STATE OF VERMONT BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE

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In re: Rameen Hashemiyoon, MD

Docket No. MPS 012-0220

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

NOW COME Rameen Hashemiyoon, MD, and the State of Vermont, by and through Vermont Attorney General Thomas J. Donovan, Jr., and the undersigned Assistant Attorney General Megan Campbell, and agree and stipulate as follows:

- Rameen Hashemiyoon, MD ("Respondent") holds Vermont medical license number 042.0014014 first issued by the Vermont Board of Medical Practice on March 7, 2018. Respondent is a physician.
- Jurisdiction in this matter vests with the Vermont Board of Medical Practice ("the Board") pursuant to 26 V.S.A. §§ 1353-1354, 1370-74 and 3 V.S.A. §§ 809-814, and other authority.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent has worked as a locum tenens physician in both Vermont and New York. Respondent was employed in this capacity as a hospitalist for two employers in central Vermont.
- 4. The Board opened this matter in February of 2020, upon information that Respondent had an altercation with a patient during a locum tenens assignment at the Central Vermont Medical Center in Berlin, Vermont. The Board assigned the investigation of this incident to the South Investigative Committee of the Board (hereafter the "Committee").

- 5. The Committee sought a Cessation of Practice Agreement with Respondent while this matter was under investigation. The parties entered into that agreement which was nondisciplinary. It was approved by the full Board on March 4, 2020.
- 6. At the conclusion of their investigation, the Committee found the following facts:
 - a. On February 11, 2020, Respondent was working in the Intensive Care Unit at Central Vermont Medical Center. He was sitting at a desk talking to hospital personnel by phone when a patient became verbally escalated in a room across the hall loudly asserting that his needs were not being met.
 - b. Respondent yelled at the patient to be quiet because he was on the phone. When the patient yelled that his needs were not being met, Respondent verbally escalated in response. He used a loud tone of voice and told the patient to "shut up." He approached the patient despite the fact that nursing staff was already responding to deescalate the situation. The patient stepped forward, Respondent raised his hands at chest height and the patient fell. Respondent continued to use a loud voice and profanity as other hospital staff approached to assist the patient, which upset the patient further, and which took hospital staff away from their duties caring for other patients.
 - c. Respondent's conduct disrupted the working environment within the Intensive Care Unit and inhibited rather than assisted hospital employees' attempts to meet the needs of the patient involved in this interaction as well as other patients under their care.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 7. The Board may find that "disruptive behavior that involves interaction with physicians, hospital personnel, office staff, patients, or support persons of the patient or others that interferes with patient care or could reasonably be expected to adversely affect the quality of care rendered to a patient" constitutes unprofessional conduct. 26 V.S.A. § 1354(a)(35).
- 8. Respondent acknowledges that if this matter were to proceed to a contested hearing, the State could prove that he engaged in the disruptive behavior described above and that his behavior interfered with his coworkers' ability to provide orderly and efficient care to this patient and the other patients in the Intensive Care Unit.
- 9. The Board acknowledges that the Respondent was nearing the end of several successive days of long, busy shifts at the hospital when this incident occurred and has considered it in mitigation.
- 10. Consistent with Respondent's cooperation with the Board, he acknowledges that if the State were to file administrative charges it could satisfy its burden at a hearing and a finding adverse to him could be entered by the Board, pursuant to 26 V.S.A. §§ 1354(a)(35).
- 11. Respondent agrees that the Board adopts and incorporates as its facts and conclusions in this matter Paragraphs 1 through 10 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, he has determined that he shall enter into this agreement with

the Board. Respondent enters no further admissions here, but to resolve this matter without further time, expense and uncertainty; he has concluded that this agreement is acceptable and in the best interest of the parties.

- 13. Respondent agrees and understands that by executing this document 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.
- 14. The parties agree that upon the Board's acceptance of this Stipulation and Consent Order, and pursuant to the terms herein, the above-captioned matter shall be resolved 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.
- 15. 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, 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 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.
- 16. Respondent acknowledges and understands that this Stipulation and Consent Order 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, 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.

17. 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. Upon Board approval of this Stipulation, Respondent is hereby relieved from the Cessation of Practice Agreement that went into effect on March 4, 2020.

2. Respondent shall successfully complete an AMA PRA Category 1 continuing medical education ("CME") course on the topic of deescalating conflict and patient interaction. His medical license will be designated as conditioned until the Committee determines that this course is satisfactorily completed. The course should be a course such as the Crisis Prevention Institute "CPI" training, ProAct or a similar course subject to approval by the Committee. The CME course 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 the CME course. The course must be live in-person or a live interactive course offered remotely. Upon

successful completion of the CME course, he shall provide the Committee with proof of attendance. Respondent shall also provide the Committee with a brief written narrative of the CME course which will document what he learned from the course, and how he will apply that knowledge to his practice. Respondent shall be solely responsible for all costs associated with meeting this CME requirement.

SIGNATURES

Dated at Chelsea, Vermont, this _____ day of _____, 2021.

STATE OF VERMONT THOMAS J. DONOVAN, JR. ATTORNEY GENERAL

by:

E-SIGNED by Megan Campbell on 2021-02-26 12:06:15 EST

Megan Campbell, Esquire Assistant Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609-1001

Dated at _____, Vermont, this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Rameen Hashemiyoon, MD

Dated at _____, New Hampshire, this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Adam Pignatelli, Esquire Rath Young and Pignatelli, P.C. P.O. Box 1500 One Capital Plaza Concord, NH 03301 Counsel for Dr. Hashemiyoon

SIGNATURES

Dated at Chelsea, Vermont, this day of , 2021.

STATE OF VERMONT THOMAS J. DONOVAN, JR. ATTORNEY GENERAL

by:

Megan Campbell, Esquire Assistant Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609-1001

Dated at Pike Road , Alabama, this 26 day of February , 2021.

Rameen Hashewiyoon Verlied by PDFFlier Rameen Hashemiyoon, MD

Dated at Sunapee , New Hampshire, this <u>26</u> day of <u>February</u>, 2021.

Adam Pignatelli, Esquire Rath Young and Pignatelli, P.C. P.O. Box 1500 One Capital Plaza Concord, NH 03301 Counsel for Dr. Hashemiyoon

AS TO RAMEEN HASHEMIYOON, MD APPROVED AND ORDERED VERMONT BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE

Signed on Behalf of the Vermont Board of Medical Practice

ferre the US Bv:

Richard Bernstein MD Chair Vermont Board of Medical Practice

Vote documented in the Vermont Board of Medical Practice meeting minutes, dated March 3, 2021.

Dated: 03/04/2021