

**BOARD MINUTES  
MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2024**

A regularly called meeting of the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure was held on September 25, 2024, at 1867 Crane Ridge Drive, Suite 200B, Jackson, MS, after being duly noticed on the Mississippi Public Notice website, this Board's website, and the front door of the Board's offices in accordance with law.

**A QUORUM OF SEVEN (7) VOTING MEMBERS WAS PRESENT ON JULY 17, 2024:**

Michelle Y. Owens, M.D., Jackson, President (By Zoom until 12:30 p.m.; thereafter in-person)

C. Kenneth Lippincott, M.D., Tupelo, Vice President

Thomas Joiner, M.D., Jackson, Secretary via Zoom

Kirk L. Kinard, D.O., Oxford

Renia Dotson, M.D., Greenville

William E. Loper, M.D., Ridgeland

H. Allen Gersh, M.D., Hattiesburg

Shoba Gaymes, Jackson, Consumer Member

Wesley Breland, Hattiesburg, Consumer Member

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Paul Barnes, Board Attorney, Complaint Counsel

Leyser Hayes, Special Assistant Attorney General

Kenneth Cleveland, Executive Director

Mike Lucius, Deputy Director

Anna Boone, Director of Licensure Division

Jackie McKenzie, Legal Assistant

Ken Slay, IT Project Manager

Jonathan Dalton, Director of Investigations

Frances Carrillo, Executive Assistant

Julie Brown, Court Reporter, Brown Court Reporting

**NOT PRESENT:**

Roderick Givens, M.D., Natchez

The meeting was called to order at 10:24 am, by Dr. Lippincott, Vice President. The invocation was given by Dr. Dotson, and the pledge was led by Dr. Kinard. Dr. Cleveland, Executive Director called Roll and reported there was a quorum present.

Dr. Lippincott introduced Leyser Hayes, Special Assistant Attorney General who will serve as the Board's Hearing Officer, and Julie Brown, Court Reporter with Brown Court Reporting.

### **Executive Director Report**

Dr. Cleveland reported that he and Mrs. Gaymes presented a Proclamation to Major General Erik Hearon, Consumer Member, honoring his service on the Board.

Dr. Cleveland provided an updated summary regarding Licensure and Investigative Division operations for the months of July and August 2024. Dr. Cleveland reported the status of the meeting with the Legislative Budget Office and the proposed budget request for year 2026. Dr. Cleveland asked for the Board to approve the 2026 budget, Dr. Joiner moved for approval of the budget. Dr. Loper seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes of the Executive Committee dated July 17, 2024.**

Upon review of the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting dated July 17, 2024, Dr. Kinard moved for approval of the minutes as submitted. Dr. Dotson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting dated July 17, 2024.**

Upon review of the minutes of the Board Meeting dated July 17, 2024, Dr. Kinard moved for approval of the minutes as submitted. Dr. Loper seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

### **Report of August 22, 2024, Specially Called Executive Committee Meeting.**

Dr. Lippincott reported on the matters considered by the Executive Committee on August 22, 2024, and the recommendations made.

A motion was made by Dr. Kinard, seconded by Dr. Loper, and carried, to accept the report and ratify the recommendations as reported by the Executive Committee.

### **Approval of Minutes of the Specially Called Executive Committee Meeting dated August 22, 2024.**

Upon review of the minutes of the Board Meeting dated August 22, 2024, Dr. Kinard moved for approval of the minutes as submitted. Dr. Loper seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

### **Report of September 25, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting**

Dr. Lippincott reported on the matters considered by the Executive Committee on September 25, 2024, and the recommendations made.

A motion was made by Dr. Loper, seconded by Dr. Kinard, and carried, to accept the report and ratify the recommendations as reported by the Executive Committee.

### **REPORT FROM PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

Dr. Kinard reported the committee had a meeting regarding a general update from Physician Assistant Organization by Mr. Ibarra introducing new members and the biggest concern raised was about recent Legislation that was proposed (but failed to pass) that would have prohibited nurse practitioners or physician assistants from manning an emergency department without physician oversight. It was recommended they reach out to MSMA for further in state CME development and support. The PAs requested to be included in the new PA Compact licensing program.

Dr. Cleveland reported a general discussion about use of laser devices without immediate supervision of a collaborating physician.

### **SEMAGLUTIDE WAIVER REQUEST**

Dr. Jennifer Bryan introduced herself to the Board and summarized her training and specialty in the practice of Family Medicine. Dr. Jennifer Bryan requested for an exemption for the GLP-1 receptor agonist and GLP-1/GIP receptor drug classes from the MSBML's Regulation, The Use of Diet Medication, Rule 1.5(F) to allow providers the ability to prescribe these classes of medications off-label to treat obesity.

Upon a motion by Dr. Kinard, seconded by Dr. Joiner, and carried unanimously the Board **APPROVED** the request for this waiver and proposed language addition.

### **CRNA COLLABORATION**

Mr. Barnes briefly summarized the issue relating to a request for a Declaratory Opinion heard at the March 2024 Board hearing regarding the appropriateness of CRNAs being permitted to collaborate with anesthesiologists remotely. The Board found that the request did not meet the procedural requirements of the rules and declined to issue a Declaratory Opinion. A request for an exemption was initially on the agenda for the September meeting for a CRNA at a remote surgery center to be allowed to collaborate with an anesthesiologist at a remote location. However, the exemption request was withdrawn, and the proponents state they plan on bringing it to the Board in November. As there were several Anesthesiologists who came to the Board meeting specifically to speak on the proposed exemption request, the Board determined it would be appropriate to hear from these licensees because this issue is very likely to come before the Board again in the future.

Dr. Ann Rea, with the Mississippi Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), introduced herself and gave her opposition on the practice of collaboration between CRNAs and anesthesiologist remotely, how it is different from office practice, and the differences

between the regulations on the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure's website and the Board of Nursing website. The mileage rates do not apply to the practice of anesthesiologist and CRNAs. Anesthesiology is a hands-on practice. Anesthesiologists and nurse anesthetists work together as a team and is the practice model defined by the American Society of Anesthesiologists and is also the model defined and put together with the CMS. Medical direction and supervision are defined by ASA and CMS which requires the anesthesiologist to be immediately available.

Dr. Michael Stout, a member of the Mississippi Society of Anesthesiologists, gave his opposition to an anesthesiologist collaborating with CRNAs.

Dr. Hess Robertson, an anesthesiologist and ICU physician, introduced himself and gave his opposition to an anesthesiologist collaborating with CRNAs from a distance. The collaborating anesthesiologist needs to be on location.

Julie Mitchell, Esq., introduced herself to the Board and stated that in Mississippi the regulations require an anesthesiologist to be on site, immediately available to the CRNAs. The question to the Board is "can we afford that in Mississippi?" Twenty-seven states have opted out of that model due to the limited access to anesthesiologists. The leading national model from the Anesthesia Association is to use the collaborative approach. CMS does require that an anesthesiologist or other physician be on site unless your state has opted out of that model. She discussed options that are available to the state. Mississippi needs guidelines to follow and clarification. She asked for declaratory opinion back in February and appreciates the opportunity to speak. She asks the Board to consider the options available and give an opinion.

Dr. Rea opined that the model presented by Ms. Mitchell is a business model directed at making money and not a practice model.

Dr. Lippincott recognized Dr. Claude Brunson. Dr. Brunson, former chair of anesthesiology department at UMMC, was involved in the development of policy of safety in anesthesiology. The reason for anesthesiologists to be readily available is a safety issue.

Dr. Cleveland, Executive Director, gave a brief explanation of why this topic is being discussed. Surgeons are becoming less inclined to take on the role of being a collaborator and has created the issue of anesthesiologists who have collaborated without being readily available. As the Executive Director he asked the Board to give him guidance on this issue.

Dr. Barnes reiterated that there is a statute that says a "licensed physician" can collaborate with a CRNA. Should the physician have like qualifications with the CRNA, and should the physician be qualified and properly trained in the type of anesthesia given? Mr. Barnes asked the Board to consider giving the Executive Director the authority to form a study group to research the issue and report back to the Board.

After discussion and questions from the Board, a motion was made by Dr. Loper, seconded by Dr. Kinard, and carried that the Board refer this to the Scope of Practice Committee. An amendment to the motion, to allow the Executive Director to participate and obtain consultation from outside experts as needed, was made by Dr. Dotson, seconded, and passed.

**THE BOARD RECESSED FOR LUNCH AT 11:30 AM AND RECONVENED AT 12:30 PM**

**Dr. Owens appeared in person at 12:30 PM. Earlier, she had been attending via Zoom.**

**PERSONAL APPEARANCE BY WESLEY BENNETT, M.D., MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL LICENSE #10758**

Licensee is requesting an exception to Rule 1.4, extended mileage of the collaboration with nurse practitioners, Part 2630 Regulation.

Mr. Barnes reported for clarification that this group came before the Executive Committee in July which voted to table their decision for exception and elected to appear before the full Board.

Dr. Wesley Bennett, a cardiologist from Meridian, introduced himself and reported he is a member of a company, Cardiovascular Institute of the South, LLC, based in Houma, LA. Part of the company is a virtual care center located in Lafayette, LA that have nurse practitioners that cover from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am, and provide virtual care after hours. They are requesting an exception to the seventy-five (75) mile rule.

Ryan Herbert, CEO at Cardiovascular Institute of the South, LLC, introduced himself and presented a portion of the slide presentation to the Board. Mr. Herbert gave a summary on how the virtual care center came about and how the program works.

Marcus Montet, director of the program and a nurse practitioner, introduced himself and continued with the slide presentation. He discussed actions taken by them after the EC meeting in July.

After discussion and questions from the Board, a motion was made by Dr. Joiner seconded by Dr. Owens and carried that the Board meeting be closed to discuss whether to enter into executive session.

**CLOSED SESSION**

During closed session, a motion was made by Dr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Dotson, and carried that the Board enter executive session to discuss the request for exception of the collaboration mileage rule and whether to issue an appealable order on this issue.

## RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon a motion by Dr. Loper, seconded by Dr. Owens and carried unanimously, the Board came out of executive session. Dr. Kinard reported that the Board met in executive session to consider the request for an exception of Rule 1.4, extended mileage of the collaboration with nurse practitioners. The Board **DENIED** the request for a waiver.

Mr. Barnes advised for the Board to make a motion to close the meeting to consider going into executive session to discuss three matters, **Agenda Item 15**, a request for a declaratory opinion, **Agenda Item 16**, a request to approve an investigative subpoena, and **Agenda Item 17**, to report on existing litigation, pursuant to Miss. Code §§ 25-41-7(4)(b) and (d).

A motion was made by Dr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Loper, and carried that the Board meeting be closed to discuss whether to enter into executive session regarding items fifteen (15), sixteen (16) and seventeen (17) on the agenda pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7(4)(b) and (d).

## CLOSED SESSION

During closed session, a motion was made by Dr. Loper, seconded by Dr. Kinard, and carried that the Board enter executive session to discuss agenda item fifteen (15), a request for declaratory opinion (25-41-7(4)(b)); agenda item sixteen (16), a request for the issuance of an investigative subpoena in case number: 2024-088 (25-41-7(4)(d)); and agenda item seventeen (17), a report on existing litigation (25-41-7(4)(b) and (d)).

## RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon a motion by Dr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Loper and carried unanimously, the Board came out of executive session. Dr. Kinard reported that the Board met in executive session to consider **Agenda Item 15**, the request for declaratory opinion regarding whether a physician may delegate administration of medication to medical assistants and other unlicensed assistive personnel. **No Action was taken; As to Agenda Item 16**, the Board unanimously **APPROVED** the investigative subpoena for case number 2024-088; **As to Agenda Item 17**, **No action was taken.**

## HEARING IN THE CASE OF SAJAD ZALALA, DEARBORN, MI MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL LICENSE 27034 APPROVAL OF CONSENT ORDER

Mr. Barnes briefly summarized the matter which led to a proposed Consent Order based on action taken by the Missouri Medical Board resulting in a Public Reprimand for Dr. Zalala.

Mr. Barnes questioned Dr. Zalala reviewing the action taken by the Missouri Medical Board issuing a Public Reprimand. Additionally, Mr. Barnes reviewed the terms of the proposed Mississippi Consent Order with Dr. Zalala. Dr. Zalala accepted the terms of the Mississippi Consent Order.

After discussion and questions from the Board, a motion was made by Dr. Owens seconded by Dr. Kinard and carried unanimously to **ACCEPT** the Consent Order.

A copy of the Consent Order is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

The official account of this proceeding was recorded by Julie Brown, Court Reporter, Brown Court Reporting, Inc.

**HEARING IN THE CASE OF ROMMEL ASAGWARA, M.D., RIDGELAND, MS**  
**MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL LICENSE 26900**  
**MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE**

Mr. Barnes advised that this is the second request for a continuance and is unopposed by Dr. Asagwara's counsel. Mr. Barnes advised that defense counsel has filed an Amended Motion to Dismiss and an *Amended Evidentiary Motion in Limine* raising several constitutional claims and defenses and additional time is needed to address these issues.

A motion was made by Dr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Kinard, and carried unanimously to **ACCEPT** the motion to continue this matter.

A copy of the Order of Continuance is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

**HEARING IN THE CASE OF CLIFTON W. STORY, MADISON, MS**  
**MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL LICENSE 15085**  
**MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE**

Mr. Barnes advised that this is the first motion for a continuance by complaint counsel and is unopposed by Dr. Story.

A motion was made by Dr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Kinard, and carried unanimously to **ACCEPT** the motion to continue this matter.

A copy of the Order of Continuance is attached hereto and incorporated by Reference.

**HEARING IN THE CASE OF PRISCILLA RESSER, PA-C, MADISON, MS  
MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL LICENSE PA00473  
MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE**

Mr. Barnes requested a continuance in this matter. Mr. Barnes advised that the Licensee is currently in compliance with Examining Committee directives and requested a continuance to allow the Examining Committee to fulfill its role.

A motion was made by Dr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Kinard, and carried unanimously to **ACCEPT** the motion to continue this matter.

A copy of the Order of Continuance is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

**HEARING IN THE CASE OF TAKITA M MURRIEL, M.D., MADISON, MS  
MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL LICENSE 23087  
APPROVAL OF CONSENT ORDER**

Mr. Barnes briefly summarized the matter which led to the Consent Order and introduced Dr. Murriel's counsel, Edna Jones-Stringer.

Dr. Murriel was sworn in by the court reporter.

Dr. Murriel answered questions from Mr. Barnes.

Defense counsel, Edna Jones-Stringer, introduced herself, and summarized the terms of the consent order and questioned Dr. Murriel regarding same.

After discussion and questions from the Board, a motion was made by Dr. Owens seconded by Dr. Kinard and carried unanimously to **ACCEPT** the Consent Order.

A copy of the Consent Order is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

**HEARING IN THE CASE OF CHARLES G. RYAN, M.D., OLIVE BRANCH, MS  
MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL LICENSE 16676**

Mr. Barnes made an opening statement and Dr. Ryan was sworn in by the court reporter.

MSBML Exhibits 000001-000079 are introduced into the record with exception to pages 70–71 and pages 74–76 which were not offered into the record.

Dr. Ryan answered questions from Mr. Barnes and the Board. A closing statement was given by Mr. Barnes.



A motion was made by Dr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Kinard, and carried that the Board meeting be closed to discuss whether to enter into executive session.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

During closed session, a motion was made by Dr. Kinard, seconded by Dr. Loper, and carried that the Board enter executive session to review and discuss the matter regarding license status for Dr. Ryan pursuant to §§ 25-41-7(4)(b) and (d).

### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Upon a motion by Dr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Loper and carried unanimously, the Board came out of executive session. Dr. Kinard reported that during executive session this agenda item was discussed, and the decision is to suspend licensee's license for one year, completion of CME ethics/professionalism courses per direction of the Executive Director, entry into a Life of Practice Monitoring Contract and Agreement with PHP, and a mandatory appearance before the Board to request reinstatement of his license after the minimum one-year suspension has elapsed.

A copy of the Order is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

### **NOVEMBER 2024 BOARD MEETING DATES, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024, AND THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024.**

After discussion regarding dates the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board was set for Wednesday, November 20, 2024, and Thursday, November 21, 2024.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

  
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**Michelle Y. Owens, M.D.**  
**President**

**Minutes taken and transcribed by:**  
Jackie McKenzie, Paralegal  
September 15, 2024

# MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE



## **Executive Committee Meeting:**

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 8:00 am**

**Board Room**

## **Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 10:00 am**

**Board Room**

**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**  
**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE**  
**September 25, 2024, 10:00 am**

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Invocation, Pledge
3. Roll Call
4. Announcements and Public Comments
5. Executive Director Report
6. Approval of Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting dated July 17, 2024.
7. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting dated July 17, 2024.
8. Report of August 22, 2024, Specially Called Executive Committee Meeting.
9. Approval of Minutes of the Specially Called Executive Committee Meeting dated August 22, 2024.
10. Report of September 25, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting.
11. Report from Physician Assistant Advisory Task Force
12. Semaglutide Waiver Request
13. CRNA Collaboration
14. Personal Appearance by Wesley Bennett, M.D.  
Mississippi Medical License 10758
15. Request for Declaratory Opinion Regarding Whether Physician May Delegate Administration of Medication to Medical Assistants and other unlicensed Assistive Personnel.
16. Pursuant to MS Code §73-25-27, Investigative Subpoenas for approval, Case Number: 2024-088. This is a matter for review and discussion to be held in executive session due to material being exempt from the public records act<sup>22</sup>.
17. Pursuant to MS Code §73-25-61 A matter for Review and discussion to be held in executive session due to material being exempt from the public records act.
18. Sajad Zalzal 27034, Dearborn, MI  
Mississippi Medical License 27034  
Approval Consent Order

19. Hearing in the Case of Rommel Asagwara, M.D., Ridgeland, MS  
Mississippi Medical License 26900  
Motion for Continuance
20. Hearing in the Case of Clifton W. Story, M.D., Madison, MS  
Mississippi Medical License 15085  
Motion for Continuance
21. Hearing in the Case of Priscilla Resser, PA-C, Madison, MS  
Mississippi Medical License PA00473  
Motion for Continuance
22. Hearing in the Case of Takita M Murriel, M.D., Madison, MS  
Mississippi Medical License 23087
23. Hearing in the Case of Charles G. Ryan, M.D., Olive Branch, MS  
Mississippi Medical License 16676
24. November 2024 Board Meeting Dates:  
Wednesday, November 20, 2024, and Thursday, November 21, 2024.



**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE**

**Agreement to Appear Informally Before Executive Committee  
by Licensee Requesting Rule Exception(s)**

Wesley Bennett, M.D., on behalf of the CIS

I, Mississippi clinic, have requested an opportunity to appear informally before the Executive Committee of the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (hereinafter "Board") to discuss my request for exception(s) to certain rules or requirements found in Administrative Code or state statute that I have identified below. It is the purpose of this informal meeting to discuss the facts surrounding my request, to give me an opportunity to present documentation and ask questions of the Committee or its staff, and to give the Committee or its staff an opportunity to review any documentation and ask questions of me. Because the meeting is informal, no disciplinary action will be taken without my express written consent. In so doing, I have been advised and understand the following:

1. During the meeting, the Executive Committee may or may not be represented by legal counsel. Notwithstanding, I understand that I have a right, if I so choose, to employ legal counsel and have counsel present during the informal meeting.
2. I authorize the Committee Members to review and examine any documentation or materials concerning my request(s).
3. I agree that presentation to and consideration by the Committee of any facts, matters, and documents pertaining to my request(s) shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Committee members from further participation or consideration, in the event a formal hearing is later conducted based on the information discussed. Further, I will not object to any of the Committee members from further participating in subsequent meetings or hearings that may be conducted in relation to this matter.
4. By signing my name in the space provided below, I hereby authorize the Executive Committee to proceed with the informal appearance, subject to the stipulations and understandings as noted above. I have elected to proceed:

Francis Larose, J.D., as well as Marcus Montet (non-attorney) for operation expertise

with legal counsel present (name of counsel: \_\_\_\_\_)

without legal counsel present

I am requesting an exception to the following rule(s):

20/80 in-state practice requirement

the 75-mile rule (Extended Mileage)

**EXECUTED**, this the 27th day of June, 2024.

Wesley S Bennett, M.D.  
Licensee: Signed: 6/27/2024

Francis Larose  
Witness: Signed: 6/28/2024

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

**IN THE MATTER OF PHYSICIAN'S LICENSE OF**

**SAJAD ZALZALA, M.D.**

**CONSENT ORDER**

**WHEREAS**, Sajad Zalzala, M.D., hereinafter referred to as "Licensee," is the current holder of License No. 27034, issued September 12, 2019 and is current through June 30, 2025, for the practice of medicine in the State of Mississippi;

**WHEREAS**, on February 21, 2024, the Missouri State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts, hereinafter referred to as the "Missouri Board," entered into a Settlement Agreement with Licensee, resulting in a Public Reprimand of Licensee's Missouri Medical License;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-25-29 (9), the aforementioned actions by the Missouri Board constitute action against Licensee's ability to practice in another jurisdiction, grounds for which the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, hereinafter, referred to as the "Board", may suspend his right to practice for a time deemed proper by the Board, place his license on probation, the terms of which may be set by the Board, or take any other action in relation to his license as the Board may deem proper under the circumstances;

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of Licensee to avoid an evidentiary hearing before the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure and, in lieu thereof, has consented to certain conditions on his license to practice medicine in the State of Mississippi.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, with consent of Licensee as signified by his joinder herein, does hereby formally accept the following terms and conditions:

1. Licensee's Mississippi medical license is **PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED.**
2. Licensee shall fully comply with the Missouri Board Settlement Agreement.
3. Licensee shall obey all federal, state, and local laws, and all rules and regulations governing the practice of medicine. Any further acts of misconduct will result in further action.
4. 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 is mailed to Licensee via U.S. Mail to Licensee's current mailing address.
5. Licensee shall submit documentation to the Board showing that he has satisfied all requirements of the Missouri Settlement Agreement. Although this Reprimand is permanent discipline, the terms of this Mississippi Consent Order shall be deemed satisfied once Licensee has submitted the required documentation.

Should the Board hereafter receive documented evidence of Licensee violating any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, the Board shall have the right, pursuant to a full evidentiary hearing, to revoke the medical license of Licensee, suspend

it for a time deemed proper by the Board, or take any other action determined as necessary by the Board.

This Consent Order shall be subject to approval by the Board. If the Board fails to approve this Consent Order, in whole or in part, it shall have no force or effect on the parties. It is further understood and agreed that the purpose of this Consent Order is to avoid a hearing before the Board. In this regard, Licensee authorizes the Board to review and examine any documentary evidence or material concerning the Licensee prior to or in conjunction with its consideration of this Consent Order. Licensee further acknowledges that he may be required to personally appear before the Board on the scheduled hearing date to answer any questions which the Board may have.

Should this Consent Order not be accepted by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Consent Order and other documents and matters pertaining thereto by the Board, including Licensee's answers to questions, shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from participation in any further proceedings.

Licensee understands and expressly acknowledges that, should Licensee challenge or dispute any provision or statement in this agreement during the Board approval process, or if the Board does not accept the terms as set forth herein, this Consent Order will automatically be rendered null and void, and this matter shall be set for a full evidentiary hearing at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Licensee understands and expressly acknowledges that this Consent Order, if approved and executed by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, shall



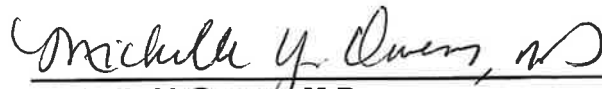
constitute a public record of the State of Mississippi. Licensee further acknowledges that the Board shall provide a copy of this Order to, among others, the National Practitioners Data Bank (NPDB), the Mississippi Department of Health (MSDH), the Federation of State Medical Boards, the Office of the Inspector General, United States Department of Health and Human Services (OIG-HHS), the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Mississippi Division of Medicaid, the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy, and the Mississippi State Medical Association (MSMA). The Board makes no representation as to what action, if any, which any other agency or jurisdiction may take in response to this Consent Order.

Recognizing his right to notice of charges specified against him, to have such charges adjudicated pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-25-27, to be represented therein by legal counsel of his choice, and to a final decision rendered upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, **SAJAD ZALZALA, M.D.** nonetheless, hereby waives his right to notice and a formal adjudication of charges and authorizes the Board to enter an order accepting this Consent Order.

**EXECUTED**, this the 23rd day of August, 2024.

  
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**Sajad Zalzal, M.D.**

**ACCEPTED AND APPROVED** this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024, by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure.

  
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**Michelle Y. Owens, M.D.**  
**Board President**

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

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**IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:**

**ROMMEL ASAGWARA, M.D. (No. 26900)**

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**ORDER OF CONTINUANCE**

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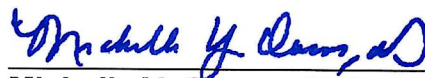
**THIS MATTER** came on regularly for consideration by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure in response to a request for continuance of the hearing set for this date by Rommel Asagwara, M.D., (hereinafter "Licensee") through his counsel William Bell, Esq. After consideration of the matter, the Board finds Licensee's request to be well-taken, and is hereby **GRANTED**.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED**, that this matter is continued until November 21, 2024.

**SO ORDERED** this, the 25th day of September 2024.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE**

BY:



\_\_\_\_\_  
**Michelle Y. Owens, M.D.**  
**President**

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

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**IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:**

**CLIFTON W. STORY, M.D. (No. 15085)**

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**ORDER OF CONTINUANCE**

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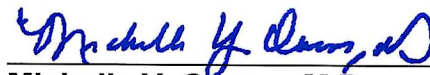
**THIS MATTER** came on regularly for consideration by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure in response to a request for continuance of the hearing set for this date by Clifton W. Story, M.D., (hereinafter "Licensee") through his counsel Matthew Thompson, Esq. After consideration of the matter, the Board finds Licensee's request to be well-taken, and is hereby **GRANTED**.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED**, that this matter is continued until November 20, 2024.

**SO ORDERED** this, the 25th day of September 2024.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE**

BY:



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**Michelle Y. Owens, M.D.**  
**President**

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

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**IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:**

**PRISCILLA HOGAN RESSER, P.A.-C (No. PA-00473)**

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**ORDER OF CONTINUANCE**

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**THIS MATTER** came on regularly for consideration by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (hereinafter "Board") in response to a request by Complaint Counsel, Paul Barnes, for a Continuance. This Board issued an Order of Temporary Suspension on May 22, 2024, barring Licensee from the practice of medicine in the state of Mississippi pending the outcome of a hearing in this matter.


After consideration of the matter, the Board finds Licensee's request to be well-taken, and is hereby **GRANTED**, on express condition that the Order of Temporary Suspension remains in effect during the interim.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED**, that this matter is continued until November 20, 2024. All other terms and conditions of the Order of Temporary Suspension remain in effect. Licensee is suspended from the practice of medicine until further order of the Board

**SO ORDERED** this the 25th day of September 2024.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE**

BY:



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**Michelle Y. Owens, M.D.**  
**President**

**BEFORE THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE**  
**IN THE MATTER OF PHYSICIAN'S LICENSE**  
**OF**  
**TAKITA M. MURRIEL, M.D.**  
**CONSENT ORDER**

**WHEREAS**, Takita M. Murriel, M.D., hereinafter referred to as "Licensee," is a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Mississippi, currently holding License No. 23087, said license is current through June 30, 2025;

**WHEREAS**, there is now pending before the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, hereinafter referred to as "Board," certain allegations related to Licensee's conduct;

**WHEREAS**, Licensee acknowledges committing the violations of the Mississippi Medical Practice Act as stated and set forth in the Board's charging affidavit. However, Licensee expresses that she was confused concerning the evaluation requirement, and her violations were inadvertent.

**WHEREAS**, the allegations, if established before the Board, constitute violations of the Mississippi Medical Practice Act, specifically, Subsections (8)(d) and (13) of 73-25-29, and § 73-25-83 (a) of Miss. Code Ann. (1972), as amended, for which the Board may revoke the medical license of Licensee, suspend it for a time deemed proper by the Board, or take any other action as the Board may deem proper under the circumstances;

**WHEREAS**, Licensee wishes to avoid a hearing before the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure and, in lieu thereof, has consented to certain conditions on her license to practice medicine in the State of Mississippi.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, with consent of Licensee as signified by her joinder herein, does hereby formally accept the following terms and conditions:

1. Licensee's Mississippi medical license is **REPRIMANDED**.
2. Licensee shall attend and successfully complete a Continuing Medical Education (CME) course in the area of Prescribing. The CME course required herein shall be obtained by attending a course in the subject noted above as provided by a Board-approved provider. Licensee shall submit proof of her successful completion to the Board on a timely basis. Licensee shall register for, and attend, said course within the next six (6) months. If additional time is needed for attendance, Licensee shall submit a written request for an extension, to be approved in advance by the Executive Director of the Board. All costs relating to CME requirements of this paragraph are borne by Licensee. This is in addition to the forty (40) hours of CME requirements as cited in Title 30, Part 2610, Chapter 2 of the Board's Rules and Regulations.
3. Licensee shall obey all federal, state, and local laws, and all rules and regulations governing the practice of medicine. Any further acts of misconduct will result in further action.
4. 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 is mailed to Licensee via U.S. Mail to Licensee's current mailing address.

Should the Board hereafter receive documented evidence of Licensee violating any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, the Board shall have the right, pursuant to a full evidentiary hearing, to revoke the medical license of Licensee, suspend it for a time deemed proper by the Board, or take any other action determined as necessary by the Board.

This Consent Order shall be subject to approval by the Board. If the Board fails to approve this Consent Order, in whole or in part, it shall have no force or effect on the parties. It is further understood and agreed that the purpose of this Consent Order is to avoid a hearing before the Board. In this regard, Licensee authorizes the Board to review and examine any documentary evidence or material concerning the Licensee prior to or in conjunction with its consideration of this Consent Order. Licensee further acknowledges that he may be required to personally appear before the Board on the scheduled hearing date to answer any questions which the Board may have.

Should this Consent Order not be accepted by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Consent Order and other documents and matters pertaining thereto by the Board, including Licensee's answers to questions, shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from participation in any further proceedings.

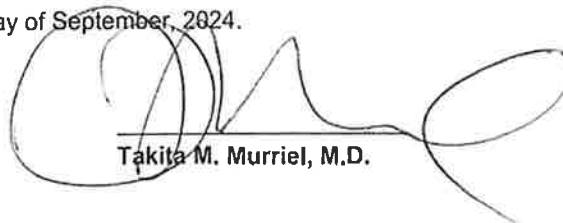
Licensee understands and expressly acknowledges that, should Licensee challenge or dispute any provision or statement in this agreement during the Board approval process, or if the Board does not accept the terms as set forth herein, this

Consent Order will automatically be rendered null and void, and this matter shall be set for a full evidentiary hearing at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Licensee understands and expressly acknowledges that this Consent Order, if approved and executed by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, shall constitute a public record of the State of Mississippi. Licensee further acknowledges that the Board shall provide a copy of this Order to, among others, the National Practitioners Data Bank (NPDB), the Mississippi Department of Health (MSDH), the Federation of State Medical Boards, the Office of the Inspector General, United States Department of Health and Human Services (OIG-HHS), the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Mississippi Division of Medicaid, the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy, and the Mississippi State Medical Association (MSMA). The Board makes no representation as to what action, if any, which any other agency or jurisdiction may take in response to this Consent Order.

Recognizing her right to notice of charges specified against her, to have such charges adjudicated pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-25-27, to be represented therein by legal counsel of her choice, and to a final decision rendered upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, **Takita M. Murriel, M.D.** nonetheless, hereby waives her right to notice and a formal adjudication of charges and authorizes the Board to enter an order accepting this Consent Order.

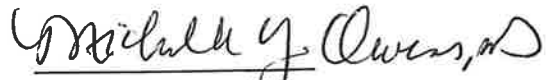
EXECUTED, this the 21 day of September, 2024.



Takita M. Murriel, M.D.



**ACCEPTED AND APPROVED** this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024, by  
the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michelle Y. Owens, M.D.", written in a cursive style.

**Michelle Y. Owens, M.D.**  
**Board President**

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

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IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:

CHARLES G. RYAN JR., M.D.

NO. 16676

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**DETERMINATION AND ORDER**

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The above titled matter came before the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure ("Board") in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, on September 25, 2024, pursuant to a Summons and Affidavit issued to Charles G. Ryan Jr., M.D.

Complaint counsel for the Board was Honorable Paul Barnes, Esq., who presented the charges as set forth in the Affidavit as filed herein. Licensee having been served with the Summons and being fully informed of his rights to a formal hearing before the Board, was present and expressed that he was aware he could have had an attorney but chose to represent himself. Leyser Q. Hayes, Special Assistant Attorney General, served as the Administrative Hearing Officer, presided at the hearing and was directed to prepare the Board's written decision in accordance with their deliberations. This matter was called to hearing without objection by either party.

A quorum of Board members was present throughout the hearing and deliberation in the matter. Board members present for the proceedings were: Michelle Owens, M.D., President; Ken Lippincott, M.D.; Renia Dotson, M.D.; Allen Gersh, M.D.; Thomas E. Joiner, M.D.; Kirk Kinard, D.O.; Ken Lippincott, M.D.; and William E. Loper, III, M.D.

Two exhibits were introduced without objection: a) Exhibit 1-- a composite exhibit with the exception of pages 70-71 and 74-76 and b) Exhibit 2- Patient Records (under seal)—Licensee's Physicians Discharge Summary from Talbott Recovery Campus.

And now, upon consideration of all the material produced in the record before the MSBML along with the testimony presented at the hearing, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order based on clear and convincing evidence:

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The MSBML is established pursuant to the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure Act, Title 73, Chapter 43 of the of the Mississippi Code of 1972 as amended and is charged with the duty of licensing and regulating the practice of medicine in the State of Mississippi pursuant to title 73, Chapter 25 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 as amended.
2. Sections 73-25-29, 73-25-83, and 73-25-87 of the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972) as amended provides that the Board may revoke or suspend a license or take any other action as deemed necessary if a licensee has violated any provisions therein.
3. All parties were properly noticed of the matter now pending before the MSBML.
4. Charles G. Ryan Jr., M.D. ( “Licensee” ) currently holds Mississippi Medical License Number 16676, and said number is valid until June 30, 2025.
5. On or about April 12, 2024, the Board received a report that Baptist Memorial Hospital-Desoto had suspended Charles Gerald Ryan M.D.’s clinical privileges. The report indicated that on March 19, 2024, Licensee arrived at the hospital, began a caesarean section and tubal ligation, and was asked to leave the operating room because he was operating under the influence. Licensee safely removed the baby but when attempting the tubal ligation, he began tying off the round ligament instead of the fallopian tube. An assisting physician asked Licensee to allow him to take over and finish the procedure.
6. After leaving the operating room Licensee submitted to a blood alcohol content (BAC) test in the emergency department. The results indicated that his BAC was higher than the legal limit for operating a motor vehicle (.08%) in Mississippi.
7. Licensee testified that he had been sober for several years and completed a program for his alcoholism. He testified that he relapsed on or about December 2023. The evidence reflected that the Licensee practiced approximately four (4) months while being impaired.
8. Licensee did not call any witnesses. When questioned by the Board attorney the following information was obtained:
  - a. While on vacation March 15, 2013, Licensee was stopped for speeding and suspicion for D.U.I. in Gorgia. Licensee was arrested for suspicion of D.U.I. February 13, 2015, in DeSoto County, Mississippi. Licensee was found guilty on each charge.
  - b. On February 17, 2015, Licensee requested a leave of absence to permit entrance into an inpatient treatment facility.

- c. Licensee was never subpoenaed nor was his license revoked after he enrolled in the Mississippi Professionals Health Program (MPHP). On May 6, 2015, Licensee executed a five-year Recovery Contract Agreement for aftercare monitoring and advocacy.
  - d. Licensee successfully completed his contract requirements with the MPHP on May 21, 2021.
  - e. Licensee was declared “unsafe and unfit for clinical practice” on March 19, 2024, at the Baptist Memorial Hospital. At that time, the staff at the facility stated the following “to reduce a substantial and imminent likelihood of significant danger to the life, health, and safety of the patients at BMH-DeSoto, and to allow the Medical Executive Committee the Opportunity to consider the clinical concerns with Dr. Ryan which, if confirmed, have the potential to adversely affect patient care and employee safety a precautionary suspension of all of Dr. Ryan’s clinical privileges should be imposed immediately.”
  - f. Licensee signed an Agreement not to practice with MPHP on March 20, 2024. Licensee was admitted to the Talbott Recovery Center. On April 12, 2024, an official notice of suspension was given by Brad Parsons, CEO and the Licensee’s conduct was reported to the National Practitioner Data Base.
  - g. Licensee admitted the allegations regarding the March 19, 2024, incident and did not contest the charges.
  - h. In a communication to Dr. Kenneth Cleveland on July 19, 2024, Licensee testified that he understood that having Dr. Cleveland sign the MPHP contract “did not constitute a waiver of additional investigations or sanctions by MSBML”.
9. Licensee testified that he was embarrassed and humiliated due to his conduct. He testified that he was sober now and expressed that the relapse was caused due to the lapse in his spiritual condition, the loss of fear of the disease, the fact that he was on vacation and was not as vigilant.
  10. Licensee testified that he drove himself to the hospital on March 19, 2024, but had never performed a procedure under the influence other than the incident that day.
  11. When the Licensee was questioned about the MSBML receiving all his medical records, he stated he had not received notice regarding them and that he would be happy to release everything.
  12. The Physician Discharge Summary from Talbott Recovery Campus, which is under seal, reflected the nature of the diagnosis for Licensee’s alcohol use.

## **Conclusions of Law**

1. The MSBML has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Sections 73-25-29, and 73-25-83 (a) Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended. Venue is likewise properly placed before the board to hear this matter in Hinds County, Mississippi.
2. The proceedings were duly and properly convened, and all substantive and procedural requirements under law have been satisfied. This matter is, therefore, properly before the Board.
3. The MSBML is authorized to license and regulate persons who apply for or hold a medical license and prescribe conditions under which persons may practice in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare.
4. Based upon clear and convincing evidence and testimony presented, Licensee is found guilty of **Count I** of the Affidavit, i.e. guilty of having disciplinary action taken by his peers within any professional medical association or society, whether any such association or society is local, regional, state or national in scope, or being disciplined by a license hospital or medical staff or said hospital, or the voluntary surrender or restriction of hospital staff privileges while an investigation or disciplinary proceeding is being conducted by that licensed hospital or medical staff or medical staff committee of said hospital all in violation of Miss. Code Ann. § 73-25-83 ( c).
5. Based upon clear and convincing evidence and testimony presented, Licensee is found guilty of **Count II**, i.e., unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, being guilty of any dishonorable or unethical conduct likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public, all in violation of Miss. Code Ann. §§ 73-25-29(8)(d) and 73-25-83(a).

Based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board finds the following order, restrictions, and conditions to be appropriate under the circumstances:

### **ORDER**

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that Mississippi Medical license No. 16676 issued to Charles G. Ryan Jr., hereby is suspended for one year.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Licensee shall complete AMA Category 1 CME (Continuing Medical Education) courses in the areas of ethics/professionalism approved by the Executive Director on behalf of the MSBML. After completion of each CME, Licensee shall submit to the Board documentary proof of successful completion thereof. The Board shall be under no obligation to consider licensure reinstatement until such time as it has received written proof of successful completion of each CME course.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Licensee will agree to remain affiliated with Mississippi Physicians Health Program (MPHP) for the lifetime of his practice, at all times subject to an MPHP Monitoring Contract and Agreement.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that in the event License chooses to petition for reinstatement of his license, he shall personally appear before the MSBML not less than one year from the date of this Order and establish that he has met all requirements set forth in this Determination and Order.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Licensee shall reimburse the Board for all costs incurred in relation to the pending matter pursuant to Miss Code Ann. § 73-25-30. Licensee shall be advised of the total assessment, not to exceed \$10,000, by written notification, and shall tender to the Board a certified check or money order within forty (40) days after the date the assessment is mailed to Licensee via U.S. mail at Licensee's current mailing address.

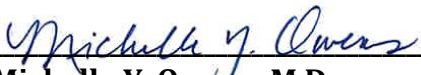
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Licensee shall cooperate with the MSBML, its attorneys, investigators, and other representatives in the investigations and monitoring of Licensee's practice and compliance with the provisions of this Determination and Order.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that if Licensee violates the terms of this Determination and Order or further violates the laws, rules and regulations governing the practice of medicine, the MSBML may take further disciplinary action against Licensee, up to and including revocation of his license.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Determination and Order shall be public record. It may be shared with other licensing boards (in and out of state), the public, and may be reported to the appropriate entities as required or authorized by state and/or federal law or guidelines. This action shall be spread upon the Minutes of the Board as its official act and deed.

**SO ORDERED**, this the 25th day of September 2024.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE**

BY:   
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**Michelle Y. Owens, M.D.**  
**President**