

State Medical Board of Ohio
Formal Action Report – September 9, 2020

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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 September 9, 2020.

CITATIONS/PROPOSED DENIALS

BETRO, Joseph R., D.O., (#34.009804) - Novi, Michigan

Based on allegations that when a jury found the doctor guilty in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, to a felony count of Conspiracy to Commit Healthcare and Wire Fraud, and a felony count of Healthcare Fraud, those acts would individually and/or collectively, constitute 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. Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed 9/10/2020.

HAQ, Abdul, M.D., (#35.069523) - Jeffersonville, Indiana

Based on allegations that when the doctor pleaded guilty in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan to a felony count of Conspiracy to Commit Healthcare Fraud, that act would individually and/or collectively, constitute 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. Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed 9/10/2020.

PAPPAS, Spilios, M.D., (#35.063491) - Monclova, Ohio

Based on allegations that when a jury found the doctor guilty in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, to a felony count of Conspiracy to Commit Healthcare and Wire Fraud, and a felony count of Healthcare Fraud, those acts would individually and/or collectively, constitute 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. Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed 9/10/2020.

RANIERI, Thomas A., M.D., (#35.061039) - New Castle, Pennsylvania

Based on allegations that the doctor plead guilty in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania to fourteen counts of Distribution of Schedule II Controlled Substances Outside the Usual Course of Professional Practice, which would individually and/or collectively, constitute 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. Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed 9/10/2020.

YANG, Paul, M.D., (#35.071034) – West Chester, Ohio

Based on allegations that when the doctor was found guilty in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, to one count of Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud, and sentenced to two years of probation and ordered to pay one hundred ninety five thousand three hundred seventy dollars (\$195,370.00) in restitution, those acts would individually and/or collectively, constitute 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. Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed 9/10/2020.

ZAHOOR, Mohammed I., M.D., (#35.122520) - Farmington, Michigan

Based on allegations that when a jury found the doctor guilty in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, to a felony count of Conspiracy to Commit Healthcare and Wire Fraud, and a felony count of Healthcare Fraud, those acts would individually and/or collectively, constitute 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. Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed 9/10/2020.

NON-DISCIPLINARY CITATIONS

BILLINGS, Rebecca Eileen, D.O. Applicant - Canton, Ohio (Non-Disciplinary)

Based on the applicant's submission of an application to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery, and based on the doctor not having been actively engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery for more than two years. Notice of Opportunity for hearing mailed 9/14/2020.

OROZ, Marijana, M.T. (#33.018550) - Euclid, Ohio (Non-Disciplinary)

Based on the applicant's submission of an application for restoration of a license to practice massage therapy; and on the massage therapist having not been engaged in the active practice of massage therapy for more than two years. Notice of Opportunity for hearing mailed 9/14/2020.

SHOOK, Rebecca Gale, R.C.P. Applicant - Dallas, Texas (Non-Disciplinary)

Based on the applicant's submission of an application for a license to practice respiratory care; and on the respiratory care therapist having not been engaged in the active practice of respiratory care for more than two years. Notice of Opportunity for hearing mailed 9/14/2020.

FINAL ORDERS

AL-SHAHED, Abdallah, M.D., (35.085379) - Westlake, Ohio

License to practice medicine and surgery reprimanded, and subject to an eighteen thousand dollar (\$18,000.00) fine. Based on the finding that when the doctor knowingly authorized a fraudulent prescription forged by non-patient coworker and instructed a pharmacist not to contact law enforcement, the doctor's acts, conduct, and or omissions individually or collectively, constitute: Permitting one's name or one's license or certificate to practice to be used by a person, group, or corporation when the individual concerned is not actually directing the treatment given; and the selling, giving away, personally furnishing, prescribing, or administering drugs for other than legal and legitimate therapeutic purposes or a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction of, a violation of any federal or state law regulating the possession, distribution, or use of any drug; and the commission of an act that constitutes a felony in this state, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the act was committed, specifically: Complicity to Commit Aggravated Possession of Drugs, and Complicity to Illegal Processing of Drug Documents. Order effective 9/10/2020.

CRUZ, Antonio S. Jr., M.T. Applicant - Anchorage, Alaska (Non-Disciplinary)

Application for a license to practice massage therapy denied. Based on the finding that the applicant does not hold a diploma or certificate from a school, college or institution in good standing as determined by the Board, or from another state or jurisdiction that meets the Board's required course of instruction, or held a current license issued in another state for at least the preceding five years. Order effective 9/10/2020. (Journal Entry-No Hearing Requested).

FLETCHER, Aaron M., M.T. Applicant - Cincinnati, Ohio (Non-Disciplinary)

Application for a license to practice massage therapy is approved, provided that the applicant takes and passes the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination within one year. Based on the applicant's submission of an application for a license to practice massage therapy; and on the massage therapist having not been engaged in the active practice of massage therapy for more than two years. Order effective 9/10/2020. (Journal Entry-No Hearing Requested).

GARNIER, Jay A., R.C.P. Applicant - Moorestown, New Jersey (Non-Disciplinary)

Application for a license to practice respiratory care is approved, provided that the applicant takes and passes the Clinical Simulation Examination within one year. Based on the applicant's submission of an application for a license to practice respiratory care; and on the respiratory care therapist having not been engaged in the active practice of respiratory care for more than two years. Order effective 9/10/2020. (Journal Entry-No Hearing Requested).

HOUSER, William L. Jr., M.D., (#35.053059) - Youngstown, Ohio

License to practice medicine and surgery reprimanded, and required to submit acceptable documentation of successful completion of professional ethics courses within one year. Based on the finding that the doctor's conviction in the United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania to one felony count of Willful Failure to Pay Over Trust Fund Taxes, to which the doctor was sentenced to five years of probation and restitution in the amount of \$1,128,660.01, individually and/or collectively constitute 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. Order effective 9/25/2020.

LAROCCA, Francis, L.M.T., (#33.011553) - Mundelein, Illinois (Non-Disciplinary)

Application for restoration of a license to practice massage therapy is approved, provided that the applicant takes and passes the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination within one year. Based on the applicant's submission of an application for restoration of a license to practice massage therapy; and on the massage therapist having not been engaged in the active practice of massage therapy for more than two years. Order effective 9/10/2020. (Journal Entry-No Hearing Requested).

LIEBMAN, Curt E., M.D., (35.131236) - Santa Monica, California

License to practice medicine and surgery revoked, and subject to a one thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) fine. Based on the finding that when the doctor failed to disclose prior misdemeanor and/or felony convictions in his renewal application; and based on the prior actions by the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, which issued a 10/10/2018 Agreed Order, and a 5/22/2019 Decision and Order by the California Medical Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, those actions individually and/or collectively constitute any of the following actions taken by an agency responsible for authorizing, certifying, or regulating an individual to practice a health care occupation or provide health care services in this state or another jurisdiction, for any reason other than the nonpayment of fees: the limitation, revocation, or suspension of an individual's license to practice; acceptance of an individual's license surrender; denial of a license; refusal to renew or reinstate a license; imposition of probation; or issuance of an order of censure or other reprimand; and also making a false, fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading statement in the solicitation of or advertising for patients; in relation to the practice of medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, podiatric medicine and surgery, or a limited branch of medicine; or in securing or attempting to secure any license or certificate to practice issued by the board. Order effective 9/10/2020. (Journal Entry-No Hearing Requested).

SHODD, Douglas M., M.T., Applicant - Struthers, Ohio (Non-Disciplinary)

Application for restoration of license to practice massage therapy is granted, provided that the applicant successfully completes the MBLEx within one year. Based on the applicant's submission of an application for restoration of a license to practice massage therapy, and on the massage therapist having not been engaged in the active practice of massage therapy for more than two years. Order effective 9/25/2020.

WOODRUM, Denise, C.T., (32.006414) - Mason, Ohio

Application for restoration of a license to practice cosmetic therapy granted, and immediately suspended for at least one hundred and eighty days, and subject to a one thousand seven hundred (\$1,700.00) fine, and probationary terms, conditions, and limitations until the cosmetic therapist has successfully completed a course on professional ethics, fulfilled her cosmetic therapy continuing education ("CTCE") requirements, and paid the fine. Based on the cosmetic

therapist's submission of a restoration application to practice cosmetic therapy, and on the finding that when the cosmetic therapist practiced cosmetic therapy without a valid, active license, those acts individually and/or collectively constitute: violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provisions of this chapter or any rule promulgated by the board, to wit: Practicing Medicine [or a limited branch] Without a License; and the commission of an act that constitutes a felony in this state, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the act was committed; and making a false, fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading statement in the solicitation of or advertising for patients; in relation to the practice of medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, podiatric medicine and surgery, or a limited branch of medicine; or in securing or attempting to secure any license or certificate to practice issued by the board. Order effective 9/25/2020.

YANG, Lihua A., M.T. Applicant - Hacienda Heights, California (Non-Disciplinary)

Application to practice massage therapy is denied. Based on the finding that the applicant failed to provide evidence that they have successfully taken and passed an examination acceptable to the Board, to wit: the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination. Based on the applicant's submission of an application to practice massage therapy, and on the fact that the applicant did not provide evidence of having passed an examination acceptable to the Board. Order effective 9/10/2020. (Journal Entry-No Hearing Requested).

VOLUNTARY PERMANENT SURRENDERS, RETIREMENTS, REVOCATIONS, WITHDRAWALS

COLVIN, Jared R., L.M.T., (#33.024494) - New Madison, Ohio

Permanent revocation of license to practice massage therapy, authorized by massage therapist, in lieu of formal disciplinary proceedings pursuant to Section 4731.22(B)(11), Ohio Revised Code. Order effective 9/10/2020. Revocation effective immediately.

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

Permanent revocation of license to practice medicine and surgery authorized by doctor in lieu of formal disciplinary proceedings pursuant to Section 4731.22(B)(9), Ohio Revised Code. Order effective 9/10/2020. Revocation effective immediately.

DISMISSALS

HILBERS, Claire E., M.T. Applicant – Chagrin Falls, Ohio

The non-disciplinary notice of opportunity for a hearing issued on 9/17/2019 is dismissed, based on the applicant having provided evidence showing completion of the required course of instruction. Dismissal effective 9/9/2020.

WASHINGTON, Sherman, Jr., M.D., (#35.123613) – Winnetka, California

The notice of opportunity for a hearing issued on 6/10/2020 is dismissed without prejudice, based on the Board having received information indicating that the Washington Medical Commission Order had been vacated. Dismissal effective 08/31/2020.

PROBATIONARY REQUESTS AND MODIFICATIONS

ALI, Asad S., M.D., (#35.077032) - Hamilton, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of educational courses, granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020.

HOWKINS, Michael J., D.O., (#34.004364) - Cleveland, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of an additional monitoring physician granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020.

KAVLICH, John J. III, M.D., (#35.057128) - Berea, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of a treating psychiatrist granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020

KIM, Hyun B., D.O., (#34.014668) - Solon, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of ethics courses granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020

MARSH, James A., Jr., D.O., (#34.009757) - Milan, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of a reduction in psychotherapy sessions from every three months to every six months granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020

SIMMONS, Luke, M.D., (#57.245466) - Columbus, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of a treating psychiatrist granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020

PROBATION TERMINATED

CAMPBELL, Jennifer C., M.D., (#35.090769) - Bay Village, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 5/13/2015 Step II Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020. Release effective immediately.

DANG, Thuan D., M.D., (#35.127312) - Killeen, Texas

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 8/12/2015 Board Order, granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020. Release effective 9/23/2020. Permanent limitation/restriction that doctor shall not independently perform elective vascular surgery or perform elective vascular surgery as the primary responsible physician remains in effect.

SIDDIQUI, Munawar, M.D., (#35.077460) - London, Kentucky

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 12/13/2017 Board Order, granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020. Release effective 9/13/2020.

STOLARSKI, Raymond G., D.P.M., (#36.002621) - Clarksville, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 5/13/2020 Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020. Release effective immediately.

VELLANKI, Suman C., M.D., (#35.128080) - Strongsville, Ohio

Doctor's request for approval of release from the terms of the 8/12/2015 Step II Consent Agreement, granted by vote of the Board on 9/9/2020. Release effective immediately.

COURT ACTIONS

DJORDJEVIC, Borko, M.D., (#35.100288) – Igalo, Montenegro

Notice of Appeal filed on 9/4/2020 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, or Court Actions, please contact the Case Control Office. If you have questions regarding a Consent Agreements,

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