

MINUTES
TENNESSEE MASSAGE LICENSURE BOARD
June 30, 2016

Time: 9:00 a.m. C.S.T.

Location: 665 Main Stream Drive
HRB Conference Center
1st Floor, Iris Room
Nashville, TN 37243

Members Present: Ed Bolden, LMT Chairperson
Cynthia Jagers, LMT
Michael Velker, Citizen Member
Julie J. Wray, LMT
Christi Cross, Citizen Member
Bethann Easterly, LMT

Members Absent: Marvis Burke, LMT

Staff Present: Lisa Lampley, Board Director
Kimberly Hodge, Board Manager
Andrea Huddleston, Office of General Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 9:19 a.m. by Dr. Ed Bolden, Board Chairperson. Dr. Bolden welcomed everyone to the meeting. Dr. Bolden said the reason the Board exists is to protect the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of the state of Tennessee. Prior to conducting business, Lisa Lampley conducted a roll call to establish a quorum. A quorum was present.

The special meeting of the Tennessee Massage Licensure Board was held to consider the State's proof relative to the summary suspension of Melvin Alexander Odom, Jr., license # 11483. The allegations of fact were that Mr. Odom was employed as a licensed massage therapist at Fox & Company Salon and Day Spa in Columbia, TN, license # 85, and at Hand and Stone Massage and Facial Spa in Franklin, TN, license #4180. On or about April 1, 2016, Victim #1 provided a statement to Williamson County law enforcement that she had been digitally raped by Mr. Odom in the course of a massage at Hand and Stone. On or about April 8, 2016, Victim #2, provided a statement to Maury County law enforcement that she had been digitally raped by Mr. Odom in the course of a massage at Fox and Company. Ms. Jerri Brown, investigator for the Office of Investigations of the Division of Health Licensure and Regulations, interviewed Mr. Odom on or about June 6, 2016 at which Mr. Odom made incriminating statements. Furthermore on or about June 21, 2016, Mr. Odom telephoned Ms. Brown and admitted that he had sexually assaulted the victims. Ms. Brown sent a text message to Mr. Odom confirming the conversation and seeking clarification, to which Mr. Odom replied and again confessed.

After hearing testimony from Detective Michael Richmond, Investigator for the Special Victims Unit for the Columbia Police, and reviewing the affidavit of Ms. Jerri Brown and the Proposed

Order for Summary Suspension, Ms. Jagers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wray to summary suspend Mr. Odom's massage license immediately. The Board found that Mr. Odom's conduct constitutes a threat to the public health, safety, and welfare. Mr. Odom abused the authority vested in him as a licensed massage therapist to prey on clients for his criminal purposes, which a violation of T.C.A. 63-18-108(7), 63-18-108(12), and 0870-01-.19(c)(e)(k)(l)(q). The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.