BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE

In re: Tracey S. Maurer, M.D.) Docket N	To. MPC 089-0516
	}	

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

NOW COME Tracey S. Maurer, M.D., 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:

- Tracey S. Maurer, M.D. ("Respondent") holds Vermont medical license number 042.0010177 originally issued by the Vermont Board of Medical Practice on February 8, 2001.
- 2. Jurisdiction in this matter rests with the Vermont Board of Medical Practice ("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 May of 2016 upon receipt of information concerning Respondent. The matter was assigned to the Central Investigative Committee of the Board ("the Committee").
- Respondent is a Gynecologist and Obstetrician practicing at the University of Vermont Medical Center Continence Clinic.
- 5. On different occasions between November 2015 and March 2016, Respondent prescribed Prozac, Lexapro and Ativan to her 20-year-old nephew. During this same time period, Respondent diverted her own prescribed Wellbutrin pills to her nephew.

- Respondent's nephew resided in South Carolina and he did not visit Vermont.
 Respondent is licensed to practice medicine in Vermont.
- 7. Respondent did not establish and maintain a proper physician-patient relationship with her nephew throughout the relevant time period due to her incorrect belief that she was exempt from this requirement due to her familial relationship. Specifically:
 - a Respondent did not meet with, or speak to, her nephew in any type of patient encounter before, during or after the period when she prescribed him the medications.
 - b Respondent did not maintain a medical record or create any type of documentation of her treatment of her nephew.
 - c Respondent did not document a diagnosis of her nephew.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 8. It is unacceptable medical practice for a licensee to fail to document treatment of patients. Such conduct may constitute the performance of unsafe or unacceptable patient care and the failure to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice in violation of 26 V.S.A. §§ 1354(b)(1) and (2).
- 9. It is unprofessional conduct for a licensee to provide, prescribe, dispense, or furnish medical services or prescription medication or prescription-only devices to a person in response to any communication transmitted or received by...electronic means, when the licensee fails to take the following actions to establish and maintain a proper physician-patient relationship: ...(b) establishment of documented diagnosis

- through the use of accepted medical practices; and (c) maintenance of a current medical record. 26 V.S.A. §§ 1354(A).
- 10. Respondent acknowledges that it is the Board's position that if the State were to file charges against her it could satisfy its burden at a hearing and a finding adverse to her could be entered by the Board, pursuant to 26 V.S.A. § 1354(b)(2).
- 11. Respondent agrees that the Board may enter as its facts and/or conclusions paragraphs 1 through 7 above, and further agrees that this is an adequate basis for the Board actions set forth herein. Any representation by Respondent herein is made solely for the purposes set forth in this agreement.
- 12. Therefore, in the interest of Respondent's desire to fully and finally resolve the matter presently before the Board, she has determined that she shall enter into the instant agreement with the Board. Respondent enters no further admission here, but to resolve this matter without further time, expense and uncertainty; she has concluded that this agreement is acceptable and in the best interest of the parties.
- 13. Respondent acknowledges that she is knowingly and voluntarily entering into this agreement with the Board. She acknowledges she has had the advice of counsel regarding this matter and in the review of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

 Respondent is fully satisfied with the legal representation she has received in this matter.
- 14. Respondent agrees and understands that by executing this document she 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 her own to contest any allegations by the State.

- 15. The parties agree that upon their execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order, 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 document by Respondent.
- 16. This Stipulation and Consent Order is conditioned upon its acceptance by the

 Vermont Board of Medical Practice. If the Board rejects any part of this document,
 the entire agreement shall be considered void. Respondent agrees that if the Board
 does not accept this agreement in its current form, she shall not assert in any
 subsequent proceeding any claim of prejudice from any such prior consideration. If
 the Board rejects any part of this agreement, 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 and Consent Order shall be a matter of public record, shall be entered in her permanent Board file, shall constitute an enforceable legal agreement, and may and shall be reported to other licensing authorities, 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 and Consent Order.
- 18. The parties therefore jointly agree that should the terms and conditions of this

 Stipulation and Consent Order 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. No later than one year from the date of approval of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Respondent shall successfully complete a continuing medical education ("CME") course on the topic of professional boundaries and ethics, and a CME course on the topic of prescribing anti-psychotic and anti-depressant medications. Respondent must seek prior approval from the Committee for each CME course. Such approval must be sought, in writing, at least 30 days before the date of the CME course. Upon successful completion of each CME courses she 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 she learned from each course, and how she will apply that knowledge to her practice. Respondent shall provide proof of attendance and the written narratives to the Committee within 30 days of completion of each course. Respondent shall be solely responsible for all costs associated with the CME courses.
- 2. Respondent acknowledges that, even though not expressly prohibited, treatment of oneself or a member of one's family is discouraged by the American Medical Association. Respondent agrees to abide by the recommendations of the current American Medical Association Opinion on the issue of a physician's treatment of oneself and family members, or as

the opinion may be updated. This condition is permanent, and will remain in effect for the life of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

SIGNATURES

SIGNATORES		
DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, th	,	
	STATE OF VERMONT	
	THOMAS J. DONOVAN, JR. ATTORNEY GENERAL	
В	y: Kassandra P. Diederich Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609-1001	
DATED at 3/25/17,V	ermont, this <u>ZS</u> day of <u>Feb</u> , 2017.	
Approved as to form:	Tracey S. Maurer, M.D. Respondent	
DATED at <u>ESSEX</u> , Ve	ermont, this <u>35</u> th day of <u>F213</u> , 2017.	
	Thomas E. McCormick, Esquire McCormick, Fitzpatrick, Kasper & Burchard, P.C. 40 George Street PO Box 638 Burlington, VT 05402 Counsel for Respondent	

Office of the ATTORNEY GENERAL

109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609

AS TO TRACEY S. MAURER, M.D.

APPROVED AND ORDERED VERMONT BOARD OF MEDICAL DD

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Dated: March 15 2017	