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**FILED**

JUNE 17, 2010

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

EFFECTIVE NUNC PRO TUNC APRIL 1, 2010

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION : Administrative Action  
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF : **Denying Amendment of Order**  
**Darren James, D.P.M.** : **of Reinstatement of Limited**  
**License No. 25MD00217900** : **Licensure**  
TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY:  
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

This matter was opened to the Board by Respondent's petition to lift the restrictions placed upon his license by the Order of Reinstatement of Limited Licensure filed January 8, 2007.

Respondent's license to practice podiatry was revoked effective April 26, 2000 following his conviction in both Federal and State Court for Medicaid fraud. The Order of Revocation provided that Respondent could reapply for licensure after two years, but that no credit would be provided towards the two year period were Respondent to practice podiatry in any other jurisdiction. The Order of Revocation also required that Respondent complete community service in a non-podiatric setting and pay certain costs and fees and complete a Board approved ethics course.

Respondent applied for full reinstatement of licensure in March 2003 but was denied by Order filed June 20, 2003. Respondent

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY**

again applied for reinstatement, appearing pro se before a Committee of the Board on May 25, 2005, at which time he demonstrated that he had satisfactorily completed the two year requirement and the community service requirement. At the Board's suggestion, Respondent submitted to a practice assessment by the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and agreed to a reinstatement with limitations and a program of remediation.

The program of remediation detailed in the Board's Order of Reinstatement of Limited Licensure filed January 8, 2007 required Respondent submit twenty of his cases for evaluation, from which five would be selected for detailed review by the program representative from New York College of Podiatric Medicine. Respondent was prohibited from performing any soft tissue or any osseous surgical procedures or procedures generally considered the surgical practice of podiatry until such time as the Director of Medical Education of the Board provided written notification to the Board, to Respondent and to New York College of Podiatric Medicine program that Respondent's remedial education was satisfactorily progressing and had reached a stage whereby Respondent might commence a limited surgical practice. At that time, Respondent's limited surgical practice would be supervised by a preceptor, identified as Robert Eckles, D.P.M., who would communicate with the Board's Director of Medical Education as to Respondent's progress along a staged timeline.

Dr. Eckles was to have begun reporting to the Board no later than March 2007 regarding Dr. James' participation in the program outlined by the Order. Only on May 25, 2009 did Dr. Eckles submit a letter to the Board noting that Dr. James had yet to demonstrate sufficient documentation of his clinical capabilities and recommending further continuation and evaluation of clinical experience and surgical procedures.

Respondent petitions the Board to amend the Order to permit him to enroll in a program or seminar that teaches surgical procedures in lieu of requiring a preceptor to review his work. He cites difficulties in assembling the requisite twenty cases as well as the financial burden of the review.

It appears that Respondent has not yet fully satisfied the terms of the Order of Reinstatement of Limited Licensure filed January 8, 2007.

IT IS THEREFORE ON THIS 17TH DAY OF JUNE 2010

ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent's petition to lift the restrictions placed upon his podiatric license by the Order of Reinstatement of Limited Licensure is DENIED.

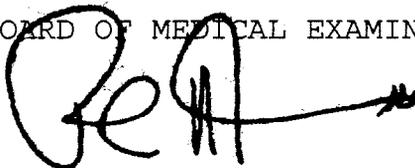
2. Respondent's license to practice podiatric medicine in New Jersey continues with the limitations set forth in the Order of Reinstatement of Limited Licensure filed January 8, 2007.

3. The requirements set forth in the Order of Reinstatement

of Limited Licensure shall be fully and successfully completed and Dr. James shall continue with Dr. Eckles until such time as Dr. Eckles has documented for the Board satisfactory clinical capacity by Respondent.

4. Upon receipt of documentation of his satisfactory completion of the Program surgical preceptorship for soft tissue and osseous surgery of digits as well as metatarsal region, and subsequent one year of reporting by Dr. Eckles, Dr. James can make his request for an appearance before the Board to lift the restrictions in place according the Order of Reinstatement of Limited Licensure filed January 8, 2007.

STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Mendelowitz, M.D.  
President

I have read the within Order and understand it. I agree to be bound by its terms and hereby consent to it being entered by the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darren James, D.P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Preceptor  
To be signed and provided to the  
Director of Medical Education of the Board