

Andy G. Beshear
Governor

KENTUCKY BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

312 Whittington Parkway, Suite 102
Louisville, Kentucky 40222
<http://pt.ky.gov>

Stephen Curley
Executive Director

April 14, 2026

CERTIFIED MAIL
AND REGULAR MAIL

Melissa Laker, PTA
850 Washburn Ave. #237
Louisville, KY 40222

Re: **Order and Notice of Immediate Temporary Suspension
Certificate No. A01931
Agency Case No. C2026-10**

Dear Ms. Laker:

On April 10, 2026, during a special Board Meeting the Kentucky Board of Physical Therapy ("Board") considered a complaint filed regarding your credential to work as a physical therapist assistant in Kentucky.

Following a review of the relevant information, the Board made the following findings of fact:

1. On or about April 3, 2026, you were terminated from your employment with Eastway Health and Rehabilitation in Louisville, KY.
2. On or about April 2, 2026, staff at Eastway Health and Rehabilitation suspected you may have been intoxicated while working. Because of this suspicion, staff performed an intoxilyzer exam resulting in a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) reading of .259. In addition, confirmation test was administered resulting in a BAC reading of .261. This reading resulted in your termination.

Based upon this information, the Board finds that there is reasonable cause to believe that you violated KRS 327.070(2)(a)(indulgence in excessive use of alcoholic beverages or abusive use of controlled substances). The Board further finds that there is reasonable cause to believe that you may be impaired from a mental or physical condition that impedes your ability to work or practice competently. See, KRS 327.040(14). The Board hereby ORDERS your physical therapist assistant Certificate No. A01931 issued by the Board is immediately and temporarily suspended.

This immediate temporary suspension shall become effective upon your receipt of this Order, but in no event later than Friday, April 17, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. E.T. You may not work or practice as a physical therapist assistant after receiving this Order, but in no event later than Friday, April 17, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. E.T., unless you hold a current certificate in good standing issued by the Board.

You may appeal this action of the Board under KRS 13B.125 by filing a written request with the

Board for an emergency hearing. You are hereby **ORDERED** by the Board that, if you wish to appeal this action by requesting an emergency hearing, you shall do so as set forth herein by notifying the Board through its staff that you desire an emergency hearing, which shall be conducted under KRS 13B.125. A request for an emergency hearing does not stay the effectiveness of this Order. If you request an emergency hearing, the only issue in such an emergency hearing under KRS 13B.125 is whether “there is substantial evidence of a violation of law which constitutes an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare.” The violation of law cited herein is KRS 327.070(2)(k) (failing or refusing to obey a lawful order of the Board).

In the **alternative to this immediate, temporary suspension** of your certificate to practice as a physical therapist assistant, you may temporarily stay the effectiveness of the suspension, by completing the following requirements.

- 1) You shall abstain from all alcohol use or consumption as well as abstain from the use of illegal drugs or the use of scheduled drugs, except as prescribed by a duly licensed practitioner for a documented legitimate medical purpose until this Order is superseded by another order of the Board or Settlement Agreement or by a court of competent jurisdiction. Compliance with this section shall be randomly confirmed through alcohol or drug testing at your cost, and as requested by the Board or its representatives with the Impaired Physical Therapy Practitioner’s Committee (“IPTPC”);
- 2) You shall actively participate in and enter a written 3-year contract with the Board’s IPTPC program, and;
- 3) Demonstrate one (1) month of sobriety documented through IPTPC

Emily Caporal, PharmD
KYPRN – Kentucky Professionals Recovery Network
Cell: 502-230-8442
Fax: 502-470-1881
emily@kyprn.com
or
Brian Fingerson, R.Ph.
KYPRN – Kentucky Professionals Recovery Network
Office/Home: 502-749-8385; Fax: 502-749-8389
E-mail: kyprn@att.net

Please review this Order, sign and date below, and provide a copy to a representative of the Board, or mail a copy to the Board at the address on this letterhead, to acknowledge receipt and compliance.

Sincerely,



Stephen Curley, Executive Director
Kentucky Board of Physical Therapy

cc: M. Keith Poynter, General Counsel
Brian Fingerson, R.Ph., Impaired Physical Therapy Practitioner's Committee
Ramona Carper, PT, DPT, Kentucky Board of Physical Therapy Chair