

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA REGULATORY BOARD**  
2 **OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

3 In the Matter of

4 **Linda Diane Teague, PA-C**

5 Holder of License No. 1883  
6 For the Performance of Healthcare Tasks  
7 In the State of Arizona.

**Case No. PA-15-0133A**

**INTERIM CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR  
PRACTICE RESTRICTION**

8 Linda Diane Teague, P.A. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right  
9 to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Interim Consent Agreement for Practice  
10 Restriction and consents to the entry of this Order by the Arizona Regulatory Board of  
11 Physicians Assistants ("Board").

12 **INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT**

13 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of  
14 physician assistants in the State of Arizona.

15 2. Respondent is the holder of License No. 1883 for the performance of  
16 healthcare tasks in the State of Arizona.

17 3. On September 2, 2014, Respondent entered into a Consent Agreement for  
18 Letter of Reprimand and Probation to include five (5) years of monitoring by the Physician  
19 Health Program ("PHP"). The terms of the Probation included the stipulation that  
20 Respondent receive care from her primary care physician and other providers only if  
21 referred by the PHP. The Probation also included the stipulation that Respondent have  
22 any and all medications approved by the PHP prior to administration.

23 4. On December 7, 2015, the Board received notification from a healthcare  
24 provider that, while hospitalized after November 28, 2015, Respondent admitted to  
25 ordering medications on the internet and abusing and/or misusing the medications.

1 Subsequently, Board staff received information that Respondent had been previously  
2 hospitalized for an apparent overdose on medications following a suicide attempt on  
3 November 17, 2015.

4 5. The information was presented to the Executive Director, Investigation Staff  
5 and the Chief Medical Consultant, who all agree that Respondent's ability to perform  
6 healthcare tasks should be restricted.

7 6. The investigation into Respondent's professional conduct is pending and  
8 will return to the Board promptly upon completion for review and action.

9 **INTERIM CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

10 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over  
11 Respondent.

12 2. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2505(C)(23), the Executive Director may enter into  
13 consent agreements if there is evidence of danger to the public health and safety.

14 **INTERIM ORDER**

15 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

16 1. Respondent is prohibited from engaging in healthcare tasks with physician  
17 supervision in the State of Arizona as set forth in A.R.S. § 32-2501(13) until she applies to  
18 the Executive Director and receives permission to do so as stated in paragraph 2 below.  
19 Respondent may not request release from or modification of this Interim Consent  
20 Agreement for Practice Restriction until she has completed a PHP assessment and any  
21 recommendations that arise as a result of the assessment including evaluation and  
22 treatment.

23 2. Once all of the terms and conditions of this Interim Consent Agreement  
24 have been met, Respondent may request, in writing, release and/or modification of this  
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1 Interim Consent Agreement. The Executive Director has the discretion to determine  
2 whether it is appropriate to release Respondent from this Interim Consent Agreement.

3 3. The Board retains jurisdiction and may initiate new action based upon any  
4 violation of this Interim Consent Agreement, including, but not limited to, summarily  
5 suspending Respondent's license.

6 4. Because this is an Interim Consent Agreement and not a final decision by  
7 the Board regarding the pending investigation, it is subject to further consideration by the  
8 Board. Once the investigation is complete, it will be promptly provided to the Board for its  
9 review and appropriate action.

10 5. This Interim Consent Agreement shall be effective on the date signed by  
11 the Board's Executive Director.

### 12 RECITALS

13 Respondent understands and agrees that:

14 1. The Board, through its Executive Director, may adopt this Interim Consent  
15 Agreement, or any part thereof, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2505(C)(18).

16 2. Respondent has read and understands this Interim Consent Agreement as  
17 set forth herein, and has had the opportunity to discuss this Interim Consent Agreement  
18 with an attorney or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Interim Consent  
19 Agreement with an attorney. Respondent voluntarily enters into this Interim Consent  
20 Agreement and by doing so agrees to abide by all of its terms and conditions.

21 3. By entering into this Interim Consent Agreement, Respondent freely and  
22 voluntarily relinquishes all rights to an administrative hearing on the matters set forth  
23 herein, as well as all rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review  
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1 or any other administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters related to the  
2 Interim Consent Agreement.

3  
4 4. Respondent understands that this Interim Consent Agreement does not  
5 constitute a dismissal or resolution of this matter or any matters that may be currently  
6 pending before the Board and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the  
7 Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future  
8 investigations, actions, or proceedings. Respondent does not relinquish her rights to an  
9 administrative hearing, rehearing, review, reconsideration, judicial review or any other  
10 administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters related to a final disposition  
11 of this matter, unless she affirmatively does so as part of the final resolution of this  
12 matter.

13 5. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that upon signing this Interim  
14 Consent Agreement and returning it to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may  
15 not revoke her acceptance of this Interim Consent Agreement or make any modifications  
16 to it. Any modification of this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually  
17 approved by the parties in writing.

18 6. Respondent understands that this Interim Consent Agreement shall not  
19 become effective unless and until it is signed by the Board's Executive Director.

20 7. Respondent understands and agrees that if the Board's Executive Director  
21 does not adopt this Interim Consent Agreement, she will not assert in any future  
22 proceedings that the Board's consideration of this Interim Consent Agreement  
23 constitutes bias, prejudice, prejudgment, or other similar defense.  
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1           8.     Respondent understands that this Interim Consent Agreement is a public  
2 record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board, and that it  
3 shall be reported as required by law to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

4           9.     Respondent understands that this Interim Consent Agreement does not  
5 alleviate her responsibility to comply with the applicable license-renewal statutes and  
6 rules. If this Interim Consent Agreement remains in effect at the time Respondent's  
7 physician assistant license comes up for renewal, she must renew her license if  
8 Respondent wishes to retain her license. If Respondent elects not to renew her license  
9 as prescribed by statute and rule, Respondent's license will not expire but rather, by  
10 operation of law (A.R.S. § 32-3202), become suspended until the Board takes final  
11 action in this matter. Once the Board takes final action, in order for Respondent to be  
12 licensed in the future, she must submit a new application for licensure and meet all of  
13 the requirements set forth in the statutes and rules at that time.

14           10.    Respondent understands that any violation of this Interim Consent  
15 Agreement constitutes unprofessional conduct under, among other things, A.R.S. § 32-  
16 2501(18)(dd) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation agreement, stipulation issued or  
17 entered into by the board or its executive director.").

18  
19  
20                      DATED: 12/17/15  
21           Linda Diane Teague, PA

22  
23           DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

24  
25           ARIZONA REGULATORY BOARD OF  
            PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

By Patricia E. McSorley  
Patricia E. McSorley  
Executive Director

EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed  
this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015 to:

Linda Diane Teague, PA  
Address of Record

Greenberg and Sucher, PC  
Address of Record

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed  
this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015 with:

Arizona Regulatory Board  
Of Physician Assistants  
9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Mary Poley  
Board Staff