

**STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON MEDICAL COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the License to Practice
as a Physician and Surgeon of:

SAJID A. RAVASIA, MD
License No. MD.MD.00045273

Respondent.

No. M2022-989

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

The Executive Director of the Washington Medical Commission (Commission) is authorized to make the allegations below, which are supported by the evidence contained in Commission file number 2020-11966.

1. ALLEGED FACTS

1.1 On July 1, 2005, the state of Washington issued Respondent a license to practice as a physician and surgeon. Respondent's license is currently active.

1.2 On or about January 12, 2017, Respondent and his spouse, who is also a physician (debtors), filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy with the United States Bankruptcy Court Eastern District of Washington.

1.3 Following a trial, Judge Frederick P. Corbit, Bankruptcy Judge in the United States Bankruptcy Court Eastern District of Washington issued Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order (Bankruptcy Order) dated August 13, 2020. In the Order, the Bankruptcy Judge DENIED debtors Chapter 7 discharge of debts, explaining that "[t]he principal purpose of the Bankruptcy Code is to grant a 'fresh start' to the 'honest but unfortunate debtor' rather than to people who 'knowingly and fraudulently . . . in connection with [their bankruptcy] case [make] a false oath or account'."

1.4 The Bankruptcy Judge found that the debtors made false oaths during the bankruptcy proceedings related to their income and expenses and that they intentionally made misrepresentations about their income and expenses during the proceedings.

1.5 The Bankruptcy Judge further found that the debtors' failure to provide accurate information regarding Respondent's earning potential was knowing and fraudulent.

//

//

1.6 The Bankruptcy Judge found that the debtors acted with intent to deceive interested parties about the income earned by Respondent's spouse in that the amended schedules continued to reflect a dramatic under-reporting of his income.

1.7 The Bankruptcy Judge also found that debtors' false oath regarding income earned by Respondent was made knowingly, deliberately, and consciously.

1.8 In a statement to the Commission dated November 9, 2020, Respondent stated that he did not lie about his debt and income when filing for bankruptcy.

2. ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

2.1 Based on the Alleged Facts, Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct in violation of RCW 18.130.180(1), (13), and (21), which provide:

RCW 18.130.180 Unprofessional conduct. Except as provided in RCW 18.130.450, the following conduct, acts, or conditions constitute unprofessional conduct for any license holder under the jurisdiction of this chapter:

(1) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, or corruption relating to the practice of the person's profession, whether the act constitutes a crime or not. If the act constitutes a crime, conviction in a criminal proceeding is not a condition precedent to disciplinary action. Upon such a conviction, however, the judgment and sentence is conclusive evidence at the ensuing disciplinary hearing of the guilt of the license holder of the crime described in the indictment or information, and of the person's violation of the statute on which it is based. For the purposes of this section, conviction includes all instances in which a plea of guilty or nolo contendere is the basis for the conviction and all proceedings in which the sentence has been deferred or suspended. Nothing in this section abrogates rights guaranteed under chapter 9.96A RCW;

...

(13) Misrepresentation or fraud in any aspect of the conduct of the business or profession;

...

(21) Interference with an investigation or disciplinary proceeding by willful misrepresentation of facts before the disciplining authority or its authorized representative, or by the use of threats or harassment against any patient or witness to prevent them from providing evidence in a disciplinary proceeding or any other legal action, or by the use of financial inducements to any patient or witness to prevent or attempt to prevent him or her from providing evidence in a disciplinary proceeding;

...

2.2 The above violations provide grounds for imposing sanctions under RCW 18.130.160.

3. NOTICE TO RESPONDENT

The charges in this document affect the public health and safety. The Executive Director of the Commission directs that a notice be issued and served on Respondent as provided by law, giving Respondent the opportunity to defend against these charges. If Respondent fails to defend against these charges, Respondent shall be subject to discipline and the imposition of sanctions under Chapter 18.130 RCW.

DATED: September 19, 2023

STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON MEDICAL COMMISSION

Kyle Karinen

KYLE KARINEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kristin G. Brewer

KRISTIN G. BREWER, WSBA #38494
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL