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## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE CASE NO. 1951

K.B.M.L.

IN RE: THE LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY HELD BY CHARLES R. NOPLIS, M.D., LICENSE NO., 44044, 9702 STONESTREET ROAD, SUITE 120, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40272

# SECOND AMENDED AGREED ORDER

Come now the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure ("the Board"), by and through its Inquiry Panel B, and Charles R. Noplis, M.D., ("the licensee"), and, based upon the licensee's request to return to the practice of medicine, hereby enter into the following SECOND AMENDED AGREED ORDER:

#### STIPULATIONS OF FACT

The parties stipulate the following facts, which serve as the factual bases for this Second Amended Agreed Order:

- 1. At all relevant times, Charles R. Noplis, M.D. was licensed by the Board to practice medicine within the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- 2. The licensee's medical specialty is Psychiatry.
- 3. The medical license held by the licensee is subject to an Order of Probation, filed of record on March 25, 2019, in KBML Case Number 1752.
- 4. On or about December 10, 2018, the licensee was charged with one (1) count of Domestic Battery (Moderate Bodily Injury), a felony, and Battery (Bodily Waste), a misdemeanor, in Cause Number 15D01-1812-F6-455, in Dearborn County, Indiana for actions against his then-wife.

- 5. On or about April 2, 2019, the licensee pled guilty to an amended charge of Battery Resulting in Bodily Injury, a misdemeanor, and received a sentence of 365 days suspended for 363 days. The charge of Battery by Bodily Waste was dismissed.
- 6. On or about August 12-13, 2019, the licensee was seen at the Vanderbilt Comprehensive Assessment Program ("VCAP") for a fitness-for-duty evaluation.
- 7. The Evaluation Report stated the following:

Dr. Noplis' pattern of behavior, including two formal adjudications for assault, coupled with the results of testing and his self-report, raise concerns about his level of control over his anger and hostility. Although he stated his anger has improved with the assistance of a mindful parenting coach, he continues to state he does not shy away from conflict, is afraid of his own strength, and often does not recognize the need to de-escalate situations. These issues need to be addressed immediately, especially considering reports of an alleged physical altercation with a patient in 2016.

...

Based upon this evaluation, and with a reasonable degree of medical certainty, Dr. Charles Noplis is fit to practice if he enters a contract for monitoring, support and advocacy with the Kentucky Physician Health Program for a period of at least two years.

- 8. The Evaluation Report made recommendations for the licensee, which were adopted into the terms and conditions of an Agreed Order filed of record on December 9, 2019. The Agreed Order was the result of the Board's Inquiry Panel B review of the investigation on November 21, 2019.
- On or about February 14, 2020, the Panel Chair approved the licensee's request to practice
  psychiatry at two (2) locations of Centerstone Louisville, subject to the terms and
  conditions of an Amended Agreed Order filed of record on February 17, 2020.
- 10. As required the by Amended Agreed Order, the licensee attended the three-day professional development course entitled "Program for Distressed Physicians" offered by

- The Center for Professional Health at Vanderbilt University Health Center in Nashville, Tennessee on January 15-17, 2020.
- 11. The Amended Agreed Order required the licensee to completely abstain from the consumption of mood-altering substances, including alcohol, except as prescribed by a duly licensed practitioner for a documented legitimate medical purpose and to maintain his contractual relationship with the Kentucky Physicians Health Foundation ("the Foundation") that he entered into on December 18, 2019.
- 12. On or about July 21, 2021, the licensee self-reported to the Foundation that he had consumed alcohol on two separate occasions. He met with Tina Simpson, M.D., Medical Director of the Foundation on the same day. Dr. Simpson directed the licensee to submit to residential treatment at Florida Recovery Center.
- 13. The licensee was admitted to inpatient treatment at Florida Recovery Center on July 28, 2021.
- 14. The licensee entered into an Interim Agreed Order of Treatment on July 30, 2021.
- 15. The licensee was successfully discharged from Florida Recovery Center on October 27, 2021 with an Axis I diagnosis of alcohol use disorder, severe early remission.
- 16. Florida Recovery Center endorsed the licensee's return to practice three months postdischarge provided he had the advocacy of the Foundation.
- 17. By letter dated January 3, 2022, the Foundation endorsed the licensee's return to the clinical practice of medicine.
- 18. At its meeting on January 20, 2022, the Panel considered the investigation and voted to allow the licensee to return to the practice of medicine subject to the terms and conditions of this Second Amended Agreed Order.

## STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The parties stipulate the following Conclusions of Law, which serve as the legal bases for this Second Amended Agreed Order:

- The licensee's Kentucky medical license is subject to regulation and discipline by the Board.
- Based upon the Stipulations of Fact, the licensee has engaged in conduct which violates
  the provisions of KRS 311.595(4) and (7). Accordingly, there are legal grounds for the
  parties to enter into this Second Amended Agreed Order.
- Pursuant to KRS 311.591(6) and 201 KAR 9:082, the parties may fully and finally resolve
  this pending investigation without an evidentiary hearing by entering into an informal
  resolution such as this Second Amended Agreed Order.

### SECOND AMENDED AGREED ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Stipulations of Fact and Stipulated Conclusions of Law, and based upon the parties' mutual desire to fully and finally address this pending investigation, without an evidentiary hearing, the parties hereby enter into the following SECOND AMENDED AGREED ORDER ("Order"):

- The license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Kentucky held by CHARLES
  R. NOPLIS, M.D., is hereby PLACED ON PROBATION FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5)
  YEARS beginning December 9, 2019.
- 2. During the effective period of this Order, the licensee's Kentucky medical license SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:
  - a. The licensee SHALL NOT perform any act which would constitute the "practice of medicine or osteopathy," as that term is defined in KRS 311.550(10) the diagnosis, treatment, or correction of any and all human conditions, ailments, diseases, injuries, or infirmities by any and all means, methods, devices, or

instrumentalities - unless and until the Panel or its Chair has approved, in writing, the practice location at which he will practice medicine.

- i. The decision whether to approve a particular practice location lies in the sole discretion of the Panel or its Chair. In determining whether to approve a particular practice location, the Panel or its Chair will particularly consider whether there will be appropriate supervision of the licensee, and may also consider the nature of the practice, including the licensee's proposed duties and hours to be worked. In approving such practice location, the Panel or its Chair may include specific conditions/restrictions to ensure patient safety.
- ii. Once approved, the licensee shall not change practice locations without first obtaining written approval by the Panel or its Chair for such change. The parties agree that the Panel or its Chair may require additional conditions and/or restrictions as a condition of it granting approval for a new practice location.
- iii. The licensee is hereby approved to practice psychiatry for no more than forty (40) hours per week at the following locations:

Seven Counties Services 2141 Spencer Court LaGrange, Kentucky 40031

Seven Counties Services 4710 Champions Trace Lane Louisville, Kentucky 40218

- b. The licensee SHALL continue psychotherapy and coaching with a licensed treatment provider, and that provider SHALL provide written quarterly reports directly to the Board outlining the licensee's progress. The licensee SHALL inform the treatment provider of this responsibility and ensure timely compliance.
- c. The licensee SHALL maintain his contractual relationship with the Kentucky Physicians Health Foundation for a period of five (5) years beginning December 9, 2019 and SHALL fully comply with all directives and requirements of that contractual relationship;
- d. The licensee SHALL completely abstain from the consumption of mood-altering substances, including alcohol, except as prescribed by a duly licensed practitioner for a documented legitimate medical purpose. The licensee SHALL ensure that any such medical treatment and prescribing is reported directly to the Board in writing by his treating physician within ten (10) days after the date of treatment. The licensee SHALL inform the treating physician of this responsibility and ensure timely compliance. The licensee's failure to inform the treating physician of this responsibility shall be considered a violation of this Order;

- e. The licensee SHALL be subject to periodic, unannounced breathalyzer, blood and urine alcohol and/or drug analysis as desired by the Board, and under the conditions specified by the Board's testing agent, the purpose being to ensure that the licensee remain drug and/or alcohol-free. The cost of such breathalyzer, blood and urine alcohol and/or drug analyses and reports SHALL be paid by the licensee, and the licensee SHALL pay those costs under the terms fixed by the Board's agent for testing. The licensee's failure to fully reimburse the Board's agent within that time frame SHALL constitute a violation of this Order; and
- f. The licensee SHALL NOT violate any provision of KRS 311.595 and/or 311.597.
- 3. The licensee expressly agrees that if he should violate any term or condition of this Order, the licensee's practice will constitute an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, as provided in KRS 311.592 and 13B.125. The parties further agree that if the Board should receive information that he has violated any term or condition of this Order, the Panel Chair is authorized by law to enter an Emergency Order of Suspension or Restriction immediately upon a finding of probable cause that a violation has occurred, after an ex parte presentation of the relevant facts by the Board's General Counsel or Assistant General Counsel. If the Panel Chair should issue such an Emergency Order, the parties agree and stipulate that the only relevant question for any emergency hearing conducted pursuant to KRS 13B.125 would be whether the licensee violated a term or condition of this Order; and
- 4. The licensee understands and agrees that any violation of the terms of this Order would provide a legal basis for additional disciplinary action, including revocation, pursuant to KRS 311.595(13).

SO AGREED on this 21st day of January, 2022.

FOR THE LICENSEE:

CHARLES R. NOPLIS, M.D.

BRIAN R. GOOD

COUNSEL FOR THE LICENSEE

FOR THE BOARD:

DALE E. TONEY, M.D. CHAIR, INQUIRY PANEL B

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