

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

**IN THE MATTER OF
BLAKE PEPPER, PTA 3914**

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

A hearing on the above-referenced matter was held via Zoom before the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy (“the Board”) on October 26, 2023. Mr. Blake Pepper, PTA 3914, hereinafter referred to as “Respondent,” chose not to appear before the Board. On the basis of the testimony and other evidence presented, the Board made the following Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant, Respondent has been a licensed physical therapist assistant (“PTA”) in the State of Arkansas.
2. Respondent worked as a PTA for Reliant Rehabilitation and was terminated on July 13, 2023.
3. Reliant Rehabilitation filed a complaint with the Board on July 25, 2023, alleging improper billing by Respondent.
4. Reliant Rehabilitation reported that Respondent did not dispute video footage which supported that he did not provide treatment as billed to four patients across dates of service 07/06/23 – 07/07/23.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Based upon the above Findings of Fact, Blake Pepper is in violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-93-308(a)(3).

ORDER

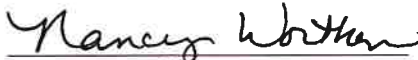
Based upon the evidence of record and the foregoing Findings of Facts and the Conclusions of Law, the Board orders the following:

- A. Blake Pepper's license as a physical therapy assistant in the State of Arkansas will be suspended for two (2) years effective immediately.
- B. Respondent is allowed to request reinstatement after two years.
- C. In the two-year period, Respondent must complete 50 hours of in-person continuing education that includes ethics and billing. Courses must be pre-approved by the Board.
- D. If Respondent requests reinstatement after two years, he shall attend an in-person meeting with the Board to make his request.

Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-15-212, Respondent may petition for judicial review of this decision by filing a petition in the Circuit Court in the county in which he resides or does business or in the Circuit Court of Pulaski County within thirty days after service of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED this, the 26th day of October, 2023

ARKANSAS STATE BOARD
OF PHYSICAL THERAPY


Nancy Worthen
Executive Director

10/26/23
Date