

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, SS.

Board of Registration in Medicine

Adjudicatory Case No. 2022-042

In the Matter of )  
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JEREMY B. RICHARDS, M.D. )  
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**STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS**

The Board of Registration in Medicine (Board) has determined that good cause exists to believe the following acts occurred and constitute a violation for which a licensee may be sanctioned by the Board. The Board therefore alleges that Jeremy B. Richards, M.D. (Respondent) has practiced medicine in violation of law, regulations, or good and accepted medical practice as set forth herein. The investigative docket number associated with this order to show cause is Docket No. 21-420.

**Biographical Information**

1. The Respondent graduated from the Washington University School of Medicine in 2004. He has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts under certificate number 229945 since 2006. He is Board-certified in Internal Medicine, Critical Care Medicine, and Pulmonary Disease. He has privileges at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC), South Shore Hospital, and Mount Auburn Hospital.

**Factual Allegations**

1. The Respondent was scheduled to work as the Attending ICU Physician at South Shore Hospital from 7:00pm on August 7, 2021 until 7:00am on August 8, 2021.

2. Earlier in the day of August 7, 2021, the Respondent consumed a bottle of wine and fell asleep on the couch after dealing with a personal matter.

3. Sometime after 7:00pm on August 7, 2021, the Respondent awoke to several calls and text messages.

4. The Respondent received a text message from the outgoing Attending ICU Physician (outgoing Attending) at 7:27pm inquiring as to the Respondent's whereabouts.

5. The Respondent thereafter communicated several times with the outgoing Attending and the Chair of Critical Care Medicine (Chair) between 7:27pm and 10:37pm. In each of those communications, the Respondent provided misinformation concerning his whereabouts by stating either that he was on his way to South Shore Hospital, or that he had arrived and was elsewhere in the hospital.

6. During each of his communications on August 7, 2021 with the outgoing Attending and the Chair, the Respondent was intoxicated.

7. By 5:48am on August 8, 2021, the Respondent had yet to arrive at South Shore Hospital.

8. At all times from August 7, 2021 at 7:00pm until August 8, 2021 at 7:00am, including during each of his communications with the outgoing Attending and the Chair, the Respondent remained at an apartment in Boston, Massachusetts.

9. The outgoing Attending worked the Respondent's scheduled shift from August 7, 2021 at 7:00pm until August 8, 2021 at 7:00am.

10. The Chair worked the outgoing Attending's next scheduled shift on August 8, 2021.

11. The Respondent emailed the Chair on August 10, 2021 and August 12, 2021 informing him, respectively, that the Respondent was in Wisconsin attending to a personal matter, and that his September shifts should be cancelled as he would be remaining in Wisconsin for some time.

12. On August 10, 2021 and August 12, 2021, the Respondent was receiving substance abuse treatment in Massachusetts.

13. Following his substance abuse treatment in August, the Respondent contacted the Physician Health Services program of the Massachusetts Medical Society (“PHS”), which recommended additional evaluation and potential treatment.

14. In accordance with the PHS recommendation, the Respondent received evaluation and treatment at the Florida Recovery Center from October 25, 2021 to January 20, 2022.

15. On January 13, 2022, the Respondent entered into a “Physician’s Substance Abuse Monitoring Contract” with PHS, with which he has been fully compliant.

#### Legal Basis for Proposed Relief

A. Pursuant to 243 CMR 1.03(5)(a)10, the Board may discipline a physician upon proof satisfactory to a majority of the Board, that said physician practiced medicine deceitfully, or engaged in conduct that has the capacity to deceive or defraud. Pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 61(5), the Board may discipline a physician for engaging in dishonesty, fraud or deceit which is reasonably related to the practice of medicine.

B. Pursuant to *Levy v. Board of Registration in Medicine*, 378 Mass. 519 (1979); *Raymond v. Board of Registration in Medicine*, 387 Mass. 708 (1982), the Board may discipline a physician upon proof satisfactory to a majority of the Board, that said physician has engaged in conduct that undermines the public confidence in the integrity of the medical profession.

The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §§ 5, 61 and 62. This adjudicatory proceeding will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 30A and 801 CMR 1.01.

Nature of Relief Sought

The Board is authorized and empowered to order appropriate disciplinary action, which may include revocation or suspension of the Respondent's license to practice medicine. The Board may also order, in addition to or instead of revocation or suspension, one or more of the following: admonishment, censure, reprimand, fine, the performance of uncompensated public service, a course of education or training or other restrictions upon the Respondent's practice of medicine.

Order

Wherefore, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Respondent show cause why the Board should not discipline the Respondent for the conduct described herein.

By the Board of Registration in Medicine,



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Julian N. Robinson, M.D.  
Board Chair

Date: 11/31/2022