

LOUISIANA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

IN THE MATTER OF

BINGCHEN CAI

LICENSE NO. 10441

ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Pursuant to La. R.S. 49:977.3(C), the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy (“LBMT”) summarily suspends License number 10441 issued to Bingchen Cai (“Mr. Cai”) pending an administrative hearing scheduled for August 31, 2026.

Upon approval of this Order by the Department of Justice, Mr. Cai is not authorized to engage in the practice of massage therapy and must immediately cease and desist from the practice of massage therapy, as defined by La. R.S. 37:3552. Further, Mr. Cai must cease and desist from referring to himself as a licensed massage therapist.

I. INITIAL FINDINGS

To protect public health, safety, and welfare, emergency action is required due to the nature of the allegations against Mr. Cai.

On July 16, 2026, the Board was notified by the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (“FSMTB”), a non-profit corporation comprised of massage therapy licensing boards and agencies in the United States, that Mr. Cai’s October 8, 2025 MBLEx result was invalidated. The MBLEx is a national examination approved and administered by FSMTB. FSMTB’s notification indicated that the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (“TDLR”) issued Emergency and Final Orders closing American Massage Academy Inc. (Texas License MS1125), the school from which Mr. Cai obtained his massage therapy education, and revoking its school license. As a result of TDLR’s action, education obtained from American Massage Academy no longer

satisfies FSMTB's Massage Education Policy eligibility requirement to sit for the MBLEx, and FSMTB determined that individuals who obtained their education from that school, including Mr. Cai, were not eligible to take the MBLEx and therefore violated FSMTB policy. Mr. Cai's MBLEx result has accordingly been invalidated.

FSMTB has advised that Mr. Cai may seek to regain MBLEx eligibility only by either (1) forfeiting his education hours from American Massage Academy, serving a twelve-month suspension from the MBLEx, obtaining new massage education from a compliant school, and submitting a new MBLEx application with the required fee, or (2) submitting independent verification of his education hours from TDLR, along with the required questionnaire, affidavit, and administrative fee, and submitting a new MBLEx application.

Based on the foregoing, it is alleged that Mr. Cai violated the following rules and regulations applicable to the LBMT:

La. R.S. 37:3556 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. To receive a massage therapist license in this state, an applicant shall pay the application fee pursuant to R.S. 37:3562 and shall submit evidence satisfactory to the board of meeting the following requirements:

- (2) Has passed a national examination approved by the board under R.S. 37:3557.

La. R.S. 37:3563 Grounds for discipline

- A. The board may suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew a license after notice and opportunity for hearing pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, upon proof of any of the following:
 - (1) Obtaining a license by means of fraud, misrepresentation, or concealment of material facts, including making false statements on an application or other document required by the board.

- (7) Failing to comply with license or renewal requirements.

LAC 46:XLIV §1301 Examination Requirements

- A. Persons seeking a license must first pass a national examination that is:
1. approved and/or accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies, an accrediting arm of the National Organization for Competency Assurance and approved by the board; or
 2. approved and administered by the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards including, specifically, the massage and bodywork licensing examination (MBLEx); and
 3. taken and passed within two years from the date the license application is filed.

II. DECISION AND ORDER

To maintain public health, safety, and welfare, emergency action is required due to the allegations set forth in the allegations in the complaint against Mr. Cai. Accordingly, LBMT 10441 issued to BINGCHEN CAI is SUSPENDED, effective immediately, pending proceedings for revocation of licensure or other action as the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy deems fit.

Proceedings before the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy shall be promptly instituted and determined. Accordingly, an administrative hearing before the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy is scheduled for **August 31, 2026, 9:30am, at the at the Jones Creek Library, 6222 Jones Creek Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70817**. The hearing panel will consist of current Board Members. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, the Louisiana Massage Therapists and Establishments Act, and the rules promulgated by the LBMT.

Bingchen Cai will be given a full opportunity to appear and be heard, with or without counsel, and is entitled to hear a statement of what accusations have been made against him, to present evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, and to have witnesses subpoenaed. Mr. Cai may

request that subpoenas be issued by the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy and must send a request to the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy office at least 10 days prior to the hearing, listing the names and addresses of the individuals to be subpoenaed, along with a brief summary as to what the individual will testify. The testimony will be under oath and a court reporter will record the proceedings at the hearing, and any party wishing to obtain a transcript of the hearing may do so at his expense.

La. R.S. 37:3555(A)(1) provides that the Board may discipline licensees, both individuals and establishments, who violate the law, and impose fines and penalties. In accordance with LAC 46:XLIV §5501(B)(3), the Board may impose an administrative fine not to exceed \$1,000 for each count or separate offense. Mr. Cai may also be assessed costs of the administrative hearing before the Board.

This Order is entered pending review and written approval by the Louisiana Department of Justice. If approved, the date of the final Order shall be the date the Louisiana Department of Justice issues written approval of the Order.

Date: 7/21/2026

Memry Tucker
Complaint Investigation Officer
Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy