

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

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

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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FARHAAD RIYAZ, M.D.,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**ORDER 0008263**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 MED 041

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

Farhaad Riyaz, M.D.  
Northville, MI 48168

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 Farhaad Riyaz, M.D. (Year of Birth 1987), is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice medicine and surgery pursuant to the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact), having license number 968-320, first issued on September 3, 2020, with registration current through October 31, 2023. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Northville, Michigan 48168.

2. At all relevant times, Respondent practiced dermatology via telemedicine.

3. On December 13, 2021, Respondent was charged with one count of federal Mail Fraud, a felony, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1341, in U.S. Federal District Court Case No. 1:21-R-264-LMB, Eastern District of Virginia (Federal Felony). According to the Criminal Information,

Respondent, using multiple accounts, executed a scheme to defraud Amazon by purchasing high-end products, making misrepresentations about the delivery and condition of those products to receive a refund, then returning lower valued substitutes from 2017-2020. Respondent entered a plea of guilty.

4. On January 20, 2022, Respondent timely self-reported the charges against him and his plea to the Department.

5. On February 23, 2022, the Colorado Medical Board summarily suspended Respondent's medical license for willfully violating the Medical Practice Act and/or public safety by being convicted of an offense of moral turpitude (Colorado Summary Suspension Order).

6. On March 21, 2022, the Colorado Summary Suspension Order was terminated after Respondent agreed to enter into a Non-Disciplinary Interim Cessation of Practice Agreement. The Colorado Medical Board ordered Respondent to undergo a full mental health evaluation with the Colorado Physicians Health Program (CPHP).

7. On March 22, 2022, Respondent was convicted of the Federal Felony. Respondent was sentenced to one day in jail, three years of probation, six months of home confinement, and was ordered to pay a \$20,000 fine, undergo mental health treatment, and perform 200 hours of community service. The court acknowledged Respondent's payment of \$312,964.38 in restitution.

8. Respondent has acknowledged his mistakes and has cooperated fully with the Department's investigation. He has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and is currently undergoing psychiatric treatment.

9. On July 20, 2022, the Michigan Board of Medicine issued a Consent Order placing Respondent on probation for one year and fining him \$2,500. The terms of probation included continuing psychiatric counseling with a licensed mental health provider and quarterly reports submitted to the Board (Michigan Order).

10. On August 8, 2022, the CPHP evaluator concluded Respondent was in the midst of his first manic episode during the time in which he engaged in the Federal Felony. Since then, he has received appropriate levels of psychiatric treatment and has stabilized. The CPHP evaluator determined Respondent is safe to practice in the context of treatment and monitoring.

11. The licensing authorities in Virginia, Iowa, Alabama, New Hampshire, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and New York have issued orders varying from a warning to a suspension based on Colorado's action. Since Respondent's CPHP evaluation, other states have primarily reprimanded Respondent and placed him on probation with terms similar to that of the Michigan Order.

12. On August 29, 2022, Respondent completed and passed the Ethics and Boundaries Assessment Services essay examination, with scores of 14 for the Fraud module, 13 for the Professional Standards module, and 13 for the Unprofessional Conduct module. Respondent also provided proof of completion of the following continuing medical education (CME):

- a) July 5, 2022: Net CE's Professionalism and Ethics course, 3 credit hours.
- b) July 5, 2022: Net CE's Medical Ethics for Physicians course, 5 credit hours.

13. 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. Based on the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.03(1)(f), by engaging in any act of fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

3. Based on the Findings of Fact, Respondent 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 or any act constituting 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, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent is REPRIMANDED.

3. The Board recognizes and accepts the successful completion of the above-described eight (8) CME credit hours as the equivalent of the education it would have otherwise ordered. These CME credit hours may not be used to satisfy any other continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Board.

4. Respondent's license and registration to practice medicine and surgery in the state of Wisconsin (license number 968-320) is LIMITED as follows:

- a) Respondent shall provide a copy of this Order to his licensed mental health provider from whom he is receiving psychiatric treatment and counseling (Mental Health Provider).
- b) For three (3) years from the date of this Order, Respondent shall submit quarterly reports to the Board from his Mental Health Provider. The reports shall address Respondent's current mental health status, his compliance with treatment and medications, and his ability to practice medicine in a safe and competent manner.
- c) Respondent shall report any change in his Mental Health Provider to the Department Monitor within 15 days of the change.

5. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$895.00.

6. Any requests, reports, payments of costs (made payable to Department of Safety and Professional Services), and other information required by this Order shall be submitted to:

Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190  
Telephone (608) 266-2112; Fax (608) 266-2264  
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

Respondent may also submit this information online at: <https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov>.

7. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license and registration (license number 968-320), or Respondent's right to renew his license and registration, 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.

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

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

By: Stephen A. Wasserman, MD  
A Member of the Board

11/16/22  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FARHAAD RIYAZ, M.D.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

**ORDER 0008263**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 MED 041

Respondent Farhaad Riyaz, 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. Respondent is represented by Attorney Lillian Walanka.

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.

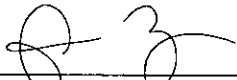
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by 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.

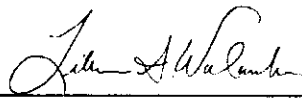
7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. Respondent is further informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order will be reported as required by the National Practitioner Databank (NPDB) Guidebook and as otherwise required by any licensure compact or any other state or federal law.

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


  
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Farhaad Riyaz, M.D., Respondent  
Northville, MI 48168  
License No. 968-320

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
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Lillian Walanka, Respondent's Attorney  
Crick Walanka Law Group, Ltd.  
111 W. Washington St., Suite 1820  
Chicago, IL 60602

10/18/2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

10/18/2022

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Date