December 2020 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 four public orders in December 2020. To view each Board order, click on the licensee's name below.

1. Michael Sean Dempsey, MD
   60251
   Physician
   Public Consent Order

2. Linda Michelle Petrovich, MD
   54408
   Physician
   Public Consent Order

3. Odell P. Still, DO
   37085
   Physician
   Public Consent Order

4. Vishal Verma, MD
   61677
   Physician
   Public Board Order
BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD  
STATE OF GEORGIA  

IN THE MATTER OF:  
MICHAEL SEAN DEMPESEY, M.D.,  
License No. 60251,  
Respondent.  

DOCKET NO.:  

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER  

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

FINDINGS OF FACT  

1.  
Respondent is licensed to practice medicine as a physician in the State of Georgia and was so licensed at all times relative to the matters herein.  

2.  
On or about June 10, 2020, Respondent provided medical care to patient K.B.  

3.  
On or about June 13, 2020 and June 14, 2020, at a social gathering at Respondent’s home, Respondent engaged in inappropriate conduct with patient K.B., in violation of O.C.G.A. § 43-34-8(a)(7), (10), and (15) and Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 360-3-.02(8).  

4.  
Respondent neither admits nor denies Finding of Fact No. (3), above, but Respondent agrees that the Board has the authority to enter this Order and enters such Order voluntarily in order to resolve the pending allegations.  

Page 1 of 5
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 pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 43-34-8 and 43-1-19. Respondent waives any further conclusions of law with respect to the above styled matter.

ORDER

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

1.

Within six (6) months of the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent shall enroll in, complete, and provide evidence to the Board of completion of the following:

(a) A course approved by the Board in the area of maintaining professional boundaries, such as a course offered by Professional Boundaries, Inc.; and

(b) Ten (10) hours of continuing education approved by the Board in the area of ethics.

Such coursework and hours shall be in addition to, and shall NOT be used to satisfy, continuing education hours for license renewal purposes. Respondent’s failure to complete the course and hours and/or to provide evidence of completion of the course and hours shall be considered a violation of this Order and grounds for further disciplinary action, including revocation.

2.

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent shall pay a fine in the amount of three thousand dollars ($3,000.00) for unprofessional conduct, 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 Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 6th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, to the attention of the Executive Director. Failure to pay the entire amount by the 30th day shall be considered a violation of this Order and shall result in further sanctioning of Respondent's license, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof.

3.

Respondent shall abide by all State and Federal laws regulating the practice of medicine or relating to drugs, the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Composite Medical Board and the terms of this Consent Order. If Respondent shall fail to abide by such laws, rules or terms, or if it should appear from reports submitted to the Board that Respondent is otherwise unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, Respondent's license shall be subject to further discipline, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof after notice and hearing. 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 he shall be entitled to an expedited hearing to substantiate such violation(s), if the Board exercises such right.

4.

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.

5.

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 from the Board at
Respondent’s address of record within 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 of the Consent Order beginning on the effective date.

6.

Respondent 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 Profile reflecting this Consent Order.

7.

Approval of this Consent Order by the Georgia Composite Medical Board shall in no way be construed as condoning the Respondent’s conduct and shall not be construed as a waiver of any of the lawful rights possessed by the Board.

8.

Respondent acknowledges that he is represented by counsel and that he has read this Consent Order and understands its contents. Respondent understands that he has a right to a hearing in this matter, and freely, knowingly, and voluntarily waives that right. Respondent understands that the Consent Order will not become effective until approved and docketed by the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Respondent further understands and agrees that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file(s) and all relevant evidence in considering the Consent Order. Respondent further understands that the Consent Order, once approved, shall constitute a public record that may be disseminated as a disciplinary action of the Board. However, if the Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against
interest in the proceeding, or prejudice the right of the Board to adjudicate the matter.

Respondent consents to the terms and conditions contained herein.

Approved, this 30 day of November, 2020.

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

BY:  
BARBY J. SIMMONS, D.O.
Chairperson

ATTEST:
LASHARN HUGHES
Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:
MICHAEL SEAN DEMPSEY, M.D.
Respondent

[As to Respondent’s signature only:]  
Sworn to and subscribed before me  
This ___ day of ______________, 20__.

______________________________
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:

#1217825
BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

LINDA MICHELLE PETROVICH, M.D.,
License Number 54408,
Respondent.

DOCKET NO. ________________________________

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Georgia Board") and LINDA MICHELLE PETROVICH, 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. The Respondent’s license was issued on March 5, 2004, and is set to expire on August 31, 2021.

2.

On or about December 10, 2018, the Commonwealth of Kentucky Board of Medicine, issued a Consent Order (Case No. 1892), imposing disciplinary action against Respondent, to address quality of care concerns related to her radiology practice, which resulted in subsequent sanctions by the California, Illinois and Arizona Medical Boards.
3.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The actions taken by licensing boards in Kentucky, Illinois, Arizona and California constitute 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, as amended. 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.

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.

2.

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.

3.

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.

4.

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.

(Signatures on the following page)
Approved this 4th day of December, 2020

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

BY:
BARBY J. SIMMONS, D.O.
Chairperson

ATTEST:
LASHARN HUGHES, MBA
Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:
LINDA MICHELLE PETROVICH, M.D.,
Respondent

AS TO THE SIGNATURE OF
LINDA MICHELLE PETROVICH, M.D
Sworn to and subscribed before me
This, 4th day of November, 2020.

NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires: 10-24-2024

LIAM SCHRAMM
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
ID # 50115356
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 24, 2024
BEFORE THE COMPOSITE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

ODELL P. STILL, MD, DO
License # 37085
Respondent.

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") and ODELL P. STILL, MD, 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

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.

On or about November 2017, the Board received information that Respondent over-prescribed controlled substances to Patient D.B. for back pain, insomnia, and bipolar disorder.

3.

A Board-approved peer reviewer reviewed Respondent's care of Patient D.B. and concluded that Respondent departed from and failed to conform to the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in the areas of diagnosis, treatment, and recordkeeping in the following ways:

   (a) Diagnosis: Respondent's medical records for D.B. failed to reflect an independent evaluation or discussion regarding diagnoses for the nature of the injury causing the patient’s back pain, insomnia, and ADD.
(b) **Treatment:** Respondent's medical records for D.B. indicated that on or about December 29, 2016, the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) was reviewed and it reflected that D.B. had been going to multiple providers for oxycodone. However, Respondent did not discuss this with D.B. and prescribed Percocet. On or about March 16, 2017, Respondent ordered a Complete Peripheral Drug Screen, Complete Blood Count, UA, EKG, Comprehensive Metabolic Panel, Lipid Panel, Full Thyroid Panel, Prostate-Specific Antigen Test, Venipuncture, and Lumbar X-rays; however, there wasn't any documentation in the medical records to explain why these tests were necessary.

(c) **Recordkeeping:** Most of Respondent's medical records for D.B. are templates, including the following statement: “all non-documented systems have been reviewed and are considered negative.” This statement does not indicate what systems Respondent reviewed. The medical record also lacked a detailed history of the present illness (HPI).

4.

The Board approved peer reviewer reviewed Respondent's care for nine other patients who Respondent had treated (A.M., J.B., J.R., L.D., L.R., M.K., M.R., and V.C.) and concluded that Respondent departed from and failed to conform to the minimum standard of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in the areas of diagnosis, treatment, and recordkeeping, including but not limited to the following:

(a) **Diagnosis:** Respondent's medical records for these patients failed to reflect independent evaluations or discussions regarding diagnoses.

(b) **Treatment:** Respondent's medical records for nine patients indicate that Respondent failed to obtain necessary lab work for pain management patients; Respondent failed to take action with failed drug screens; Respondent failed to take
actions after PDMP reviews indicated that patients had been using multiple providers and pharmacies to obtain opioids; Respondent failed to make necessary referrals and consultations for other medical issues that did not involve pain management; and Respondent failed to discuss the effects opioids may have on other medical issues.

(c) **Recordkeeping:** Most of Respondent's medical records for these nine patients were templates, including but not limited to the following statement: "all non-documented systems have been reviewed and are considered negative." This statement does not indicate what systems Respondent reviewed. The medical records also lacked detailed HPI's.

5.

Respondent waives any further findings of fact with respect to the above-styled matter and enters into this consent order to settle this matter.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Respondent's conduct constitute 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.

**ORDER**

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:

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**GCMB**

**DEC 18 2020**
1.

Respondent shall not prescribe schedule II controlled substances for two years from the date of the docketing of this order, and shall not prescribe Schedule III controlled substances for one year from the date of the docketing of this Order. Furthermore, Respondent agrees to imposition of these restrictions upon Respondent’s DEA prescribing registration. Respondent may use his DEA registration to prescribe, administer, order or dispense Schedule IV and V controlled substances in the usual course of Respondent’s practice.

2.

Respondent may, consistent with the aforementioned timeframe, petition the Board to lift the restrictions on his prescription drug prescribing privileges. If the Board approves the lifting of these restrictions, Respondent may apply for reinstatement of his full DEA registration or a new DEA registration consistent with any existing, new or additional limitations imposed by the Board. If it is determined upon substantiation, that Respondent has violated any conditions set forth in this Order, the Board may impose additional sanctions, which may include, but are not limited to the revocation of Respondent’s license to practice medicine in the State of Georgia. In any event, the restrictions shall remain in effect pending a final determination by the Board and notification that these limitations have been lifted.

If the initial petition or any subsequent petitions are in whole or in part denied, said denial of Respondent’s petition or the imposition of terms and conditions shall not be a contested case under O.C.G.A. Title 50, Chapter 13. However, Respondent shall be entitled to an appearance before the Board or a committee of the Board.
3.

During the restriction period, the Medical Director or another Board representative/investigator may periodically review and inspect Respondent’s records. The representative is authorized to review and inspect these records at any reasonable time and as often as the representative deems necessary. Respondent shall have the right to be present during such inspection of records, and the patients’ privacy and confidentially rights shall be maintained. Respondent shall be available, upon reasonable notice, for personal interviews with the Medical Director or other representative of the Board. Failure of Respondent to be reasonably available for inspection of his records or for personal interviews with a Board representative shall be considered a violation of this Consent Order.

4.

Respondent shall supply a copy of this Consent Order, once approved and docketed by the Georgia Board, and within ten (10) days from the receipt of the docketed copy by Respondent, to each hospital or other institution in Georgia where Respondent maintains staff privileges of any kind, and prior to engaging in the practice of medicine in Georgia, Respondent shall supply a copy of this Consent Order, if approved and docketed by the Georgia Board, to any person with whom Respondent becomes or is associated in practice, including other physicians or physician assistants or to any person or entity for whom Respondent is employed as a physician in the State of Georgia. Respondent shall also be required to disclose the existence of and provide a copy of this Consent Order to such individuals or entities in connection with any future application for institutional appointment, associated practice, utilization of a physician’s assistant, or employment as a physician in the State of Georgia while this Consent Order is in effect. By executing this Consent Order, Respondent specifically
consents to any such individuals or entities reporting to the Board information that would affect
Respondent's ability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients,
notwithstanding any privilege provided by state or federal law.

5.

Beginning on the date this Order is docketed, the Respondent's license shall be restricted
so that he shall not in any manner own, have a partnership, operate, or practice in a pain
management clinic in Georgia. "Pain management clinic" means a medical practice advertising
'treatment of pain' or utilizing 'pain' in the name of the clinic or a medical practice or clinic with
greater than 50 percent of its annual patient population being treated for chronic pain for
nonterminal conditions by the use of Schedule II or III controlled substances. This term shall not
include any clinic or practice owned, in whole or in part, or operated by a hospital licensed
pursuant to Chapter 7 of Title 31 or by a health system or any ambulatory surgical center, skilled
nursing facility, hospice, or home health agency licensed pursuant to Chapter 7 of Title 31.

In addition, Respondent, shall not be authorized to treat a patient for chronic,
nonmalignant pain. "Chronic pain" shall mean pain requiring treatment which has persisted for a
period of ninety days or greater in a year, but shall not include perioperative pain, i.e., pain
immediately preceding and immediately following a surgical procedure, when such perioperative
pain is being treated by licensed health care professional acting within the scope of his or her
license, in connection with a surgical procedure.

Five years after this Order is docketed, Respondent may petition the Board to lift this
restriction on his right to work at or be associated with a pain clinic. If the Board denies the
Respondent's petition to lift this restriction, the Respondent may petition the denial or the
imposition of terms and conditions at one year intervals. If the petition in whole or in part is
denied, said denial of Respondent’s petition or the imposition of terms and conditions shall not be a contested case under O.C.G.A. Title 50, Chapter 13. However, Respondent shall not be entitled to an appearance before the Board or a committee of the Board. In any event, the restriction set forth in this paragraph shall remain in effect pending Respondent’s receipt of a written order from the Board to the contrary. If the Board lifts this restriction or any part of this restriction, the Board may impose such additional terms and conditions on Respondent’s right to be involved in a pain clinic and to treat patients for chronic, nonmalignant pain.

6.

Within one (1) year from the docketing date of this consent order, Respondent shall successfully complete, at his own expense, the Mini-Residency entitled “Appropriate Prescribing of Controlled Substances” sponsored by the Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia. This coursework shall be in addition to CME requirements required of all Georgia physicians for renewal of their license. Within one year from the docketing of this consent order, Respondent shall submit proof of completion of this mini-residency to the attention of the Executive Director, Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303, or any subsequent address of the Board.

7.

In addition to the CME required of all Georgia physicians as a condition of renewal and the Mini-Residency referenced in paragraph (1) above, Respondent shall obtain ten (10) hours of CME in record keeping. Prior to obtaining the CME, Respondent shall submit the title of the course(s) he plans to attend and information concerning the course(s) to the Board. Within six (6) months from the docketing of this Consent Order, Respondent shall submit to the Board proof of completion of said additional ten (10) hours. All reports and submissions required
under this Consent Order shall be sent to the attention of the attention of the Executive Director, Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303, or any subsequent address of the Board.

8.

Respondent shall submit to the Board a fine in the amount of five thousand dollars ($5,000.00) 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 one (1) year of the effective date of this Order. Failure to pay the fine as provided herein 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.

9.

All reports and submissions required under this Consent Order shall be sent to the attention of the Executive Director, Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303 or any subsequent address of the Board.

10.

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

11.

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.
12.

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 11th day of December, 2020.
GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

BY:  
BARRY J. SIMMONS, D.O.  
Chairperson

ATTEST:  
LASHARN HUGHES, MBA  
Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:  
ODELL P. STILL, M.D.  
Respondent

AS TO SIGNATURE OF  
ODELL P. STILL, M.D.  
Sworn to and Subscribed  
before me this  
9th day  
of  

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:

1206639
BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:
VISHAL VERMA, M.D.,
License No. 61677,
Respondent.

DOCKET NO. 20210021

PUBLIC BOARD ORDER

WHEREAS, the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") entered a Public Consent Order ("Order"), Docket No. 20210021, in the above-styled matter on October 5, 2020 which imposed terms on Respondent's medical license that included but were not limited to the following: a fine and completion of 10 hours of continuing medical education in the area of ethics.

WHEREAS, Respondent has petitioned the Board to terminate the Order and the Board has determined that the Respondent paid the fine and continuing medical education hours.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board hereby enters this Order of Completion to indicate that Respondent has successfully completed the terms of the Public Consent Order, Docket No. 20210021. Respondent's license is in good standing.

SO ENTERED, this 8 day of December, 2020.

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

(BOARD SEAL)

BY:
BARBY SIMMONS, DO
Chairperson

ATTEST:
LASHARN HUGHES
Executive Director