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

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:
JAMES LEONARD WOOTTON, III, M.D.

ORDER

THIS MATTER came before the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (hereinafter “Board”), pursuant to Title 73, Chapter 25 of Mississippi Code (1972) Annotated. James Leonard Wootton, III, M.D, (hereinafter “Licensee”) entered a petition to change practice locations to include Louisiana and Kansas, and the same was heard before the Board on November 15, 2023.

In January 2022, the Board suspended Licensee’s Mississippi medical licensure by virtue of a Consent Order. The last formal action of the Board occurred on March 22, 2023, wherein the Board reinstated Licensee’s Mississippi medical licensure with certain restrictions.

The March 2023 Order provided that Licensee successfully complete the following requirements:

(A) Completion of a Board approved intensive treatment program – licensee has completed an intensive treatment program at Pine Grove. That program has

acknowledged that Dr. Wootton is safe to return to practice provided certain recommendations are met. As shown below, Dr. Wootton shall meet all such recommendations. Dr. Wootton shall establish a relationship with the Physician Health Program in Colorado or Alabama, who shall have primary monitoring responsibility to ensure Dr. Wootton is in compliance with the terms of this Order and the recommendations of the Pine Grove evaluation.

(B) Pine Grove recommended existence of a monitoring agreement with Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure to include biannual polygraphs. Dr. Wootton shall sign a monitoring agreement and undergo biannual polygraphs, but given his job opportunities in Colorado, where he currently resides, and potential job opportunities in Alabama, that the monitoring agreement allow such polygraphs to be done in the State of Colorado or the State of Alabama, as the case may be.

(C) Pine Grove recommended that Dr. Wootton work in a highly structured setting and not in solo practice. He currently has an opportunity contingent upon licensing approval to work a clinic setting in a clinic in Mancos, Colorado run by Southwest Memorial Hospital/Southwest Health Systems in Cortez, Colorado as a family practice physician. He will have a workplace monitor (Will Jansen, Practice Administrator) who could provide not only accountability and oversight but also act as a resource for situations that may arise. Should Dr. Wootton decide to accept employment and practice medicine in Alabama, he must submit a practice plan including similar safeguards to the Alabama Board and obtain approval before beginning practice.

(D) Dr. Wootton will not treat himself, family, co-workers, or friends.

(E) Dr. Wootton will work reasonable hours in the 40 to 45 hour per week range with two days off a week. He will request to the extent possible an 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. work schedule with a work break.

(F) In interacting with females, Dr. Wootton will to the maximum extent possible maintain a three-person rule where he has someone else in the room with him while interacting with females.

(G) Dr. Wootton will avoid socializing with staff or patients.

(H) Dr. Wootton will not work with Indian Health Services without approval from the Colorado or Alabama Licensure Boards, to be determined by which of those State permit him to practice.

(I) Dr. Wootton agrees to allow to Will Jansen to be his workplace monitor and has informed him of the issues that led to the suspension of his license. Dr. Wootton agrees to arrange a similar workplace monitoring plan if he obtains employment in Alabama instead of Colorado.

(J) Dr. Wootton agrees to have a PEP recheck six months after he starts work.

(K) Dr. Wootton will seek medical licensure in Colorado or Alabama only after this Order resolving his suspended license with this Board is formally issued. Dr. Wootton agrees to enter into a monitoring contract with the Colorado Medical Board or Colorado Physicians Health Program if possible. Dr. Wootton agrees to enter

a similar monitoring contract with the appropriate authorities in Alabama should he obtain employment and become licensed in the State of Alabama.

(L) Dr. Wootton agrees to discuss with his therapist any interpersonal conflict issues that develop at work prior to directly addressing them and will try at all times use respectful communication with all staff. In addition, he will address issues needing immediate attention with this supervisor to develop a plan of response.

(M) Dr. Wootton will regularly attend individual therapy sessions although he shall be allowed to do so in Colorado or Alabama, as the case may be. This shall be at least monthly until his finances allow for weekly visits.

(N) Dr. Wootton will obtain management for psychiatric medication in Colorado or Alabama, as necessary.

(O) Dr. Wootton will attend regular meetings with his primary care physician for routine check-ups and medication management and any eating concerns. Again, he will obtain this care in Colorado or Alabama as circumstances may require.

(P) Dr. Wootton and his spouse are involved in therapy, him individually and then with his wife as a couple. Dr. Wootton shall participate in the DBT skills training remotely to the extent it can be done over the internet and in person should such be available in Colorado or Alabama.

(Q) Dr. Wootton will refrain from any mind-altering substances, including alcohol and unapproved medications.

(R) Since Dr. Wootton is currently living in Colorado, and may soon be living in Alabama, Dr. Wootton is relieved of any requirement to return to Mississippi for alumni weekends since the issues would be addressed through his regular therapy sessions.

(S) Should Dr. Wootton desire to change practice locations to outside the State of Colorado, or the State of Alabama, should he be accepted to practice there, at any time within five years of this reinstatement, Dr. Wootton shall submit a new practice plan to the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure for Approval. Licensee shall notify the Board if he moves within the next five (5) years.

At the hearing on November 15, 2023, Licensee requested to apply for licensure in Louisiana and Kansas. He noted that he had successfully secured a contract in rural Louisiana. Licensee also noted that there was a position in Kansas that he was pursuing. Additionally, Licensee stated that the job in Colorado fell through, and that he had not successfully acquired a medical license in the state of Alabama.

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; Ken Lippincott, M.D.; Thomas Joiner, M.D.; Kirk Kinard, D.O.;

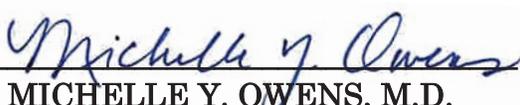
Allen Gersh, M.D.; Roderick Givens, M.D.; and Renia R. Dotson, M.D. Consumer members present were Koomarie “Shoba” Gaymes and Wesley Breland.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Licensee’s request to apply for licensure in Louisiana and Kansas is approved. The same practice conditions, restrictions, and recommendations previously approved by the Board for potential licensure and employment in Colorado and Alabama shall apply to potential licensure and practice in Louisiana and Kansas.

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 James Leonard Wootton, III, M.D.

SO ORDERED this the 15th day of November 2023.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL LICENSURE**

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