

**BEFORE THE MASSAGE THERAPY BOARD OF THE STATE OF IOWA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF</b>  <b>Liangzhen Zhang</b>  <b>RESPONDENT.</b>	<b>CASE NO.: 24-0011</b> <b>DIAL NO.:</b>  <b>NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE</b> <b>CIVIL PENALTY</b>
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**COMES NOW** the Iowa Board of Massage Therapy (“Board”) and issues this Notice of Intent to Impose Civil Penalty to Liangzhen Zhang (“Respondent”), pursuant to Iowa Code section 152C.4 and Iowa Administrative Code rule 645-134.1.

**FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

1. An Iowa license is required to perform “therapy which involves manipulation of the muscle and connective tissue of the body.” Iowa Code § 152C.1(3). Although reflexology is excluded from licensure requirements, reflexology is limited to services on the “the hands, feet, or ears.” Iowa Code section 152C.1(4).

2. Respondent does not have an Iowa massage therapy license.

3. Respondent worked at Altoona Health Massage in Altoona, Iowa.

4. Respondent provided body massages to the public despite not having a massage therapy license.

5. On or about December 20, 2023, Respondent pleaded guilty to a serious misdemeanor for failure to present a valid massage therapist license and government-issued identification upon the request of a peace officer in violation of Iowa Code § 152C.5B(2). *State of Iowa v. Liangzhan Zhang*, Case no. SRCR374899 (Polk County), SENTENCING ORDER (Dec. 21, 2023).

## LEGAL GROUNDS

The Board has authority to impose a civil penalty on a person who practices as a massage therapist without a license pursuant to Iowa Code section 152C.4 and Iowa Administrative Code rule 645-134.5.

## HEARING RIGHTS

1. Pursuant to Iowa Administrative Code rule 645- 134.5, you may request a hearing on this matter. To request a hearing, you must serve a written request within thirty (30) days of the issuance of this notice. Any request for a hearing should be directed to Board Executive Jessica O'Brien. The request may be submitted by email to [jessica.o'brien@dia.iowa.gov](mailto:jessica.o'brien@dia.iowa.gov) or by mail to the Iowa Board of Massage Therapy, Attn: Jessica O'Brien, 6200 Park Avenue, Suite 100, Des Moines, IA 50320. The hearing shall be a contested case hearing conducted pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 17A and 645 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 11.

**2. IF A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR A HEARING IS NOT TIMELY RECEIVED, THIS NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE CIVIL PENALTY WILL BECOME FINAL AND YOU WILL BE ASSESSED A CIVIL PENALTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$700.**

Dated: July 3, 2024

/s/ *LeAnn Stevens*

LeeAnn Stevens

Board Chair

Iowa Board of Massage Therapy