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

1. Tashawna Denise Stokes, MD
   68858
   Physician
   Public Consent Order

2. The Pain Relief Center of Georgia
   457
   Pain Management Clinic
   Public Consent Order for Reinstatement
BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

TASHAWNA DENISE STOKES, MD,
License No. 68858,

Respondent.

DOCKET NO: * *

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,

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. §§ 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.
4.

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 not 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.
8.

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 23rd day of April, 2020.

BY:

GRETCHEN COLLINS, MD
Chairperson

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD
ATTEST:
LASHARN HUGHES
Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:
TASHAWNA DENISE STOKES
Respondent

[As to Respondent’s signature:] Respondent swore to and subscribed before me this 30th day of March, 2020.

NARISSA KOTKAN
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission expires:
10 December 2021
BEFORE THE GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

THE PAIN RELIEF CENTER OF GEORGIA
  License No.: 457
  Applicant.

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER FOR REINSTATMENT

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, as amended.

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 licensure was revoked by operation of law. Applicant continued to operate as a Pain Clinic until making application for reinstatement on March 9, 2020.
3.

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, as amended, 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.

ORDER

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
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 _21_ day of _April_, 2020.

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

BY: 

GRETCHEN COLLINS, M.D.
Chairperson

ATTEST:

LaSHARN HUGHES, MBA
Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:

[As to Owner's signature:]
Sworn to and subscribed before me
This _21_ day of _April_, 2020.

NOTARY PUBLIC
My commission expires: 9/5/23

GCMB
APR 23 2020
Received