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FILED

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**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

~~IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF~~ : Administrative Action
 BRYAN P. CHAMBERS, M.D. :
 :
 FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE : **CONSENT ORDER**
 MEDICINE AND SURGERY IN THE :
 STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners on or about April 12, 1994, upon receipt of an application for a license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey filed by Bryan P. Chambers, M.D. The Board considered the testimony of Dr. Chambers before the Credentials Committee on January 4, 1995, when he waived representation by an attorney and was accompanied by David ^{Diana} A. Canavan, M.D., of the Physicians' Health Program, and reviewed all relevant documentation submitted.

Pursuant to its consideration of Dr. Chambers' application the Board received information from Hahnemann University Hospital in Pennsylvania indicating that in 1993, during his third year of a residency in anesthesiology, Dr. Chambers had been suspended for a period of five days because of failure to follow proper procedures in

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the handling of controlled substances. According to Dr. Chambers, he had failed to return a bag containing narcotics to the pharmacist following surgery and had therefore taken the bag home with him. Dr. Chambers admitted that he was using narcotics, specifically Fentanyl, at the time. Toward the end of 1993, when he was nearing the end of his residency, Dr. Chambers was placed on probation for three months because of behavioral issues pertaining to taking lengthy breaks and marginal performance in the conduct of anesthesia care. Dr. Chambers admitted to the Credentials Committee that he had been using narcotics at that time. However, he completed the residency program in December 1993 and was given full credit.

In March 1994 Dr. Chambers began employment at St. Agnes Hospital in Philadelphia and, according to Dr. Canavan, resumed his use of Fentanyl. Soon thereafter he became involved in negotiations for employment at another hospital and was asked to provide a urine sample. The sample tested positive for Fentanyl. During this period Dr. Chambers was also confronted by the chairman of his department at St. Agnes and, as a result, resigned from his position at that hospital.

Dr. Chambers was questioned on March 4, 1994 about a case in which his patient had been receiving Fentanyl by epidural for pain management following a colon resection, had been in "excruciating" pain, and had therefore been reanesthetized. Dr. Chambers stated that he did not remember exactly how much Fentanyl he had given that particular patient, but admitted that he had diverted Fentanyl for his own use during surgeries by noting a greater amount of Fentanyl on a patient's chart than had actually been administered and taking the rest for himself.

In June 1994 Dr. Chambers admitted himself to the Strecker Unit of the Institute of Pennsylvania Hospital where he completed a twenty-eight day inpatient treatment program for drug abuse on July 21, 1994. Following completion of that program Dr. Chambers became involved with the Physicians' Health Programs of both New Jersey and Pennsylvania. At the time of his meeting with the Credentials Committee in March 1995, Dr. Chambers was participating in the ~~Physicians Recovery Group~~ *Physicians Recovery Group* ~~Outpatient Addiction Treatment Services (OATS)~~ program at the Institute of Pennsylvania Hospital; was attending almost daily meetings of the support group of Alcoholics Anonymous including a physicians group; and was submitting to urine monitoring twice a week. ~~According to his~~ testimony, Dr. Chambers began psychological counseling to address issues concerning "interpersonal relationship problems" during his last year of residency at Hahnemann Hospital. His counseling has continued to date and now encompasses his addiction.

By letter of November 28, 1994, the Board notified Dr. Chambers that, based on the documentation submitted by Hahnemann University, the university had been asked to submit additional information. Dr. Chambers was also asked to update his curriculum vitae to include his activities during the seven months since his application had been filed. By letter of December 2, 1994, Dr. Chambers indicated that he had begun employment at St. Agnes in March 1994 and had made plans to leave there in July 1994 to take a position with an anesthesiology group based at Elmer Community Hospital in Elmer, New Jersey. He stated that because the Board had not granted him a license in time, he had been forced to forfeit that position in September, and that as a result he had been unemployed since July. He did not mention his problems at St. Agnes, nor that a urine analysis

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requested by the Elmer group had been positive for Fentanyl. He did not indicate that he had undergone inpatient drug treatment.

On December 9, 1994, Dr. Chambers wrote again, this time stating that he had planned to leave St. Agnes in July so that he could start work with the Elmer group in September, although he did not explain what he had planned to do during the hiatus. He wrote that in mid-June, approximately three weeks before his scheduled departure, he had been confronted about a report of inappropriate behavior at St. Agnes and that by "mutual understanding" he had left that hospital early. He also stated that he had then told his supervisor that he ~~thought he might have a substance abuse problem and that he was going~~ to admit himself for inpatient treatment, which he did. Again, Dr. Chambers did not note that he had been asked by the Elmer group to submit to a urine analysis, nor that the analysis had been positive for Fentanyl.

The Physicians' Health Program of the Medical Society of New Jersey recommended that a license be issued to Dr. Chambers subject to the restrictions and conditions set forth herein. Dr. Chambers has been offered employment with an anesthesiology practice in Millville, New Jersey, and his employer, Dr. Munoz, is aware of his past problems and has agreed to cooperate as necessary to fulfill the requirements of such restrictions.

~~The parties being desirous of resolving this matter, and the Board finding that the within Consent Order is adequately protective of the public interest;~~

IT IS on this 31st day of March , 1995,

ORDERED that

1. A license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey shall be issued to Bryan P. Chambers, M.D.;

2. Dr. Chambers shall avoid the use of mood-altering substances except for those prescribed by a licensed physician other than himself for legitimate medical reasons;

3. Dr. Chambers shall avoid the company of any individual who is using any illegal substance;

4. Dr. Chambers shall participate in the Physicians' Health Program of the Medical Society of New Jersey and shall comply with all directives and requirements of that organization;

~~5. Dr. Chambers shall meet in person with a representative~~
of the Physicians' Health Program no less often than once per month;

6. Dr. Chambers shall ensure that the Physicians' Health Program submits quarterly reports concerning his status to the Board for no fewer than two years from the date of entry of this Order;

7. Dr. Chambers shall authorize the Physicians' Health Program to release to the Board any negative information concerning his status within 48 hours of its receipt of that information. Such authorization shall be without restriction as to authorization by any other individual or body associated with the Physicians' Health Program;

8. Dr. Chambers shall continue twice-weekly urine monitoring, with the appropriate collection and screening of specimens to be the responsibility of the Physicians' Health Program;

9. Dr. Chambers shall continue his participation in the ~~OATS~~ *Physicians' Recovery Group* program at the Institute of Pennsylvania Hospital. Dr. Chambers shall authorize the ~~OATS~~ group leader to notify this Board of any negative

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information concerning his status within 48 hours of receipt of such negative information, and shall ensure that the group leader agrees to do so;

10. Dr. Chambers shall continue to attend meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous no less often than four times per week, with at least one of those meeting to be a physicians' meeting;

11. Dr. Chambers shall cooperate with the employee assistance program of any New Jersey facility in which he accepts a position or privileges;

~~12. Dr. Chambers shall begin medication with the opiate~~
antagonist Naltrexone immediately upon his employment in New Jersey, with the medication to be administered by his department chairman or the designee of the chairman;

13. Employment by any person or facility other than those already approved by the Board shall be subject to prior approval by the Board.

14. Dr. Chambers shall authorize his employer to submit quarterly reports to the Board concerning his performance and status, and shall ensure that his employer agrees to do so and that the reports are submitted in a timely fashion;

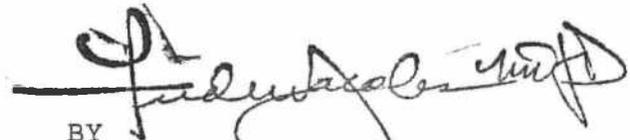
15. Dr. Chambers shall authorize his employer to notify the Board of any negative information within 48 hours of receipt of such
~~negative information, and shall ensure that his employer agrees to do~~
so;

16. Dr. Chambers shall become knowledgeable about any and all foods or food additives or other products which may confound the validity of urine screenings, shall be presumed to possess that

knowledge, and shall refrain from ingesting or otherwise using or employing any such foods or food additives or other products;

17. Dr. Chambers shall notify any state licensing board to which he applies for a license of this consent agreement.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

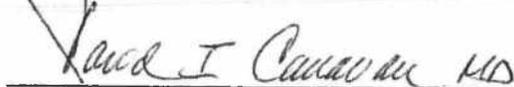

BY _____
Fred M. Jacobs, M.D., J.D.
President

I have read and understood the within Order and agree to be bound by the terms therein. Consent is hereby given for the Board to enter this Order.

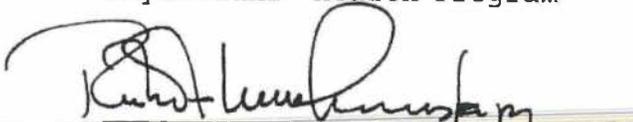


Bryan P. Chambers, M.D.

I have read and understood the within Order and agree to comply with its terms.



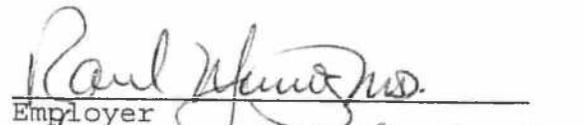
for the
Physicians' Health Program



for the
~~Outpatient Addiction Treatment Services~~, Institute of
Pennsylvania Hospital

Physicians' Recovery Group





Employer
Chairman Dept Geriatrics
South Jersey Hospital System
Willmott Division

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