#### **BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD**

In the Matter of

CAMERON A. MEEK, M.D.

Holder of License No. 60942 For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine In the State of Arizona. Case No. MD-22-0485A

# ORDER FOR PROBATION; AND CONSENT TO THE SAME

Cameron A. Meek, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Order for Probation; admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona Medical Board ("Board"); and consents to the entry of this Order by the Board.

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent is the holder of license number 60942 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 3. The Board initiated case number MD-22-0485A after receiving notification from the Board's Physician Health Program ("PHP") Monitor that Respondent tested positive for alcohol in violation of a confidential Board Order.
- 4. Respondent's license is subject to a Stipulated Rehabilitation Agreement ("SRA") entered in MD-20-0541A effective September 28, 2020. The SRA required Respondent to comply with terms and conditions of monitoring including random substance use screening.
- 5. The PHP Monitor reported to the Board that Respondent tested positive on a test conducted May 3, 2022. Respondent subsequently admitted to consuming alcohol in violation of the SRA. Respondent complied with the PHP Monitor's request to cease practicing.

- 6. The SRA states in relevant part, "In the event of the use of drugs or alcohol by Respondent in violation of this SRA, Respondent shall promptly enter into an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction requiring Chemical Dependency Treatment to be completed at a PHP approved facility."
- 7. Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction, effective May 24, 2022.
- 8. Respondent subsequently completed and Intensive Outpatient Program ("IOP") at a Board-approved facility ("Facility") and was discharged with staff approval on July 25, 2022. Respondent additionally completed a Post-Treatment Assessment with the Board's PHP Assessor. Based on Respondent's treatment and prognosis, the Assessor opined that Respondent was safe to practice, provided he enter into a monitoring agreement with the Board and comply with recommendations for aftercare.
- 9. Effective August 12, 2022, Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Agreement to Participate in the Physician Health Program requiring Respondent to participate in the PHP and comply with terms and conditions of monitoring.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- a. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent.
- b. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(f)(" A pattern of using or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs or a similar substance while practicing medicine or to the extent that judgment may be impaired and the practice of medicine detrimentally affected.").
- c. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(s)(" Violating a formal order, probation, consent

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<sup>1</sup> Respondent's probation shall be retroactive to August 12, 2022.

### **ORDER**

agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

the provisions of this chapter.").

- Respondent is placed on Probation for a period of 3 years<sup>1</sup> with the following 1. terms and conditions:
- 1. Respondent shall not consume alcohol or any food or other substance containing poppy seeds or alcohol.
- 2. Respondent shall not take any illegal drugs or mood-altering medications unless prescribed for a legitimate therapeutic purpose.
- 3. Respondent shall attend the PHP's relapse prevention group therapy sessions one time per week for the duration of this Order, unless excused by the relapse prevention group facilitator for good cause. Individual relapse therapy may be substituted for one or more of the group therapy sessions, if PHP pre-approves substitution. The relapse prevention group facilitators or individual relapse prevention therapist shall submit monthly reports to the PHP regarding attendance and progress.
- 4. Respondent shall continue to participate in any personalized aftercare programs or activities as recommended by the Assessor in his post-treatment Assessment report. Respondent shall report on those activities as requested by the PHP, including executing any releases necessary to allow the PHP to monitor his participation and communicate directly with and obtain records from the treating providers for those aftercare activities. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs of aftercare, including costs associated with compliance with this Order.

self-help meetings.

- 5. Respondent shall participate in a 12-step recovery program or other self-help program appropriate for substance abuse as recommended by the PHP. Respondent shall attend a minimum of three 12-step or other self-help program meetings per week. Two meetings per month must be Caduceus meetings. Respondent must maintain a log of all
- 6. Respondent shall promptly obtain a Primary Care Physician ("PCP") and shall submit the name of the physician to the PHP in writing for approval. The approved PCP shall be in charge of providing and coordinating Respondent's medical care and treatment. Except in an *Emergency*, Respondent shall obtain medical care and treatment only from the PCP and from health care providers to whom the PCP refers Respondent. Respondent shall promptly provide a copy of this Interim Consent Agreement to the PCP. Respondent shall also inform all other health care providers who provide medical care or treatment that Respondent is participating in PHP. "Emergency" means a serious accident or sudden illness that, if not treated immediately, may result in a long-term medical problem or loss of life.
- 7. Respondent shall continue treatment with a PHP Contractor approved addiction psychiatrist or addiction medicine specialist as recommended by the Assessor in his post-treatment Assessment report and shall comply with any and all treatment recommendations, including taking any and all prescribed medications. Respondent shall instruct the treating professional to submit quarterly written reports to the PHP regarding diagnosis, prognosis, current medications, recommendation for continuing care and treatment, and ability to safely practice medicine. The reports shall be submitted quarterly to the PHP, the commencement of which to be determined by the PHP Contractor. Respondent shall provide the psychiatrist with a copy of this Order. Respondent shall pay

the expenses for treatment and be responsible for paying for the preparation of the quarterly reports.

- 8. All prescriptions for controlled substances shall be approved by the PHP prior to being filled except in an *Emergency*. Controlled substances prescribed and filled in an emergency shall be reported to the PHP within 48 hours. Respondent shall take no *Medication* unless the PCP or other health care provider to whom the PCP refers Respondent prescribes and the PHP approves the *Medication*. Respondent shall not self-prescribe any *Medication*. "Medication" means a prescription-only drug, controlled substance, and over-the counter preparation, other than plain aspirin, plain ibuprofen, and plain acetaminophen.
- 9. Respondent shall submit to random biological fluid, hair and/or nail testing for the remainder of this Interim Consent Agreement (as specifically directed below) to ensure compliance with PHP.
- 10. Respondent shall provide the PHP in writing with one telephone number that shall be used to contact Respondent on a 24 hour per day/seven day per week basis to submit to biological fluid, hair, and/or nail testing to ensure compliance with PHP. For the purposes of this section, telephonic notice shall be deemed given at the time a message to appear is left at the contact telephone number provided by Respondent. Respondent authorizes any person or organization conducting tests on the collected samples to provide testing results to the PHP. Respondent shall comply with all requirements for biological fluid, hair, and/or nail collection. Respondent shall pay for all costs for the testing.
- 11. Respondent shall provide the PHP with written notice of any plans to travel out of state.

- 12. Respondent shall immediately notify the Board and the PHP in writing of any change in office or home addresses and telephone numbers.
- 13. Respondent provides full consent for the PHP to discuss the Respondent's case with the Respondent's PCP or any other health care providers to ensure compliance with PHP.
- 14. The relationship between the Respondent and the PHP is a direct relationship. Respondent shall not use an attorney or other intermediary to communicate with the PHP on participation and compliance issues. Any such questions should be directed to Board staff.
- 15. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs, including costs associated with participating in PHP, at the time service is rendered or within 30 days of each invoice sent to the Respondent. An initial deposit of two (2) months PHP fees is due upon entering the program. Failure to pay either the initial PHP deposit or monthly fees 60 days after invoicing will be reported to the Board by the PHP and may result in disciplinary action up to and including revocation.
- 16. Respondent shall appear in person before with the PHP Contractor for interviews upon request, upon reasonable notice.
- 17. Respondent shall immediately provide a copy of this Order to all employers, hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the future gains or applies for employment or privileges. Within 30 days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall provide the PHP with a signed statement of compliance with this notification requirement. Respondent is further required to notify, in writing, all employers, hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the future gains or applies for employment or privileges of a violation of this Order.

- 18. In the event Respondent resides or practices as a physician in a state other than Arizona, Respondent shall participate in the rehabilitation program sponsored by that state's medical licensing authority or medical society. Respondent shall cause the monitoring state's program to provide written quarterly reports to the PHP Contractor regarding Respondent's attendance, participation, and monitoring. The monitoring state's program and Respondent shall immediately notify the PHP Contractor if Respondent is non-compliant with any aspect of the monitoring requirements or is required to undergo any additional treatment.
- 19. The PHP Contractor shall immediately notify the Board if Respondent is noncompliant with any aspect of this Order or is required to undergo any additional treatment.
- 20. In the event of a chemical dependency relapse by Respondent or Respondent's use of controlled substances or alcohol in violation of this Order, Respondent shall promptly enter into an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction that requires, among other things, that Respondent not practice medicine until such time as Respondent successfully completes long-term inpatient treatment designated by the PHP Contractor and obtains affirmative approval from the Executive Director, in consultation with the Lead Board Member and Chief Medical Consultant, to return to the practice of medicine. Prior to approving Respondent's request to return to the practice of medicine, Respondent may be required to undergo any combination of physical examinations, psychiatric or psychological evaluations. In no respect shall the terms of this paragraph restrict the Board's authority to initiate and taken disciplinary action for any violation of this Order.
- 21. Respondent shall obey all state, federal and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in Arizona, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments and other orders.

- 22. Prior to the termination of Probation, Respondent must submit a written request to the Board for release from the terms of this Order. Respondent's request for release will be placed on the next pending Board agenda, provided a complete submission is received by Board staff no less than 30 days prior to the Board meeting. Respondent's request for release must provide the Board with evidence establishing that he/she has successfully satisfied all of the terms and conditions of this Order. The Board has the sole discretion to determine whether all of the terms and conditions of this Order have been met or whether to take any other action that is consistent with its statutory and regulatory authority.
- 23. This Order supersedes any and all Consent Agreements previously entered into by Respondent and the Board regarding this matter.
- 24. The Board retains jurisdiction and may initiate new action against Respondent based upon any violation of this Order. A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(s)

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 7th day of September, 2023.

ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

Patricia E. McSorley
Executive Director

## CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER

- 1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Order"). Respondent acknowledges he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.
- 2. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Order is entered into freely and voluntarily and that no promise was made or coercion used to induce such entry.

- 3. By consenting to this Order, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge this Order in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action related thereto or arising from said Order.
- 4. The Order is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its Executive Director.
- 5. All admissions made by Respondent in this Order are solely for final disposition of this matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent are not intended or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or any other state or federal court.
- 6. Notwithstanding any language in this Order, this Order does not preclude in any way any other State agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from instituting proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including but not limited to, violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent acknowledges that, other than with respect to the Board, this Order makes no representations, implied or otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other state agency or officer or political subdivisions of the State relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent.
- 7. Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof) to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the consent to the entry of the Order. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any

1	modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved
2	by the parties.
3	8. This Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal
4	disciplinary action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data
5	Bank and on the Board's web site as a disciplinary action.
6	9. If any part of the Order is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the
7	remainder of the Order in its entirety shall remain in force and effect.
8	10. If the Board does not adopt this Order, Respondent will not assert as a
9	defense that the Board's consideration of the Order constitutes bias, prejudice,
10	prejudgment or other similar defense.
11	11. Any violation of this Order constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result
12	in disciplinary action. A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(s) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation,
13	consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive
14	director under this chapter.") and 32-1451.
15	12. Respondent has read and understands the conditions of probation.
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18	CAMERON A. MEEK, M.D.
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20	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed
21	this 7th day of <u>Septem by</u> 2019 to: 2023
22	Cameron A. Meek, M.D.
23	Address of Record
24	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
25	this 7th day of September, 2019 with:

Arizona Medical Board 1740 West Adams, Suite 4000 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

MichelleRosses