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Massage and Bodywork Therapy

FILED

JAN 12 2021

BOARD OF MASSAGE
AND BODYWORK THERAPY

By: Roman Guzik
Deputy Attorney General
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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MASSAGE AND BODYWORK THERAPY

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
SHAKA BELFON, LMBT	:	CONSENT ORDER
LICENSE NO. 18KT00976700	:	OF VOLUNTARY SURRENDER
	:	
TO PRACTICE MASSAGE AND	:	
BODYWORK THERAPY IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This Order is entered to memorialize the agreement of Shaka Belfon, LMBT ("Respondent") to voluntarily retire from the practice of massage and bodywork therapy in the State of New Jersey, and to simultaneously permanently surrender his New Jersey license to practice massage and bodywork therapy.

This matter was opened to the New Jersey Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy (the "Board") upon receipt of a consumer complaint alleging that on or about February 16, 2017, Shaka Belfon, LMBT,

("Respondent") engaged in inappropriate conduct during a massage therapy session.

Respondent appeared and testified before the Panel on September 24, 2019, regarding the February 16, 2017, massage. Following Respondent's appearance, the Board was prepared to conduct further investigation of Respondent's practice, and/or refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General for the filing of an administrative disciplinary complaint against Respondent.

The Board is satisfied that any need for further investigation of Respondent by the Board, and/or for the initiation of formal disciplinary proceedings is obviated by Respondent's agreement to enter this Order with this Board. Specifically, Respondent herein represents that he will permanently retire from the practice of massage and bodywork therapy in New Jersey and that he will simultaneously surrender his New Jersey license to practice massage and bodywork therapy.

The Board accepts Respondent's agreement to voluntarily retire from the practice of massage and bodywork therapy in New Jersey and to permanently surrender his New Jersey license to practice as a massage and bodywork therapist without any admission of misconduct by Respondent, and the Board has made no finding(s) that Respondent engaged in any misconduct. The Board being satisfied that the entry of this Order promotes the Board's

paramount interest in protecting the public health, safety, and welfare, and it appearing that good cause exists for the entry of the within Order;

IT IS on this 12th day of January, ~~2020~~²⁰²¹

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT

1. Respondent is hereby granted leave to and shall permanently surrender his license to practice massage and bodywork therapy in the State of New Jersey, to be deemed a permanent revocation, with no right to reapply.

1. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from holding himself out as a massage and bodywork therapist in New Jersey and shall refrain from the practice of massage and bodywork in the State of New Jersey.

2. Respondent shall immediately forward his license, along with his wallet-sized biennial renewal license forthwith to State Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy, Attention: ToniAnn Petrella-Diaz, Executive Director, State Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy, 124 Halsey Street, P.O. Box 45048, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE AND
BODYWORK THERAPY

By: David Bank
David Bank, LMBT
Chairperson

I have read and I understand
this Consent Order and agree to be
bound by its terms. I further
hereby consent to the entry of
this Consent Order.

Shaka Belfon
Shaka Belfon, LMBT

Consent to form of Order and to the entry
of this Order by the Board.

Kimberly Glatt
Kimberly Glatt, Esq.
Counsel for Respondent