

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD**

2 In the Matter of

3 **LAURA E. HARRINGTON, M.D.**

4 Holder of License No. 24671
5 For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine
6 In the State of Arizona.

Case No. MD-25-0012A

**INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT,
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER
FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF
LICENSE**

6 **INTRODUCTION**

7 The above-captioned matter came for discussion before the Arizona Medical Board
8 ("Board") at its February 26, 2025 meeting, where it had been placed on the agenda to
9 consider possible summary action against Laura E. Harrington, M.D. ("Respondent").
10 Having considered the information in the matter and being fully advised, the Board enters
11 the following Interim Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Summary
12 Suspension of License, pending a formal hearing or other Board action. A.R.S. §§ 32-
13 1451(D), 1452(F).

14 **INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT**

15 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of
16 the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

17 2. Respondent is the holder of license number 24671 for the practice of
18 allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

19 3. The Board initiated case number MD-25-0012A after receiving a complaint
20 expressing concern regarding Respondent's mental and physical ability to safely engage
21 in the practice of medicine, and alleging that Respondent had engaged in unprofessional
22 verbal and text message communications with a patient ("Patient A"). Based on the
23 complaint, Board staff initiated an investigation.

24 4. In case MD-00-0496A, Respondent entered into a Consent Agreement to
25 Order of Probation and Letter of Reprimand ("First Order"). The First Order was based on

findings that Respondent had been prescribing controlled substance medications to family members for her own personal use. The terms of the First Order required Respondent to comply with a DEA Pretrial Diversion Program and substance use treatment recommended by the Board's Physician Health Program consultant.

5. Based on the information obtained during the investigation, Respondent was issued an Interim Order for Physician Health Program ("PHP") Assessment. After completion of the Assessment interview, the Assessor issued a preliminary opinion that Respondent was not safe to practice pending inpatient treatment for her health conditions.

6. Respondent was offered a Request for License Inactivation With Cause and Order Inactivating License With Cause, but declined to request inactivation.

7. During the Board's consideration of the above captioned matter on February 26, 2025, Board staff presented the foregoing, as well as information regarding the ongoing quality of care investigation into Respondent's care and treatment of Patient A, and an additional patient, for whom Board staff identified potential controlled substance prescribing anomalies. Based on the evidence presented, the Board voted unanimously to summarily suspend Respondent's license.

INTERIM CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent.

2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(f) ("Exhibiting 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.").

3. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r) (“Committing any conduct or practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public.”).

4. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(t) ("Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter."). Specifically, Respondent's conduct violated A.R.S. § 32-1452(F) ("A doctor of medicine . . . who is or was under a consent agreement or probationary order that is no longer in effect and who commits unprofessional conduct as defined in section 32-1401, paragraph 27, subdivision (f) shall request the board to place the license on inactive status with cause. If the doctor or physician assistant fails to do this, the board shall summarily suspend the license pursuant to section 32-1451, subsection D.")

5. Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action. A.R.S. § 32-1451(D).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, set forth above,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent's license to practice allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, License No. 24671, is summarily suspended. Respondent is prohibited from practicing medicine in the State of Arizona and is prohibited from prescribing any form of treatment including prescription medications or injections of any kind.

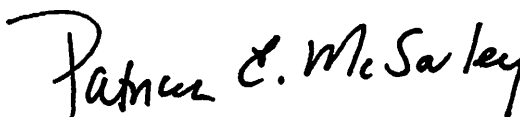
2. The Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law constitute written notice to Respondent of the charges of unprofessional conduct made by the Board against

Respondent. Respondent is entitled to a formal hearing to defend these charges as expeditiously as possible after the issuance of this Order.

3. The Board's Executive Director is instructed to refer this matter to the Office of Administrative Hearings for scheduling of an administrative hearing to be commenced within sixty days from the date of the issuance of this Order, unless stipulated and agreed otherwise by Respondent. A.R.S. § 32-1451(D).

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 27th day of February, 2025.

ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD



By

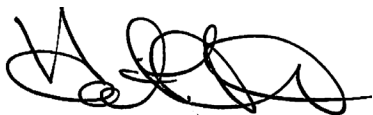
Patricia E. McSorley
Executive Director

EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed
this 27th day of February, 2025 to:

Laura E. Harrington, M.D.
Address of Record

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
this 27th day of February, 2025 with:

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



Board staff

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