# BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

2 || In the Matter of

1

FARHAAD R. RIYAZ, M.D.

Holder of License No. 61934 For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine In the State of Arizona.

#### Case No. MD-22-0059A

ORDER FOR LETTER OF REPRIMAND; AND CONSENT TO THE SAME

Farhaad R. Riyaz, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Order for a Letter of Reprimand; 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 61934 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona. Respondent's license was issued on August 12, 2020 pursuant to a Letter of Qualification from Respondent's State of Principal License through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact ("IMLC").

3. On his IMLC application form signed June 18, 2020, Respondent answered "No" to the question, "Are you under investigation by a licensing agency or law enforcement authority in any state, federal or foreign jurisdiction?"

4. The Board initiated case number MD-22-0059A after receiving a self-report from Respondent that he had been charged with fraud. Respondent's self-report narrative stated that he had been accused in June of 2020.

5. On December 13, 2021, Respondent entered a guilty plea to a single count of Mail Fraud (a felony), in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1341 in *U.S. v. Riyaz*, case no 1:21-cr-264-LMB (E.D. Va). The Criminal Information related to the plea noted that a search

warrant was executed at Respondent's home on June 2, 2020. Respondent was
 subsequently sentenced one day of imprisonment with subsequent home confinement,
 and terms and conditions of probation including restitution in the amount of \$312,964.38,
 payment of a fine and completion of community service. ("Criminal Conviction")

6. Respondent's licenses in other states have been subject to discipline as a result of the Criminal Conviction. Some of disciplinary actions were also based on related allegations related to failure to adequately report the investigation and Criminal Conviction.

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

a. On February 23, 2022, the Colorado Medical Board summarily suspended Respondent's license for violating the Medical Practice Act. On March 22, 2022, the Colorado Board and Respondent entered into an Interim Cessation of Practice Agreement vacating the summary suspension. On November 22, 2022, the Colorado Board issued a Letter of Admonition with three-year probation that required participation in the Colorado PHP ("CPHP").

- b. On March 3, 2022, the Alabama Medical Licensure Commission administratively suspended Respondent's license for 90 days based on the Colorado Board's action. On August 29, 2022, the Alabama Board issued Respondent a reprimand and three-year probation with a \$5,000 fine.
- c. On March 18, 2022, the Virginia Board of Medicine suspended Respondent's medical license. On November 3, 2022, Respondent withdrew his petition to reinstate his license.
- d. On April 14, 2022, Respondent entered into a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice Medicine with the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine pending further action by the Massachusetts Board. On September 7, 2023, Respondent resigned his inchoate right to renew his license to practice medicine in Massachusetts.

- e. On April 14, 2022, the District of Columbia Board of Medicine summarily suspended Respondent's license based on the suspensions by the Colorado and Virginia Medical Boards.
- f. On April 17, 2022, the Tennessee Department of Health summarily suspended Respondent's license based on the Colorado Board action. The Order specified that the license should be suspended until May 24, 2022, or until further action by the Tennessee Board. On March 7, 2023, the Tennessee Board issued Respondent a reprimand.
- g. On May 3, 2022, the Maryland Board of Physicians suspended Respondent's license for 90 days pending completion of the Maryland Board's investigation. On July 29, 2022, the Maryland Board revoked Respondent's medical license.
- h. On May 12, 2022, Respondent entered into an Interim Order of Conditions with the New York Board for Professional Medical Conduct that precluded Respondent from practicing in New York while under investigation. On August 18, 2022, the NY Board issued Respondent a Determination and Order for a reprimand and requirement to complete five hours of continuing medical education ("CME") in ethics each year for the next three years.
- On May 12, 2022, the Michigan Board of Medicine summarily suspended Respondent's license. On July 20, 2022, Respondent entered into a Consent Order and Stipulation with the Michigan Board for reinstatement of Respondent's license with one year of probation and a \$2,500 fine.
- j. On June 14, 2022, the Wyoming Board of Medicine summarily suspended Respondent's license. The Wyoming Board's order stated that on August 11, 2021, Respondent submitted an application to the Wyoming Board but did

not disclose his criminal history. On April 29, 2023, the Wyoming Board issued Respondent an order for a reprimand, civil fine of \$500, and reimbursement of investigation costs in the amount of \$2,000. Respondent's Wyoming license had expired. Therefore, the Wyoming Board ordered that if Respondent obtained a license, he would be placed on probation for three years.

- k. On July 6, 2022, Respondent entered into a Cessation of Practice
  Agreement with the Vermont Board of Medical Practice. On December 7, 2022, the Vermont Board issued Respondent a reprimand.
- I. On July 30, 2022, the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice issued Respondent a reprimand.
- m. On August 11, 2022, the Iowa Board of Medicine issued Respondent a citation and warning and assessed a \$1500 civil penalty.
- n. On August 15, 2022, Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Order with the Connecticut Medical Examining Board that suspended Respondent's license until their investigation was resolved.
- On September 13, 2022, Respondent entered into a Consent Agreement and Order with the Pennsylvania Board of Medicine for one year of stayed suspension probation.
- p. On September 16, 2022, the New Hampshire Board of Medicine placed Respondent on probation and assessed an administrative fine of \$2,500 with \$1,000 suspended.
- q. On November 7, 2022, the Utah Physicians Licensing Board placed Respondent on probation for three years.

1		On November 16, 2022, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board issued
2		Respondent a reprimand and ordered Respondent to complete CME.
3	r.	On November 17, 2022, Respondent entered into an agreement with the
4		Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure & Supervision voluntarily surrendering
5		his Oklahoma license.
6	S.	On December 21, 2022, the Washington Medical Commission suspended
7		Respondent's medical license pending further disciplinary proceedings.
8	t.	On January 31, 2023, the North Carolina Medical Board suspended
9		Respondent's license for six months.
10	u.	On May 26, 2023, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional
11		Regulation placed Respondent's license on indefinite probation.
12	v.	On June 9, 2023, the Texas Medical Board issued Respondent a reprimand
13		and placed his license on probation.
14	7.	On March 11, 2022, Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Agreement
15	for Practice	Restriction in lieu of summary suspension prohibiting him from practicing
16	medicine in the State of Arizona ("Practice Restriction").	
17	8.	On February 1, 2023, Respondent entered into an Interim Consent
18	Agreement to Participate in the Physician Health Program that vacated his Practice	
19	Restriction" and required Respondent to comply with the CPHP monitoring agreement.	
20	9.	On July 19, 2023, Respondent's Arizona license expired due to non-renewal.
21	CONCLUSIONS OF LAW	
22	a.	The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over
23	Respondent.	
24	b.	The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional
25	conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(d) ("Committing a felony, whether or not	
	1	

involving moral turpitude, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. In either case,
 conviction by any court of competent jurisdiction or a plea of no contest is conclusive
 evidence of the commission.").

c. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(p) ("Having action taken against a doctor of medicine by another licensing or regulatory jurisdiction due to that doctor of medicine's mental or physical inability to engage safely in the practice of medicine or the doctor of medicine's medical incompetence or for unprofessional conduct as defined by that jurisdiction and that corresponds directly or indirectly to an act of unprofessional conduct prescribed by this paragraph. The action taken may include refusing, denying, revoking or suspending a license by that jurisdiction or a surrendering of a license to that jurisdiction, otherwise limiting, restricting or monitoring a licensee by that jurisdiction or placing a licensee on probation by that jurisdiction.").

d. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)( kk) ("Knowingly making a false or misleading statement to the board or on a form required by the board or in a written correspondence, including attachments, with the board.").

### <u>ORDER</u>

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent is issued a Letter of Reprimand.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this <u>8th</u> day of <u>August</u>, 2024.

ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD By\_\_\_\_\_\_

Patricia E. McSorley Executive Director

ר ויז אראי דראי

	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
1	0
1	1
1	2
1	3
1	4
1	5
1	6
1	7
1	8
1	9
2	0
2	1
2	2
2	3
2	4

25

#### 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 relinguishes 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.

11 4. The Order is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its 12 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.

19 6. Notwithstanding any language in this Order, this Order does not preclude in 20 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 22 now or in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, 23 including but not limited to, violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent 24 acknowledges that, other than with respect to the Board, this Order makes no 25 representations, implied or otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

13

14

15

16

17

18

1 state agency or officer or political subdivisions of the State relating to this matter or other 2 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 modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties.

8 8. This Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal disciplinary action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data Bank and on the Board's web site as a disciplinary action.

9. If the Board does not adopt this Order, Respondent will not assert as a defense that the Board's consideration of the Order constitutes bias, prejudice, prejudgment or other similar defense.

3

4

5

6

7

10. Respondent has read and understands the terms of this agreement.

DATED:

7/15/2024

FARHAAD R. RIYAZ, M.D.

EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed this 8th day of August, 2024 to:

Farhaad R. Rivaz, M.D. Address of Record

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this 8th day of August, 2024 with:

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

ichelle Reber

Board staff