BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY,
Complainant,

v. **Case No. 2027-02**

STEVEN LOUGH,
Athletic Trainer Number: AT 001017
Respondent.

AMENDED SUSPENSION ORDER

Pursuant W. Va. Code § 30-1-8(f)(1), the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy ("Board"), has determined by vote to hereby suspend Steven Lough's ("Respondent") license to practice athletic training. This action is being taken based upon the following:

1. That Respondent, Steven Lough, is a licensee of the Board with license number AT 001017 and is subject to the license requirements of said Board. Moreover, that all times relevant to this Order the Respondent held an active license issued by this Board.

2. The Board is a regulatory board created for the purpose of regulating the practice of athletic training. W. Va. Code §§ 30-20-1 *et seq* and 30-20A-1 *et seq*.

3. In order to carry out its regulatory duties, the Board is empowered to suspend, revoke or otherwise discipline an individual's athletic training license because of authority granted to it by W. Va. Code §§ 30-20A-13.

4. Pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-1-8(f)(1), a board may suspend a license or revoke a license without a hearing in certain instances. A board may suspend a license if the person's continued practice constitutes an immediate danger to the public.

5. Respondent was the athletic trainer and athletic director at Ripley High School

6. Further, Respondent was arrested on November 6, 2026, and has been charged with three felony counts regarding a sexual relationship with a student at the high school and one count of using obscene material with intent to seduce a minor.

7. The student had approached Respondent for assistance with an injury in his capacity as the athletic trainer at Ripley High School.

8. Respondent has admitted to sexual touching and other sexual acts during the investigation along with exchanging sexually explicit messages and pictures with the student.

9. Respondent's continued practice of athletic training has become an immediate danger to the public as exhibited by his actions, admissions and arrest.

10. The Board met on November 9, 2026, and found that Respondent's license should be suspended pursuant W. Va. Code § 30-1-8(f)(1).

WHEREFORE upon entry of this Order, Respondent's license to practice athletic training is hereby **SUSPENDED** pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-1-8(f)(1).

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY

By: John Brautigam
John Brautigam, PT, ATC
Board Chairperson

Entered: 11/10/2026
DATE