#### **December 2022 Public Board Actions List**

Georgia Composite Medical Board

Attn: Ms. Latisha Bias, Public Records Unit

2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 6th Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3465

PH: (404) 657-3194 FX: (404) 463-2539

Email: latisha.bias@dch.ga.gov

The Board issued **six** public orders in **December 2022**. To view each Board order, click on the licensee's name below.

#### 1. José Bernardo, MD

Physician

Consent Agreement for Licensure

#### 2. Azalea Blalock

Physician Final Decision

#### 3. Annie Cruz, MD

65352

Physician

Order of Completion

#### 4. Robert Lebaron Grant Stears,

**MD** 78734

Physician

Public Consent Order

#### 5. Tristan Sevdy, MD

76172

Physician

**Public Consent Order** 

#### 6. Henry Watson, Jr., MD

25399

Physician

Voluntary Surrender

# BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD
JOSE BERNARDO, M.D.	) DOCKET NO.	DEC 14 2022
Applicant.	)	DOCKET NUMBER: 20230037

## CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR LICENSURE

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") and Jose Bernardo, M.D. ("Applicant"), the following disposition of this matter is entered pursuant to O.C.G.A. T. 43, Chs. 1 and 34.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1.

On or about January 4, 2022, Applicant submitted an application to practice medicine in the State of Georgia ("Application").

2.

Applicant holds a physician license in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, license no. MD053458L.

3.

In the Application, Applicant disclosed the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine had taken disciplinary action against him.

4.

On or about November 5, 2019, the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine indefinitely suspended Applicant's Pennsylvania's license and immediately stayed the suspension based on certain terms and conditions. (Docket No. 19-49-010579-49-19) The discipline was based in part on Applicant's substance abuse disorder and repeated relapses. ("Pennsylvania Order")

The Pennsylvania Order placed Applicant's license on a period of probation for a minimum of three (3) years. Probationary terms include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Applicant shall enroll and participate in the Professional Health Monitoring Program.
   ("PHMP")
- Applicant shall completely abstain from the use of controlled substances including alcohol except in limited circumstance under the direction of a physician.
- Applicant shall submit to random drug and alcohol testing.

6.

Applicant waives any further findings of fact with respect to this matter.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Issuance of Applicant's license to practice medicine in Georgia under O.C.G.A. Ch. 34, T. 43, as amended, is within the sole discretion of the Board. The Applicant hereby waives any further conclusions of law with respect to the above-styled matter.

#### <u>ORDER</u>

The Board, having considered the application of Applicant's license, hereby orders and Applicant hereby agrees as follows:

1.

Beginning on the effective date of this Consent Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement"),
Applicant's license to practice medicine in the State of Georgia shall be issued subject to the
following terms and conditions:

(a) Applicant's license shall be placed on PROBATION.

- (b) Within 10 days of the effective date of this agreement, Applicant shall enroll in the Georgia PHP. Applicant shall fully and completely comply and cooperate with the Georgia PHP including, but not limited to, monitoring, aftercare, and treatment.
- (c) Applicant shall completely abstain from the use of controlled substances, mood altering drugs, and drugs of abuse including alcohol unless prescribed by a licensed healthcare practitioner who is aware of Applicant's impairment and participation in the Georgia PHP.
- (d) The Applicant shall abide by all State and Federal laws regulating the practice of medicine, the Rules and Regulations of the Board, the Pennsylvania Order and the terms of the Agreement. If the Applicant shall fail to abide by any of the terms of this Agreement, Applicant's license shall be subject to discipline, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof after notice and hearing.
- (e) Applicant shall be eligible to petition the Board to terminate the Agreement upon the following:
  - 1. Applicant provides documentation that the probation imposed under the Pennsylvania order is terminated;
  - 2. Applicant's Pennsylvania license is reinstated to an unrestricted, non-probationary status;
  - 3. Applicant receives advocacy from the Georgia PHP supporting the lifting of probation.

    Once the following conditions are met, the Board shall review and evaluate the practice of Applicant prior to terminating this Agreement. At such time, should the Board determine that reasonable cause exists for maintaining or adding any terms or conditions on Applicant's license, the Board shall notify Applicant of its intent to continue or modify this Agreement to impose any terms deemed necessary at the time of the petition, and Applicant may respond to such notice in writing or request an appearance before the Board as in a

non-contested case. This Agreement shall remain in effect pending a final determination by the Board and notification that it has been terminated.

2.

The effective date of this Consent Order is the date the Consent Order is docketed. Respondent should receive a docketed copy of the Consent Order form the Board at the Respondent's address of record within ten (10) business days of the docket date. If Respondent has not received a docketed copy of the Consent Order, it is Respondent's responsibility to obtain a docketed copy of the Consent Order from the Board. Respondent must comply with the terms and conditions of the Consent Order beginning on the effective date.

3.

This Consent Order and the dissemination thereof shall constitute a public reprimand to the Respondent for his conduct.

4.

Respondent understands that pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 34A, the contents of this Consent Agreement shall be placed on Respondent's Physician Profile. Furthermore, by executing this Consent Order, Respondent hereby agrees to permit the Board to update the Physician's Profile reflecting this Consent Order.

5.

Applicant acknowledges that Applicant has read this Agreement and that he understands its contents. Applicant freely, knowingly and voluntarily enters into this Agreement. Applicant further understands and agrees that a representative of the Department of Law may be present during the presentation of this Agreement and that the Board shall have the authority to review the application file and all relevant evidence in considering this Agreement. Applicant understands that this Agreement will not become effective until accepted and docketed by the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Applicant consents to the terms contained herein.

Approved this 14	day ofDecember	, 2022.
11		



GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

BY:

and when

ille il

MATTHEW W. NORMAN, M.D.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

2022.

DANIEL R. DORSEY **Executive Director** 

CONSENTED TO:

JOSE BERNARIJO, M.D.

Applicant

[As to Applicant's signature:]

Sworn to and subscribed before me

NOT ARY PUBLIC
My minission Expires: 6 14 23

mmonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal JENNIFER LYNCH - Notary Public Altegheny County My Commission Expires June 14, 2023 Commission Number 1351613

# BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	) ) OSAH Docket No.:	2304506
AZALEA BLALOCK,  Respondent.	ý 23045061-OSAH-(	GEORGIA COMPOSITE NO: MEDICAL BOARD
	FINAL DECISION	NOV 3 0 2022 DOCKET NUMBER: 10230035

An Initial Decision was issued by the Office of State Administrative Hearings in the above matter on October 26, 2022. The Initial Decision was sent, via certified mail, to two addresses associated with Respondent, one of which was successfully delivered on October 29, 2022. In the absence of an application to the agency for review of said Initial Decision, or an order by the Board to review said Initial Decision on its own motion, said Initial Decision becomes the Final Decision of the Board by operation of law, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-13-17(a).

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Findings of Fact entered by the Administrative Law Judge in the Initial Decision are adopted and incorporated by reference herein.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Conclusions of Law entered by the Administrative Law Judge in the Initial Decision are adopted and incorporated by reference herein.

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge that a CEASE and DESIST ORDER is granted against the Respondent, is hereby made the Final Decision of the Board, effective November 29, 2022.

30th SO ORDERED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2022.

OSITE MEGOCO PURA BOAR

(BOARD SEAL)

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

MATTHEW W. NORMAN, M.D.

Chairperson

DANIEL DORSEY
Executive Director

#### BEFORE THE OFFICE OF STATE ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS STATE OF GEORGIA

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD,

Petitioner,

Docket No.: 2304506

2304506-OSAH-GCMB-PHY-56-Barnes

Agency Reference No.: 2304506

AZALEA BLALOCK,

v.

Respondent.

#### INITIAL DECISION



#### I. Introduction

Petitioner, the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") brought this action seeking the issuance of a Cease and Desist order against the Respondent Azalea Blalock for violating laws governing the practice of medicine in the State of Georgia. The Board also requested the imposition of costs it incurred through the investigation and administrative action. The evidentiary hearing took place before the undersigned administrative law judge. The Board was represented by Sandra Bailey, Esq., Assistant Attorney General. Respondent failed to appear at the hearing and is in default. Nevertheless, the Court held the hearing in Respondent's absence and developed the evidentiary record contained herein. After careful consideration of the evidence and arguments presented, and for the reasons stated below, the Board's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

#### II. Findings of Fact

- 1. Respondent is not licensed as a physician in the State of Georgia, nor has Respondent ever been so licensed in the State of Georgia.
- 2. The Board received information that Respondent held herself out as a physician and a "healer." The information originated from a Licensed Nurse Practitioner who had been assigned to assist with IV treatments at Respondent's "office." After observing Respondent's

interactions with a patient, the nurse practitioner became concerned that Respondent was not behaving like a physician. After doing independent research, the nurse practitioner informed the Board of her suspicion.

- 3. The Board initiated an investigation and found that on or about July 25, 2021, Respondent referred to herself as "Doctor Blalock," and attempted to "treat" at least one patient who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.
- 4. Among other actions, Respondent forbade the aforementioned patient to take his prescribed medications because they would reduce the efficacy of Respondent's "herbal treatments." Additionally, Respondent gave the patient an "herbal drink" and instructed him to drink it so that he could "throw-up" all his cancer. She was observed checking the patient's blood sugar levels with a personal device, rather than a medical grade device. The nurse practitioner noted that the Respondent showed no concern when the patient's blood glucose levels were at an alarming level that typically would require hospitalization. The patient and his wife had paid thousands of dollars to Respondent for medical treatment.
- 5. The Court finds that notice was duly served on the Respondent. In fact, on the morning of the hearing, an individual approached the reception desk at the Court and left a packet of documents from the Respondent. The document packet purported to be a "written testimony" of sorts. However, the Court has not considered any of these documents in its decision, as the Respondent failed to appear at the hearing. The in-person delivery of the document packet at the reception desk does indicate that the Respondent received notice of the hearing.

#### III. Conclusions of Law

1. The Board seeks the entry of a Cease and Desist Order pursuant to the statutory

provisions related to professional licensing boards, O.C.G.A. § 43-1-1, *et seq.*; the statutory provisions related to physicians under O.C.G.A. § 43-34-1, *et seq.* 

- 2. O.C.G.A. § 43-1-20.1(a) provides in relevant part: "[A]fter notice and hearing, a professional licensing board may issue a cease and desist order prohibiting any person from violating the provisions of this title by engaging in the practice of a business or profession without a license."
- 3. O.C.G.A. § 43-34-5 provides that the board shall have with respect to all matters within the jurisdiction of the board as provided under this chapter the powers, duties, and functions of professional licensing boards as provided in Chapter 1 of this title.

#### 4. O.C.G.A. § 43-34-22(a) provides:

If any person shall hold himself or herself out to the public as being engaged in the diagnosis or treatment of disease or injuries of human beings, or shall suggest, recommend, or prescribe any form of treatment for the palliation, relief, or cure of any physical or mental ailment of any person, with the intention of receiving therefor, either directly or indirectly, any fee, gift, or compensation whatsoever, or shall maintain an office for the reception, examination, or treatment of diseased or injured human beings, or shall attach the title "M.D.," "Oph.," "D.," "Dop.," "Surgeon," "Doctor," "D.O.," "Doctor of Osteopathy," "Osteopathic Physician," or "Physician," either alone or in connection with other words, or any other word or abbreviation to his or her name indicative that he or she is engaged in the treatment of diseased, defective, or injured human beings, and shall not in any of these cases then possess a valid license to practice medicine under the laws of this state, he or she shall be deemed to be practicing medicine without complying with this article and shall be deemed in violation of this article.

#### 5. O.C.G.A. § 43-34-5(c) provides:

The board shall have the following powers and duties: [...]

- (15) To initiate investigations for the purposes of discovering violation of this chapter;
- (17) To conduct hearings, reviews, and other proceedings according to Chapter 13 of Title 50; (19) To issue cease and desist orders to stop the unlicensed practice of medicine or other profession licensed, certified, or permitted under this chapter and impose penalties for such violations;

#### IV. Decision

In accordance with the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board's request that this Court issue a Cease and Desist Order against the Respondent is **GRANTED.** 

**SO ORDERED**, this <u>26<sup>th</sup></u> day of October, 2022.

Shakara M. Barnes

Administrative Law Judge



#### NOTICE OF INITIAL DECISION

Attached is the Initial Decision of the administrative law judge. A party who disagrees with the Initial Decision may file a motion with the administrative law judge and/or an application for agency review.

#### Filing a Motion with the Administrative Law Judge

A party who wishes to file a motion to vacate a default, a motion for reconsideration, or a motion for rehearing must do so within 10 days of the entry of the Initial Decision. Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 616-1-2-.28, -.30(4). All motions must be made in writing and filed with the judge's assistant, with copies served simultaneously upon all parties of record. Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 616-1-2-.04, -.11, -.16. The judge's assistant is Devin Hamilton - 404-657-3337; Email: devinh@osah.ga.gov; Fax: 404-657-3337; 225 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 400, South Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

#### Filing an Application for Agency Review

A party who seeks review by the referring agency must file an application for agency review within 30 days after service of the Initial Decision. O.C.G.A. §§ 50-13-17(a), -41. In nearly all cases, agency review is a prerequisite for judicial review. O.C.G.A. § 50-13-19(a).

The application for agency review must be filed with: . Copies of the application for agency review must be served upon all parties of record and filed simultaneously with the OSAH Chief Clerk at 225 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 400, South Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. If a timely application for agency review is not filed and the referring agency does not review the Initial Decision on its own motion, the Initial Decision will become the Final Decision of the referring agency by operation of law. O.C.G.A. §§ 50-13-17(a), -41.

Docket No.: 2304506-OSAH-GCMB-PHY-56-Barnes

## BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:

\*\*

ANNIE CRUZ, M.D.

License No. 65352,

Respondent.

\*\*

DOCKET NO.:

\*\*

DOCKET NUMBER:

20230038

#### ORDER OF COMPLETION

WHEREAS, on or about December 16, 2021, the Georgia Composite Medical Board (hereinafter "Board") and ANNIE CRUZ, M.D., (hereinafter "Respondent") entered into a Public Consent Order, imposing a fine, requiring the completion of twenty (20) hours of continuing medical education course, approved by the Board, entitled "Obstetric Emergencies/placental abruption/electronic fetal heart monitoring.

WHEREAS, on or about December 08, 2022, Respondent petitioned for an Order of Completion.

WHEREAS, upon review, the Board has determined that Respondent has complied with the terms of the Consent Order to the satisfaction of the Board.

THEREFORE, the Board hereby enters this Order of Completion to indicate that Respondent has successfully completed the terms of the Public Consent Order, Docket Number 20220047.

Respondent's license is in good standing.

This 14 day of December, 2022.

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

Wo Who

BY:

MATTHEW W. NORMAN, M.D.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

DANIEL R. DORSEY Executive Director



# BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD STATE OF GEORGIA

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

DEC 16 2021

		520 - 2021
)		DOCKET NUMBER:
)		20220047
)	DOCKET NO	
)		
)		
	) ) )	) ) ) DOCKET NO )

#### PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") and Annie Cruz, M.D., Respondent, the following disposition of this matter is entered pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-13-13 (a) (4), as amended.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT AND REVIEWER OPINION

1.

Respondent is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Georgia and was licensed at all times relevant to the matters stated herein.

2.

Patient K.W. was admitted on or about January 3, 2018 for an induction of labor at 40 weeks and 5 days of gestation, after office monitoring visit resulted in a report of decreased fetal movement and variable heart rate decelerations. The patient initially received Cervidil and then Cytotec for cervical ripening. Respondent was not the on-call physician when the patient was admitted but came on call later in the induction process and ultimately was the delivering obstetrics physician for patient K.W. on or about January 5, 2018.

3.

Respondent was aware of a nine-minute period of bradycardia (a slower than normal heart rate) prior to delivery that occurred shortly after the patient received an epidural. Upon

Respondent's evaluation, the heart rate had recovered. The patient was experiencing moderate vaginal bleeding, and Respondent suspected a partial placental abruption.

4

On or about January 5, 2018, in lieu of performing a C-Section, Respondent delivered the infant by vacuum extraction.

5.

Approximately two hours after delivery, the infant died.

6.

A Board-approved peer reviewer reviewed Respondent's medical care of patient K.W. and concluded that Respondent's treatment of this patient departed from and failed to conform to the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice. The peer reviewer opined that in light of the suspected placental abruption, moderate vaginal bleeding, history of bradycardia, and decelerations, the standard of care required Dr. Cruz to accomplish delivery as quickly as possible via C-section rather than via vacuum-assisted vaginal delivery.

7.

Respondent agrees with the above recited findings of fact, acknowledges but does not agree with the opinion of the peer reviewer, and waives any further finding of fact with respect to this matter.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's conduct constitutes sufficient grounds for the imposition of sanctions upon Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Georgia under O.C.G.A., Title 43, Chapters 1 and 34, as amended. Respondent hereby waives any further conclusions of law with respect to the above-styled matter.

#### <u>ORDER</u>

The Georgia Composite Medical Board, having considered the particular facts and circumstances of this case, hereby orders, and Respondent hereby agrees, to the following terms:

1.

Respondent shall submit to the Board a fine in the amount of two thousand dollars and zero cents (\$2,000.00) to be paid by cashier's check or money order made payable to the Board by certified check or money order to the Georgia Composite Medical Board within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Order. This fine shall be sent to the attention of: Jonathan McGehee, Interim Executive Director, Georgia Composite Medical Board, 6th Floor, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Failure to pay the fine as provided shall be considered a violation of this Order, and may result in further sanctioning of Respondent's authority to practice medicine in the future, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof.

2.

In addition to the fine required in paragraph 1 of this Consent Order, Respondent shall pay administrative fees in the amount of seven hundred dollars (\$700.00) as reimbursement to the Board of expenses incurred in the investigation of this matter, which expenses do not include time spent by the investigative division of the Board. Said fees shall be payable by certified check or money order to the Georgia Composite Medical Board within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Order. Failure to pay the entire amount by the 60th day shall be considered a violation of this Order and shall result in further sanctioning of Respondent's license, including revocation, upon substantiation.

In addition to the continuing medical education ("CME") required of all Georgia physicians, Respondent shall obtain twenty (20) hours of continuing medical education ("CME") in obstetric emergencies/placental abruption/electronic fetal heart monitoring. Due to the ongoing uncertainty related to the COVID-19 epidemic, all or some of these CME hours may be obtained remotely. Respondent shall complete said additional twenty (20) hours of CME within one (1) year from the docketing of this Order. Prior to obtaining the CME, Respondent shall submit the title of the course(s) she plans to attend and information concerning the course(s) to the Board. Within one (1) year from the docketing of this consent order, Respondent shall submit to the Board proof of completion of said additional twenty (20) hours. All reports and submissions required under this Consent Order shall be sent to the attention of Jonathan McGehee, Interim Executive Director, Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 or any subsequent address of the Board.

4.

This Consent Order and dissemination thereof shall be considered a PUBLIC REPRIMAND of Respondent by the Board.

5.

Respondent also understands that pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 34A, the contents of this order shall be placed on Respondent's Physician Profile. Furthermore, by executing this Consent Order, Respondent hereby agrees to permit the Board to update the Physician's Profile reflecting this Consent Order.

Respondent acknowledges that Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands its contents. Respondent understands that Respondent has the right to a hearing in this matter and freely, knowingly and voluntarily waives that right by entering into this Consent Order. Respondent understands and agrees that a representative of the Department of Law may be present during the Board's consideration of this Consent Order and that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order. Respondent further understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved and docketed by the Board. Respondent understands that this Consent Order, once approved and docketed, shall constitute a public record, evidencing disciplinary action by the Board that may be disseminated as such. However, if this Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding, or prejudice the right of the Board to adjudicate this matter. Respondent hereby consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

Approved this 3th day of <u>December</u>, 2021

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

(BOARD SEAL)

BY:

DESPINA DALTON, M.D.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

JONATHAN MCGEHEE

Interim Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:

BOTH LLEO

ANNIE ORUZ, M.D.

Respondent

AS TO SIGNATURE OF

ANNIE CRUZ

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 3rd day of DECLINE (2021.

My Commission Expires:

MUSCHILLIAN

#### BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

#### STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)		GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD
ROBERT LEBARON GRANT STEARS, M.D., License No. 78734,	)	DOCKET NO.:	DEC 15 2022 DOCKET NUMBER: 20230040
Respondent.	)		20230040

#### PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Georgia Board") and ROBERT LEBARON GRANT STEARS, M.D. ("Respondent"), the following disposition of this disciplinary matter is entered pursuant to the provisions of the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-13(a)(4), as amended.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1.

Respondent is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Georgia and was licensed at all times relevant to the matters stated herein. Respondent is also licensed to practice medicine in the State of Wisconsin, holding license number 70776-20.

2.

On or about April 20, 2022, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board ("Wisconsin Board") issued a Final Decision and Order disciplining Respondent's license. The Wisconsin discipline included, inter alia, a public reprimand and additional education consisting of six hours on the topic of radiologic appearance and reporting of central lines. The discipline was based, in part, on Respondent's failure to conform to the standard of minimally competent medical practice when he failed to identify that a patient's central line did not follow the course of any anatomic vein.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19(a)(5) and 43-34-8(a)(5), the Georgia Board may discipline a licensee who has had disciplinary action against him or her by any such lawful licensing authority other than the board.

4.

Respondent consents to the above findings of facts and waives any further findings of fact with respect to the above-styled matter.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The action taken by the Wisconsin Board constitutes sufficient grounds for the imposition of discipline upon Respondent's license to practice as a physician in the State of Georgia under O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapters 1 and 34, <u>as amended</u>. Respondent hereby waives any further conclusions of law with respect to the above-styled matter.

#### ORDER

The Georgia Board, having considered all the facts and circumstances of this case, hereby orders, and Respondent hereby agrees, that the following sanctions shall be imposed upon Respondent's license to practice as a physician in the State of Georgia:

1.

Within six months of the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent shall successfully complete six hours of education (CME) on the topic of the radiologic appearance and reporting for central lines. Respondent's compliance with the education requirement of the Wisconsin Board's order shall constitute compliance for the purposes of this order.

These hours shall be in addition to CME requirements for license renewal and may not be used to fulfill any continuing education hours for license renewal. Respondent shall provide

written evidence of successful completion of the six hours of CME to the Board within six (6) months of the effective date of this Order. Failure to complete the CME and provide evidence of completion to the Board shall constitute a violation of this Consent Order and may result in further disciplinary action. Said written evidence shall be sent to Georgia Composite Medical Board, located at 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, to the attention of the Executive Director.

2.

Respondent shall abide by all state and federal laws regulating the practice of medicine, the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Board, and the terms and conditions of this Consent Order. Respondent further agrees that any violation of this Consent Order shall be deemed to be sufficient to authorize the Board to order summary suspension of Respondent's license, pending further proceedings, pursuant to the provisions of the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-18(c)(1), or any other statute authorizing emergency action, but Respondent understands that Respondent shall be entitled to an expedited hearing to substantiate such violation, if the Board exercises such right.

3.

In addition to and in conjunction with any other sanction contained herein, this Consent

Order and dissemination thereof shall serve as a public reprimand of Respondent by the Georgia

Board.

4.

Respondent also understands that pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 34A, the contents of this Consent Order shall be placed on Respondent's Physician Profile. Furthermore, by executing this Consent Order, Respondent hereby agrees to permit the Georgia Board to

update the Physician's Profile reflecting this Consent Order.

5.

Respondent acknowledges that Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands its contents. Respondent understands that Respondent has the right to a hearing in this matter and freely, knowingly and voluntarily waives that right by entering into this Consent Order. Respondent understands and agrees that a representative of the Department of Law may be present during the Georgia Board's consideration of this Consent Order and that the Georgia Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order. Respondent further understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved and docketed by the Georgia Board. Respondent understands that this Consent Order, once approved and docketed, shall constitute a public record, evidencing disciplinary action by the Georgia Board that may be disseminated as such. However, if this Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding, or prejudice the right of the Georgia Board to adjudicate this matter. Respondent hereby consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

Approved this 15 day of December, 20\_\_\_.

(Signatures on following page)



#### GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

BY;

MATTHEW W. NORMAN, M.D.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

DANIEL R. DORSEY

**Executive Director** 

CONSENTED TO:

ROBERY LEBARON GRANT STEARS, M.D.

Respondent

AS TO THE SIGNATURE OF

ROBERT LEBARON GRANT STEARS, M.D.:

Sworn to and subscribed before me

This, \_\_\_\_day of \_

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 10 29-23

SEAL

KAREN EP STEARS
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at Gillings, Montana
My Commission Expires
October 29, 2023

#### BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

#### STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)		GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD
TRISTAN SEVDY, M.D., License No. 76172,	) ) )	DOCKET NO. :	DEC 15 2022 DOCKET NUMBER:
Respondent.	)		2020000

#### PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Georgia Board") and TRISTAN SEVDY, M.D. ("Respondent"), the following disposition of this disciplinary matter is entered pursuant to the provisions of the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-13(a)(4), as amended.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1.

Respondent is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Georgia and was so licensed at all times relevant to the matters stated herein.

2.

Respondent, while employed with at least one telemedicine company, prescribed medications to multiple individuals outside of an established physician-patient relationship. At least two of such individuals resided in the State of Georgia. Specifically:

3.

On or about September 11, 2020, Respondent prescribed Patient D.S. Desonide 0.05% Ointment and Lidocaine-Prilocaine Cream without performing an in-person examination nor performing an examination using technology that is equal to or superior to an examination done personally by a provider.

4.

On or around September 9, 2020, Respondent prescribed Patient L.R. Ciclopirox 0.77% Gel, Lidocaine-Prilocaine Cream, and Desonide 0.05% Ointment without performing an inperson examination nor performing an examination using technology that is equal to or superior to an examination done personally.

5.

Respondent's aforementioned conduct departed from and failed to conform to the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in violation of Georgia's laws and the Board's rules. *See* Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 360-3-.07 (Practice Through Electronic or Other Such Means), and O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19(a) and 43-34-8(a).

6.

Respondent admits to the above findings of facts and waives any further findings of fact with respect to the above-styled matter.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Respondent's conduct constitutes sufficient grounds for the imposition of discipline upon Respondent's license to practice as a physician in the State of Georgia under O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapters 1 and 34, <u>as amended</u>. Respondent hereby waives any further conclusions of law with respect to the above-styled matter.

#### <u>ORDER</u>

The Board, having considered all the facts and circumstances of this case, hereby orders, and Respondent hereby agrees, that the following sanctions shall be imposed upon Respondent's

license to practice as a physician in the State of Georgia:

1.

Within **thirty** (30) days of the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent shall submit to the Board a fine of two thousand and five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) to be paid in full by cashier's check or money order made payable to the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Said fine shall be sent to the Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303, to the attention of the Executive Director. Failure to pay the entire amount within (30) days of the effective date of this Consent Order shall be considered a violation of this Consent Order and shall result in further sanctioning of Respondent's license, upon substantiation thereof.

2.

Within six (6) months of the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent shall successfully complete ten (10) hours of continuing medical education ("CME") course(s) focusing on ethics and ten (10) hours of CME course(s) focusing on prescribing. Said CME may be completed online and shall be in addition to the CME required of all Georgia physicians. Respondent shall provide written evidence of successful completion of the CME to the Board within six (6) months of the effective date of this Order. Failure to provide written evidence of successful completion of the CME within six (6) months of the effective date of this Consent Order shall be considered a violation of this Consent Order and shall result in further sanctioning of Respondent's license, upon substantiation thereof.

3.

In addition to and in conjunction with any other sanction contained herein, this Consent Order and dissemination thereof shall serve as a **public reprimand** of Respondent by the Board.

Respondent also understands that pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 34A, the contents of this Consent Order shall be placed on Respondent's Physician Profile. Furthermore, by executing this Consent Order, Respondent hereby agrees to permit the Board to update the Physician's Profile reflecting this Consent Order.

5.

Respondent acknowledges that Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands its contents. Respondent understands that Respondent has the right to a hearing in this matter and freely, knowingly and voluntarily waives that right by entering into this Consent Order. Respondent understands and agrees that a representative of the Department of Law may be present during the Georgia Board's consideration of this Consent Order and that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order. Respondent further understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved and docketed by the Board. Respondent understands that this Consent Order, once approved and docketed, shall constitute a public record, evidencing disciplinary action by the Board that may be disseminated as such. However, if this Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding, or prejudice the right of the Board to adjudicate this matter. Respondent hereby consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

(Signatures on the following page)

# Approved this 15 day of December, 2022

#### GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD



BY.

MATTHEW W. NORMAN, M.D. Chairperson

ATTEST:

DANIEL R. DORSE Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:

TRISTAN SEVDY,

Respondent

AS TO THE SIGNATURE OF TRISTAN SEVDY, M.D.:

Sworn to and subscribed before me This, 10<sup>17</sup> day of OLC 20 20 22

NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires: /// 14/2025

## BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

\*

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

\* Docket No.

HENRY WATSON, JR., M.D., License No. 25399.

Respondent.

\_

DEC 0 6 2022

DOCKET NUMBER:

#### VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

I, Henry Watson, Jr., M.D., holder of License No. 25399 to practice medicine in the State of Georgia pursuant to O.C.G.A. Ch. 34, T. 43, as amended, hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily surrender said license to the Georgia Composite Medical Board. I hereby acknowledge that this surrender shall be considered to be and have the same effect as a revocation of my license, and I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all right, title and privilege of practicing medicine in the State of Georgia, unless and until such time as my license may be reinstated, in the sole discretion of the Board.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the contents of this Voluntary Surrender. I understand that I have a right to a hearing in this matter, and I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily waive such right. I also understand that should the Board entertain any request for reinstatement, the Board shall have access to any investigative or medical information regarding me. I further understand that upon applying for reinstatement, it shall be incumbent upon me to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that I am able to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, and that the Board may investigate my conduct since the time of the surrender of my license. I understand and agree that any reinstatement of my license to practice medicine is a matter in the sole discretion of the Board and that the Board may deny any such reinstatement without identifying a reason for said denial.

This surrender shall become effective upon acceptance and docketing by the Board. I understand that this document will be considered to be a public record entered pursuant to O.C.G.A. §43-34-8(b)(1) and that this action shall be considered to be and may be disseminated as a final order of the Board.

[As to Respondent's signature:]
Sworn to and subscribed before me

This 25th day of November 2022.

NOTARY PURIT

My commission expires:

HENRY WATSON, JR., M.B.

NOTAP CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

#### ACCEPTANCE OF SURRENDER.

The voluntary surrender of License No. 25399 is hereby accepted by the Georgia Composite Medical Board, this bard of December \_\_\_\_\_2022.



GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

monde

BY:

MATTHEW W. NORMAN, M.D.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

DANIEL R. DORSEY

**Executive Director**