

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, SS.

Board of Registration in Medicine

Adjudicatory Case No. 2020-045

In the Matter of )  
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JEFFREY A. BUCCI, 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 violations for which a licensee may be sanctioned by the Board. The Board therefore alleges that Jeffrey A. Buccì, 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. 16-387.

Biographical Information

1. The Respondent was born on October 22, 1970. He is certified by the American Board of Psychiatry. He graduated from Tulane University School of Medicine in 2003. The Respondent has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 2009 under certificate number 238671.

Factual Allegations

2. On October 20, 2016, the Board received a report from a staff member at North Shore Psychiatry Center, alleging that the Respondent had been abusing alcohol. According to the staff member, there was a need for well-being checks on the Respondent.

3. The report also alleged that the Respondent had repeatedly taken sick days and cancelled appointments with patients. According to the report, the Respondent stormed out of the office when he had scheduled appointments; often abruptly cancelled appointments with patients; once walked by a patient in the parking lot without saying anything; and in April 2016, started calling an administrative assistant an hour before scheduled appointments and asking her to clear his schedule.

4. The report also alleged that the Respondent had stolen money from the practice. According to the report, during July and August of 2016, the Respondent charged up to \$16,000 on the practice credit card, including a vacation trip, women's clothing, and a home entertainment system. On Wednesday, October 19, 2016, an employee arrived at the office and found that the money bag had been cut open, checks were missing, and the credit card machine was missing.

5. Finally, the report alleged that the Respondent failed to follow up as needed with patients. According to the report, the Respondent failed to fill out guardianship papers for one patient, to the extent that the patient's parent was calling the office and waiting weeks for the Respondent to complete the paperwork; and the Respondent did not return the telephone calls of parents whose children were hospitalized.

6. The Respondent acknowledged his abuse of alcohol and entered into a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice (VANP).

7. The Board's Vice-Chair accepted the Respondent's VANP on October 25, 2016. The full Board ratified the VANP on November 3, 2016.

8. On June 7, 2017, the Respondent entered into a Physician Health Services (PHS) Substance Use Monitoring Contract which required abstinence from substances of abuse.

9. In a letter dated January 7, 2020, the Director of PHS stated that the Respondent had been compliant with his PHS contract since he entered into it on June 7, 2017.

Legal Basis for Proposed Relief

A. Pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 5 eighth par. (c) and 243 CMR 103(5)(a)3, the Board may discipline a physician upon proof satisfactory to a majority of the Board, that said physician has engaged in conduct that places into question his competence to practice 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), and Sugarman v. Board of Registration in Medicine, 422 Mass. 338 (1996), the Board may discipline a physician upon proof satisfactory to a majority of the Board that said physician lacks good moral character and 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Abraham", written over a horizontal line.

George Abraham, M.D.  
Board Chair

Date: October 22, 2020