



## ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

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### FINAL MINUTES FOR SUMMARY ACTION MEETING

Held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014

9535 E. Doubletree Ranch Road, Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

#### *Board Members*

Gordi S. Khera, M.D., F.A.C.C., Chair

Richard T. Perry, M.D., Secretary

Jodi A. Bain, Esq.

Marc D. Berg, M.D.

Donna S. Brister

R. Screven Farmer, M.D.

Robert E. Fromm, M.D.

Paul S. Gerding, Esq.

James M. Gillard, M.S., M.D., F.A.C.E.P., F.A.A.E.M.

Ram R. Krishna, M.D.

Edward G. Paul, M.D.

Wanda J. Salter, R.N.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Khera called the meeting to order at 2:54 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

The following Board members were present: Dr. Berg, Ms. Brister, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Fromm, Mr. Gerding, Dr. Khera, Dr. Krishna, Dr. Paul, Dr. Perry, and Ms. Salter. The following Board members were absent: Ms. Bain and Dr. Gillard.

#### **ALSO PRESENT**

Anne Froedge, Assistant Attorney General (AAG); Patricia E. McSorley, Interim Acting Executive Director; William Wolf, M.D., Chief Medical Consultant; Anita Shepherd, Investigations Office Manager; Danielle Steger, Investigator; David Greenberg, M.D., Physician Health Program (PHP) Contractor, Celina Shepherd, Licensing Office Manager; Mary Bober, Board Operations Manager; and Andrea Cisneros, Staff Investigational Review Committee (SIRC) Coordinator.

#### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

No individuals addressed the Board during the call to the public.

#### **REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SUMMARY ACTION**

##### MD-14-1276A, MICHAEL E. JAMES, M.D., LIC. #24537

The Board received notification from PHP indicating that Dr. James was unsafe to practice medicine based on issues regarding substance abuse and other neurological concerns. On September 9, 2014, Dr. James presented early for his assessment with the PHP Contractor. He then later returned, but was still early, for the assessment and was noted to be intoxicated. It was during his assessment that Dr. James admitted to daily drinking for over ten years. It was noted that Dr. James' current practice involves providing medical and dental care to children and Board staff determined that an Interim Practice Restriction would be appropriate in this matter; however, Dr. James had been unresponsive to Board staff's attempts to contact him. Board staff, therefore, requested that the Board consider taking summary action against the physician's license. Dr. Greenberg commented that this is a tragic situation, and stated that Dr. James is not capable to practice safely at the present time.

**MOTION:** Dr. Fromm moved to summarily suspend Dr. James' medical license based on the finding that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action by the Board.

**SECOND:** Dr. Krishna

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Roll call vote was taken and the following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Berg, Ms. Brister, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Fromm, Mr. Gerding, Dr. Khera, Dr. Krishna, Dr. Paul, Dr. Perry, and Ms. Salter. The following Board members were absent: Ms. Bain and Dr. Gillard.  
**VOTE:** 10-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent.  
**MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.



*Patricia E. McSorley*  
Patricia E. McSorley  
Interim Acting Executive Director