STATE OF VERMONT BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE

In re: Mark C. Meredith, MD)	Docket No. MPC 099-0617
)	

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

NOW COME Mark C. Meredith, MD and the State of Vermont, by and through Vermont Attorney General Thomas J. Donovan, Jr., and hereby stipulate and agree to the following in the above-captioned matter:

- Mark C. Meredith, MD ("Respondent") holds Vermont medical license number 042.0009078 originally issued by the Vermont Board of Medical Practice ("Board") on March 27, 1995. Respondent is a physician.
- 2. Jurisdiction in this matter rests with the Board, pursuant to 26 V.S.A. §§ 1353-1357, 3 V.S.A. §§ 809-814, and other authority.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 3. The Board opened this matter in June of 2017 upon receipt of a letter from North Country Hospital ("NCH") informing the Board that Respondent's clinical privileges and medical staff appointment at NCH were suspended pending an investigation regarding the treatment that he had recently provided to a patient ("Patient"). The matter was assigned to the Central Investigative Committee of the Board ("Committee").
- The Board was subsequently notified by NCH that Respondent's clinical privileges and medical staff appointment at NCH were revoked on September 7, 2017.

- 5. On August 2, 2017, Respondent entered into a Cessation of Practice Agreement with the Board. The Cessation of Practice Agreement was lifted on October 2, 2019 when Respondent entered into a Voluntary Limitation of Practice Agreement with the Board which imposed limitations on Respondent's medical practice in light of a self-disclosed medical condition.
- Respondent has not engaged in the practice of medicine since June of 2017 but has retained an active Vermont medical license.
- 7. As part of the Committee's investigation of this matter, the Committee analyzed records detailing the care that Respondent provided to the Patient, as well as care that the Patient later received at another hospital.
- 8. On June 5, 2017, the Patient presented to the Emergency Department at NCH for back pain. Respondent was the Patient's treating physician. On June 7th, due to a significant decline in the Patient's condition, Respondent arranged for the Patient's transfer to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center where she received further care for sepsis and bowel ischemia.
- 9. During the time that he treated the Patient, Respondent was affected by a health condition. He and his own treatment providers did not fully recognize the effect that this condition was having on his practice of medicine; and in particular, his care of the Patient.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 10. The Board shall find that, "practice of profession when medically or psychologically unfit to do so" constitutes unprofessional conduct. 26 V.S.A. § 1354(a)(28).
- 11. Respondent agrees that the Board may enter as its facts and/or conclusions paragraphs one through nine above, and further agrees that this is an adequate basis for the Board's actions set forth herein. Any representation by Respondent herein is made solely for the purposes of resolving this Board matter.
- 12. Therefore, in the interest of Respondent's desire to fully and finally resolve the matter presently before the Board, he has determined that he shall enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order ("Stipulation") with the Board. To resolve this matter without further time, expense and uncertainty; Respondent has concluded that this Stipulation is acceptable and in the best interest of the parties.
- 13. Respondent acknowledges that he is knowingly and voluntarily entering into this Stipulation with the Board. He acknowledges he has had the advice of counsel regarding this matter and in the review of this Stipulation Respondent is fully satisfied with the legal representation he has received in this matter.
- 14. Respondent agrees and understands that by executing this Stipulation he is waiving any right to challenge the jurisdiction and continuing jurisdiction of the Board in this matter, to be presented with a specification of charges and

- evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, and to offer evidence of his own to contest any allegations by the State.
- 15. The parties agree that upon their execution of this Stipulation, and pursuant to the terms herein, the above-captioned matter shall be administratively closed by the Board. Thereafter, the Board will take no further action as to this matter absent non-compliance with the terms and conditions of this Stipulation by Respondent.
- 16. This Stipulation is conditioned upon its acceptance by the Board. If the Board rejects any part of this Stipulation, the entire Stipulation shall be considered void. Respondent agrees that if the Board does not accept this Stipulation in its current form, he shall not assert in any subsequent proceeding any claim of prejudice from any such prior consideration. If the Board rejects any part of this Stipulation, none of its terms shall bind Respondent or constitute an admission of any of the facts of the alleged misconduct, it shall not be used against Respondent in any way, it shall be kept in strict confidence, and it shall be without prejudice to any future disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination of any charge against Respondent.
- 17. Respondent acknowledges and understands that this Stipulation shall be a matter of public record, shall be entered in his permanent Board file, shall constitute an enforceable legal agreement, and may and shall be reported to other licensing authorities either directly or through medical licensing information sharing centers, including but not limited to: The Federation of State Medical Boards Board Action Databank and the National Practitioner

Data Bank. In exchange for the actions by the Board, as set forth herein,
Respondent expressly agrees to be bound by all terms and conditions of this
Stipulation.

18. The parties therefore jointly agree that should the terms and conditions of this Stipulation be deemed acceptable by the Board, it may enter an order implementing the terms and conditions herein.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing, and the consent of Respondent, it is hereby ORDERED that:

- 1. Respondent shall be REPRIMANDED for the conduct set forth above.
- 2. Respondent shall successfully complete live, in-person AMA PRA Category 1 continuing medical education ("CME") courses on the following topics: medical decision making and physician wellness. Such CME courses must be completed no later than one (1) year after this Stipulation is approved by the Board. Respondent shall seek prior approval, in writing, from the Committee for each CME course. Upon successful completion of each CME course, he shall provide the Committee with proof of attendance. Respondent shall also provide the Committee with a brief written narrative of each CME course which will document what he learned from each course, and how he will apply that knowledge to his practice. Respondent shall provide proof of attendance and the written narrative to the Committee.
- 3. In the event that Respondent wishes to resume the practice of medicine in Vermont in any capacity as defined in 26 V.S.A. § 1311(a), Respondent shall work with the Licensing Committee of the Board to develop a formal re-entry program that will be memorialized in a non-disciplinary Stipulation and Consent Order. The non-disciplinary Stipulation and Consent Order must be approved by the Board prior to

the Respondent resuming the practice of medicine in the State of Vermont.

SIGNATURES

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 26th day of October, 2020.

STATE OF VERMONT

THOMAS J. DONOVAN, JR. ATTORNEY GENERAL

By:

E-SIGNED by Kassandra Diederich on 2020-10-26 15:49:21 EDT

Kassandra P. Diederich Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General 109 State Street

Montpelier, VT 05609-1001

DATED at

this day

, 2020.

Mark C. Meredith, MD

Respondent

DATED at

Vermont, this

2020

Gregory P. Howe, Esq.

5346 U.S. Route 5

Newport, VT 05855-9472

Counsel for Respondent

AS TO MARK C. MEREDITH, MD APPROVED AND ORDERED VERMONT BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE

Signed on Behalf of the Vermont Board of Medical Practice

BY: RA Bens	Tut.
Richard Bernstein, MD	

Chair Vermont Board of Medical Practice

Vote documented in the Vermont Board of Medical Practice meeting minutes, dated ______

Dated: 11 6 20