IN THE MATTER OF

VICTOR M. IBRAHIM, M.D.

Respondent

License Number: D69059

\* BEFORE THE

\* MARYLAND STATE

\* BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

\* Case Number: 2217-0049A

### **CONSENT ORDER**

## PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On April 4, 2018, Disciplinary Panel A ("Panel A") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") charged **VICTOR M. IBRAHIM, M.D.** (the "Respondent"), License Number D69059, under the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("Health Occ.") §§ 14-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2017 Supp.).

Specifically, Panel A charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Act under Health Occ. § 14-404:

- (a) In general. -- Subject to the hearing provisions of § 14-405 of this subtitle, a disciplinary panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the disciplinary panel, may reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the licensee:
  - (4) Is professionally, physically, or mentally incompetent; [and]
  - (8) Is addicted to, or habitually abuses, any narcotic or controlled dangerous substance as defined in § 5-101 of the Criminal Law Article[.]

On July 11, 2018, a hearing was held before Panel A, sitting as a Disciplinary Committee for Case Resolution.<sup>1</sup> As a result of negotiations occurring before Panel A,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Respondent appeared by telephone. The Respondent's attorneys appeared in person.

the Respondent agreed to enter into the following Consent Order, consisting of Procedural Background, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, Consent and Notary.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

Panel A makes the following Findings of Fact:

#### I. BACKGROUND

- 1. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice medicine in Maryland on April 21, 2009, under License Number D69059. The Respondent's latest license was given the expiration date of June 30, 2018.
- 2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent operated a medical practice named *Regenerative Orthopedic & Sports Medicine*, which has locations at the following addresses: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Suite 200, Washington, DC 2003; and 11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 615, Rockville, Maryland 20852.
  - 3. The Respondent is board-certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation.
- 4. On March 30. 2018, Panel A issued an *Order for Summary Suspension of License to Practice Medicine*, in which it summarily suspended the Respondent's Maryland medical license. Panel A took such action pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2), concluding that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

### II. PRIOR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

5. In or around 2014, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent under Board Case Number 2014-0681 after receiving information that the District of Columbia Board of Medicine (the "DC Board") took disciplinary action against him for

engaging in an inappropriate relationship with a patient and for failing to properly document an examination of the same patient.

- 6. In a Consent Order dated January 29, 2014, the DC Board found as a matter of law that the Respondent's misconduct constituted a violation of the following provisions of D.C. Official Code § 3-1205.14(a): (9) Willfully fails to file or record any medical report as required by law; and (26) Fails to conform to standards of acceptable conduct and prevailing practice within a health profession. Pursuant to the Consent Order, the D.C. Board suspended the Respondent's District of Columbia medical license for six months, which it immediately stayed, and placed him on probation for three years, subject to probationary terms and conditions.
- 7. The Respondent resolved the Board's investigation of him by entering into a Consent Order, dated March 20, 2014, in which the Board found as a matter of law that the Respondent's professional misconduct in the District of Columbia violated the following provision of the Act: Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(21) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority for an act that would be grounds under Health Occ. § 14-404(a).
- 8. Grounds under Health Occ. § 14-404(a) include: Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(3) Is guilty of: (i) Immoral conduct in the practice of medicine; and Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(12) Willfully fails to file or record any medical report as required by law, willfully impedes or obstructs the filing or recording of the report, or induces another to fail to file or record the report.
- 9. Pursuant to the Consent Order, the Board suspended the Respondent's Maryland medical license, which it immediately stayed, and placed him on probation,

subject to his successful compliance with the terms and conditions of the DC Board Consent Order, dated January 24, 2014.

- 10. On January 28, 2015, the DC Board, pursuant to a Termination Order, terminated the terms and conditions it had imposed against the Respondent's medical license pursuant to its January 24, 2014, Consent Order.
- 11. As a result, on March 25, 2015, the Board issued an *Order Terminating Suspension and Probation*, in which it terminated the Respondent's suspension and probation, imposed under its March 20, 2014, Consent Order.

#### III. CURRENT INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

- 12. In or around April 2017, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent under Board Case Number 2217-0049A after receiving information from the Arlington County, Virginia, Police Department that on two dates (January 24 and March 9, 2017), the Respondent had overdosed on controlled dangerous substances ("CDS") and experienced seizures. The Respondent was hospitalized in both incidents.
- 13. In the first incident, on January 24, 2017, emergency services responded to the Respondent's residence after receiving a report that he had overdosed and was having a seizure. After the Respondent regained consciousness, he stated that he had taken and overdosed on Tramadol 25 mg samples (Tramadol is an opioid and Schedule IV CDS).
- 14. In the second incident, on March 9, 2017, emergency services personnel responded to the Respondent's residence to treat the Respondent, who had again overdosed on CDS. After the Respondent was hospitalized, he stated to police that he

had intravenously injected and overdosed on cocaine, and that he had misrepresented that he had taken Tramadol.

- 15. By letter dated June 16, 2017, the Board requested that the Respondent provide a response to allegations that he was hospitalized after overdosing on a CDS.
- 16. By letter dated July 7, 2017, the Respondent, through counsel, provided a written response to the Board in which he admitted to an "addiction" and "overdosed, and needed medical attention, on January 24 and March 9, 2017." The Respondent stated that after the March 9, 2017, overdose and hospitalization, he underwent inpatient treatment and was under the supervision of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia's Physician Health Program.
- 17. On August 28, 2017, the Respondent consented to an under-oath interview by Board investigators. In this interview, the Respondent admitted that he began using cocaine approximately two and one-half years prior to the date of the interview, which over time escalated to use on a weekly basis. The Respondent admitted that his route of ingestion was through inhalation or injection. The Respondent admitted that in both instances where he was transported by emergency medical services to a hospital (*i.e.*, on January 24 and March 9, 2017), he had used cocaine, which precipitated seizures. The Respondent denied telling police/emergency services responders that he used Tramadol. The Respondent claimed that he had not used/abused any CDS since his March 9, 2017, overdose.
- 18. On or about March 13, 2018, the Board received a comprehensive evaluation report concerning the Respondent.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In order to maintain confidentiality, the details of the comprehensive report will not be disclosed in this charging document. The Respondent is aware of the contents of this report.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Panel A concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent violated the following provisions of the Act under Health Occ. § 14-404(a): (4) Is professionally, physically, or mentally incompetent; and (8) Is addicted to, or habitually abuses, any narcotic or controlled dangerous substance as defined in § 5-101 of the Criminal Law Article.

#### <u>ORDER</u>

IT IS thus, by Panel A of the Board, hereby:

**ORDERED** that the Order for Summary Suspension, dated March 30, 2018, is **TERMINATED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland is SUSPENDED for a minimum period of ONE (1) YEAR; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the suspension goes into effect on the date that this Consent Order is signed by the Executive Director of the Board, who signs on behalf of Panel A; and it is further

**ORDERED** that during the period of suspension, the Respondent shall fully and satisfactorily comply with the following terms and conditions:

The Respondent shall enroll in the Maryland Professional 1. Rehabilitation Program ("MPRP"). Within five (5) business days of the effective date of this Consent Order, the Respondent shall contact MPRP to schedule an initial consultation for enrollment. Within fifteen (15) business days of the effective date of this Consent Order, the Respondent shall enter into a Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan with The Respondent shall fully and timely cooperate and comply with all of MPRP's referrals, rules, and requirements, including but not limited to, the terms and conditions of the Rehabilitation Agreement(s) and Participant | Participant

- Rehabilitation Plan(s) entered into with MPRP, and shall fully participate and comply with all therapy, treatment, evaluations, and screenings as directed by MPRP;
- The Respondent shall sign and update the written release/consent forms requested by the Board and MPRP. The Respondent shall sign the release/consent forms to authorize MPRP to make verbal and written disclosures to the Board, including disclosure of any and all MPRP records and files possessed by MPRP. The Respondent shall also sign any written release/consent forms to authorize MPRP to exchange with (i.e., disclose to and receive from) outside entities (including all of the Respondent's current therapists and treatment providers) verbal and written information concerning the Respondent and to ensure that MPRP is authorized to receive the medical records of the Respondent, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records;
- 3. The Respondent's failure to comply with any term and condition of the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement(s) or Participant Rehabilitation Plan(s) shall constitute a violation of this Consent Order;

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that after the minimum suspension period of ONE (1) YEAR, if the Respondent has fully and satisfactorily complied with all the terms and conditions above, and if MPRP finds and notifies the Board that the Respondent is safe to return to the practice medicine, the Respondent may submit a written petition to Panel A to terminate the suspension of the Respondent's license. The Respondent may be required to appear before Panel A to discuss his petition for termination. If Panel A determines that it is safe for the Respondent to return to the practice of medicine, the suspension will be terminated through an order of Panel A, and the panel may impose any additional terms and conditions it deems appropriate on the Respondent's return to practice, including, but not limited to probation, and continuation of the Respondent's enrollment in MPRP; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent allegedly fails to comply with any term or

condition of the Consent Order, the Respondent shall be given notice and an opportunity for a hearing. If there is a genuine dispute as to a material fact, the hearing shall be before an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings. If there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, the Respondent shall be given a show cause hearing before the Board or Panel A; and it is further

ORDERED that, after the appropriate hearing, if the Board or Board Disciplinary Panel determines that the Respondent has failed to comply with any term or condition of probation or this Consent Order, the Board or Board Disciplinary Panel may reprimand the Respondent, place the Respondent on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend or revoke the Respondent's license to practice medicine in Maryland. The Board or Board Disciplinary Panel may, in addition to one or more of the sanctions set forth above, impose a civil monetary fine upon the Respondent; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall not apply for early termination of suspension; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent is responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the conditions of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be a PUBLIC DOCUMENT pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen Prov. §§ 4-101-4-601 (2014 & 2017 Supp.).

July 26, 2018

Christine A. Farrelly

**Executive Director** 

Maryland State Board of Physicians

CONSENT

I, Victor M. Ibrahim, M.D., acknowledge that I was represented by counsel before

entering this Consent Order. By this Consent, I agree and accept to be bound by the

foregoing Consent Order and its conditions.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the

conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to

counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf,

and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by the law. I agree to

forego my opportunity to challenge these allegations. I acknowledge the legal authority

and jurisdiction of Panel A to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this

Consent Order. I affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal any adverse ruling of a

disciplinary panel of the Board that I might have filed after any such hearing.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with counsel,

voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the

language, meaning and terms of the Consent Order.

Signature on File

Victor M. Ibrahim, M.D. Respondent

Read and approved:

Counsel for Dr. Ibrahim

# **NOTARY**

STATE OF D.C.
CITY/COUNTY OF Washington
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this _

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ 23\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2018, before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and City/County, personally appeared Victor M. Ibrahim, M.D., and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notarial seal.

Notary Public

My Commission expires:  $\frac{3/31/2021}{}$ 

