



LOUISIANA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

CEASE AND DESIST NOTICE

To: Marios Massage Therapy/Joao Pereira
1317 W Airline Highway
LaPlace LA 70068

Date: July 23, 2014

Re: Unauthorized Practicing and Advertising Massage Therapy

Dear Mr. Pereira:

The Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy (Board) is charged with licensing and regulating those persons who engage in the practice of Massage Therapy. The regulations are found in Louisiana Massage Therapists and Massage Establishments Act, La R.S. 37: Chapter 57.

Applicable Provisions of Louisiana Revised Statute 37, Chapter 57 are as follows:

§3556. Licensure; qualifications

A. No person shall engage in the practice of massage therapy without a current license issued pursuant to this Chapter unless such person is exempt under the provisions of this Chapter.

§3564. Regulation of advertising

A. A person or an entity that does not hold a license as a massage therapist, physical therapist, or chiropractor, a certificate to practice athletic training, or a license as a massage establishment shall not use the words "massage", "body work", or any derivative or variation of the word "massage", including specific bodywork or massage modalities, on any sign or other form of advertising. Any advertisement by a massage therapist or a massage establishment shall contain the license number of such therapist or establishment. Building signs with promotional material shall also include the professional or establishment number.

§3565. Penalties

A. Violation of the provisions of this Chapter shall be considered a misdemeanor and any person, including the owner or operator of a massage establishment, upon conviction, shall be fined not less than one hundred or more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

B. A person convicted of a violation of the provisions of this Chapter shall additionally be ineligible for licensure as a massage therapist or as a massage establishment for a period of up to five years from the date of conviction.

Chapter 53. Misconduct and Negligence in the Practice of Massage Therapy

5301. A. The following acts shall constitute misconduct in the practice of massage therapy or incorrect practice of massage for which disciplinary penalties may be imposed.

6. practicing or offering to practice beyond the scope permitted by law or accepting and performing professional responsibilities which the licensee knows or has reason to know that he is not competent to perform;

7. delegating professional responsibilities to a person when the licensee delegating such responsibilities knows or has reason to know that such person is not qualified by training, experience, or licensure to perform them;

12. practicing massage therapy when a license to practice massage therapy has expired, been revoked, suspended or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure by the licensing authority of another state, territory or country;

15. engaging in the practice of massage therapy without a current massage license;

18. engaging in the practice of reflexology without a current massage therapy license.

The Board has no record indicating that you are a currently/active licensed massage therapist in the State of Louisiana and has received complaints indicating that you are advertising and/or providing massage therapy services without a current/active license and the investigation of the Board indicates that the complaints have merit. **You are hereby notified to immediately cease and desist advertising and/or performing massage therapy services.** Your failure to immediately comply with this notice shall result in the matter being referred to the appropriate police authorities for a criminal investigation for the violation of the above statutes. The Board may also elect to pursue civil injunctive remedies which could result in imposition of civil penalties and an award of attorney fees.

If you feel that you are currently licensed or otherwise exempt from possessing a license from the license requirements of the statutes, you need to immediately notify the Board office in writing at 2645 O'Neal Lane, Bldg. C Suite E. Baton Rouge LA 70816. The Board office can also advise as to the steps required to become properly licensed in the State of Louisiana to engage in the practice of massage therapy.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, you may contact the Board Office.

Regards,

Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy

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