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STATE OF FLORIDA BOARD OF MEDICINE Final Order No. DOH-08-1357-FOI-MOA

FILED DATE - 6 - 23 - 08

Department of Health

By: Like Typing Like

Deputy Appacy Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Petitioner,

vs.

DOH CASE NO.: 2007-21821 LICENSE NO.: ME0087813

WILLIAM JOHN JOHNS, III, M.D.,

FINAL ORDER

THIS CAUSE came before the BOARD OF MEDICINE (Board)
pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes, on
June 6, 2008, in Orlando, Florida, for consideration of the
Administrative Complaint (attached hereto as Exhibit A) in the
above-styled cause pursuant to Respondent's Election of Rights.
Respondent was served with the Administrative Complaint by
publication. Because Respondent failed to submit an Election of
Rights or otherwise dispute the facts or respond in any other
way, Respondent waived the right to a hearing pursuant to
Section 120.57(1), Florida Statutes. At the hearing, Petitioner
was represented by Christopher Torres, Assistant General
Counsel. Respondent was not present and was not represented by
counsel. The facts are not in dispute.

Upon consideration, it is ORDERED:

- 1. The allegations of fact set forth in the Administrative Complaint are approved and adopted and incorporated herein by reference as the findings of fact by the Board.
- 2. The conclusions of law alleged and set forth in the Administrative Complaint are approved and adopted and incorporated herein by reference as the conclusions of law by the Board.
- 3. The violations set forth warrant disciplinary action by the Board.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND ADJUDGED:

- 1. Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Florida is immediately SUSPENDED until such time as he personally appears before the Board and demonstrates the ability to practice medicine with skill and safety.
- 2. In the event Respondent's license in Florida is reinstated, he shall be required to maintain a licensure-long contract with the Professionals Resource Network (PRN). Should Respondent fall out of compliance with his PRN contract, Respondent's license to practice medicine shall be immediately suspended.
- 3. The Board retains jurisdiction in this matter to impose terms on Respondent's license as deemed appropriate by the Board, including, but not limited to, a term of probation. Said

terms shall be imposed at such time, if any, that Respondent's license to practice medicine is reinstated.

RULING ON AMENDED MOTION TO ASSESS COSTS

The Board reviewed the Petitioner's Motion to Assess Costs and imposes the costs associated with this case in the amount of \$6,488.07. Said costs are to be paid within six months of reinstatement of Respondent's license to practice medicine in Florida.

(NOTE: SEE RULE 64B8-8.0011, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE. UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED BY FINAL ORDER, THE RULE SETS FORTH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PERFORMANCE OF ALL PENALTIES CONTAINED IN THIS FINAL ORDER.)

This Final Order shall take effect upon being filed with the Clerk of the Department of Health.

DONE AND ORDERED this <u>QO</u> day of <u>JVVC</u>,

BOARD OF MEDICINE

Larry McPherson, Jr., Executive Director For Fred Bearison, M.D., Vice-Chair

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW

A PARTY WHO IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS FINAL ORDER IS ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW PURSUANT TO SECTION 120.68, FLORIDA STATUTES. REVIEW PROCEEDINGS ARE GOVERNED BY THE FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE. SUCH PROCEEDINGS ARE COMMENCED BY FILING ONE COPY OF A NOTICE OF APPEAL WITH THE AGENCY CLERK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND A SECOND COPY, ACCOMPANIED BY FILING FEES PRESCRIBED BY LAW, WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF

APPEAL, FIRST DISTRICT, OR WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL IN THE APPELLATE DISTRICT WHERE THE PARTY RESIDES. THE NOTICE OF APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF RENDITION OF THE ORDER TO BE REVIEWED.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Final Order has been provided by U.S. Mail to WILLIAM JOHN JOHNS, III, M.D., 4310 Seagull Drive, New Port Richey, Florida 34652; and 8484 Red Bay Court, Vero Beach, Florida 32963; and by interoffice delivery to Ephraim Livingston, Department of Health, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C-65, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3253 this 23 day of

. 2008.

Deputy Agency Clerk

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

PETITIONER,

.

CASE NO. 2007-21821

WILLIAM JOHN JOHNS, III M.D.,

RESPONDENT.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

COMES NOW, Petitioner, Department of Health, by and through its undersigned counsel, and files this Administrative Complaint before the Board of Medicine against Respondent, William John Johns, III, M.D., and in support thereof alleges:

- Petitioner is the state department charged with regulating the
 practice of medicine pursuant to Section 20.43, Florida Statutes; Chapter
 456, Florida Statutes; and Chapter 458, Florida Statutes.
- 2. At all times material to this Complaint, Respondent was a licensed physician within the state of Florida, having been issued license number ME 87813.

- 3. Respondent's address of record is 8404 Red Bay Court, Vero Beach, Florida 32963.
- 4. On or about July 23, 2006, Respondent was charged in a four count indictment in incident number 03907-2006, in New York State Supreme Court in and for New York County, charging him with attempted murder in the second degree, attempted kidnapping in the second degree, assault in the second degree, and endangering the welfare of a child.
- 5. The indictment alleged that Respondent began feeling stressed with work and relationship issues. In response, Respondent stopped taking his medication, stopped seeing patients and, in a rambling phone call, fired his receptionist. He believed he was a character in a movie and that other people were actually actors observing him. In response, his psychiatrist tried to treat him by increasing his antidepressant medication which was worn on a patch on his arm.
- 6. Respondent's behavior was so strange that a lifelong friend drove three hours to visit him after receiving a bizarre telephone call from Respondent. Just after the two rented a video and ordered a pizza at Respondent's home, Respondent stated he had to go, and left his home. Instead of returning home, Respondent impulsively traveled to New York

City from his home in Florida. Along the way, he tore his anti-depressant medication patch from his arm and threw it away. During the drive and into New York City, Respondent heard voices and at times thought he was Jesus Christ. He believed people were praising him and pressing him to save people, particularly children.

- 7. Once in New York City, Respondent abandoned his automobile and gave his wallet, credit cards and money to a Hilton Hotel restaurant employee stating he was Jesus Christ and would not have a need for them.
- 8. Respondent then traveled to the terminals and piers on the West side of Manhattan and began watching families and children in a play area. He became fixated on a two-year old boy playing with his mother in an outdoor area. Respondent related that there were certain moments where he thought the child was an alien, or super-human, but later determined that the child was in danger of falling in the water or being hit by a bus, and-had-to be saved from his mother who was from outer space. Respondent approached the mother and stood inappropriately close to her without saying anything. He then grabbed the child away from her. When the mother attempted to intervene, Respondent grabbed the child more forcefully. When the mother attempted to flee, Respondent realized that he

would not be able to take the child; Instead, he decided to "take care" of the mother. Respondent grabbed her from behind, pushed her to the ground, climbed on top of her and choked her into unconsciousness. When Respondent saw several men approaching, he felt the need to tighten his grip because he was afraid the men would stop him and the woman would go free. Ultimately, the men were able to free the victim and hold Respondent until the police arrived. He has been incarcerated since his arrest.

- 9. On or about April 10, 2007, Respondent pleaded not responsible by reason of mental disease or defect of the attempt to commit the crime of kidnapping in the second degree. In light of the plea, the other counts were dismissed.
- 10. On or about August 30, 2007, the Court found Respondent to be "dangerously mentally ill". He was committed to a secure treatment facility in the State of New York for a period of six months.
- 11. Section 458.331(1)(s), Florida Statutes (2006), subjects a licensee to discipline, including suspension, for being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness or

use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition.

- 12. Respondent pled not responsible by reason of mental disease or defect of the attempt to commit the crime of kidnapping in the second degree.
- 13. Respondent was found to be "dangerously mentally ill" and was committed to a secure treatment facility in the State of New York for a period of six months.
- 14. Based on the foregoing, Respondent has violated Section 458.331(1)(s), Florida Statutes (2006), by being unable to practice as a result of any mental or physical condition.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board of Medicine enter an order imposing one or more of the following penalties: permanent revocation or suspension of Respondent's license, restriction of practice, imposition of an administrative fine, issuance of a reprimand, placement of the Respondent on probation, corrective action, refund of fees billed or collected, remedial education and/or any other relief that the Board deems appropriate.

SIGNED this 12th day of October

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H. State Surgeon General

Kevin Neja

Assistant General Counsel DOH Prosecution Services Unit 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-65 Tallahassee, FL 32399-3265 Florida Bar # 0702129 (850) 245-4640

(850) 245-4681 FAX

PCP: October 12, 2007

PCP Members: Dr. Leon, Dr. Cline, + Mr. Beebe

William John Johns, III, M.D.

DOH Case No. 2007-21821

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Respondent has the right to request a hearing to be conducted in accordance with Section 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, to be represented by counsel or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses and to have subpoena and subpoena duces tecum issued on his or her behalf if a hearing is requested.

NOTICE REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF COSTS

Respondent is placed on notice that Petitioner has incurred costs related to the investigation and prosecution of this matter. Pursuant to Section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes, the Board shall assess costs related to the investigation and prosecution of a disciplinary matter, which may include attorney hours and costs, on the Respondent in addition to any other discipline imposed.

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CLERK OF THE STATE OF

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Petitioner,

v

DOH CASE NO. 2007-21821

WILLIAM JOHN JOHNS, III, M.D.

Respondent.

AMENDED MOTION TO ASSESS COSTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 456.072(4)

COMES NOW the Department of Health, by and through the undersigned counsel, and moves the Board of Medicine for the entry of a Final Order assessing costs against Respondent, William John Johns, III, M.D. for the investigation and prosecution of this case in accordance with Section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes (2003). As grounds therefore, Petitioner states the following:

 At its next regularly scheduled meeting, the Board of Medicine will take up for consideration the above-styled disciplinary action and will enter a Final Order therein. 2. Section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes (2003), states as follows:

In addition to any other discipline imposed through final order, or citation, entered on or after July 1, 2001, pursuant to this section or discipline imposed through final order, or citation, entered on or after July 1, 2001, for a violation of any practice act, the board, or the department when there is no board, shall assess costs related to the investigation and prosecution of the case. Such costs related to the investigation and prosecution include, but are not limited to, salaries and benefits of personnel, costs related to the time spent by the attorney and other personnel working on the case, and any other expenses incurred by the department for the case. The board, or the department when there is no board, shall determine the amount of costs to be assessed after its consideration of an affidavit of itemized costs and any written objections thereto. .

- 3. The investigation and prosecution of this case has resulted in costs in the total amount of \$6,488.07. Therefore, Petitioner seeks an assessment of costs against Respondent in the amount of \$6,488.07, as evidenced in the attached affidavit. (Exhibit A).
- 4. Should Respondent file written objections to the assessment of costs, within ten (10) days of the date of this motion, specifying the grounds for the objections and the specific elements of the costs to which

¹ Ch. 2003-416, § 19, Laws of Fla., effective September 15, 2003, amended Section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes (2003), to include the underlined language.

amount of costs to be assessed based upon its consideration of the affidavit attached as Exhibit A and any timely-filed written objections.

5. Petitioner requests that the Board grant this motion and assess costs in the amount of \$6,488.07 as supported by competent, substantial evidence. This assessment of costs is in addition to any other discipline imposed by the Board and is in accordance with Section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes (2003).

WHEREFORE, the Department of Health requests that the Board of Medicine enter a Final Order assessing costs against Respondent in the amount of \$6,488.07.

DATED this day of May, 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin G. Neja

Assistant General Counsel

Florida Bar No. 0702129

Department of Health

Prosecution Services Unit

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-65

Tallahassee, FL 32399-3265

(850) 245-4640 office

(850) 245-4681 facsimile

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished via return receipt, certified mail requested, to: William John Johns, III, M.D. 8404 Red Bay Court, Vero Beach, Florida 32963 and 4310 Seagull Drive, New Port Richey, Florida 34652, on this 32963 day of May, 2008.

Kevin G. Neja

Assistant General Counsel

KGN:sdw

AFFIDAVIT OF FEES AND COSTS EXPENDED

STATE OF FLORIDATIONS

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared JAMES R. COOKSEY, who was sworn and states as follows:

- 1) My name is James R. Cooksey.
- I am over the age of 18, competent to testify, and make this affidavit upon my own personal knowledge and after review of the records at the Florida Department of Health (DOH).
- 3) I am a Operations Management Consultant for the Consumer Services Unit for DOH. The Consumer Services Unit is where all complaints against Florida health care licensees (e.g., medical doctors, dentists, nurses, respiratory therapists) are officially filed. I have been in my current job position for more than one year. My business address is 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-75, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3275.
- 4) As a Operations Management Consultant, my job duties include reviewing data in the Time Tracking System and verifying that the amounts correspond. The Time Tracking System is a computer program which records and tracks DOH's costs regarding the investigation and prosecution of cases against Florida health care licensees.
- 5) As of today, DOH's total costs for investigating and prosecuting DOH case number 2007-21821 (Department of Health v. William John Johns, III, M.D. are six thousand four hundred eighty-eight dollars and seven cents (\$6488.07).
- 6) The costs for DOH case number 2007-21821 (Department of Health v. William John Johns, III, M.D.) are summarized in Exhibit 1 (Cost Summary Report), which is attached to this document.
- 7) The itemized costs and expenses for DOH case number 2007-21821 (Department of Health v. William John Johns, III, M.D.) are detailed in Exhibit 2 (Itemized Cost Report and Itemized Expense Report and receipts), which is attached to this document.
- 8) The itemized costs as reflected in Exhibit 2 are determined by the following method: DOH employees who work on cases daily are to keep track of their time in six-minute increments (e.g., investigators and lawyers). A designated DOH employee in the Consumer Services

Unit, Legal Department, and in each area office, inputs the time worked and expenses spent into the Time Tracking System. Time and expenses are charged against a state health care Board (e.g., Florida Board of Medicine, Florida Board of Dentistry, Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine), and/or a case. If no Board or case can be charged, then the time and expenses are charged as administrative time. The hourly rate of each employee is calculated by formulas established by the Department. (See the Itemized Cost Report)

9) James R. Cooksey, first being duly sworn, states that he has read the foregoing Affidavit and its attachments and the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

James R. Cooksey, Affiant

State of Florida County of Leon

Sworn to and subscribed before me this ______day of ______by James R. Cooksey, who is personally known to me.

Notary Signature

Name of Notary Printed

Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public:

Complaint Cost Summary

Complaint Number: 200721821

Complainant's CITZENS COMMISSIOR ON

Name:

HUMAN RIGHTS OF FL

Subject's Name: JOHNS, WILLIAM JOHN III

d	***** Cost to	Date *****
	Hours	Costs
Complaint:	1.00	\$38.72
Investigation:	18.60	\$1,240.05
Legal:	48.90	\$4,998.41
Compliance:	0.00	\$0.00
Ĭ.	******	*****
Sub Total:	68.50	\$6,277.18
Expenses to Date:		\$210.89
Prior Amount:		\$0:00
Total Costs to Date:		\$6,488.07

Division of Medical Quality Assurance



Report Date: 05/07/2008

Time Tracking System Itemized Cost by Complaint

Complaint 200721821

Page 1 of 3

Staff Code	Staff Code Activity Hours	Staff Rate	Cost	Activity Date	ctivity Date Activity Code	Activity Description
CONSUM	CONSUMER SERVICES UNIT	INIT				
HAIII	1.00	\$38.72	\$38.72	08/13/2007	78	INITIAL REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF COMPLAINT
Sub Total	1.00	k	\$38.72			
INVESTIC	INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES UNIT	ES UNIT				
			27.77.00	2001140002		POLITINE INVESTIGATIVE WORK
W181	2.20	200.67	\$140.0/	08/14/2007	,	NOCILIA INVESTIGATIVE WORK
W181	2.20	29999	\$146.67	08/15/2007	4	ROUTINE INVESTIGATIVE WORN
W/181	1.30	29995	\$86.67	08/20/2007	4	ROUTINE INVESTIGATIVE WORK
W/fg1	0.40	\$66.67	\$26.67	08/22/2007	4	ROUTINE INVESTIGATIVE WORK
W.18.1	2.30	\$66.67	\$153.34	08/24/2007	4	ROUTINE INVESTIGATIVE WORK
W/181	0.80	266.67	\$53,34	08/28/2007	4	ROUTINE INVESTIGATIVE WORK
181/1	1.30	\$66.67	\$86.67	08/29/2007	4	ROUTINE INVESTIGATIVE WORK
W181	0.40	266.67	\$26.67	09/04/2007	4	ROUTINE INVESTIGATIVE WORK
WI&I	2.90	266.67	\$193.34	09/07/2007	4	ROUTINE INVESTIGATIVE WORK
WIST	1.70	\$66.67	\$113.34	10/02/2007	9	SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION
WISI	06.1	\$66.67	\$126.67	10/03/2007	9	SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION
W181	1.20	\$66.67	\$80.00	10/04/2007	9	SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION

PROSECUTIO	N SERVICES UNT	: UNIT		
HLL55D	3.00	\$97.54	\$292.62	09/12/2007
HLL55D	0.50	\$97.54	\$48.77	09/12/2007
HLLSSD	0.20	\$97.54	\$19.51	09/12/2007
HLLSSD	3.00	\$97.54	\$292.62	09/14/2007
HLLSSD	0.80	\$97.54	\$78.03	09/18/2007
HLL55D	09.0	\$97.54	\$58.52	09/18/2007
HLLSSD	2.00	\$97.54	\$195.08	09/19/2007

\$1,240.05

18.60

Sub Total

ESO/ERO ESO/ERO TELEPHONE CALLS

ESO/ERO ESO/ERO ESO/ERO

ESO/ERO

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Report Date: 05/07/2008

Time Tracking System Itemized Cost by Complaint

Complaint 200721821

Page 2 of 3

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\$91.00 \$91.00 \$91.00 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56	11/14/2007	70 CONFERENCE	CONFERENCES WITH LAWYERS
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\$91.00 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56	11/20/2007	35 TELEPHONE CALLS	CALLS
\$91.00 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56	11/26/2007	6 SUPPLEMENT	SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION
\$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56	12/05/2007	25 REVIEW CASE FILE	SPILE
\$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56	01/22/2008		PREPARATION OF OR REVISION OF A PLEADING
\$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56	101/22/2008	47 TRIAL PREPARATION	RATION
\$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56	02/02/2008	91 BOARD MEET	BOARD MEETING PREPARATION
\$111.56 \$111.56 \$111.56	02/19/2008	70 CONFERENCE	CONFERENCES WITH LAWYERS
\$111.56 \$111.56	02/25/2008	91 BOARD MEET	BOARD MEETING PREPARATION
\$111.56	04/02/2008	64 LEGAL ADVIC	EGAL ADVICE/DISCUSSION - BOARD OFFICE, DEPT STAFF OR ATTY GEN OFF.
	04/02/2008	70 CONFERENCE	CONFERENCES WITH LAWYERS
\$111.56	04/02/2008	70 CONFERENCE	CONFERENCES WITH LAWYERS
35 1113	04/02/2008	70 CONFERENCE	CONFERENCES WITH LAWYERS



Report Date: 05/07/2008

Time Tracking System Itemized Cost by Complaint

Complaint 200721821

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Staff Code	taff Code Activity Hours	Staff Rate	Cost	Activity Date	Activity Code	e Activity Description	
47.0	01.0	45 1113	TA 853	04/02/2008	02	CONFERENCES WITH LAWYERS	
HLL24D	0.70			000000000	96	CONFEDENCES WITH LAWYERS	
HI.L24B	0.30	\$111,56	\$33.4/	04/07/7008	?		
HI I 55D	0.70	\$111.56	\$78.09	04/02/2008	46	LEGAL RESEARCH	
CIT I SSD	0.70	\$111.56	\$78.09	04/02/2008	46	LEGAL RESEARCH	
ELCOUR.	901	\$111.56	9	04/04/2008	16	BOARD MEETING PREPARATION	i
UL I 24B	090	\$111.56		04/04/2008	28	TRAVEL TIME	
UI I 24R	0.80	\$111.56		04/05/2008	99	BOARD OR BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
UL 1 24B	00 -	\$111.56	\$111.56	04/06/2008	58	TRAVEL TIME	
ULI 24B	0.30	\$111.56		04/07/2008	26	PREPARE OR REVISE MEMORANDUM	
HLL24B	1.50	\$111.56	•	04/08/2008	70	CONFERENCES WITH LAWYERS	
U1 1 55D	05.0	\$111.56		04/22/2008	.92	REPORT PREPARATION	
HI I SSD	0.10	\$111.56		04/30/2008	35	TELEPHONE CALLS	
HI I SSD	0.20	\$111.56	\$22.31	04/30/2008	35	TELEPHONE CALLS	
HI I SSD	06.0	\$111.56	4	04/30/2008	37	REVIEW LETTER	
HI I 55D	0,40	\$111.56	\$44.62	05/01/2008	56	PREPARE OR REVISE MEMORANDUM	88
HI.I.SSD	06.0	\$111.56		05/01/2008	54	PREPARE OR REVISE BRIEF	
HI1.55D	1.90	\$111.56	\$211.96	05/02/2008	16	BOARD MEETING PREPARATION	
HLLSSD	1.70	\$111.56	\$189.65	05/02/2008	25	REVIEW CASE FILE	
HLL55D	1.10	\$111.56	\$122.72	05/05/2008	16	BOARD MEETING PREPARATION	
Sub Total	48.90		\$4,998.41				

-- FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY --

\$6,277.18

Total Cost

Itemizedcost

Florida Department of Health



Time Tracking System Itemized Expense by Complaint

Complaint 200721821

t Date:	Report Date: 05/07/2008		٠	Ä	Page 1 of 1
Staff Code	Expense Date	Expense Amount	Expense Code	Expense Code Description	
SECUT	DSECUTION SERVICES UNIT				1
HLLSSD HLLSSD	10/22/2007 02/28/2008	\$10.89	133100	LEGAL & OFFICIAL ADVERTISEMENTS PRINTING & REPRODUCTION	
9.●5	SubTotal Total Expenses	\$210.89 \$210.89	100		

Remizedexpense

Final Order No. DOH-07-2077- CO-MOA FILED DATE - 10 - 1 - 57

Department of Health

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

IN RE:

The Emergency Suspension of the License of

William John Johns, III M.D. License Number: ME 87813 Case Number 2007-21821

ORDER OF EMERGENCY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., MPH, State Surgeon General, ORDERS the Emergency Suspension of the license to practice as a medical doctor of William John Johns, III M.D. (hereinafter referred to as "Dr. Johns"). Dr. Johns holds license number ME 87813. His address of record is 8404 Red Bay Court, Vero Beach, Florida 32963. The following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law support the Emergency Suspension of Dr. Johns' license to practice as a medical doctor in the State of Florida.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Department of Health ("Department") is the state department charged with regulating the practice of medicine pursuant to Chapters 20, 456 and 458, Florida Statutes. Section 456.073, Florida Statutes, authorizes the State Surgeon General to summarily suspend Dr. Johns' license to practice as a medical doctor in the State of Florida, in accordance with Section 120.60(6), Florida Statutes.
- 2. At all times material to this order, Dr. Johns was licensed as a medical doctor in the State of Florida, pursuant to Chapter 458, Florida Statutes, and practicing as a child psychiatrist.
- 3. On or about July 23, 2006, Dr. Johns was charged in a four count indictment in incident number 03907-2006, in New York State Supreme Court in and for

New York County. Dr. Johns was indicted for attempted murder in the second degree,

attempted kidnapping in the second degree, assault in the second degree, and

endangering the welfare of a child.

4. On or about April 10, 2007, Dr. Johns' pleaded not responsible by reason

of mental disease or defect of the attempt to commit the crime of kidnapping in the

second degree. In light of the plea, the other counts were dismissed.

5. A transcript of the proceeding, the facts of which are not disputed by Dr.

Johns, and an Order of the Court committing Dr. Johns to a secure facility, reveal Dr.

Johns was first diagnosed in 2004 with a Major Depressive Disorder. That diagnosis

was changed to Bipolar II Disorder in 2005. He has a history of psychiatric care,

alcoholism, depression and attention deficit disorder.

6. The transcript reveals Dr. Johns suffered a previous setback approximately

two years ago. In that episode, after opening his own practice, Dr. Johns fell into a

deep depression, failed to take his anti-psychotic medication and became non-compliant

with his treatment, cumulating in hospitalization.

7. In the most recent episode, shortly before his arrest in New York, Dr.

Johns again began feeling stressed with work and relationship issues. In response, Dr.

Johns stopped taking his medication, stopped seeing patients and fired his receptionist

in a rambling phone call. He believed he was a character in a movie and that other

people were actually actors observing him. In response, his psychiatrist tried to treat

In Re: Emergency Suspension of the License of

William John Johns, III, M.D. License No. ME 87813

Case Number 2007-21821

him by increasing his antidepressant medication which was delivered by a patch worn

on his arm.

8. Dr. Johns' behavior was so strange that a lifelong friend, Dr. Jon Windom,

drove three hours to visit him after receiving a bizarre telephone call from Dr. Johns.

Just after he and Dr. Windom rented a video and ordered a pizza at Dr. Johns' home,

Dr. Johns stated that he had to go, and left. From his home in Florida, Dr. Johns

impulsively traveled to New York City. Along the way he tore the medication patch from

his arm and threw it away. During the drive, Dr. Johns heard voices and at times

thought he was Jesus Christ. He believed people were praising him and pressing him to

save people, particularly children.

9. Once in New York City, Dr. Johns abandoned his automobile and gave his

wallet, credit cards and money to a Hilton Hotel restaurant employee stating that he

was Jesus Christ and would not have a need for them.

10. Dr. Johns then traveled to the terminals and piers on the West side of

Manhattan and began watching families and children in a play area. He became fixated

on a two-year old boy playing with his mother in an outdoor area. Dr Johns related that

there were certain moments where he thought the child was an alien, or super-human,

but later determined that the child was in danger of falling in the water or being hit by a

bus, and had to be saved from his mother who was from outer space. Dr Johns

approached the mother and stood inappropriately close to her without saying anything.

He then grabbed the child away from her. When the mother attempted to intervene,

In Re: Emergency Suspension of the License of

Case Number 2007-21821

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Dr. Johns grabbed the child more forcefully. When the mother attempted to flee, Dr

Johns realized that he would not be able to take the child; instead, he decided to "take

care" of the mother. Dr. Johns grabbed her from behind, pushed her to the ground,

climbed on top of her and choked her into unconsciousness. When Dr. Johns saw

several men approaching, he felt the need to tighten his grip because he was afraid the

men would stop him and the woman would go free. Ultimately, the men were able to

free the victim and held Dr. Johns until the police arrived. Dr. Johns has been

incarcerated since his arrest.

11. Following his plea of non-responsibility, Dr. Johns was committed to the

custody of the Commissioner of Mental Health of the State of New York for an

examination to determine his current mental condition, and to determine the degree of

confinement or supervision necessary both to treat Dr. Johns and at the same time

safeguard the public.

12. Dr. Johns' indicated his intent to return to Florida and proposed "day

treatment" at a psychiatric facility in Florida. His plan relied in large measure on the

ability of his family and friends to monitor his medication compliance and sound an

appropriate alarm if Dr. Johns should exhibit signs of manic behavior.

13. On or about August 30, 2007, the Court rejected his request and found

Dr. Johns to be "dangerously mentally ill". He was committed to a secure treatment

facility in the State of New York for a period of six months. The court found that Dr.

Johns' proposal to be treated in Florida was too vague to insure his psychiatric stability,

In Re: Emergency Suspension of the License of

Case Number 2007-21821

and emphasized that Dr. Johns' family and friends do not live in his community in

Florida and are the same people who were monitoring him before he bolted for New

York.

14. The Court found that if Dr. Johns' treating physicians determine that he no

longer requires that high a level of secure care and he no longer is "dangerously

mentally ill," he may petition the court to review his status and request for treatment in

a non-secure treatment facility in Florida.

The safety of Dr. Johns' patients cannot be assured. Dr. Johns' conduct, 15.

which culminated in his plea of not responsible by reason of mental disease or defect,

constitutes a breach of the trust and confidence placed on him by the issuance of a

license to practice medicine in the State of Florida. This breach is particularly

compelling in Dr. Johns' case because his behavior resulted in physical danger to a

minor child and a brutal assault on a mother coming to the aid of her child. Dr. Johns'

behavior and history of psychiatric care represent a significant likelihood that a

continuation of this type of incident will occur, and Dr. Johns' will cause harm to

patients. This probability constitutes an immediate danger to the health, safety, and

welfare of the citizens of the State of Florida.

16. Dr. Johns cannot be trusted to exercise sound judgment and good moral

character in the practice of medicine. Dr. Johns' ability to practice medicine at this time

is severely impaired based on the information provided to the Department and

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In Re: Emergency Suspension of the License of

constitutes an immediate serious threat to the public health, safety, or welfare. Nothing

short of suspending Dr. Johns' license will adequately protect the public.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Surgeon General has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section

20.43 and 456.073, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 458, Florida Statutes.

2. The Surgeon General concludes that Dr. Johns has violated Section

458.331(1)(s) Florida Statutes, by being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill

and safety by reason of illness or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or other type

of material, or as a result of a mental or physical condition.

3. The Surgeon General finds that Dr. Johns' continued practice as a

physician constitutes an immediate and serious danger to the health, safety and welfare

of the public and that this summary procedure is fair under the circumstances to

adequately protect the public.

WHEREFORE, in accordance with Section 120.60(6), Florida Statutes it is

ORDERED THAT:

1. The license of William John Johns, III M.D., license number ME 87813, is

immediately suspended.

2. A proceeding seeking formal suspension or revocation of the license to

practice as a physician of William John Johns, III M.D, will be promptly instituted and

acted upon in compliance with Section 120.569, Florida Statutes and this order shall be

filed in accordance with Section 120.60(6), Florida Statutes.

In Re: Emergency Suspension of the License of

DONE and ORDERED this _____ day of October______, 2007.

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.

State Surgeon General

PREPARED BY:
Kevin G. Neja
Assistant General Counsel
Florida Bar No. 0702129
DOH, Prosecution Services Unit
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-65
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3265
(850) 245-4640 Office
(850) 245-4680 Facsimile

In Re: Emergency Suspension of the License of

William John Johns, III, M.D. License No. ME 87813 Case Number 2007-21821

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW

Pursuant to Section 120.60(6), and 120.68, Florida Statutes, the Department's findings of immediate danger, necessity, and procedural fairness shall be judicially reviewable. Review proceedings are governed by the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. Such proceedings are commenced by filing one copy of a Petition for Review in accordance with Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Department of Health and a second copy of the petition accompanied by a filing fee prescribed by law with the District Court of Appeal within 30 days of the date this Order is filed.

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In Re: Emergency Suspension of the License of

William John Johns, III, M.D. License No. ME 87813 Case Number 2007-21821