BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

In re: )
) ) CONSENT ORDER
William H. Harrison Chapman, III, M.D. )
) Respondent.
)

This matter is before the North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") on information concerning William H. Harrison Chapman, III, M.D. ("Dr. Chapman"). Dr. Chapman 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. Chapman is a physician licensed by the Board on November 19, 1994, license number 9401392.

During the relevant times herein, Dr. Chapman practiced general surgery in Greenville, North Carolina.

In October 2015, the Board learned that Dr. Chapman was being investigated by his employer for concerns related to inappropriate prescribing to a family member and a person with
whom Dr. Chapman had a romantic relationship. The investigation also included prescription medications received by Dr. Chapman in an inappropriate manner. Dr. Chapman went on a leave of absence from his prior place of employment on October 12, 2015 and eventually resigned on February 29, 2016. Dr. Chapman has not practiced medicine since October 12, 2015.

Controlled Substance Prescribing to Girlfriend

Dr. Chapman and his girlfriend had been dating for several years and, during that time, she was receiving controlled substance medications from other medical providers for chronic pain, sleeping problems and anxiety. On at least 10 occasions from May 2012 to May 2015, Dr. Chapman prescribed "early refill" controlled substance medications to his girlfriend. This is inappropriate because, in such situations, professional objectivity can be compromised and personal feelings may unduly influence medical care. Dr. Chapman also failed to keep any medical records of his prescribing and specifically violated rule 21 NCAC 32B .1001(c)(4) which prohibits prescribing controlled substances to anyone with whom a licensee is having an intimate relationship.
Requesting Prescriptions for Girlfriend, Family and Dr. Chapman

From on or about January 2015 to July 2015, Dr. Chapman asked four individuals that he worked with and supervised (a medical resident, two medical fellows and a nurse practitioner) to prescribe four controlled substance prescription medications and two non-controlled substance prescription medications for Dr. Chapman's girlfriend knowing that there would not be a legitimate and documented medical provider-patient relationship between the prescribing medical providers and Dr. Chapman's girlfriend.

On or about September 2015, Dr. Chapman asked a physician that Dr. Chapman previously worked with and supervised to prescribe a controlled substance prescription medication for one of Dr. Chapman's immediate family members knowing that there would not be a legitimate and documented physician-patient relationship between the prescribing physician and Dr. Chapman's family member.

From on or about January 2014 to March 2015, Dr. Chapman asked three individuals that he worked with and supervised (two medical fellows and a nurse practitioner) to prescribe two controlled substance prescription medications and four non-controlled substance prescription medications for Dr. Chapman's
personal use knowing that there would not be a legitimate and documented medical provider-patient relationship between the prescribing medical providers and Dr. Chapman.

Dr. Chapman and the North Carolina Physicians Health Program

Dr. Chapman was assessed by the North Carolina Physicians Health Program ("NCPHP") in October 2015. NCPHP concluded that Dr. Chapman is safe to practice medicine and that he does not have any controlled or other substance abuse or dependence problems. However, NCPHP and Dr. Chapman entered into a contract to help Dr. Chapman better understand boundaries so as to avoid prescribing situations such as this in the future. Dr. Chapman is currently in full compliance with his NCPHP contract.

Additionally, Dr. Chapman voluntarily attended the "ProBe: Ethics and Boundaries Program" of the Center for Personalized Education for Physicians on February 23-25, 2016.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Dr. Chapman's conduct, as described herein, constitutes unprofessional conduct including, and not limited to, departure from, or the failure to conform to, the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice 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. Chapman's license to
practice medicine and surgery issued by the Board or to deny any application for a license he may make in the future.

On at least 10 occasions from May 2012 to May 2015, Dr. Chapman prescribed controlled substances to his girlfriend. This conduct constitutes unprofessional conduct and is in direct violation of 21 NCAC 32B .1001(c)(4).

PROCEDURAL STIPULATIONS

Dr. Chapman acknowledges and agrees that the Board has jurisdiction over him and over the subject matter of this case.

Dr. Chapman knowingly waives his right to any hearing and to any judicial review or appeal in this case.

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

The Board has determined it to be in the public interest to resolve this matter as set forth below.

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

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, with Dr. Chapman's consent, it is ORDERED that:

1. Dr. Chapman's North Carolina medical license is hereby ACTIVELY SUSPENDED from October 12, 2015 to April 17, 2016.
2. Dr. Chapman shall maintain his current contract with NCPHP and abide by all of its terms and conditions and follow all recommendations made by NCPHP including, and not limited to, the timely payment of all fees required by NCPHP and the payment of all tests recommended by NCPHP.

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

4. Dr. Chapman shall notify the Board in writing of any change in his residence or practice addresses within ten (10) days of the change.

5. Dr. Chapman shall meet with the Board or members of the Board for an interview at such times as requested by the Board.

6. If Dr. Chapman fails to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, that failure shall constitute unprofessional conduct within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(6) and shall be grounds for the Board to suspend or revoke Dr. Chapman's North Carolina medical license or to deny any application he might make in the future or then have pending for a license.

7. This Consent Order shall take effect immediately upon its execution by both Dr. Chapman and the Board, and it shall
continue in effect until specifically ordered otherwise by the Board.

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

9. Upon execution by Dr. Chapman 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 by and permitted by law including the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Federation of State Medical Boards.

By Order of the North Carolina Medical Board this the 18th day of March, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

By: [Signature]
Pascal O. Udekwu, M.D.
Board President
Consented to this the 3rd day of March, 2016.

William H. Harrison Chapman, III, M.D.

State of North Carolina
County of Pitt

I, Ihuoma Ugoji, a Notary Public for the above named County and State, do hereby certify that William H. Harrison Chapman, III, M.D. appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal

This the 3rd day of March, 2016.

Notary Public

My Commission expires: November 20, 2019

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