## IN THE MATTER OF THE PHYSICIAN'S LICENSE

OF

## BRADLEY JASON SUGGS, M.D.

## **CONSENT ORDER**

WHEREAS, BRADLEY JASON SUGGS, M.D., hereinafter referred to as "Licensee," is the current holder of Mississippi Medical License No. 21304, issued October 18, 2010, and said license number expires on June 30, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Investigative Division of the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, hereinafter referred to as the "Board," has conducted an investigation into the medical practice of Licensee and has in its possession evidence which, if produced during the course of an evidentiary hearing, would substantiate that Licensee has violated certain provisions of the Mississippi Medical Practice Law, specifically, Subsection (8)(d) of Miss. Code Ann. §§ 73-25-29(8)(d) and 73-25-83(a), due to activities constituting professional sexual misconduct in the practice of medicine; 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 admitted to engaging in sexualized direct messaging via social media with a female patient located in Mississippi while he was deployed with the U.S. armed services in Kuwait. Licensee had a lengthy physician-patient relationship with this patient, that escalated into a personal relationship in social media communications. Licensee treated the patient before, during, and after the time of the inappropriate personal relationship, including treatment for psychiatric concerns that included

prescribing prescription medication by Licensee to the patient, many of which were controlled substances.

WHEREAS, effective April 10, 2024, Licensee voluntarily entered into an Agreement Not to Practice Medicine (the "Agreement") under which he agreed not to practice medicine until approved to do so by the Board and to submit to evaluation and treatment, at his expense, at a facility/program approved by the Board (the "Program") and to cooperate and comply with the treatment and other recommendations of the Program;

WHEREAS, Licensee has undergone a comprehensive psychosexual evaluation conducted by Pine Grove Behavioral Health, which issued a Final Report dated April 8, 2024. In the Final Report, the Pine Grove Evaluation Team opined that, at that time, Licensee was not safe to practice, and therefore made certain recommendations for treatment, aftercare, and follow-up. As recommended, Licensee has completed a Board-approved residential or partial-hospitalization intensive treatment program for a minimum of six (6) weeks, specifically the Professional Enhancement Program ("PEP") at Pine Grove Behavioral Health & Addiction Services.

WHEREAS, the Program has submitted to the Board both the Final Report of the evaluation (Apr. 8, 2024) as well as the PEP Discharge Summary dated July 11, 2024. which include the Program's Discharge Follow Up Recommendations, Return to Work Recommendations, and Aftercare Recommendations (collectively the "Program Recommendations");

WHEREAS, under the terms of the Agreement, Licensee is now eligible to request of the Board that he be allowed to return to the practice of medicine, subject to the

Program Recommendations, and further subject to such additional terms and conditions as the Board may impose. The Board has placed Licensee's request on the agenda for the Board's meeting on January 15, 2025 for consideration of this Consent Order;

WHEREAS, Licensee wishes to avoid an evidentiary hearing before the Board and, in lieu thereof, has agreed to execute this Consent Order, subject to the terms and conditions as specified below, which Consent Order sets the schedule and terms under which Licensee will be allowed to return to the practice of medicine.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Board, with consent of Licensee as signified by his joinder herein, does hereby take the following disciplinary action:

- (1) Dr. Suggs' license (No. 21304) to practice medicine in the State of Mississippi is hereby suspended for a period of one (1) year from the date of acceptance of this Consent Order by the Board, with nine (9) months immediately stayed, such that he may return to the practice of medicine three months from the date of entry of this Consent Order, subject to compliance with and completion of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order. Upon the satisfactory completion of the terms stated herein, but not earlier than one year from the date of this Consent Order, the Licensee shall have the right, but not the obligation, to seek reduction or removal of the terms and conditions herein. The Board reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to impose any other restriction deemed necessary to protect the public.
- (2) Licensee shall adhere to all Program Recommendations rendered by the evaluation facility in its Final Report and specified in the Pine Grove Discharge Summary dated July 11, 2024. The Program Recommendations contained in the Discharge Summary include confidential patient information and therefore not all details and

specifics will be disclosed or restated in this Consent Order. However, the Program Recommendations are incorporated by reference herein and Licensee shall adhere to each and every recommendation as a requirement of this Consent Order, including, but not limited to:

- A. Five-year monitoring contract with Mississippi Physician Health Program;
- B. Workplace monitoring;
- C. Periodic polygraph testing;
- D. Use of a female chaperone present for female patient encounters;
- E. Workload limitations:
- F. Additional workplace boundaries for Dr. Suggs;
- G. Dr. Suggs shall return to PEP six months after his return to practice for a recheck as specified in the Discharge Summary;
- H. Dr. Suggs shall abstain from all alcohol and other mood-altering substances.
- (3) In addition, prior to filing a petition for unrestricted reinstatement of Licensee's certificate, or the reduction or removal of any of the terms and conditions herein, Licensee shall submit documentary proof of his fitness to resume the practice of medicine with reasonable skill and safety without those limitations, terms or conditions. Licensee shall execute any and all releases necessary to permit the Board to communicate with the evaluation and/or treatment facility or providers and receive directly from the facility or providers any and all evaluation results and treatment records.

- (4) 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.
- (5) 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 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.

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. 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 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 (1972), to be represented therein by legal counsel of his choice, and to a final decision based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, **BRADLEY JASON SUGGS, M.D.**, nevertheless, hereby waives his right to notice and a formal adjudication of charges and authorizes the Board to enter an order accepting this Consent Order, subject to those terms and conditions listed above.

EXECUTED this, the 13th day of January 2025.

Bradley Jason Suggs, M.D.

APPROVED AND EFFECTIVE this, the 15th day of January 2025.

Michelle Y. Owens, M.D. Board President