

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at:

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE : ORDER IMPOSING
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST : ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS
: :
JOSEPH D. SPENNETTA, M.D., : ORDER0007554
RESPONDENT. :
:

TO: JOSEPH D SPENNETTA MD
MIDDLETON WI 53562

MARIO D MENDOZA
MURPHY DESMOND SC
33 EAST MAIN ST SUITE 500
MADISON WI 53703

On August 18, 2021, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (“Board”) issued a Final Decision and Order (“Order”) limiting Respondent’s license to practice medicine and surgery with certain terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completion of an evaluation by an approved mental health provider experienced in evaluating health care practitioners’ fitness for duty. The Order further states that Respondent’s license may be limited in a manner to address any concerns the Board or its designee has with the conduct set out in the Order’s Findings of Fact and to address any recommendations resulting from the evaluation.

On December 19, 2021, the Board designee reviewed and accepted the report resulting from Respondent’s fitness for duty evaluation. Based on the evaluator’s recommendations, the following is entered:

ORDER

1. Respondent’s license to practice medicine and surgery (license no. 45241-20) is further LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall, at his own expense, successfully complete one (1) hour of on-the-job training on the topic of interviewing and assessing patients with substance use disorders and/or who are intoxicated offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board’s monitoring liaison.
 - b. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address stated below. None of the education completed pursuant to this requirement may be used to satisfy any continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Section or Department, and also may not be used in future attempts to update a credential in Wisconsin.
 - c. The Board’s monitoring liaison may change the number of credit hours in response to a request from Respondent. The monitoring liaison may consider

the hours of education when determining if a change to the ordered education should occur.

Therapeutic Treatment

2. Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall provide proof to the Department Monitor that he has begun or is continuing individualized treatment with a psychotherapist, whose credential is in good standing, and approved by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall immediately provide the psychotherapist with a copy of his Orders, the fitness for duty evaluation report, and a release authorizing the psychotherapist to discuss the progress of Respondent's treatment with the Board, its designee, and the Department Monitor.
 - a. Respondent's treatment shall include but is not limited to 1) addressing and managing his countertransference towards patients with substance use disorders, drug-seeking behaviors and/or intoxication and 2) addressing cognitive distortions utilizing cognitive-behavioral techniques.
 - b. Therapy shall include individual sessions at a frequency determined by the psychotherapist.
 - c. The psychotherapist shall submit quarterly reports as directed by the Department Monitor. It is the Respondent's responsibility to ensure the reports are submitted when due. The psychotherapist shall immediately report any unprofessional conduct or suspected violation of this Order.
 - d. If Respondent's psychotherapist is unable or unwilling to serve as Respondent's psychotherapist, Respondent shall immediately seek approval of a successor psychotherapist approved by the Board or its designee.

Psychiatric Treatment

3. Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall provide proof to the Department Monitor that he has begun or is continuing treatment with a psychiatrist, whose credential is in good standing, and approved by the Board or its designee. Dr. Sarah Schaettle, MD (license no. 46499-20) is pre-approved to provide psychiatric treatment. Respondent shall immediately provide the psychiatrist with a copy of his Orders, the fitness for practice evaluation report, and a release authorizing the psychiatrist to discuss the progress of Respondent's treatment with the Board, its designee, and the Department Monitor.
 - a. Respondent's treatment shall include but is not limited to treatment for management of ADHD.
 - b. Therapy shall include individual sessions at a frequency determined by the psychiatrist.

- c. The psychiatrist shall submit quarterly reports as directed by the Department Monitor. It is the Respondent's responsibility to ensure the reports are submitted when due. The psychiatrist shall immediately report any unprofessional conduct or suspected violation of this Order.
- d. If Respondent's psychiatrist is unable or unwilling to serve as Respondent's psychiatrist, Respondent shall immediately seek approval of a successor psychiatrist approved by the Board or its designee.

4. Respondent may petition the Board on an annual basis for modification of the terms of the Order upon demonstrating at least one (1) full year of successful, continued compliance with the terms of this Order.

5. Any requests, petitions, reports, and other information required by all orders shall be mailed, emailed, faxed or delivered to:

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

- 6. All terms and conditions of the Order remain in full force and effect.
- 7. This order is effective the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

By: Kris Ferguson, M.D.
A Member of the Board 

January 12, 2022
Date