COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, SS. Board of Registration in Medicine

Adjudicatory Case No. 2015-002

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In the Matter of )

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CHRISTOPHER PALACIOS, M.D. )

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**CONSENT ORDER**

Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 10, Christopher Palacios, M.D. (Respondent) and the Board of Registration in Medicine (Board) (hereinafter referred to jointly as the "Parties") agree that the Board may issue this Consent Order to resolve the above-captioned adjudicatory proceeding. The Parties further agree that this Consent Order will have all the force and effect of a Final Decision within the meaning of 801 CMR 1.01(11)(d). The Respondent admits to the findings of fact specified below and agrees that the Board may make the conclusions of law and impose the sanction set forth below in resolution of investigative Docket Nos. 12-080 and 14-431.

Findings of Fact

1. The Respondent was born on September 10, 1975. He graduated from the University of Illinois, College of Medicine in 2000. He has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts under certificate number 208349 since 2005. He is certified by the American Board of Psychiatry & Neurology. Until 2012, he was affiliated with North Shore Medical Center. He is currently affiliated with the Arbour Fuller Hospital.
2. On February 23, 2012, the Respondent was arrested and charged with Rape and Assault and Battery. The victim was his wife, Mrs. Palacios.
3. Prior to the Respondent’s arrest, his relationship with his wife had been deteriorating and they had discussed separation and divorce.
4. Mrs. Palacios filed for divorce on March 1, 2012.
5. On May 11, 2012, the Essex County District Attorney entered a Nolle Prosequi as to the rape charge.
6. On July 16, 2013, the felony Assault and Battery was reduced to misdemeanor Assault and the case was continued without a finding for one year.

Conclusions of Law

A. The Respondent has engaged in conduct that undermines the public confidence in the integrity of the medical profession. See Levy v. Board of Registration in Medicine, 378 Mass. 519 (1979); Raymond v. Board of Registration in Medicine, 387 Mass. 708 (1982).

Sanction and Order

The Respondent’s license is hereby Reprimanded.

Execution of this Consent Order

The Respondent shall provide a complete copy of this Consent Orderwith all exhibits and attachments within ten (10) days by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by hand delivery to the following designated entities: any in- or out-of-state hospital, nursing home, clinic, other licensed facility, or municipal, state, or federal facility at which the Respondent practices medicine; any in- or out-of-state health maintenance organization with whom the Respondent has privileges or any other kind of association; any state agency, in- or out-of-state, with which the Respondent has a provider contract; any in- or out-of-state medical employer, whether or not the Respondent practices medicine there; the state licensing boards of all states in which the Respondent has any kind of license to practice medicine; the Drug Enforcement Administration Boston Diversion Group; and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Drug Control Program. The Respondent shall also provide this notification to any such designated entities with which the Respondent becomes associated in the year following the date of imposition of this reprimand**.** The Respondent is further directed to certify to the Board within ten (10) days that the Respondent has complied with this directive.

The Board expressly reserves the authority to independently notify, at any time, any of the entities designated above, or any other affected entity, of any action it has taken.

Signed by Christopher Palacios 12/4/14

Christopher Palacios, M.D. Date

Licensee

Signed by Paul Cirel 12/5/14

Paul Cirel, Esq. Date

Attorney for the Licensee

Signed by Tracy Morong 12/8/14

Tracy Morong Date

Complaint Counsel

So ORDERED by the Board of Registration in Medicine this 8th day of January\_\_\_\_\_, 2015\_.

Signed by Candace Lapidus Sloane, M.D.

Candace Lapidus Sloane, M.D.

Chair