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IN THE MATTER OF
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST
PAUL GOCHIS, M.D.,

Respondent

ORDER RENEWING THE STAY AND MODIFYING THE LIMITED LICENSE

On February 22, 1996, the Medical Examining Board issued its Final Decision and Order in the above-captioned matter. By the terms of the board's order, respondent's license to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin suspended for a period of not less than five years with provision for granting successive three-month stays of the suspension upon submission of proof satisfactory to the board that Dr. Gochis has continued his sobriety, that he has continued to successfully participate in a treatment and rehabilitation program satisfactory to the board, and that he is able to safely and reliably practice as a physician and surgeon.

At its meeting of October 24, 1996, the board considered Dr. Gochis' request, through his attorney, Michael Schaalman, that he be granted a stay of the suspension. Also considered was a letter dated August 29, 1996, from Dr. Charles J. Engel, of the Professional Recovery Network, reporting on Dr. Gochis' progress in recovery. The board granted the request and, by its Order dated November 5, 1996, stayed the suspension of the license for a period of three months.

By letter dated January 24, 1997, Dr. Gochis petitioned for an additional three month stay of suspension, and petitioned as well for a reduction in the number of urine screens to one per week and the number of therapy sessions to one every two weeks. That petition was supported by Dr. Engel. The board considered the request at its meeting of February 26, 1997, and granted the petition by its Order dated March 12, 1997.

By letter dated June 4, 1997, Dr. Gochis requested a renewal of the stay of suspension. He also notified the board that he was relocating to accept a residency program in Michigan. He therefore requested that his limited license be modified to permit him to prescribe, dispense and administer controlled substances; to permit a change in his drug monitoring program consistent with the procedures established by the Michigan Medical Board; and to permit him to change his supervising health care provider. The board considered the requests at its meeting of June 25, 1997, and, by Order dated July 7, 1997, denied the request to permit Dr. Gochis to prescribe and dispense controlled substances, but granted the remaining requests.

On August 21, 1997, November 19, 1997, and February 25, 1998, the board granted Dr. Gochis' requests for further renewals of the stay of suspension of his license.

Dr. Gochis appeared before the board on May 21, 1998, as required by the board's order. At that time, Dr. Gochis requested that the number of required urine screens be reduced to two screens per month with an additional screen required in each quarter. The board considered the request at that meeting, and granted the request by its Order dated May 28, 1998.

On September 24, 1998, the board considered Dr. Gochis' request for another renewal of the stay. the board granted the request by its order dated october 1, 1998.

By letter dated November 21, 1998, Dr. Gochis requested a further stay of the suspension of his license, and requested as well that the requirement that he attend group therapy be terminated. The board considered the requests at its meeting of December 16, 1998.

Based upon Dr. Gochis' requests and other information of record, the board orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the stay of the suspension of the license of Paul Gochis, M.D. to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin is hereby extended for three months.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the requirement set forth in the board's Final decision and Order dated February 22, 1996, that he participate in individual and/or group therapy is hereby terminated.

Dated this 18th day of December, 1998.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

by Wanda Roever

Board Secretary

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