

April 2021 Public Board Actions List

Georgia Composite Medical Board
Attn: **Ms. Latisha Bias**, Public Records Unit
2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 6th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3465
PH: (404) 657-3194
FX: (404) 463-2539
Email: latisha.bias@dch.ga.gov

The Board issued **four** public orders in **April 2021**. To view each Board order, click on the licensee's name below.

1. John W. Farrior, Sr., PA

1467

Physician Assistant

Public Consent Order

2. Bruce Michael Gioia, MD

38774

Physician

Voluntary Surrender

3. Stephen Ward Jarrard, MD

62897

Physician

Public Consent Order

4. John Caldwell Seal

Voluntary Cease and Desist Order

BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD
STATE OF GEORGIA

GEORGIA COMPOSITE
MEDICAL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:
JOHN W. FARRIOR, SR. PA
License #: 1467

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DOCKET NO.:

APR 13 2021

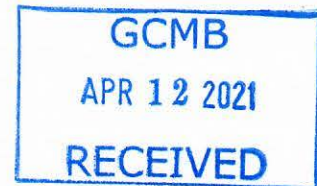
DOCKET NUMBER:
20210055

Respondent.

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") and John W. Farrior, Sr., P.A., Respondent, the following disposition of this matter is entered pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-13-13 (a) (4), *as amended*.

FINDINGS OF FACT



1.

Respondent is licensed as physician assistant in the State of Georgia and was licensed as physician assistant at all times relevant to the facts contained in this Order. His license expires on November 30, 2022.

2.

On or about June 20, 2017, Respondent, freely and voluntarily, "without any degree of duress or compulsion," entered into a binding public Settlement Agreement, with the United States of America, acting through the United States Department of Justice, on behalf of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

3.

The Settlement Agreement alleges that Respondent, during the period from October 19, 2012 through February 10, 2015, was dispensing or distributing Schedule II controlled

substances without legal authority when he completed and issued prescriptions that a physician had signed but otherwise left blank.

4.

Respondent does not contest the above findings of fact and hereby waives any further findings of fact with respect to the above-styled matter.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Pursuant to Ga. Comp. R. & Regs 360-5-.05 (8)(a), a physician assistant may not issue a written prescription for a Schedule II controlled substance, nor may the physician assistant prepare such a prescription for administration of a Schedule II controlled substance that has been pre-signed by the primary or alternate supervising physician.

O.C.G.A. § 43-34-8 (a)(7) gives the Board the authority to discipline a person regulated under Title 43, Chapter 34, for engaging in any unprofessional, unethical, deceptive, or deleterious conduct or practice harmful to the public, which need not have resulted in actual injury to any person. "Unprofessional conduct" includes any departure from, or failure to conform to, the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice and shall also include, but not be limited to, the prescribing or use of drugs which are detrimental to the patient as determined by the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice or by rule of the board.

O.C.G.A. § 43-34-8 (a)(10) gives the Board the authority to discipline a person regulated under Title 43, Chapter 34 for violating a law, rule, or regulation of this state, any other state, the board, the United States, or any other lawful authority without regard to whether the violation is criminally punishable, when such law, rule, or regulation relates to or in part regulates the

practice of medicine, when the licensee or applicant knows or should know that such action violates such law, rule, or regulation.

Respondent's conduct constitutes sufficient grounds for the imposition of discipline upon his license to practice as a physician assistant in the State of Georgia under O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapters 1 and 34, as amended. Respondent hereby waives any further conclusions of law with respect to the above-styled matter.

ORDER

The Board, having considered all the facts and circumstances of this case, hereby orders, and Respondent hereby agrees, to the following terms:

1.

Respondent shall submit to the Board a fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) to be paid by cashier's check or money order made payable to the Board by certified check or money order to the Georgia Composite Medical Board **within ninety (90) days** of the effective date of this Order. Failure to pay the fine as provided herein shall be considered a violation of this Order, and may result in further sanctioning of Respondent's authority to practice as a physician assistant in the future, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof.

2.

Respondent shall abide by all state and federal laws regulating the practice of medicine, the Rules and Regulations of the Board, and the terms and conditions of this Consent Order. If Respondent shall fail to abide by such laws, rules, terms or conditions of this Consent Order, or if it should appearing from reports, inspections or other information submitted to the Board that Respondent is otherwise unable to practice as a physician assistant with reasonable skill and

safety to patients, Respondent's license shall be subject to further discipline, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof after notice and hearing.

3.

All reports and submissions required under this Consent Order shall be sent to the attention of the Executive Director, Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303 or any subsequent address of the Board.

4.

This Consent Order shall constitute a PUBLIC REPRIMAND of Respondent and may be disseminated by the Board as a public disciplinary action.

5.

Respondent also understands that pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 34A, the contents of this order shall be placed on Respondent's Physician Assistant Profile and reported as required by state and federal agencies, including but not limited to the National Practitioners Data Bank. Furthermore, by executing this Consent Order, Respondent hereby agrees to permit the Board to update the Physician Assistants Profile reflecting this Consent Order.

6.

Respondent acknowledges that he has read and understands the contents of this Consent Order. Respondent understands that he has the right to a hearing in this matter, and Respondent freely, knowingly and voluntarily waives such right by entering into this Consent Order. Respondent understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved and docketed by the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Respondent further understands and agrees that a representative of the State Department of Law may be present during the presentation of this Consent Order and that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file and

all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order. Respondent further understands that this Consent Order, once approved, shall constitute a public record that may be disseminated as a disciplinary action of the Board. If this Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding, or prejudice the ability of the Board to adjudicate this matter. Respondent consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

Approved this 13 day of April, 2021.

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

(BOARD SEAL



BY:

Barby J. Simmons, D.O.
BARBY J. SIMMONS, D.O.
Chairperson

ATTEST:

Lasharn Hughes, MBA
LASHARN HUGHES, MBA
Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:

John W. Farnior, Sr. PA
JOHN W. FARRIOR, SR. PA
Respondent

AS TO THE SIGNATURE
JOHN W. FARRIOR, SR. PA
Sworn to and Subscribed

Before me this 26th day of March, 2021.

Quintae Brinson

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 8-28-24



BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

STATE OF GEORGIA

GEORGIA COMPOSITE
MEDICAL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:

Bruce Michael Gioia, M.D.
License No. 38774,
Respondent.

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APR 08 2021

DOCKET NUMBER:
20210050

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

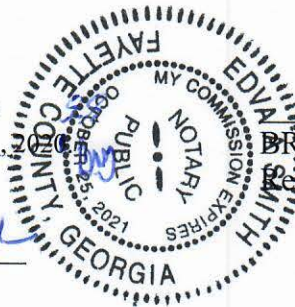
I, BRUCE MICHAEL GIOIA, M.D., holder of License No. **38774** to practice medicine in the State of Georgia pursuant to O.C.G.A. Ch. 34, T. 43, as amended, hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily surrender said license to the Georgia Composite Medical Board. I hereby acknowledge that this surrender shall be considered to be and have the same effect as a revocation of my license, and I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all right, title and privilege of practicing medicine in the State of Georgia, unless and until such time as my license may be reinstated, in the sole discretion of the Board.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the contents of this Voluntary Surrender. I understand that I have a right to a hearing in this matter, and I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily waive such right. I also understand that should the Board entertain any request for reinstatement, the Board shall have access to any investigative or medical information regarding me. I further understand that upon applying for reinstatement, it shall be incumbent upon me to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that I am able to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, and that the Board may investigate my conduct since the time of the surrender of my license. I understand and agree that any reinstatement of my license to practice medicine is a matter in the sole discretion of the Board and that the Board may deny any such reinstatement without identifying a reason for said denial. I understand that I cannot apply for reinstatement for two years from the date of the surrender of my license.

This surrender shall become effective upon acceptance and docketing by the Board. I understand that this document will be considered to be a public record evidencing disciplinary action, and that this action shall be considered to be and may be disseminated as a final order of the Board.

[As to Respondent's signature:]
Sworn to and subscribed before me
This 16 day of March

[Signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC
My commission expires:



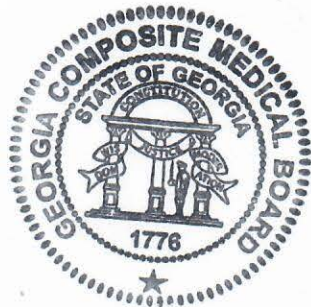
[Signature]
BRUCE MICHAEL GIOIA, MD
Respondent

ACCEPTANCE OF SURRENDER

The voluntary surrender of License No. **38774** is hereby accepted by the Georgia Composite Medical Board, this 14 day of April, 2021.

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

(BOARD SEAL)



BY:

[Signature]
BARBY J. SIMMONS, DO.
Chairperson

ATTEST:

[Signature]
LASHARN HUGHES
Executive Director

BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

STEPHEN WARD JARRARD, MD,
License No. 62897,

Respondent.

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DOCKET NO.:

GEORGIA COMPOSITE
MEDICAL BOARD

APR 08 2021

DOCKET NUMBER:

20210051

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") and STEPHEN WARD JARRARD, MD ("Respondent"), the following disposition of this matter is entered into pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. §50-13-18, as amended.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1.

Respondent is licensed to practice medicine as a physician in the State of Georgia and was so licensed at all times relative to the matters herein.

2.

After receiving a complaint of inappropriate behavior in the workplace which did not involve patients, the Board required Respondent to obtain a mental/physical examination. The evaluator recommended that Respondent engage in therapy to address boundary issues, attend a professional boundary course, utilize staff surveillance forms, and obtain outpatient treatment and monitoring for Respondent's alcohol use disorder, mild.

GCMB
MAR 01 2021
Received
GCMB
APR 01 2021
Received

3.

Respondent does not admit the findings of fact in paragraph 2, above, but waives further findings and agrees that the Board is authorized to enter this Order as a disposition in this matter.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's conduct and/or condition, as set forth in Paragraph 2 above, constitutes sufficient grounds for the imposition of sanctions and/or conditions upon Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Georgia pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 43-34-8 and 43-1-19. Respondent waives any further conclusions of law with respect to the above styled matter.

ORDER

The Georgia Composite Medical Board, having considered all the particular facts and circumstances of this case, hereby orders, and the Respondent hereby agrees, to the following:

1.

Beginning on the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent's license shall be placed on a period of probation subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) Individual Therapy with Quarterly Reports. Throughout the period of probation or until discharged by his therapist, whichever occurs first, Respondent shall participate in a program of psychotherapy to address boundary issues by a provider approved by the Board. Any change in therapist shall be preapproved by the Board. The Respondent shall provide a copy of this Order to the Respondent's therapist and shall cause such individual to submit quarterly reports to the Board by March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31, commencing on the first reporting date following the effective date of this Order and continuing through the period of probation, which reports shall evaluate the Respondent's progress in therapy and contain

feedback from Respondent's staff, as set forth in paragraph 1(d) below. Upon discharge from therapy, the Respondent shall provide the Board with evidence of such discharge. The receipt of a report from the Respondent's therapist that the Respondent has failed to comply with the program of therapy or that the Respondent is otherwise unable to function as a physician shall be grounds for further disciplinary action. Reports submitted pursuant to this paragraph shall be deemed medical records and shall not be subject to disclosure by the Board. In the event the reports are used in a subsequent hearing, they shall be received in camera.

(b) Use of Testosterone. Respondent shall not use testosterone.

(c) Professional Boundaries Course. Respondent shall enroll in and complete a course approved by the Board in the area of maintaining professional boundaries. As of the date of this Order, Respondent has provided the Board with evidence of completion of an approved course and satisfied this requirement. Respondent understands that the completed course may not be used to satisfy continuing education hours required for license renewal.

(d) Staff Surveillance Forms. On a quarterly basis, Respondent shall facilitate the submission of staff surveillance forms and/or employee affidavits from at least two (2) staff members who work with him in his office to his therapist. The staff surveillance forms shall be sent directly to the therapist by the staff members. The forms shall address Respondent's observed behavior with female staff members and patients, and any signs or symptoms of Respondent's use of alcohol. This information shall be incorporated by the therapist into quarterly reports sent to the Board.

(e) Participation in Treatment/Aftercare Program with Quarterly Reports. Throughout the period of probation, Respondent shall participate in an outpatient alcohol/drug treatment program approved by the Board. Immediately following completion of treatment, Respondent

shall participate in an approved aftercare monitoring program. Respondent's participation in such programs shall be viewed as a condition precedent to all other provisions set forth herein, and Respondent's failure to comply with these requirements, upon substantiation thereof, shall subject Respondent's license to revocation.

While in both treatment and aftercare monitoring programs, Respondent shall provide a copy of this Order to Respondent's program facilitator and shall cause Respondent's program facilitator to submit quarterly reports to the Board by March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31, commencing on the first reporting date following the effective date of this Order and continuing throughout the period of probation. The reports shall evaluate Respondent's progress in treatment and/or rehabilitation and each quarterly report shall contain the results of the following: **Respondent shall undergo monthly PEth screens for the first twelve (12) months of the probation period; and quarterly random urine drug screens, which include EtS and EtG screening, for the duration of the probationary period. All positive screens shall be reported to the Board.** The quarterly reports shall include a disclosure of any medication being administered to the Respondent or prescribed as treatment for any illness of the Respondent. Respondent agrees that the receipt of a positive alcohol/drug screen and/or a report from the Respondent's program counselor that the Respondent has failed to comply with the requirements of the program and/or that the Respondent is otherwise unable to function as a physician shall constitute reasonable grounds for the Board to order the Respondent to undergo a mental/physical examination and may also be reasonable grounds for disciplinary action, including summary suspension. Reports submitted pursuant to this paragraph shall be deemed medical records and shall not be subject to disclosure by the Board.

(f) Enrollment in Affinity Monitoring Program or a program pre-approved by the Board with quarterly reports for alcohol and drug screens. Within **thirty (30) days** of the docket date of this Consent Order, Respondent agrees to enroll and participate in the Affinity Monitoring Program or a similar random drug screening program pre-approved by the Board at Respondent's expense for the monitoring of random alcohol and drug screens throughout the period of probation. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Order to the Affinity or other program chosen by Respondent and approved by the Board at the time of enrollment in the Affinity Monitoring Program or the similar monitoring program. Respondent shall be screened for any controlled substance for which Respondent has not provided a prescription. Respondent shall cause the drug screening monitoring program to provide **quarterly reports as provided in paragraph (e) above.** Receipt of a positive alcohol/drug screen by the Board and/or a failure to participate in the Affinity Monitoring Program or a similar approved monitoring program shall be deemed to be a violation of this Consent Order. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that all of the Respondent's alcohol/drug screen reports received by the Board during the period of probation shall be admissible in any administrative hearing concerning the Respondent, without the necessity of establishing chain of custody or receiving other supporting testimony.

(g) Abstain from Alcohol, Controlled Substances, and Mood Altering Substances. Respondent shall abstain from the consumption of alcohol and mood altering substances, and shall abstain from the consumption of controlled substances except as prescribed by a duly licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. Should Respondent be prescribed any controlled substances, a written report from the prescribing physician shall be submitted to the Board and to Respondent's aftercare program counselor within ten (10) days of the prescribing thereof.

(h) Further Evaluation. At any time during the period of probation, the Board shall also have the authority to order Respondent to undergo a physical or mental evaluation by a physician designated by the Board. Respondent shall execute such releases as may be required for the Board to obtain the results of such evaluations.

(i) Reporting Requirements. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to all reporting individuals. It shall be the responsibility of the Respondent to ensure that all required reports are timely submitted to and received by the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Reports shall be sent to the Executive Director, Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street SW, 5th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

(j) Consent to Release of Information. By executing this Consent Order, Respondent specifically consents to any individuals or entities reporting to the Board information which would affect Respondent's ability to practice as a physician with reasonable skill and safety to patients or which constitutes a violation of the Medical Practice Act or this Consent Order, notwithstanding any privilege provided by state or federal law, and agrees to provide to the Board any release or other documentation which may be necessary for the Board to obtain such information.

(k) Employment/ Residency Change. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing of any change in address of record or employment status within 10 days of the change.

(l) Abide By Laws, Rules and Terms. Respondent shall abide by all State and Federal laws regulating the practice of medicine or relating to drugs, the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Composite Medical Board and the terms of this Consent Order. If Respondent shall fail to abide by such laws, rules or terms, or if it should appear from reports submitted to the Board that Respondent is otherwise unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and

safety to patients, Respondent's license shall be subject to further discipline, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof after notice and hearing. Respondent further agrees that any violation of this Consent Order shall be deemed to be sufficient to authorize the Board to order summary suspension of Respondent's license, pending further proceedings, pursuant to the provisions of the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-18(c)(1), or any other statute authorizing emergency action, but Respondent understands that he shall be entitled to an expedited hearing to substantiate such violation(s), if the Board exercises such right.

(m) Effective date. The effective date of this Consent Order is the date the Consent Order is docketed. Respondent should receive a docketed copy of the Consent Order from the Board at Respondent's address of record within 10 business days of the docket date. If Respondent has not received a docketed copy of the Consent Order, it is Respondent's responsibility to obtain a docketed copy of the Consent Order from the Board. Respondent must comply with the terms and conditions of the Consent Order beginning on the effective date.

(n) Termination of Probation. Respondent shall not be eligible to petition for termination of probation until Respondent can document three (3) years of continuous sobriety preceding the petition. At such time, Respondent may petition for termination of probation by certifying under oath before a notary public that he has complied with all terms and conditions of probation and by providing documentation supporting discharge from probation, including, but not limited to, written statements from Respondent's aftercare provider and therapist, if he is still engaged in therapy at the time of the petition, as to whether they agree with terminating probation. The Board shall review and evaluate the practice of Respondent prior to terminating the period of probation. At such time, should the Board determine that reasonable cause exists for maintaining probation, the Board shall notify Respondent of its intent to extend the period of

probation, and Respondent may respond to such notice in writing or request an appearance before the Board as in a non-contested case. In any event, this Consent Order shall remain in effect pending a final written determination by the Board and notification that the period of probation has been terminated.

2.

Respondent understands that pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 34A, the contents of this Consent Order shall be placed on Respondent's Physician Profile. Furthermore, by executing this Consent Order, Respondent hereby agrees to permit the Board to update the Physician's Profile reflecting this Consent Order.

3.

Approval of this Consent Order by the Georgia Composite Medical Board shall in no way be construed as condoning the Respondent's conduct and shall not be construed as a waiver of any of the lawful rights possessed by the Board.

4.

Respondent acknowledges that he is represented by counsel in this matter, and that he has read this Consent Order and understands its contents. Respondent understands that he has a right to a hearing in this matter, and freely, knowingly, and voluntarily waives that right. Respondent understands that the Consent Order will not become effective until approved and docketed by the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Respondent further understands and agrees that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file(s) and all relevant evidence in considering the Consent Order. Respondent further understands that the Consent Order, once approved, shall constitute a public record that may be disseminated as a disciplinary action of the Board. However, if the Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission

against interest in the proceeding, or prejudice the right of the Board to adjudicate the matter.

Respondent consents to the terms and conditions contained herein.

Approved, this 1st day of April, 2021.

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

(BOARD SEAL)

BY:

Barby J. Simmons, DO

BARBY J. SIMMONS, DO
Chairperson



ATTEST:

Lasharn Hughes
LASHARN HUGHES
Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:

Stephen Ward Jarrard, MD
STEPHEN WARD JARRARD, MD
Respondent

[As to Respondent's signature only:]

Sworn to and subscribed before me

This 12th day of March, 2021.

Darlene Cordell

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:



#1238829

BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

STATE OF GEORGIA

GEORGIA COMPOSITE
MEDICAL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:

JOHN CALDWELL SEAL,

Respondent.

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DOCKET NO. _____

APR 13 2021

DOCKET NUMBER:

10210054

VOLUNTARY CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

Respondent, John Caldwell Seal, the undersigned, does not currently possess a license to practice as a senior laser practitioner or assistant laser practitioner, pursuant to O.C.G.A. Ch.. 34, T. 43, as amended. The Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") is requesting that Respondent cease and desist any practice that would require Respondent to possess a license to practice as a senior laser practitioner or assistant laser practitioner.

Respondent hereby agrees to voluntarily cease and desist from any practice that would require Respondent to possess a license to practice as a senior laser practitioner or assistant laser practitioner as required under O.C.G.A. Ch. 34, T. 43, as amended, until such time as Respondent is licensed by the Board.

Respondent understands that Respondent has a right to a hearing in this matter, and hereby freely, knowingly, and voluntarily waives such right. Respondent also understands that should Respondent apply for reinstatement of his previous licensure with the Board, the board shall have access to this Order and to the entire investigative file in this matter.

This Order shall become effective immediately upon approval thereof by the Board and shall remain in effect until such time as Respondent becomes licensed with the Board or until further order. Respondent understands that this document will be considered to be a public

GCMB

APR 12 2021

Received

record entered as the final disposition of any proceedings presently pending or which could be brought against Respondent by the Board and that this action shall be considered to be and may be recorded as a final order of the Board.

Any violation of this Order shall subject Respondent to a fine not to exceed \$500.00 for each transaction constituting a violation thereof, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 43-1-20.1, and any remedy contained herein shall NOT preclude the Board from seeking remedies otherwise available by statute, including criminal prosecution or injunctive relief.

This 24 day of March, 2021.

(BOARD SEAL)



BY:

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL
BOARD

Barby J. Simmons D.
BARBY J. SIMMONS
Chairperson

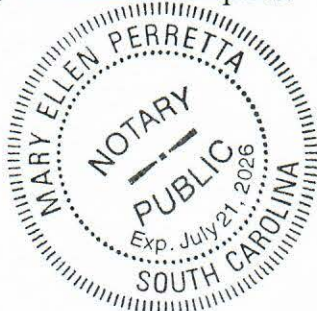
ATTEST:

Lasharn Hughes
LASHARN HUGHES
Executive Director

Sworn to and Subscribed
of March 24, 2021.

Mary Ellen Perretta
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 7/21/2026



John Caldwell Seal
JOHN CALDWELL SEAL
Respondent