

1 **BEFORE THE REVIEW COMMITTEE OF THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD**

2 In the Matter of

Case No. MD-22-0487B

3 **PETER J. MATTHEWS, M.D.**

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS
OF LAW AND ORDER FOR LETTER
OF REPRIMAND AND PROBATION**

4 Holder of License No. 18945
5 For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine
6 In the State of Arizona.

7 The Review Committee of the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") considered this
8 matter at its public meeting on August 2, 2023. Peter J. Matthews, M.D. ("Respondent"),
9 appeared before the Review Committee for a Formal Interview pursuant to the authority
10 vested in the Board by A.R.S. § 32-1451(P). The Review Committee voted to issue
11 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Letter of Reprimand and Probation
12 after due consideration of the facts and law applicable to this matter.

13 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

16 2. Respondent is the holder of license number 18945 for the practice of
17 allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

18 3. The Board initiated case number MD-22-0487B after receiving notification
19 from a Hospital that Respondent's privileges had been terminated.

20 4. On October 26, 2020, Respondent's privileges at the Hospital were
21 summarily suspended for 28 days based on unprofessional staff interactions occurring in
22 September and October of 2020. Additionally, Respondent was required to complete an
23 intensive, in-person continuing medical education ("CME") course in civility and
24 communication in healthcare and engage in treatment with a healthcare provider to
25 address. Respondent subsequently completed the course on January 10, 2021.

1 statement to the board or on a form required by the board or in a written correspondence,
2 including attachments, with the board.”).

3 **ORDER**

4 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 5 1. Respondent is issued a Letter of Reprimand.
6 2. Respondent is placed on Probation for a period of one year with the following terms
7 and conditions:

8 **a. Continuing Medical Education**

9 Respondent shall within 6 months of the effective date of this Order, complete the
10 Managing High Impact Emotional for Healthcare Professionals course offered by the UC
11 San Diego Physician Assessment and Clinical Education (PACE) Program. Respondent
12 shall within **thirty days** of the effective date of this Order submit satisfactory proof of
13 enrollment with Board staff. Upon completion of the CME, Respondent shall provide Board
14 staff with satisfactory proof of attendance. The CME hours shall be in addition to the hours
15 required for the biennial renewal of medical licensure.

16 **b. Board-Approved Psychotherapist**

17 Respondent shall continue treatment with his current treating provider and shall
18 comply with any and all treatment recommendations. Respondent shall instruct the treating
19 provider to submit quarterly written reports to Board staff regarding diagnosis, prognosis,
20 current medications, recommendation for continuing care and treatment, and ability to
21 safely practice medicine. The reports shall be submitted quarterly to Board staff for the
22 duration of this Order. Respondent shall pay the expenses of treatment and is responsible
23 for paying for the preparation of the quarterly reports. Respondent shall authorize the
24 treating provider to communicate with Board staff regarding Respondent’s compliance with
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1 treatment, and if at any time the treating provider finds evidence that Respondent is a
2 safety threat to patients.

3 **c. Obey All Laws**

4 Respondent shall obey all state, federal and local laws, all rules governing the
5 practice of medicine in Arizona, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered
6 criminal probation, payments and other orders.

7 **d. Tolling**

8 In the event Respondent should leave Arizona to reside or practice outside the
9 State or for any reason should Respondent stop practicing medicine in Arizona,
10 Respondent shall notify the Executive Director in writing within ten days of departure and
11 return or the dates of non-practice within Arizona. Non-practice is defined as any period of
12 time exceeding thirty days during which Respondent is not engaging in the practice of
13 medicine. Periods of temporary or permanent residence or practice outside Arizona or of
14 non-practice within Arizona, will not apply to the reduction of the probationary period.

15 **e. Probation Termination**

16 Prior to the termination of Probation, Respondent must submit a written request to
17 the Board for release from the terms of this Order. Respondent's request for release will
18 be placed on the next pending Board agenda, provided a complete submission is received
19 by Board staff no less than 30 days prior to the Board meeting. Respondent's request for
20 release must provide the Board with evidence establishing that he has successfully
21 satisfied all of the terms and conditions of this Order, and shall be accompanied by a letter
22 of support from his current treating provider. The Board has the sole discretion to
23 determine whether all of the terms and conditions of this Order have been met or whether
24 to take any other action that is consistent with its statutory and regulatory authority.

1 3. The Board retains jurisdiction and may initiate new action against Respondent
2 based upon any violation of this Order. A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(s).

3 **RIGHT TO PETITION FOR REHEARING OR REVIEW**

4 Respondent is hereby notified that he has the right to petition for a rehearing or
5 review. The petition for rehearing or review must be filed with the Board's Executive
6 Director within thirty (30) days after service of this Order. A.R.S. § 41-1092.09(B). The
7 petition for rehearing or review must set forth legally sufficient reasons for granting a
8 rehearing or review. A.A.C. R4-16-103. Service of this order is effective five (5) days after
9 date of mailing. A.R.S. § 41-1092.09(C). If a petition for rehearing or review is not filed,
10 the Board's Order becomes effective thirty-five (35) days after it is mailed to Respondent.

11 Respondent is further notified that the filing of a motion for rehearing or review is
12 required to preserve any rights of appeal to the Superior Court.

13 DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 6th day of October, 2023.

14 ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

15
16 By Patricia E. McSorley
17 Patricia E. McSorley
18 Executive Director
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1 EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed
2 this 16th day of October, 2023 to:

3 Peter J. Matthews, M.D.
4 Address of Record

5 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
6 this 16th day of October, 2023 with:

7 Arizona Medical Board
8 1740 West Adams, Suite 4000
9 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

10 Michelle Kubes
11 Board staff

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