

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION
BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR**

In Re: PROVIDER SUSPENSION

JAMES MICHAEL SOWARDS,

Respondent.

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1)(C) requires the Administrative Director to suspend any physician, practitioner, or provider from participating in the workers' compensation system as a physician, practitioner, or provider whose license, certification, or approval to provide health care services has been surrendered or revoked; and

WHEREAS, on or about August 11, 2023, Respondent James Michael Sowards's (James Sowards) license, certification, or approval to provide health care services was surrendered or revoked by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs; and

WHEREAS, on or about November 19, 2025, the Administrative Director mailed to James Sowards a written notice of the right to a hearing regarding the suspension and the procedure to follow to request a hearing, as provided in Labor Code section 139.21(b)(2) and California Code of Regulations, title 8, section 9788.1; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Labor Code section 139.21(b)(2) and California Code of Regulations, title 8, section 9788.1(d), the written notice advised James Sowards that the suspension would start thirty (30) calendar days after the date of mailing of written notice, unless James Sowards submitted a written request for a hearing within ten (10) calendar days of the date of mailing of the notice; and

1 WHEREAS, James Sowards did not submit a written request for hearing within ten
2 (10) calendar days of the date of mailing of the notice; and

3 WHEREAS, the Administrative Director is required to suspend any physician,
4 practitioner, or provider pursuant to Labor Code section 139.21 and California Code of
5 Regulations, title 8, section 9788.2, after thirty (30) days from the date the notice was
6 mailed, unless the physician, practitioner, or provider submits a written request for a
7 hearing within ten (10) calendar days of the date of mail of the notice;

8 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Respondent James Sowards is hereby suspended
9 from participating in the workers' compensation system as a physician, practitioner, or
10 provider.

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12 Date: January 28, 2026

/S/ George P. Parisotto
George P. Parisotto
Administrative Director
Division of Workers' Compensation