

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL)	
REGULATION of the State of Illinois,)	
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION,)	
)	
)	
Complainant,)	
v.)	No. 2017-04230
)	
Joseph Mason, M.D.,)	
License No. 036.065073,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

CONSENT ORDER

The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation of the State of Illinois (“Department”), through Angie Chen, one of its attorneys, and Joseph Mason, M.D. (“Respondent”), through his attorney, Edward Bruno, hereby agree to the following.

STIPULATIONS

Respondent holds a Certificate of Registration as a Physician and Surgeon in the State of Illinois, License No. 036.065073, issued by the Department. Said license is currently in “Active” status. At all times material to the matter set forth in this Order, the Department had jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties herein.

The Department received information concerning allegations that Respondent resigned his previous employment due to improper clozapine prescription practices and incomplete compliance with REMS (Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy) protocols. The allegations if proven to be true would constitute grounds for the Department to discipline Respondent’s license as a Physician and Surgeon on the authority of 225 ILCS 60/22(A)(5), relying on the Rules for the Administration of the Medical Practice Act, 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1285.240.

On June 16, 2021, an informal conference was held via WebEx. Present on behalf of the Illinois Medical Disciplinary Board ("Board") was Dr. Umang Patel. Present on behalf of the Department were Frank Lamas and Angie Chen (respectively, Chief of Medical Prosecutions and Staff Attorney). Respondent appeared with his attorney, Edward Bruno. Also present at Respondent's behest was Dr. David Kelner (Chief Psychiatrist, Director of Department of Mental Health, Cermak Health Services-Cook County Jail, Cook County Health and Human Services). Dr. Kelner is Respondent's supervisor at his present employment with Cook County. During the conference, Respondent provided relevant information regarding his training, experience, and his current, up-to-date utilization of REMS at his current work, involving treating detainees at Cermak Health Services-Cook County Jail. Dr. Kelner stated that Respondent has demonstrated skill, competency and compliance with all treatment and prescription protocols (for clozapine and all other medications) since Respondent was hired in 2017, including adherence to REMS protocols.

Respondent has been advised of the right to a hearing to contest the pending charges and the right to administrative review of any order resulting from a hearing. Respondent knowingly waives each of these rights, as well as the right to administrative review of this Order. Such waiver ceases if this Order is rejected by either the Board or the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation of the Department ("Director"). Respondent has knowingly and voluntarily entered into this Order without any threat or coercion by any person. Respondent acknowledges that he has not relied upon any statement or promise made on behalf of the Department except as set forth herein.

Respondent and the Department have agreed, in order to resolve this matter, that Respondent be permitted to enter into this Consent Order with the Department providing for the imposition of disciplinary measures which are fair and equitable under the circumstances and which are consistent with the best interests of the People of the State of Illinois.

CONDITIONS

WHEREFORE, the Department, through Angie Chen, one of its attorneys, and Joseph Mason, M.D., through his attorney, Edward Bruno, hereby agree to the following:

- A. Respondent's Physician and Surgeon License shall be REPRIMANDED.
- B. Respondent shall complete **five hours** of Category I Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits on the subject of REMS.

- 1. Respondent must seek pre-approval in writing by the Department's Chief Medical Coordinator prior to attendance of said CME. Respondent shall send his written request for pre-approval to the Department's Chief Medical Coordinator at:

**Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Attn: Chief Medical Coordinator
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 9-300
Chicago, IL 60601**

- 2. Respondent shall submit proof of completion of the aforesaid CME within **six months** of the final approval of this Consent Order to the following address:

**Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Attn: Chief Medical Coordinator
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 9-300
Chicago, IL 60601**

- 3. The aforementioned CME may count towards the total required to renew Respondent's license.
- C. Respondent agrees that any violation of the aforementioned terms and conditions of this Order permits the Director to issue an order forthwith mandating the automatic, indefinite, and immediate suspension of his Physician and Surgeon License for a minimum period of twelve months. This suspension shall not preclude the Department from taking any other disciplinary or other actions it deems appropriate. In the event that Respondent contests the factual basis

underlying said indefinite suspension in a written petition that complies with the Department's Rules of Practice in Administrative Hearings, which is filed with the Department within fifteen days of the effective date of the indefinite suspension, then Respondent shall be afforded a hearing on the merits within thirty days from the filing of said petition.

- D. This disposition is considered public discipline for reporting purposes to entities such as the National Practitioner Data Bank.
- E. This Consent Order shall become effective upon signing and approval by the Director.

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**DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
of the State of Illinois**


7/2/2021

Date


Angie Chen
Staff Attorney


6/29/2021

Date


Joseph Mason, M.D.
Respondent

7/1/2021

Date


Edward Bruno, Esq.
Attorney for Respondent

7/21/2021

Date


Member
Illinois Medical Disciplinary Board

THIS ORDER IS APPROVED IN FULL:

Dated this 23rd day of August, 2021.

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
of the State of Illinois;
Mario Treto, Jr., Acting Secretary
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**


CECILIA ABUNDIS
Acting Director

REF: Case No. 2017-04230
License No. 036.065073