

STATE OF MAINE
BOARD OF LICENSURE IN MEDICINE

In re:) CONSENT AGREEMENT
Ronald D. Oldfield, P.A.)
Complaint No. CR16-264)

This document is a Consent Agreement, effective when signed by all parties, regarding disciplinary action against the physician assistant license in the State of Maine held by Ronald D. Oldfield, P.A. The parties to the Consent Agreement are: Ronald D. Oldfield, P.A. ("Mr. Oldfield"), the State of Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine ("the Board"), and the State of Maine Department of the Attorney General. This Consent Agreement is entered into pursuant to 10 M.R.S. § 8003(5)(B) and 32 M.R.S. §§ 3270-C, 3282-A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. Mr. Oldfield has held a physician assistant license in the State of Maine since January 13, 1998 (current license number PAN564).
2. On January 4, 2017, the Board initiated a complaint following receipt of a mandated report pursuant to 24 M.R.S. § 2506 from Penobscot Community Health Care ("PCHC") stating that Mr. Oldfield's employment was terminated for violating its sexual harassment policy. The complaint identified several instances of alleged sexual harassing conduct engaged in by Mr. Oldfield towards a medical assistant, and an uncomfortable interaction reported by a minor patient's mother. The Board docketed the complaint as CR16-264, and sent it to Mr. Oldfield for a response.
3. By letter dated January 30, 2016 [sic], Mr. Oldfield responded to the complaint. In his response, Mr. Oldfield stated that the accusations

resulting in his termination were “exaggerated out of context items of previous discussions by walk in care staff members and alleged contact that never occurred piecemealed into a complaint that lacked cohesive credit and was filed by a disgruntled colleague and not the individual [he] supposedly harassed.” Mr. Oldfield stated that he had a friendly relationship “with all my team and we often joked with and teased one another.” Mr. Oldfield denied that he engaged in any of the alleged inappropriate conduct. Mr. Oldfield stated that he had short term memory issues associated with his military service.

4. On April 26, 2017, Mr. Oldfield underwent a psychological evaluation requested by the Board.

5. On August 18, 2017, Mr. Oldfield provided the Board with a neuropsychological assessment conducted on June 26, 2017.

6. Pursuant to 32 M.R.S. § 3282-A(2)(F), the Board may impose discipline for engaging in unprofessional conduct by violating a standard of professional behavior that is established in the practice of medicine.

7. At its meeting on September 12, 2017, the Board reviewed Complaint CR16-264, and voted to set this matter for an adjudicatory hearing. In addition, the Board voted to offer Mr. Oldfield this Consent Agreement to resolve this matter without further proceedings. Absent Mr. Oldfield’s acceptance of this Consent Agreement by signing and dating it in front of a notary and mailing it to Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine, 137 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0137 on or before December 6, 2017, the matter will be scheduled for an adjudicatory hearing.

COVENANTS

8. Mr. Oldfield admits the facts stated above and that such conduct constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to 32 M.R.S. § 3282-A(2)(F) (for engaging in unprofessional conduct).

9. As discipline for the conduct described above, Mr. Oldfield agrees to accept the following discipline:

A period of license PROBATION for at least one (1) year subject to the following conditions:

a) Within three (3) months of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Mr. Oldfield must enroll in a disruptive providers continuing medical education course approved by the Case Reporter for Complaint CR16-264. Mr. Oldfield shall submit written evidence of his completion of the pre-approved course to the Board within ten (10) days of course completion;

b) Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Mr. Oldfield shall obtain a substance misuse evaluation through the Maine Medical Professionals Health Program or comparable program approved by the Board ("MPHP"). Such evaluation shall include toxicological testing of his hair or nails. Mr. Oldfield shall submit a copy the written substance misuse evaluation to the Board and must comply with any and all recommended treatment or monitoring contained in the evaluation. Mr. Oldfield shall sign all releases or authorizations necessary for the Board, Board staff, or Board legal counsel to obtain information and communicate with

MPHP and any health care provider who provides him with an evaluation or treatment; and

c) Mr. Oldfield must engage in mental health therapy conducted by a licensed doctorate level professional ("Therapist") approved by the Case Reporter for Complaint CR16-264. The Therapist shall have access to the April 26, 2017 psychological evaluation, the June 26, 2017 neuropsychological assessment, and the completed written substance misuse evaluation required above. Mr. Oldfield understands that the Therapist shall be an agent of the Board pursuant to 24 M.R.S. § 2511. Mr. Oldfield shall cause the Therapist to submit quarterly written reports to the Board confirming Mr. Oldfield's participation and progress in mental health therapy.

Following his completion of one (1) year of mental health therapy, Mr. Oldfield may submit a written request to modify or eliminate the requirements of this subparagraph. Any request by Mr. Oldfield to modify or eliminate the requirements of this subparagraph must include a recommendation from the Therapist regarding the request. Following receipt and review of a request and the Therapist's recommendation, the Board, in its sole discretion, may maintain, modify, or eliminate the requirements of this subparagraph for any remaining period of probation.

10. The duration of any probationary period shall be tolled for: a) any absence from the state that is in excess of thirty (30) continuous days; b) any absence from the state that is in excess of sixty (60) aggregate days in a single year; c) any period in which Mr. Oldfield does not hold an active license or

physician assistant registration. Mr. Oldfield shall inform the Board in writing in advance of any such absence from the state.

11. Mr. Oldfield acknowledges that while this Consent Agreement is in effect he must directly communicate with the Board or Board staff and has the obligation to respond to any request for information or documentation within the timeframe specified or requested. Failure to comply with or respond to any request shall be considered unprofessional conduct and a violation of this Consent Agreement.

12. Violation by Mr. Oldfield of any of the terms or conditions of this Consent Agreement shall constitute grounds for discipline, including but not limited to modification, suspension, or revocation of licensure or the denial of re-licensure.

13. Any conduct of Mr. Oldfield described herein may be considered in future Board action(s) as evidence of a pattern of misconduct.

14. This Consent Agreement is not appealable and is effective until modified or rescinded in writing by the parties hereto.

15. The Board and the Department of the Attorney General may communicate and cooperate regarding Mr. Oldfield or any other matter relating to this Consent Agreement.

16. This Consent Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 1 M.R.S. § 402 and will be available for inspection and copying by the public pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 408-A.

17. This Consent Agreement constitutes discipline and is an adverse licensing action that is reportable to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB), the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB), and other licensing jurisdictions.

18. Nothing in this Consent Agreement shall be construed to affect any right or interest of any person not a party hereto. If any clause of this Consent Agreement is deemed illegal or invalid, then that clause shall be deemed severed from this Consent Agreement.

19. Mr. Oldfield acknowledges by his signature hereto that he has read this Consent Agreement, that he has had an opportunity to consult with an attorney before executing this Consent Agreement, that he executed this Consent Agreement of his own free will and that he agrees to abide by all terms and conditions set forth herein.

20. For the purposes of this Consent Agreement, the term "execution" means the date on which the final signature is affixed to this Consent Agreement.

I, RONALD D. OLDFIELD, P.A., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT AND AGREE WITH ITS CONTENTS AND TERMS. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD. I SIGN THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT VOLUNTARILY, WITHOUT ANY THREAT OR PROMISE. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND, VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE.

DATED: 12/13/17




RONALD D. OLDFIELD, P.A.

STATE OF Maine

Piscataquis, S.S.

Personally appeared before me the above-named Ronald D. Oldfield, P.A., and swore to the truth of the foregoing based upon his own personal knowledge, or upon information and belief, and so far as upon information and belief, he believes it to be true.

DATED: 12/13/17


Heather Weymouth Pomerleau
Notary Public, State of Maine
My Commission Expires April 23 2022
NOTARY PUBLIC/ATTORNEY
MY COMMISSION ENDS: _____


STATE OF MAINE
BOARD OF LICENSURE IN MEDICINE

DATED: 1/9/18


MAROULLA S. GLEATON, M.D., Chair

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT
OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED: January 9, 2018


MICHAEL MILLER
Assistant Attorney General

Effective Date: January 9, 2018