

**State Medical Board of Ohio**  
**Formal Action Report – October 10, 2018**

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Please find below a summary of actions taken or initiated by the State Medical Board of Ohio and an update of Board matters pending or decided in courts as of October 10, 2018.

**PRE-HEARING SUSPENSIONS**

**MERTZ**, Marissa Maia, MD (#35.091568) - Columbus, Ohio

Pursuant to Section 4731.22(G), medical license summarily suspended based on the Board's determination that there is clear and convincing evidence that doctor is in violation of Section 4731.22(B)(26), Ohio Revised Code, and that her continued practice presents a danger of immediate and serious harm to the public. Order effective 10/10/2018. (See also: Citations/Proposed Denials below.)

**CITATIONS/PROPOSED DENIALS**

**FLYNN**, Freeda J., M.D. (#35.066409) - St. Clairsville, Ohio

Based on allegations that the doctor violated the terms and conditions of the May 27, 2015 Board Order, when the doctor failed to obey all federal, state, and local laws, when on January 26, 2017, the Belmont County Court, Western Division, found the doctor in contempt of court, and ordered the doctor to serve seven days in jail; and also based on allegations that the doctor failed to include the aforementioned contempt charge in her February 27, 2017 Declaration of Compliance. Notice of opportunity for hearing mailed 10/11/2018.

**FOLKERTH**, Steven Don, M.D. (#35.038465) - Dayton, Ohio

Based on prior action by the Board of Medical Examiner of the State of Nevada, which issued a June 4, 2018 Consent Agreement in which the doctor was reprimanded and ordered to pay a fine of one thousand two hundred (\$1,200.00) dollars and to pay costs in the amount of one thousand eight hundred fifty-two dollars and 83/100 cents (\$1,852.83). Based on the doctor's admission that he failed to make medical records available to a patient despite repeated requests from the patient; and that he failed to comply with a lawful order issued by the Nevada Board. Notice of opportunity for hearing mailed 10/11/2018.

**MCKAY**, Kristopher M., M.D. (#35.129390) - Birmingham, Alabama

Based on prior actions by: the Colorado Medical Board, which issued a February 20, 2018 Order of Suspension, based in part on allegations that the doctor illegally used controlled substances for personal use, and on the doctor's possible physical or mental illness; the Virginia Department of Health Professionals, which issued an April 16, 2018 Order of Mandatory Suspension, based on the Colorado Order of Suspension; and the Medical Board of California, which issued an order suspending the doctor's license, based on the Colorado Order of Suspension. Also based on the doctor's failure to respond to Board interrogatories sent on March 19, 2018, April 23, 2018, June 7, 2018, and July 12, 2018. Notice of opportunity for hearing mailed 10/11/2018.

**MERTZ**, Marissa Maia, M.D. (#35.091568) - Columbus, Ohio

Doctor notified of right to request a hearing on the question of whether her failure to submit to a 72-hour inpatient examination as ordered by the Board was due to circumstances beyond her control. Based on the legal presumption that doctor's failure to submit to a 72-hour inpatient examination as ordered by the Board constitutes an admission that she is impaired in her ability to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care because of habitual or excessive use or abuse of drugs, alcohol, or other substances that impair ability to practice. Notice of Summary Suspension Based upon the Presumption of an Admission of Impairment mailed 10/11/2018.

**REED**, Tammy Marie, D.O. (#34.009050) - Bolivia, North Carolina

Based on the prior action of the North Carolina Medical Board, which issued a May 22, 2018 Order that reprimanded the doctor's license and ordered the doctor to complete continuing medical education related to prescribing, based in part on the finding that the doctor had written prescriptions for controlled substances for friends and family and failed to maintain a record of care and treatment in at least one instance. Notice of opportunity for hearing mailed 10/11/2018.

**RINGENBACH**, Laura Ann, R.C.P. applicant - Dalton, Ohio

Based on the respiratory care professional's submission of an application for a license to practice as a respiratory care professional in which she disclosed a prior action by the Ohio Board of Nursing, that issued a May 20, 2011 Consent Agreement indefinitely suspending her nursing license and establishing conditions for reinstatement and permanent restrictions. Notice of opportunity for hearing mailed 10/11/2018.

**SAKKAL**, Saad Al, M.D. (#35.048933) - Mason, Ohio

Based on a prior action by the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, which issued an August 16, 2018 Emergency Order of Restriction restricting the doctor's license by prohibiting prescribing, dispensing, or otherwise professionally utilizing controlled substances until the resolution of an indictment filed in the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio, containing thirty-two counts of Illegal Distribution of Controlled Substances outside the usual course of

medical practice, and seven counts of Use of Registration Issued to Another Person. Notice of opportunity for hearing mailed 10/11/2018.

## **FINAL ORDERS**

**BERING**, Thomas Gerard, M.D. (#35.088008) - York, Pennsylvania

License to practice medicine and surgery indefinitely suspended, but not less than one hundred eighty (180) days; and subject to a four thousand dollar (\$4,000.00) fine, interim monitoring, conditions for reinstatement, and probationary terms and conditions for at least five years. Based on the finding that the doctor is impaired in his ability to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care because of habitual or excessive use or abuse of drugs, alcohol, or other substances that impair ability to practice; and that the doctor's acts, conduct and/or omissions constitute the commission of an act that constitutes a felony in this state, to wit: Theft of Drugs. Order effective 10/11/2018.

**PRYCHODNIK**, Carol Standridge, M.T. (#33.008117) - Akron, Ohio (Non-Disciplinary)

Massage therapist's application for restoration of license to practice massage therapy granted, pending passage of the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination. Based on massage therapist having not practiced in at least two years prior to application for restoration of license. Order effective 10/11/2018. (Journal Entry—No Hearing Requested).

**RATNANI**, M. Salim, M.D. (#35.066312) - Hurricane, West Virginia

The terms and conditions within the July 13, 2016 Consent Agreement are extended for at least five years following the July 13, 2016 effective date, and any request for release from the Consent Agreement will not be granted until the payment of the one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) fine. Based on the finding that the doctor violated the terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement when he failed to: submit quarterly declarations; to make personal appearances before the Board or its designated representative; and to ensure delivery of quarterly reports from treating provider for behavioral counselor, which individually or collectively constitute a violation of the conditions and limitations placed by the board upon a certificate to practice. Order effective 10/11/2018.

**SORENSEN**, Holly Jean, M.T. (#33.010130) - Larwill, Indiana (Non-Disciplinary)

Massage therapist's application for restoration of license to practice massage therapy granted, pending passage of the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination. Based on massage therapist having not practiced in at least two years prior to application for restoration of license. Order effective 10/11/2018. (Journal Entry—No Hearing Requested).

**WOJCIECHOWSKI**, Edward Joseph, M.D. (#35.073273) - Bowling Green, Ohio

License to practice medicine and surgery permanently revoked. Based on the doctor's plea of guilty in the Common Pleas Court, Wood County, Ohio, to two counts of Illegal Processing of Drug Documents, a fourth and fifth degree felony; one count of Medicaid Fraud, a fifth degree felony; and the completion of a court ordered treatment program; all of which individually or collectively constitutes a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, a felony; and constitutes impairment of ability to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care because of habitual or excessive use or abuse of drugs, alcohol, or other substances that impair ability to practice. Order effective 10/11/2018.

### **CONSENT AGREEMENTS**

**KAVLICH**, John James, MD (#35.057128) - Berea, Ohio

License to practice medicine and surgery suspended for an indefinite period-of-time; and subject to conditions for reinstatement. Based on the doctor's admission that he is unable to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care without appropriate treatment, monitoring or supervision by reason of mental or physical illness. Agreement effective 10/10/2018.

**RUBOSKY**, Krista Marie, P.A. (#50.003759RX) - Youngstown, Ohio

License to practice as a physician assistant suspended for an indefinite period-of-time, but not less than one year, subject to general probationary requirements, and conditions for reinstatement. Based on the physician assistant's admission that she entered an in-patient treatment program for alcohol addiction, and that a subsequent relapse led her to complete to a second in-patient treatment program. Also based on the further admission that the physician assistant relapsed after completion of her second in-patient treatment program, that led her to complete a third in-patient treatment program. The physician assistant's acts individually, or collectively constitute an impairment of ability to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care because of habitual or excessive use of or abuse of drugs, alcohol, or other substances that impair ability to practice. Agreement effective 10/10/2018.

### **VOLUNTARY PERMANENT SURRENDERS, RETIREMENTS, REVOCATIONS, WITHDRAWALS**

**DICELLO**, Anthony Joseph, M.T. (#33.024205) - Upper Arlington, Ohio (NON-DISCIPLINARY)

Permanent surrender of license to practice medicine and surgery authorized by doctor in lieu of continuing compliance with the terms of the August 2018 Board Order. Agreement effective 10/10/2018.

**MINARIK**, Matthew Mann, P.A. (#50.004059RX) - Fairview Park, Ohio

Permanent revocation of license to practice as a physician assistant authorized by physician assistant in lieu of further formal disciplinary proceedings in Case No. 17-CRF-00136, pursuant to Section 4730.25(B)(14), Ohio Revised Code, and based upon the physician assistant's conviction in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court for Sexual Imposition, a third-degree misdemeanor. Agreement effective 10/10/2018.

**RITENOUR**, Paul Edward, D.O. (#34.006501) – Mansfield, Ohio

Voluntary permanent retirement authorized by doctor in lieu of formal disciplinary proceedings pursuant to Section 4731.22(B)(19), Ohio Revised Code. Agreement effective 10/10/2018.

### **REQUESTS, MODIFICATIONS, AND RELEASES FROM NON-PROBATIONARY CONSENT AGREEMENTS**

**AHMED**, Michelle Lynn, D.O. (#34.007803) - Canfield, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of confirmation that she has completed the requirements of her 9/13/2017 Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018.

**KALIS**, Perry Michael, M.D. (#35.038121) - South Zanesville, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of confirmation that he has completed the requirements of his 7/12/2017 Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018.

### **PROBATIONARY REQUESTS AND MODIFICATIONS**

**BALDIE**, Kevin Gordon, M.D. (#35.128985) - Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of removal of his work-hour limitation, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018.

**BANGERT**, Michael Theodore, M.D. (#35.123521) - Jacksonville, Florida

Doctor's request for approval of new treating mental health counselor, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018.

**BLECHER**, Saul Israel, M.D. (#35.063813) - Cincinnati, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of: practice plan; and monitoring physician, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018. Frequency and number of charts to be reviewed by monitor established at ten charts per week.

**CORFMAN**, Cari Renee, M.T. (#33.015636) - Sycamore, Ohio

Massage therapists request for approval of professional ethics course, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018.

**MA**, Muyuan, M.D. (#35.130288) - Cleveland, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of new treating psychiatrist; and approval of psychiatrists to conduct return to works assessments, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018.

**RICHARDSON**, William Stanton, M.D. (#35.072474) - Westlake, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval to reduce the drug and alcohol rehabilitation meeting attendance requirement from three per week to two per week with a minimum of ten per month, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018.

**RIEL-GUZMAN**, Florencia A., M.D. (#35.037120) - Cincinnati, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 7/8/2015 Board Order, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018. Release effective 10/14/2018.

**ZIELINSKI**, Mary A., M.T. (#33.006948) - Cincinnati, Ohio

Massage therapist's request for approval of release from the terms of the 7/13/2016 Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018. Release effective 10/31/2018.

### **PROBATION TERMINATED**

**BHATIA**, Ajay, M.D. (#35.094880) - Columbus, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 8/14/2013 Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018. Release effective immediately.

**HOFF**, Elise Regine., M.D. (#35.082376) - Parma, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 10/14/2015 Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018. Release effective 10/22/2018.

**KEISER**, Vincent James, M.D. (#35.077811) - Saline, Michigan

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 9/12/2013 Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018. Release effective 10/11/2018.

**TRACY**, David Alexander, M.D. (#35.129642) - Brecksville, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 10/9/2013 Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 10/10/2018. Release effective immediately.

### **COURT ACTIONS**

**FRANTZ**, Nathan Buchanan., D.O. (#58.005803) – Cleveland, Ohio

By Decision and Judgment Entry of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, dated 9/14/2018, the Board's 10/28/2015 Order is reversed.

**SEMAN**, Christopher Robert, D.O. (#34.007229) - East Palestine, Ohio

Notice of Appeal filed on 9/18/2018 with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Franklin County, Ohio.

Entry filed 10/3/2018, with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Franklin County, Ohio, granting doctor's motion for stay of the 9/12/2018 adjudication order.

**AGGARWAL**, Arun, M.D. (#35.120049) — Mayfield Heights, Ohio

By Decision and Entry of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas dated 9/19/2018, the State Medical Board of Ohio's Order issued on 5/10/2017 is affirmed.

**AUL**, Christopher Francis, L.M.T., L.A.C., L.O.M. (#33.009932, #66.000038, #65.000122) — Columbus, Ohio

Notice of Appeal of the 8/30/2018 Decision and Judgement Entry, filed on 9/28/2018, in the Court of Appeals of Franklin County, Ohio, Tenth Appellate District.

Please note that revocation and suspension Orders are not always effective immediately. If you have questions about effective dates or conditions governing a doctor's practice before a Board Order takes effect, please contact the office.

Ohio law permits appeal of a Board Order to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. Due to this possibility and the potential for a stay that might delay the imposition of a Board action, you may wish to contact us periodically to verify a given practitioner's licensure status.

Most current citation letters, Board Orders, consent agreements and voluntary surrenders or retirements are available on the Medical Board's website under "Lookup a License." If you have questions or need additional details about Citations, Board Orders, Consent Agreements, or Court Actions, please contact the Case Control Office. If you have questions regarding a

probationary modification or a probationary request, please contact the Compliance Office. Our offices may be reached at (614) 466-3934.