WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

HEATH J. MEYER, D.O., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0002196

Division of Legal Services and Compliance¹ Case No. 12 MED 281

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Heath J. Meyer, D.O. P.O. Box 1090 PMB 217 Minocqua, WI 54548

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708-8935

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Medical Examining Board (Board). The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent Heath J. Meyer, D.O., (dob August 6, 1969), is licensed in the State of Wisconsin to practice medicine and surgery, having license number 21-44334, first issued on April 8, 2002, with registration current through February 28, 2014. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is P.O. Box 1090, PMB 217, Minocqua, Wisconsin 54548.

¹ The Division of Legal Services and Compliance was formerly known as the Division of Enforcement.

- 1. On June 29, 2012, Park Pharmacy in Park Falls, Wisconsin notified the Park Falls Police Department of their concerns regarding a fraudulent prescription. The prescription was written to Respondent for 200 Tramadol 50mg. The initial concern was that the dosage could cause liver issues. This prompted the pharmacy to contact the prescribing physician who indicated she did not issue the prescription.
- 2. On June 30, 2012, the prescribing physician went to the pharmacy to review further tramadol prescriptions written to Respondent in her name and found there were more that she did not write. These prescriptions are as follows:

January 16, 2012	100 Tramadol 50mg
March 14, 2012	200 Tramadol 50mg
April 12, 2012	200 Tramadol 50mg
May 3, 2012	200 Tramadol 50mg
May 23, 2012	200 Tramadol 50mg
June 28, 2012	200 Tramadol 50mg

Pharmacy records indicate Respondent paid for the prescriptions in cash.

- 3. Tramadol (Ultram) is a centrally acting opioid analysesic used to treat moderate to severe pain and is not a controlled medication.
- 4. Further investigation by an investigator for the Department found Respondent had also forged prescriptions under another provider name from approximately February 2011 and continuing on through December 2011. These prescriptions included prescriptions for tramadol, hydrocodone/ APAP and Ondansetron.
- 5. Hydrocodone APAP is a combination of hydrocodone and acetaminophen. It is used to treat moderate to severe pain, and is a Schedule III Controlled Substance pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 961.16(2)(a)7.
- 6. Ondansetron is used to prevent nausea and vomiting caused by cancer chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and surgery.
- 7. Respondent admits he was obtaining prescriptions using a forged signature because he had developed a dependence due to intermittent, chronic back pain.
- 8. On July 16, 2012, Respondent entered into an inpatient drug treatment program which he successfully completed on August 13, 2012.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
- 2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Heath J. Meyer, D.O., engaged in unprofessional conduct pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § MED 10.02(2)(p).

- 3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Heath J. Meyer, D.O., engaged in unprofessional conduct pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § MED 10.02(2)(m).
- 4. As a result of the above conduct, Heath J. Meyer, D.O., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3).

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the attached Stipulation is accepted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, effective the date of this Order:

SUSPENSION

- A.1. The license of Heath J. Meyer, D.O., to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Wisconsin is SUSPENDED for an indefinite period.
- A.2 Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine and surgery in any capacity unless his suspension is stayed and he is in full compliance with this Order. Respondent shall mail or physically deliver all indicia of registration to the Department Monitor within 14 days of the effective date of this Order.
- A.3. Upon a showing by Respondent of continuous, successful compliance for a period of at least five (5) years with the terms of this Order, including at least 600 hours of active practice for every year the suspension is stayed, the Board may grant a petition by Respondent under paragraph D.4. for return of full licensure. At the Board's discretion, the 5-year period may be started anew for every substantial or repeated violation of any provision of Sections C or D of this Order.
- A.4. The Board may, on its own motion or at the request of the Department Monitor, grant full licensure at any time.

STAY OF SUSPENSION

- B.1. The suspension is hereby stayed based upon Respondent having provided proof, which was determined by the Board or its designee to be sufficient, that Respondent is in compliance with the provisions of Sections C and D of this Order.
- B.2. The Board or its designee may, without hearing, remove the stay upon receipt of information that Respondent is in substantial or repeated violation of any provision of Sections C or D of this Order. Repeated violation is defined as the multiple violation of the same provision or violation of more than one provision. The Board may, in conjunction with any removal of any stay, prohibit Respondent for a specified period of time from seeking a reinstatement of the stay under paragraph B.4.
- B.3. This suspension becomes reinstated immediately upon notice of the removal of the stay being provided to Respondent either by:
 - (a) Mailing to Respondent's last-known address provided to the Department of Safety and Professional Services pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.11; or

- (b) Actual notice to Respondent or Respondent's attorney.
- B.4. The Board or its designee may reinstate the stay, if provided with sufficient information that Respondent is in compliance with the Order and that it is appropriate for the stay to be reinstated. Whether to reinstate the stay shall be wholly in the discretion of the Board or its designee.
- B.5. If Respondent requests a hearing on the removal of the stay, a hearing shall be held using the procedures set forth in Wis. Admin. Code ch. SPS 2. The hearing shall be held in a timely manner with the evidentiary portion of the hearing being completed within 60 days of receipt of Respondent's request, unless waived by Respondent. Requesting a hearing does not stay the suspension during the pendency of the hearing process.

LIMITATIONS

The license to practice medicine and surgery of Respondent is LIMITED as set forth in Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3)(e), and as follows:

Treatment Required

- C.1. Respondent shall enter into and continue, in a drug and alcohol treatment program with a Treater acceptable to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall participate in, cooperate with, and follow all treatment recommended by Treater.
- C.2. Respondent shall immediately provide Treater with a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders.
- C.3. Treater shall be responsible for coordinating Respondent's rehabilitation, drug monitoring and treatment program as required under the terms of this Order, and shall immediately report any relapse, violation of any of the terms and conditions of this Order, and any suspected unprofessional conduct, to the Department Monitor (See D.1., below). If Treater is unable or unwilling to serve as Treater, Respondent shall immediately seek approval of a successor Treater by the Board or its designee.
- C.4. The rehabilitation program shall include individual and/or group therapy sessions at a frequency to be determined by Treater. Therapy may end only upon a determination by the Board or its designee after receiving a petition for modification as required by D.4., below.
- C.5. Treater shall submit formal written reports to the Department Monitor on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor. These reports shall assess Respondent's progress in the drug and alcohol treatment program. Treater shall report immediately to the Department Monitor any violation or suspected violation of this Order.

Releases

C.6. Respondent shall provide and keep on file with Treater, all treatment facilities and personnel, laboratories and collections sites current releases complying with state and federal laws. The releases shall allow the Board, its designee, and any employee of the Department of Safety and Professional Services, Division of Legal Services and

Compliance to: (a) obtain all urine, blood and hair specimen screen results and patient health care and treatment records and reports, and (b) discuss the progress of Respondent's treatment and rehabilitation. Copies of these releases shall immediately be filed with the Department Monitor.

AA/NA Meetings

C.7. Respondent shall attend Narcotics Anonymous meetings or an equivalent program for recovering professionals, at the frequency recommended by Treater. Attendance of Respondent at such meetings shall be verified and reported monthly to Treater and the Department Monitor.

Sobriety

- C.8. Respondent shall abstain from all personal use of alcohol.
- C.9. Respondent shall abstain from all personal use of controlled substances as defined in Wis. Stat. § 961.01(4), and all mood-altering or psychoactive substances, except when prescribed, dispensed or administered by a practitioner for a legitimate medical condition. Respondent shall disclose Respondent's drug and alcohol history and the existence and nature of this Order to the practitioner prior to the practitioner ordering the controlled substance. Respondent shall at the time the controlled substance is ordered immediately sign a release in compliance with state and federal laws authorizing the practitioner to discuss Respondent's treatment with, and provide copies of treatment records to, Treater and the Board or its designee.
- C.10. Respondent shall abstain from all use of over-the-counter medications or other substances which may mask consumption of controlled substances or of alcohol, create false positive screening results, or interfere with Respondent's treatment and rehabilitation.
- C.11. Within 24 hours of ingestion or administration, Respondent shall report to Treater and the Department Monitor all medications and drugs, over-the-counter or prescription, taken by Respondent, shall identify the person or persons who prescribed, dispensed, administered or ordered said medications or drugs, and shall provide the Department Monitor with a copy of the prescription. If Respondent has not provided a release as required by C.9 above, within 24 hours of a request by Treater or the Board or its designee, Respondent shall provide releases in compliance with state and federal laws. The releases shall authorize the person who prescribed, dispensed, administered or ordered the medication to discuss Respondent's treatment with, and provide copies of treatment records to, the requester.

Drug and Alcohol Screens

- C.12. Respondent shall enter into and continue in a drug and alcohol monitoring program which is approved by the Department pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 7.11 ("Approved Program"). A list of Approved Programs is available from the Department Monitor.
- C.13. At the time Respondent enrolls in the Approved Program, Respondent shall review all of the rules and procedures made available by the Approved Program. Failure to comply

with all requirements for participation in drug and alcohol monitoring established by the Approved Program – including any positive test for any controlled substance or alcohol – is a substantial violation of this Order. The requirements shall include:

- (a) Contact with the Approved Program as directed on a daily basis, including vacations, weekends and holidays.
- (b) Production of a urine specimen at a collection site designated by the Approved Program within five (5) hours of notification of a test.
- C.14. The Approved Program shall require the testing of urine specimens at a frequency of not less than 48 times per year, for the first year of this Order. After the first year, the frequency may be reduced only upon a determination by the Board or its designee after receiving a petition for modification as required by D.4., below.
- C.15. The Department Monitor, Board or Board designee shall determine the tests to be performed upon the specimens. If any urine, blood or hair specimen is positive or suspected positive for any controlled substances or alcohol, Respondent shall promptly submit to additional tests or examinations as the Treater or the Board or its designee shall determine to be appropriate to clarify or confirm the positive or suspected positive test results.
- C.16. In addition to any requirement of the Approved Program, the Board or its designee may require Respondent to do any or all of the following: (a) submit additional urine specimens, (b) submit blood, hair or breath specimens, (c) furnish any specimen in a directly witnessed manner.
- C.17. All confirmed positive test results shall be presumed to be valid. Respondent must prove by a preponderance of the evidence an error in collection, testing or other fault in the chain of custody.
- C.18. The Approved Program shall submit information and reports to the Department Monitor in compliance with the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 7.11.

Controlled Substance Privileges

C.19. This Order does not impose any limitations on Respondent's prescribing, dispensing, administering or ordering of controlled substances.

Reporting Required

- C.20. It is the responsibility of Respondent to promptly notify the Department Monitor of any suspected violations of any of the terms and conditions of this Order.
- C.21. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders immediately to supervisory personnel where Respondent is engaged in the practice of medicine or surgery as defined at Wis. Stat. § 448.01(9).
- C.22. It is Respondent's responsibility to arrange for written reports from her employer or practice partner(s) to be provided to the Department Monitor on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor. These reports shall assess Respondent's work performance, and shall include the number of hours of active practice worked during that quarter.

C.23. Respondent shall arrange for agreement by his employer or practice partner(s) to immediately report to the Board and to the Treater any conduct or condition of Respondent that may constitute a violation of this Order or a danger to the public.

MISCELLANEOUS

Department Monitor

D.1. Any requests, petitions, reports and other information required by this Order shall be mailed, e-mailed, faxed or delivered to:

Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone: (608) 267-3817; Fax: (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

Required Reporting by Respondent

- D.2. Respondent is responsible for compliance with all of the terms and conditions of this Order, including the timely submission of reports by others. Respondent shall promptly notify the Department Monitor of any failures of the Treater, treatment facility, Approved Program or collection sites to conform to the terms and conditions of this Order. Respondent shall promptly notify the Department Monitor of any violations of any of the terms and conditions of this Order by Respondent. Additionally, every three (3) months, the Respondent shall notify the Department Monitor of the Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of the Order, and shall provide the Department Monitor with a current address and home telephone number.
- D.3. Respondent shall report to the Board any change of employment status, residence, address or telephone number within five (5) days of the date of a change.

Change of Treater or Approved Program by Board

D.4. If the Board or its designee determines the Treater or Approved Program has performed inadequately or has failed to satisfy the terms and conditions of this Order, the Board or its designee may direct that Respondent continue treatment and rehabilitation under the direction of another Treater or Approved Program.

Petitions for Modification of Limitations or Termination of Order

D.5. Respondent may petition the Board for modification of the terms of this Order or termination, however, no such petition for modification shall occur earlier than one year from the date of this Order, no such petition shall be made any earlier than three months from the date the Board has acted on the last such petition, and no such petition for termination shall occur other than in compliance with paragraph A.3. Any such petition for modification shall be accompanied by a written recommendation from Respondent's Treater expressly supporting the specific modifications sought. Denial of a petition in

whole or in part shall not be considered a denial of a license within the meaning of Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a), and Respondent shall not have a right to any further hearings or proceedings on the denial.

Costs of Compliance

D.6. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs and expenses incurred in conjunction with the monitoring, screening, supervision and any other expenses associated with compliance with the terms of this Order. Being dropped from a program for non-payment is a violation of this Order.

Costs of Proceeding

D.7. Respondent shall pay costs of \$1,000.00 to the Department of Safety and Professional Services, within ninety (90) days of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to timely submit full payment of costs, Respondent's license SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has paid them in full, together with any accrued interest.

Additional Discipline

D.8. In addition to any other action authorized by this Order or law, violation of any term of this Order may be the basis for a separate disciplinary action pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3).

12/12/12

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

By: A Member of the Board

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