

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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<http://ccap.courts.state.wi.us/InternetCourtAccess> and <http://www.courts.state.wi.us/wscga>

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

THOMAS R. ROCCO, M.D.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
:
:

ORDER 0006501

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 MED 002

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

Thomas R. Rocco, M.D.
14 Hammel Court
Portsmouth, RI 02871

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board
P.O. Box 8366
Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

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

1. Respondent Thomas R. Rocco, M.D., (DOB July 6, 1967), is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice medicine and surgery, having license number 47570-20, first issued on November 9, 2004, with registration current through October 31, 2019. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 14 Hammel Court, Portsmouth, Rhode Island 02871.

2. On December 12, 2018, the Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (Rhode Island Board) disciplined Respondent for failing to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice regarding Respondent's prescribing

practices for opioid and other controlled substances. The Rhode Island Board issued a Consent Order (Rhode Island Order) that reprimanded Respondent and required, *inter alia*, that Respondent comply with following:

- a. Payment of costs;
 - b. Successful completion of a Rhode Island Board-approved Continuing Medical Education (CME) in controlled substance prescribing within six months of the date of the Rhode Island Order; and
 - c. For a period of twelve months, a Rhode Island Board-approved monitor shall review the content and medical decision making for ten of Respondent's patients receiving controlled substances. Respondent shall ensure that the Rhode Island Board-approved monitor provides a monthly report to the Rhode Island Board;
3. Respondent did not report the Rhode Island Order to the Board.
4. On June 22 – 23, 2019, Respondent successfully completed the "*PBI Prescribing Course: Opioids, Pain Management and Addiction*" continuing education course for a total of 21 AMA PRA Category 1 credits, which fulfilled the Rhode Island Order's CME requirement.
5. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

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, Respondent Thomas R. Rocco, M.D., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.03(3)(a) by failing, within 30 days, to report to the board any final adverse action taken against the licensee's authority to practice medicine and surgery by another licensing jurisdiction concerned with the practice of medicine and surgery.
3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent Thomas R. Rocco, M.D., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.03(3)(c) by having any credential pertaining to the practice of medicine and surgery become subject to adverse determination by any agency of this or another state, or by any federal agency or authority.
4. As a result of the above conduct, Thomas R. Rocco, M.D., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Thomas R. Rocco, M.D., is REPRIMANDED.
3. The license to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin of Thomas R. Rocco, M.D., (license no. 47570-20) is LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Respondent is to maintain full and complete compliance with all terms, limitations, and conditions imposed against his physician license by the Rhode Island Board.
 - b. Respondent shall provide the State of Wisconsin Medical Examining Board with a copy of any document issued by the Rhode Island Board which alters the conditions of Respondent's continued practice of medicine in Rhode Island, including any document advising reinstatement of full licensure.
 - c. A determination by the Rhode Island Board that Respondent has violated any term, limitation, and/or condition imposed on his Rhode Island physician license, is deemed a violation for the purposes of the Board.
 - d. Upon Respondent providing proof sufficient to the Board, or its designee, that he has successfully complied with all terms and conditions of the Rhode Island Board Order and his license has been restored to full, unrestricted status, the Board or its designee shall issue an Order removing the limitation on Respondent's Wisconsin license.
4. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Thomas R. Rocco, M.D., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$382.00.
5. Proof of Rhode Island license being restored to full unrestricted status, and payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be sent by Respondent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

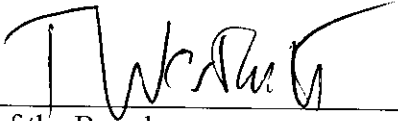
You may also submit this information and payment online via DSPS' Monitoring Case Management System, here: <https://app.wi.gov/DSPSMonitoring>

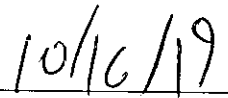
6. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (no. 47570-20), or Respondent's right to renew his license, may, in the discretion of the Board or its

designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Board may, in addition and/or in the alternative refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.

7. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

By: 
A Member of the Board


Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

THOMAS R. ROCCO, M.D.,
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION
ORDER 0006501

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 MED 002

Respondent Thomas R. Rocco, M.D. and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
- the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondent;
- the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondent's own behalf;
- the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
- the right to petition for rehearing; and
- all other applicable rights afforded to Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division

PAGE 2/37 REC'D 9/19/2019 12:06:20 PM Central Daylight Time] PRD 082837401

of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.



Thomas R. Rocco, M.D., Respondent
14 Hammel Court
Portsmouth, RI 02871
License no. 47570-20

9-19-2019

Date



Renee Parton, Attorney
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

9/19/2019

Date

PAGE 3/37 REC'D 9/19/2019 12:05:20 PM Central Daylight Time] PRD 082837401