

1 **BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**
2 **OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**

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5 **In the Matter of the Investigation of:**
6 **LORA LEIGH WATSON, RRT,**
7 **License No. RC137.**

Case No. 23-8098-1

FILED

FEB 23 2023

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 

8
9 **ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

10 The Investigative Committee¹ (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board)
11 hereby **IMMEDIATELY SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the license of Lora Leigh Watson, RRT
12 (Licensee) from the practice of respiratory care, pursuant to the Board's authority to regulate the
13 practice of respiratory care in the State of Nevada in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes
14 (NRS) Chapter 630.

15 The IC issues this Order of Summary Suspension based on its determination that the
16 Licensee's acts put the health, safety or welfare of the public at risk of imminent harm pursuant to
17 NRS 630.326(1), based upon the following preliminary findings:

18 1. Ms. Watson's is a licensed practitioner of respiratory care in the State of Nevada
19 (License No. RC137) and was originally licensed on November 27, 2001.

20 2. On November 27, 2020, Ms. Watson reported her third DUI arrest to the Board and
21 subsequently moved to the State of Kentucky.

22 3. On September 22, 2021, the IC issued an Order for Participation in a Drug and
23 Alcohol Monitoring Program and Compliance with Terms of Contract for Ms. Watson to comply
24 with a five (5) year program of counseling and random drug screens at an approved facility in
25 Kentucky.

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¹ The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners is composed of Board members Victor M. Muro, M.D., Chair, Chowdhury H. Ahsan, M.D., Ph.D., FACC, and Ms. Pamela J. Beal.

1 4. On October 21, 2021, Ms. Watson entered into an agreement to participate in a
2 program administered by the Kentucky Professional Recovery Network (KYPRN) which is to be
3 in effect until October 21, 2026.

4 5. As part of the program administered by KYPRN, Ms. Watson agreed to abstain
5 from any drugs and alcohol.

6 6. On February 23, 2022, KYPRN notified the Board that Ms. Watson tested positive
7 for alcohol metabolites from a blood draw on February 10, 2022.

8 7. Ms. Watson believed that she had obtained a false positive and selected for a
9 follow up blood test on or around February 24, 2022.

10 8. On March 11, 2022, KYPRN notified the Board that Ms. Watson tested positive for
11 alcohol metabolites from the February 24, 2022, blood draw.

12 9. On January 24, 2023, KYPRN notified the Board that Ms. Watson tested positive
13 for alcohol metabolites. KYPRN indicated that the draw was taken from Ms. Watson on
14 January 12, 2023.

15 10. Ms. Watson was informed of the positive result in an email exchange between her
16 and KYPRN. Ms. Watson continues to deny any alcohol consumption.

17 11. KYPRN has informed the Board that the blood test is considered a confirmation for
18 exposure to and metabolism of beverage alcohol.

19 12. On February 22, 2023, the IC reasonably determined that the health, safety, or
20 welfare of the public and any patient served by Ms. Watson is at risk of imminent or continued
21 harm because Ms. Watson has repeatedly failed to comply with the terms of the KYPRN program
22 to abstain from consuming alcohol by testing positive for exposure to and metabolism of beverage
23 alcohol on three (3) different tests administered between February 10, 2022 and January 12, 2023.

24 Accordingly, pursuant to NRS 630.326(1):

25 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the license to practice respiratory care in the State of
26 Nevada of Lora Leigh Watson, RRT (License No. RC137) is **HEREBY SUSPENDED** until
27 further order of the Investigative Committee or the Board; and,


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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to NRS 630.326(2), a hearing on this matter is set for the **17th day of April, 2023, at the hour of 1:00 p.m. PST**, at the Board's office located at 9600 Gateway Drive, Reno, NV, 89521 to determine whether this suspension may continue, unless the parties mutually agree in writing to a different date and/or time.

DATED this 23 day of February, 2023.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 
VICTOR M. MURO, M.D.
Chairman of the Investigative Committee

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am employed by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners and that on the 23rd day of February, 2023, I served a file-stamped copy of the foregoing **ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION**, with accompanying required fingerprinting materials via U.S. Certified Mail, to the following parties:

LORA LEIGH WATSON, RRT
934 Breckenridge Lane, Apt #A
Louisville, KY 40207

Tracking No.: 9171 9690 0935 0254 7666 29

DATED this 23rd day of February, 2023.



MERCEDES FUENTES
Legal Assistant
Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners