BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

In re: )
Karl Gene Stonecipher, M.D., ) CONSENT ORDER
) Respondent )

This matter is before the North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") regarding Karl Gene Stonecipher, M.D. ("Dr. Stonecipher"). Dr. Stonecipher admits and the Board finds and concludes that:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The Board is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted it in Article 1 of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the rules and regulations promulgated thereto.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Dr. Stonecipher is a physician licensed by the Board on or about November 16, 1991, license number 34914. At all times relevant hereto, Dr. Stonecipher practiced ophthalmology in Greensboro, North Carolina.

As a result of information coming to the Board’s attention, the Board initiated an investigation related to Dr. Stonecipher in April 2015. The investigation revealed that Dr. Stonecipher
had prescribed controlled and non-controlled substances to family members and a co-worker.

The Board's investigation also revealed that Dr. Stonecipher did not perform appropriate examinations or appropriately document his examination, diagnosis and treatment for these prescriptions. Dr. Stonecipher did, however, provide the Board with medical record documentation of his prescribing.

The Board's investigation did not raise any concerns or in any way implicate Dr. Stonecipher's care of his ophthalmology patients.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Dr. Stonecipher's treatment and prescribing to family members and co-workers constitutes unprofessional conduct including, but not limited to, the failure to conform to, the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice, or the ethics of the medical profession within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(6), which is grounds for the Board to annul, suspend, revoke, condition or limit Dr. Stonecipher's medical license or to deny any application he might make in the future.

PROCEDURAL STIPULATIONS

Dr. Stonecipher acknowledges and agrees that the Board has jurisdiction over him and over the subject matter of this case.
Dr. Stonecipher knowingly waives his right to any hearing and to any judicial review or appeal in this case.

Dr. Stonecipher acknowledges that he has read and understands this Consent Order and enters into it voluntarily.

Dr. Stonecipher desires to resolve this matter without the need for more formal proceedings.

The Board has determined that it is in the public interest to resolve this case as set forth below.

ORDER

Now, THEREFORE, with Dr. Stonecipher’s consent, it is ORDERED that:

1. Dr. Stonecipher is hereby REPRIMANDED for the above-described conduct.

2. Dr. Stonecipher shall obey all laws. Likewise, he shall obey all rules and regulations involving the practice of medicine.

3. Dr. Stonecipher shall notify the Board in writing of any change in his residence and practice addresses within ten (10) days of the change.

4. Dr. Stonecipher shall meet with the Board or members of the Board for an interview at such times as requested by the Board.
5. This Consent Order shall take effect immediately upon execution by both Dr. Stonecipher and the Board, and it shall continue in effect thereafter until specifically ordered otherwise by the Board.

6. Dr. Stonecipher hereby waives any requirement under any law or rule that this Consent Order be served on him.

7. If Dr. Stonecipher fails to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order, that failure shall constitute unprofessional conduct within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(6).

8. Upon execution by Dr. Stonecipher and the Board, this Consent Order shall become a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and shall be subject to public inspection and dissemination pursuant to the provisions thereof. Additionally, it will be reported to persons, entities, agencies and clearinghouses as required and permitted by law including, but not limited to, the National Practitioners Data Bank.
By Order of the North Carolina Medical Board this the 19th day of September, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

By:

Pascal O. Udekwu, M.D., M.D.
President