

**Minutes from the Meeting of the  
Medical Licensing Board of Indiana**

**Thursday, July 27, 2023**

**Indiana Professional Licensing Agency  
Room W064  
402 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

**I. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum**

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 a.m.

**Board Members Present:**

John Strobel, MD  
Kirk Masten, DO  
Frank Messina, MD  
Bharat Barai, MD  
Rebecca Mueller, MD

**Board Members Absent:**

Heidi Dunniway, MD  
Victoria McCann, JD

**PLA Staff:**

Alyssa Servies, JD, MPH  
Kiko Dixon

**Advisory Counsel:**

Adam Harvey, JD

**II. Adoption of the Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda.  
Messina/Mueller 5-0-0

**III. Adoption of the Minutes**

**1. June 22, 2023**

The adoption of the minutes was tabled to next month.

#### **IV. Personal Appearances**

**1. Oluyemisi Adeyemi Bero, M.D., Reinstatement**

Applicant failed to appear and will need to be rescheduled.

**2. Pooria Bakheshi, (Initial) Originally Scheduled 6.22.23**

Dr. Bakheshi appeared for a positive response on his application for a post graduate training permit. He is enrolled in Franciscan residency program in Illinois and will be rotating in Indiana hospitals. Dr. Bakheshi had issues with a previous residency program due to his behavior. Specifically, he brought phone into patient care areas. Due to his behavior, he entered into an agreement with his program. Following the agreement, he again brought his phone into a pre-operative area. Dr. Bakheshi resigned from his residency program in June 2021. Dr. Bakheshi is waiting to hear from the Illinois. His application will be tabled to August 24<sup>th</sup> due to a pending Illinois order and other responsive documents.

**3. Kirk Hopkins, MD (Initial)**

Dr. Hopkins appeared on a positive response for an initial application. He had a criminal matter for wire fraud/Medicare fraud because of group psychotherapy billing when he wasn't in the building. This occurred in Illinois. \$3 million in restitution on payment plan. He was in a prison camp for 11 months. Currently on probation until August 2023. His IL license is on suspension and is required to reapply for it. Dr. Hopkins withdrew his application after the Board discussed its precedent of having licensure discipline resolved in other jurisdictions before granting or denying licenses to practice in Indiana.

**4. Robert F. Holloway, M.D. (Initial – Pending Malpractice)**

Dr. Holloway appeared for a positive response on an initial application. He has previous disciplinary action out of Missouri and multiple other issues. The Board requested additional information, including showing proof of passing a pharmacological test, continuing medical education credit hours, and plan to practice in Indiana. The application was tabled.

**5. Sapna Jain-Bhalodia, DO (Initial)**

Dr. Jain-Bhalodia appeared via telephone for a medical malpractice settlement positive response on an initial application. An undiagnosed health condition led to death of patient and a settlement in New Jersey. A motion was made and seconded to approve the application and grant the license. Messina/Mueller 5-0-0.

**6. Anthony Karam, MD (Initial)**

Dr. Karam reported licensure discipline in California and Kentucky on an initial application. Both licenses are now free and clear. A motion was made and seconded to approve the application and grant the license. Strobel/Masten 5-0-0.

**7. Avin Kounsai, MD (Waiver Request)**

Dr. Kounsai appeared on a waiver request because he only has one year of accredited post graduate training. He is eligible for board certification and is waiting to sit for an exam. He also provided letters of recommendation. He also has an assistant professorship with Rush University. A motion was made and seconded to grant the waiver and approve the application and license. Messina/Mueller 5-0-0.

**8. Cheyenne Parris, RD (Initial)**

Parris appeared on a positive response on her initial application, with her counsel Patrick Callahan. She had an OWI in Georgia and her criminal probation should be done in September. There was no action taken on her Georgia license. A motion was made and seconded to approve the application and grant the license. Messina/Mueller 5-0-0.

**9. Aaron Ruderman, MD (Initial)**

Dr. Ruderman appeared for a positive response on his initial application. He appeared with counsel, Ryan Torres. He disclosed that he resigned from his residency program. University of Chicago College of Medicine reported to AMA that the residency program was only partially completed. Dr. Ruderman withdrew his application.

**10. Saad Sikanderkhel, MD (Initial)**

Dr. Sikanderkhel appeared with counsel, Ramsey Jorgenson, for a positive response on his initial application. He was suspended from a hospital in West Virginia after a difference in opinion on a patient care issue. Hospital allowed Dr. Sikanderkhel to voluntarily resign while under

suspension. There was a report made to the NPDB and he has made dispute against it. He has no disciplinary actions in any states. He will be working for Union Hospital in Terre Haute. A motion was made and seconded to approve the application and grant the license. Barai/Mueller 5-0-0.

**11. Scott Zahner, MD (Initial)**

Dr. Zahner appeared for a positive response on his initial application. He entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the DEA after allegations of prescribing to his pet. He surrendered his DEA and got it back after 4 months. He did have to enter a three (3) year monitoring period with the DEA. There was no discipline on any of his licenses. A motion was made and seconded to approve the application and grant the license. Barai/Mueller 5-0-0.

**12. Tiki Bakhshi, MD, Reinstatement**

Dr. Bakhshi appeared via telephone for a positive response on a reinstatement application. January 2022 arrested for DUI in FL. Completed a diversion program in June 2023 and the charge was reduced to reckless driving. Criminal probation also ended in May 2023. He was involved with the FL Board's monitoring program. Currently communicating with ISMA PAP to transfer care via the monitoring program. Left a job in Vegas in August 2021 because he didn't feel like he was being asked to deliver the correct standard of care to patients. This was the last employment he had. He was taking the time to apply to jobs but was not hired. Currently pending employment with Franciscan. No restrictions on FL license. Jennifer Jackson-Harr appeared and confirmed that he is actively working to transfer his monitoring. A motion was made and seconded to grant the reinstatement application once ISMA contract is received. Strobel/Masten 5-0-0.

**V. Discussion Items**

1. OAG Report  
The OAG Report was presented Amy Osborne, Section Chief of Medical Licensing.
2. Director's Report  
The Director's Report was presented by Board Director, Alyssa Servies.
3. Attestations pursuant to SEA 273.
4. 2023 Renewals

## **VI. Administrative Hearings**

### **A. PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS**

#### **1. MIKE WOOLIANG CHOU, M.D., 01058048A**

Cause No.: 2022 MLB 0022

Re: Proposed Settlement Agreement

DAG: Ryan Eldridge

Respondent: Present through counsel, Brian Park

Witness(es): None

Exhibit(s): None

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agreement and place the license on indefinite probation. Barai/Messina 5-0-0.

#### **2. THOMAS EDWARD MORAN, M.D., 01020493A**

Cause No.: 2023 MLB 0009

Re: Petition to Surrender License & Proposed Settlement Agreement

DAG: Ryan Eldridge

Respondent: Present through counsel, Peter Pogue

Witness(es): None

Exhibit(s): None

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agreement and issue a one thousand dollar (\$1,000 fine) and allow the Respondent to surrender his license. Masten/Barai 5-0-0.

### **B. SUMMARY SUSPENSION RENWALS**

#### **1. SCOTT EDWARD MIMMS, M.D., 01068514A**

Cause No.: 2023 MLB 0002

Re: Summary Suspension Agreement

DAG: Britney McMahan

Respondent: Not present

Witness(es): None

Exhibit(s): None

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agreement and renew the summary suspension for an additional ninety (90) days. Messina/Mueller 5-0-0.

**2. WILLIAM DAVID MOORE, M.D., 01043323A**

Cause No.: 2023 MLB 0001

Re: Summary Suspension Agreement

DAG: Carah Rochester

Respondent: Not present

Witness(es): None

Exhibit(s): None

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agreement and renew the summary suspension until a final order is issued in the matter.

Barai/Masten 5-0-0.

**C. FINAL HEARINGS**

**1. CRISTOVAO FRANCISCO VIEIRA, M.D., 01068700A**

Cause No.: 2023 MLB 0005

Re: Proposed Settlement Agreement

DAG: Austin Monroe, Certified Legal Intern, supervised by DAG, Carah Rochester

Respondent: Not present

Witness(es): None

Exhibit(s): None

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agreement which places the license on indefinite probation imposes a three thousand dollar (\$3,000) fine. Barai/Masten 5-0-0.

**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

**Upcoming Board Dates**

**August 24, 2023**

**September 28, 2023**

**October 26, 2023**

**December 7, 2023**

**January 25, 2024**

**February 22, 2024**

**March 21, 2024**

**April 25, 2024**

**May 23, 2024**

**June 27, 2024**

**July 25, 2024**

**August 22, 2024**

**September 26, 2024**

**October 24, 2024**

**December 5, 2024**