
**BEFORE THE MISSISSIPPI STATE
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:
MARK HOWARD FLETCHER, M.D.

ORDER REMOVING RESTRICTIONS

THIS MATTER came on regularly for hearing on July 27, 2023, before the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (hereinafter “Board”), pursuant to Title 73, Chapter 25 of Mississippi Code (1972) Annotated. Mark Howard Fletcher, M.D. (“Licensee”), seeks removal of restrictions prohibiting him to work with nurse practitioners and prescribe controlled substances.

On January 12, 2017, a Consent Order placed Licensee on probation, with the removal of said probation subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Licensee shall attend and successfully complete not less than 10 hours Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses in each of the areas of Medical Ethics, Prescribing of Controlled Substances, and Medical Record Keeping. Any credits for each CME course shall be in addition to the usual forty (40) hours of Category 1 credits required by Board regulation. Licensee will be required to be on-site while taking the CME course(s), as the course(s) cannot be taken on-line or by other means. The CME provider

must be approved by the Board and the Licensee shall submit documented proof to the Board of successful completion of the course(s).

2. Licensee shall obtain the services of a workplace monitor to provide monitoring services, such as those offered by Affiliated Monitors, Inc., or some other Board pre-approved monitor. The monitor shall submit written documentation of his or her credentials and training sufficient to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that he or she possesses the knowledge, skills, and integrity which are reasonably necessary to provide all monitoring services required by the terms of this Order. The Board-approved monitor shall not be owned by or employ person(s) who: (a) is related to the Licensees by blood or marriage; (b) has had a social or professional relationship with Licensee prior to the execution of this Order; (c) receives any compensation of any nature from Licensee; or (d) otherwise has a conflict as determined by the Board.

Upon approval of the selected monitor by the Board, Licensee shall enter into a written agreement with the Board-approved monitor for the performance of the monitoring services. A copy of the agreement shall be submitted to the Board. This agreement shall specifically provide that:

- i) The terms of the Order shall be incorporated into the terms of the monitoring agreement;
- ii) Licensee shall cooperate with the Board-approved monitor and provide the monitor with full and complete access to any and all

notes, documents and other materials which the monitor deems reasonably necessary for the performance of the monitoring services described in the Order;

- iii) Licensee shall be solely responsible for assuring access to all necessary records and notifying any institutional custodian of medical records;
- iv) The monitor will promptly report to the Board any deficiencies in the Licensee's practice which threaten or may threaten the health, safety or welfare of any patients or the public;
- v) Any effort to influence the monitoring process, or the content of any report prepared by the monitor, will be reported to the Board immediately; and
- vi) Licensee is responsible for all costs associated with the execution of the monitoring services, and understands that failure to pay the cost of the monitoring services in accordance with the terms of the agreement for monitoring services may be treated by the Board as a failure to comply with the terms of this Order.

The Board-approved monitor shall conduct reviews of Licensee's practice and records. Such reviews shall occur at least monthly and may include in-person visits to the Licensee's practice location if the monitor deems such visits necessary. Record reviews shall focus on Licensee's prescribing of controlled substances; treatment of family members, friends, and colleagues; diagnosis

and treatment of narcolepsy and attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity; and overall medical practice. The monitor shall also determine if Licensee practices within recognized professional standards of care and complies with applicable laws and regulations. The Board-approved monitor shall randomly select not less than ten (10) patient charts to be reviewed each month. The Board-approved monitor or monitoring company shall report its findings to the Board, in writing, on a quarterly basis. If the Board-approved monitor or monitoring company identifies any problems with the Licensee's practices, Licensee shall submit a written plan for correction of those problems to the Board no later than thirty (30) days after Licensee's receipt of the monitoring report in which the problem was investigated. In the event the Board receives more than two (2) adverse reports in a twelve (12) month period, Licensee will be subject to further disciplinary action. This period of monitoring, which shall begin upon the acceptance by the Board of the above mentioned monitoring agreement, shall be for a period of not less than sixty (60) months or five (5) years, and may be extended if deemed necessary by the Board.

3. Licensee shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and all rules and regulations governing the practice of medicine.
4. Licensee expressly agrees he will not seek an appearance before the Board prior to the completion of the terms of this Order and, further, agrees the terms and conditions in this order, once executed, may not be appealed.

5. Licensee shall reimburse the Board for all costs incurred in relation to the pending matter pursuant to Miss. Code Ann., § 73-25-30, said amount not to exceed \$10,000. Licensee shall be advised of the total assessment by separate written notification, and shall tender to the Board a certified check or money order made payable to the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, on or before forty (40) days from the date the assessment was mailed to Licensee via U.B. Mail to the Licensee's current address.

In September 2018, Licensee requested removal of the requirement that his practice be monitored by Affiliated Monitoring. The Board approved Licensee's request—noting that Licensee had complied with all other terms and conditions in the 2017 Order, and stating that “[a]ll other requirements imposed by virtue of the Consent Order dated January 12, 2017 shall remain in full force and effect.”

At the hearing on July 27, 2023, Licensee appeared before the Board without counsel. Complaint Counsel for the Board was Honorable Paul Barnes. Also present was Complaint Co-Counsel Honorable Stan T. Ingram. Sitting as legal advisor and hearing officer to the Board was Honorable Alexis E. Morris, Special Assistant Attorney General. Board members present for the proceedings were Michelle Owens, M.D, President; Thomas Joiner, M.D.; David McClendon, Jr., M.D., Kirk Kinard, D.O.; Allen Gersh, M.D.; Roderick Givens, M.D.; William Loper, III, M.D.; and Renia Dotson, M.D. Consumer members present were Koomarie “Shoba” Gaymes and Wesley Breland.

The Board received proof that all requirements, including Continuing Medical Education, have been satisfied. Accordingly, the Board finds Licensee's request to remove all remaining restrictions on his license to be well-taken.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Licensee's request for removal of the restrictions to work with nurse practitioners and prescribe controlled substances is hereby approved. Licensee now holds an unrestricted license to practice medicine in the State of Mississippi.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section 73-25-27, that a copy of this Order shall be sent by registered mail or personally served upon Mark Howard Fletcher, M.D.

SO ORDERED, this the 27th day of July 2023.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL LICENSURE**

BY: 
**MICHELLE Y. OWENS, M.D.
PRESIDENT**