

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, SS.

Board of Registration in Medicine

Adjudicatory Case No. 2024-059

In the Matter of)
USAMA FEROZE, M.D.)

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 Usama Feroze, 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. 24-044.

Biographical Information

1. The Respondent graduated from the Allama Iqbal Medical College, University of the Punjab in Pakistan in 2006. He has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts under certificate number 283667 since July 1, 2020. He is board-certified in psychiatry. He works for Suburban Psychiatric Specialists in Norwood, MA.
2. The Respondent is also licensed to practice medicine in California, Rhode Island, and Washinton D.C.
3. The Respondent was previously licensed to practice medicine in Virginia from 2015 until 2017.

Factual Allegations

4. On January 10, 2024, the Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (RI Board) ratified a consent order and reprimanded the Respondent's medical license for engaging in unprofessional conduct in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-37-5.1(19). The RI Board required the Respondent complete and successfully pass the Center for Personalized Education for Professionals (CPEP) Probe course and a medical records course. *See* RI Board January 10, 2024 Consent Order at Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

5. As part of the RI Board consent order, the Respondent admitted the following:

- a. On May 16, 2022, the Respondent performed an initial outpatient psychiatric evaluation on a 19-year-old patient at Butler Hospital Clinic. At the time of the intake appointment, the Respondent was to commence medication management of the patient. The initial portion of the psychiatric session lasted approximately 45 minutes and was conducted in the presence of the patient's mother. The Respondent then requested that the patient's mother leave; the Respondent then spoke with the patient privately for approximately five minutes. The Respondent proceeded to ask a series of questions which related to sexual history and activity; the questions made the patient uncomfortable.
- b. Respondent does not deny that he asked the questions alleged by the patient. Respondent explained that the questions were clinically appropriate, given the symptoms and diagnosis presented by the patient.

6. The RI Board concluded that the Respondent (1) failed to document in the medical records the examination and evaluation of the patient in connection with the inquiry concerning the patient's sexual conduct and (2) posed questions regarding the patient's sexual

activity and history and erred in his clinical conclusions based on the patient's clinical history in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-37-5.1 (19).

7. The Respondent has complied with the RI Board order by completing both required courses.

Legal Basis for Proposed Relief

A. Pursuant to 243 CMR 1.03(5)(a)12, the Board may discipline a physician upon proof satisfactory to a majority of the Board, that said physician has been discipline in another jurisdiction in any way by the proper licensing authority for reasons substantially the same as those set forth in G.L. c. 112, § 5 or 243 CMR 1.03(5), specifically:

1. The Respondent engaged in conduct which places into question his competence to practice medicine, including but not limited to gross misconduct in the practice of medicine, or practicing medicine fraudulently, or beyond its authorized scope, or with gross incompetence, or with gross negligence on a particular occasion or negligence on repeated occasions. *See* 243 CMR 1.03(5)(a)3.
2. The Respondent failed to maintain a medical record for each patient that is complete, timely, legible, and adequate to enable him or any other health care provider to provide proper diagnosis and treatment. *See* 243 CMR 2.07(13)(a).

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 'Booker T. Bush', written over a horizontal line.

Booker T. Bush, M.D.
Board Chair

Date: November 7, 2024

RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE

IN THE MATTER OF:

Usama Feroze, MD

License No.: MD 15332

Case No.: C22-0659

CONSENT ORDER

The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline ("Board") makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Usama Feroze, MD ("Respondent") was issued a license in the State of Rhode Island on March 8, 2016.
2. At the time of the filing of the Complaint, Respondent worked as a staff psychiatrist in the Outpatient Program and Partial Hospital Program at Butler Hospital, located in Providence, Rhode Island.
3. On or about May 19, 2022, Butler Hospital filed a Complaint with the Board reporting allegations of an incident that occurred on May 16, 2022 during an initial outpatient psychiatric evaluation at the Butler Hospital Clinic. At the time of the intake appointment, Respondent was to commence medication management of the patient, who was 19 years old at the time of the incident. The initial portion of the psychiatric session lasted for approximately 45 minutes and was conducted in the presence of the patient's mother. Thereupon, Respondent requested that the patient's mother leave the room during which time Respondent spoke with the patient privately for approximately five minutes. Respondent proceeded to ask a series of questions which related to sexual history and activity. The patient later reported to her mother the questions made the patient uncomfortable.

4. Respondent does not deny that he asked the questions alleged by the patient. Respondent explained that the questions were clinically appropriate, given the symptoms and diagnosis presented by the patient.

5. On November 3, 2022, Respondent was interviewed by the Board's Investigative Committee in connection with the Committee's investigation of the Complaint. The Respondent was accompanied by legal counsel.

6. The Investigative Committee has made a probable cause determination of unprofessional conduct on the part of Respondent, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-37-5.1 (19). Specifically, Respondent: 1) failed to document in the medical records the examination and evaluation of the patient in connection with the inquiry concerning the patient's sexual conduct; 2) posed questions regarding patient's sexual activity and history and erred in his clinical conclusions based on the patient's clinical history.

Based upon the foregoing, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Respondent admits to and agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.
2. Respondent agrees to enter into this Consent Order and understands that it is subject to final approval of the Board and is not binding on Respondent until final ratification.
3. If ratified by the Board, Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a) the right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
 - b) the right to produce witnesses and evidence on his behalf at a hearing;
 - c) the right to cross examine witnesses;
 - d) the right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
 - e) the right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;
 - f) any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;

- g) any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Hearing Committee for consideration and review; and
 - h) any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank and Federation of State Medical Boards and posted to the RI DOH public website.
4. Respondent is hereby issued a reprimand by the Board.
5. Respondent, at his own expense, shall complete and successfully pass a boundaries course, such as the one offered by the Center for Personalized Education for Physician (CPEP), Problem Based Ethics and Boundaries Course (Probe) and a Medical Records course, that have been approved by the Board, and shall complete both the courses and all shall comply with all recommendations contained in the reports within three (3) months of the ratification of this Consent Order.
6. Respondent is hereby issued an order of reprimand by the Board and shall pay administrative fees in the amount of \$1,100.00. The administrative fees must be paid within three (3) months of the ratification of this Consent Order and shall be made payable to the Rhode Island General Treasurer, and delivered to the Rhode Island Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, Room 205, Providence, RI 02908, Attn. Jessica DeSanto. Respondent will send notice of compliance of this condition to DOH.PRCompliance@health.ri.gov within thirty (30) days of submitting the above-referenced payment.
7. In the event that any term of this Consent Order is violated, after ratification and approval, the Director of the Department of Health shall have the discretion to impose further disciplinary action pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 5-37-5.1 through 5-37-6.3. If the Director imposes further disciplinary action, Respondent shall be given notice and shall have the right to request an administrative hearing within twenty (20) days of further

discipline. The Director of the Department of Health shall also have the discretion to request an administrative hearing after notice to Respondent of a violation of any term of this Consent Order. Any administrative hearings, whether initiated by the Director or the Respondent, shall be conducted in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 5-37-5.1 through 5-37-6.3 or R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 5-37-8 and 42-35-14(c), the Rules and Regulations for the Licensure and Discipline of Physicians (216-RICR-40-05-1), the Rules and Regulations for Practices and Procedures Before the Rhode Island Department of Health (216-RICR-10-05-4), and applicable provisions of R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35-1 *et seq.*

As Assented to and Signed this 15th day of December 2023.

Usama Feroze
Usama Feroze, MD

Ratified by the Medical Licensure and Discipline Board on the 10th day of January
2024

Ali A. Ahmed
Date