pending further proceedings before the Board. 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.

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 and Regulations. Ms. Lopez Addison is to be Publicly Reprimanded for violation of the above referenced sections in the Practice Act (La. R.S. 37:2650, *et seq.*) and the Board Rules and Regulations. Such reprimand shall include publication by LBESPA, Louisiana Speech-Language Hearing Association (LSHA), American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), and the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).

I, **BELEN LOPEZ ADDISON**, make these acknowledgements and waivers in support of a final disposition of Case Nos. 2025-15 by Consent Agreement and Order pursuant to La. R.S. 49:975(D), in lieu of the institution and prosecution of formal administrative proceedings, and accordingly consent to the entirety of the Order set forth hereinbefore and further waive any right to which I may be entitled under the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act or any other law to contest, in any court, my agreement to this Order. By my subscription hereto, I also hereby authorize the Board attorney or LBESPA Executive Director to present this Order to LBESPA for its consideration and to disclose to and discuss with LBESPA the nature and results of the investigation of this matter. I herein

waive any objection to such disclosure based on due process of law under either the State or Federal Constitution or under State statutory law, including La. R.S. 49:977.2. I expressly acknowledge that the disclosure of such information to LBESPA shall be without prejudice to the attorney's authority to file a formal Administrative Complaint, or LBESPA's capacity to adjudicate such Administrative Complaint, should LBESPA decline to approve this Consent Agreement and Order. I further acknowledge my awareness that should LBESPA approve this Consent Agreement and Order that the Consent Agreement and Order will become a matter of public record.

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 29th day of May, 2026.

Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Secretary/Treasurer

Board Member

IN WITNESS HEREOF, Belen Lopez Addison, Speech-Language Pathologist, has entered into this Consent Agreement and Order and executed same at Metairie, Louisiana, on this 24th day of April, 2026.

Belen Lopez Addison
Belen Lopez Addison

E Johnson
Notary Public

ELLEN JOHNSON
Notary Public – State of Louisiana
Notary ID Number 131350