April 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: <u>latisha.bias@dch.ga.gov</u>

The Board issued **two** public orders in **April 2020**. To view the Board orders, click on the licensee's name below.

Tashawna Denise Stokes, MD
68858
Physician
Public Consent Order

2. The Pain Relief Center of Georgia457Pain Management ClinicPublic Consent Order for Reinstatement

BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD STATE OF GEORGIA MEDICAL BOARD

APR 02 2020

IN THE MATTER OF:
TASHAWNA DENISE STOKES, MD, License No. 68858,
Respondent

DOCKET NO:

DOCKET NUMBER:

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

*

*

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Georgia Board") and TASHAWNA DENISE STOKES ("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), <u>as amended</u>.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1.

The 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.

On or about November 20, 2019, in the United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division, in the case of *United States of America v. TaShawna Denise Stokes*, M.D., Case Number 1:19-cr-289-TWT, Respondent was sentenced after pleading guilty to one count of Dispensing a Controlled Substance Without the Written Prescription of a Practitioner, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 829 (a) and 842(a)(1). The underlying offense is a misdemeanor and involved one prescription for Oxycodone in or about July, 2014. Respondent was sentenced to probation for a term of five years, one year of which is to be served in home confinement. Terms

of probation include, but are not limited to, payment of a fine, two hundred hours of community service, and completion of forty hours of continuing education, in addition to mandated continuing education required for license renewal, regarding the prescribing of controlled substances.

3.

Respondent's conviction falls within the provisions of O.C.G.A. \S 43-1-19(a)(3), (6), and/or (8) and/or 43-34-8(a)(4), (7), and/or (10) and O.C.G.A. § 16-13-111, for which the Board is statutorily authorized to discipline a licensee.

4.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Respondent's conduct and/or conviction 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. Chapters 1 and 34, Title 43; and under O.C.G.A. § 16-13-111. O.C.G.A. § 16-13-111(b)(1) provides that, upon the first conviction, the license shall be suspended for a period of not less than three (3) months, however, in the case of a conviction for a misdemeanor, the licensing authority shall be authorized to impose a lesser sanction or no sanction. The Respondent waives any further conclusions of law with respect to this matter.

ORDER

The Georgia Composite Medical Board, having considered all the facts and circumstances surrounding this case, hereby orders, and the Respondent hereby agrees, that the following sanctions shall be imposed upon Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Georgia: 1.

Beginning on April 13, 2020, Respondent's license shall be suspended for a period of six (6) weeks. During the period of suspension, the Respondent shall not use the title, "MD," or otherwise engage in the practice of medicine. The Respondent is entitled to renew Respondent's license during the period of suspension. Failure to do so shall result in the revocation of Respondent's license by operation of law.

2.

Immediately following the six (6) week suspension period, on or about May 25, 2020, the Respondent's license shall be placed on a period of probation. During the period of probation, Respondent shall abide by all laws and rules governing the practice of medicine, the terms of her criminal probation, and the terms of this Order.

3.

No sooner than one (1) year from the placing of the license on probation, Respondent may petition the Board to terminate probation. Upon consideration of the Respondent's petition, the Board may enter an order terminating the probation of Respondent's license or the Board may deny Respondent's petition with reasonable grounds. The Board may require Respondent to meet personally with the Board or a committee thereof regarding her petition. The Board may review the investigative file, and all relevant evidence in considering Respondent's petition. Termination of probation shall be within the sole discretion of the Board. In no case will the denial of a petition submitted by Respondent be considered a contested case under O.C.G.A. T. 50, Ch. 13, but Respondent may request an appearance before the Board as in a non-contested case. In addition to and in conjunction with any other sanction contained herein, within three (3) months of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall provide evidence to the Board of successful completion of the course entitled, "Appropriate Prescribing of Controlled Substances" sponsored by the Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia. This course work shall <u>not</u> apply to the continuing education requirements for license renewal.

5.

This Consent Order and dissemination thereof shall constitute a public order of the Board.

6.

If the Respondent shall fail to abide by all state and federal laws relating to drugs and regulating the practice of registered professional medicine in the State of Georgia, the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Composite Medical Board, the terms of her criminal probation, and/or the terms of this Consent Order, Respondent's license may be further sanctioned or revoked, upon substantiation thereof.

7.

Respondent 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.

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.

9.

The Respondent acknowledges that she is represented by counsel in this matter, and that she 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 such right by entering into this Consent Order. Respondent understands that this 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 and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order. Respondent understands that this Consent Order, once approved and docketed, shall constitute a public record, evidencing disciplinary action by the Board. However, if the Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding or prejudice the Board's ability to adjudicate this matter. Respondent hereby consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

Approved this <u>and</u> day of <u>April</u> . 2020.

BY:

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

Cellins MD

GRETCHEN COLLINS, MD Chairperson



Page 5 of 6

8.

ATTEST:

CONSENTED TO:

X

LASHARN HUGHES Executive Director

TASHAWNA DE

TASHAWNA DENISE STOKES Respondent

[As to Respondent's signature:] Respondent swore to and subscribed before me this **30th** day of <u>Manal</u>, 2020.

blan s)

NOTARY PUBLIC My Commission expires:

10 Lecember 2021



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BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

STATE OF GEORGIA		GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD	
IN THE MATTER OF:	*		
	*	APR 23 2020	
THE PAIN RELIEF CENTER OF GEORGIA	*	DOCKET NUMBER	
License No.: 457	*	DOCKET NUMBER: 2020 0130	
Applicant.	*		

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER FOR REINSTATEMENT

By agreement of the Georgia Composite Medical Board ("Board") and The Pain Relief Center of Georgia (also referred to herein as "Applicant"), the following disposition of the matter is entered into pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A., Title 43, Chapter 34, <u>as amended</u>.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1.

The Pain Relief Center of Georgia, was initially registered as a 100% physician owned pain management clinic on or about October 5, 2017 and issued registration #457.

2.

Applicant was actively licensed between October 5, 2017 and June 30, 2019. On or about October 1, 2019 Applicant's license was revoked by operation of law. Applicant continued to operate as a Pain Clinic until making application for reinstatement on March 9, 2020.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

There are sufficient grounds for the Board to deny the application and/or to impose sanctions or conditions on Applicant's pain management clinic registration under O.C.G.A. Ch. 34, T. 43, <u>as amended</u>, O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19(a), and the Rules of the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Applicant waives any further conclusions of law with respect to this matter.

<u>ORDER</u>

The Georgia Composite Medical Board, having considered all the particular facts and circumstances of this case, hereby orders, and Applicant hereby agrees, that Applicant shall be granted a pain management clinic registration in the State of Georgia subject to the following terms and conditions:

1.

Based on the failure to timely renew their pain management clinic registration, Applicant shall submit to the Board a fine in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to be paid in full within thirty (30) days. Payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check or money order made payable to the Georgia Composite Medical Board and shall be sent to the Board, c/o Executive Director, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 6th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. The Applicant's failure to pay such fine as provided in this Order may result in the

3.

summary suspension of the pain management clinic license pending a hearing to revoke the license.

2.

Applicant shall abide by the terms of this Order, all State and Federal laws relating to drugs and recordkeeping and otherwise regulating pain management clinics, and the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Failure to abide by the terms of this Order, all State and Federal laws relating to drugs and recordkeeping and otherwise regulating pain management clinics, and the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Composite Medical Board shall subject Applicant's license to further disciplinary action, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof.

3.

This Consent Order shall constitute a **PUBLIC** reprimand of the Board and will be disseminated as a public disciplinary action.

4.

Applicant, The Pain Relief Center of Georgia, acknowledges having read and understood the contents of this Consent Order. Applicant understands that Applicant has a right to an appearance in this matter, and Applicant freely, knowingly and voluntarily waives such right by entering into this Consent Order. Applicant understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved by the Georgia Composite Medical Board and docketed by the Executive Director of the Board. Applicant further understands that the Board shall have the authority to review the application and/or any investigative file and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order. Applicant further understands that this Consent Order, once approved, shall constitute a **PUBLIC** record which may be disseminated as a disciplinary action of the Board. If this Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding, or prejudice the ability of the Board to adjudicate this matter. Applicant consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

Approved, this 2 day of Ap(i), 2020.

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD



BY:

ATTEST:

Deteton Callins MD

GRETCHEN COLLINS, M.D. Chairperson

LaSHARN HUGHES, MBA

LaSHARN HUGHES, MBA Executive Director

Print Name:

Owner and On Behalf of Applicant,

The Pain Relief Center of Georgia

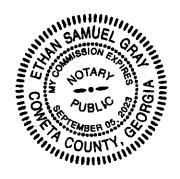
Signature

CONSENTED TO:

[As to Owner's signature:] Sworn to and subscribed before me This **21** day of **A**(**c**), 2020.

NOTARCHUBLIC

My commission expires: 9/5/85



GCMB APR 2 3 2020 Received

Allen no

Page 4 of 4