

STATE OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Petitioner,

vs.

DOH CASE NO.: 2019-28949  
LICENSE NO.: ME0124528

LISA RACHEL HALPERN, M.D.,

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER

THIS CAUSE came before the BOARD OF MEDICINE (Board) pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, on August 7, 2020, via a duly noticed telephone conference call meeting, for the purpose of considering a Settlement Agreement (attached hereto as Exhibit A) entered into between the parties in this cause. Upon consideration of the Settlement Agreement, the documents submitted in support thereof, the arguments of the parties, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Settlement Agreement as submitted be and is hereby approved and adopted in toto and incorporated herein by reference with the following clarification:

The costs set forth in Paragraph 3 of the Stipulated Disposition shall be set at \$2,152.33.

Accordingly, the parties shall adhere to and abide by all the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement as clarified above.

This Final Order shall take effect upon being filed with the Clerk of the Department of Health.

DONE AND ORDERED this 13 day of August, 2020.

BOARD OF MEDICINE



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Claudia Kemp, J.D., Executive Director  
For Zachariah P. Zachariah, M.D., Chair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Final Order has been provided by **Certified** and U.S. Mail to LISA RACHEL HALPERN, M.D., 11550 Old Georgetown Road, 628, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852, to 110 Sibley Avenue, Apt. 301, Ardmore, Pennsylvania 19003, and by email to LRHMD2000@aol.com; by email to Allison Dudley, Assistant General Counsel, Department of Health, at Allison.Dudley@flhealth.gov; and by email to Edward A. Tellechea, Chief Assistant Attorney

General, at [Ed.Tellechea@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:Ed.Tellechea@myfloridalegal.com) this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020.

*Bridget Cortes*  
Deputy Agency Clerk

**Certified Article Number**

9414 7266 9904 2157 7408 89

**SENDER'S RECORD**

|||||  
Lsia R. Halpern  
11550 Old Georgetown Road 628  
North Bethesda, MD 20852

**Certified Article Number**

9414 7266 9904 2157 7408 72

**SENDER'S RECORD**

|||||  
Lsia R. Halpern  
110 Sibley Avenue  
Apt. 301  
Ardmore, PA 19003

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,**

**Petitioner,**

**v.**

**DOH Case No. 2019-28949**

**LISA RACHEL HALPERN, M.D.,**

**Respondent.**

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**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

Lisa Rachel Halpern, M.D., referred to as the "Respondent," and the Department of Health, referred to as "Department," stipulate and agree to the following Agreement and to the entry of a Final Order of the Board of Medicine, referred to as "Board," incorporating the Stipulated Facts and Stipulated Disposition in this matter.

Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating the practice of medicine pursuant to Section 20.43, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 456, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 458, Florida Statutes.

**STIPULATED FACTS**

1. At all times material hereto, Respondent was a licensed physician in the State of Florida having been issued license number ME 124528.
2. The Department charged Respondent with an Administrative Complaint that was filed and properly served upon Respondent alleging violations of Chapter 458, Florida Statutes, and the rules adopted pursuant thereto. A true and correct copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

3. For purposes of these proceedings, Respondent neither admits nor denies the allegations of fact contained in the Administrative Complaint.

#### **STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Respondent admits that, in her capacity as a licensed physician, she is subject to the provisions of Chapters 456 and 458, Florida Statutes, and the jurisdiction of the Department and the Board.

2. Respondent admits that the facts alleged in the Administrative Complaint, if proven, would constitute violations of Chapter 458, Florida Statutes.

3. Respondent agrees that the Stipulated Disposition in this case is fair, appropriate and acceptable to Respondent.

#### **STIPULATED DISPOSITION**

1. **Letter Of Concern** – The Board shall issue a Letter of Concern against Respondent's license.

2. **Fine** - The Board shall impose an administrative fine of ***One Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1000.00)*** against Respondent's license which Respondent shall pay to: Payments, Department of Health, Compliance Management Unit, Bin C-76, P.O. Box 6320, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6320, within thirty (30) days from the date of filing of the Final Order accepting this Agreement ("Final Order"). **All fines shall be paid by cashier's check or money order.** Any change in the terms of payment of any fine imposed by the Board **must be approved in advance by the Probation Committee of the Board.**

RESPONDENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF THE FINE IS HER LEGAL OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICING IF THE FINE IS NOT PAID AS AGREED IN THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT. SPECIFICALLY, IF RESPONDENT HAS NOT RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE DATE OF FILING OF THE FINAL ORDER THAT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE FINE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OFFICE, RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICE UNTIL RESPONDENT RECEIVES SUCH WRITTEN CONFIRMATION FROM THE BOARD.

3. **Reimbursement of Costs** - Pursuant to Section 456.072, Florida Statutes, Respondent agrees to pay the Department for the Department's costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this case ("Department costs"). Such costs exclude the costs of obtaining supervision or monitoring of the practice, the cost of quality assurance reviews, any other costs Respondent incurs to comply with the Final Order, and the Board's administrative costs directly associated with Respondent's probation, if any. Respondent agrees that the amount of Department costs to be paid in this case is ***One Thousand One Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars and Forty-Six Cents (\$1,148.46), but shall not exceed Three Thousand One Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars and Forty-Six Cents (\$3,148.46)***. Respondent will pay such Department costs to: Payments, Department of Health, Compliance Management Unit, Bin C-76, P.O. Box 6320, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6320, within thirty (30) days from the date of filing of the Final Order. **All costs shall be paid by cashier's check or money order.** Any

change in the terms of payment of costs imposed by the Board **must be approved in advance by the Probation Committee of the Board.**

**RESPONDENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF THE COSTS IS HER LEGAL OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICING IF THE COSTS ARE NOT PAID AS AGREED IN THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT. SPECIFICALLY, IF RESPONDENT HAS NOT RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE DATE OF FILING OF THE FINAL ORDER THAT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE COSTS NOTED ABOVE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OFFICE, RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICE UNTIL RESPONDENT RECEIVES SUCH WRITTEN CONFIRMATION FROM THE BOARD.**

4. **Laws And Rules Course** - Within one (1) year from the date the Final Order is filed, Respondent shall complete a Board-approved laws and rules course, which can be completed online.

5. **Suspension Language** - Respondent's Florida medical license shall be indefinitely SUSPENDED until such time as Respondent provides the Board with evidence that Respondent's medical license(s) is/are unencumbered in any and all jurisdictions in which Respondent is licensed to practice. The Board retains jurisdiction in this matter to impose additional practice restrictions which may include a period of probation. The terms and conditions of said practice restrictions or probation shall be determined at such time as Respondent's license to practice medicine is reinstated. However, the term of suspension shall be imposed prior to the Board's considering Respondent's petition for

reinstatement. Respondent shall not practice medicine in Florida until she petitions the Board for reinstatement, appears before the Board, and has her license reinstated.

### **STANDARD PROVISIONS**

1. **Appearance** - Respondent is not required to appear at the August 2020 meeting for the Board's consideration of this agreement. However, if the Board determines that the settlement agreement cannot be approved at the August 2020 meeting without Respondent's appearance, the settlement agreement will be continued to the October 2020 meeting.

2. **No Force or Effect until Final Order** - It is expressly understood that this Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and the Department. In this regard, the foregoing paragraphs (and only the foregoing paragraphs) shall have no force and effect unless the Board enters a Final Order incorporating the terms of this Agreement.

3. **Continuing Medical Education** - Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement Respondent shall first submit a written request to the Probation Committee for approval prior to performance of said CME course(s). Respondent shall submit documentation to the Board's Probation Committee of having completed a CME course in the form of certified copies of the receipts, vouchers, certificates, or other papers, such as physician's recognition awards, documenting completion of this medical course within one (1) year of the filing of the Final Order in this matter. All such documentation shall be sent to the Board's Probation Committee, regardless of whether some or any of such documentation was provided previously during the course of any audit or discussion with



counsel for the Department. CME hours required by this Agreement shall be in addition to those hours required for renewal of licensure. Unless otherwise approved by the Board's Probation Committee, such CME course(s) shall consist of a formal, live lecture format.

4. **Addresses** - Respondent must provide current residence and practice addresses to the Board. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of any changes of said addresses

5. **Future Conduct** - In the future, Respondent shall not violate Chapter 456, 458 or 893, Florida Statutes, or the rules promulgated pursuant thereto, or any other state or federal law, rule, or regulation relating to the practice or the ability to practice medicine to include, but not limited to, all statutory requirements related to practitioner profile and licensure renewal updates. Prior to signing this agreement, the Respondent shall read Chapters 456, 458 and 893 and the Rules of the Board of Medicine, at Chapter 64B8, Florida Administrative Code.

6. **Violation of Terms** - It is expressly understood that a violation of the terms of this Agreement shall be considered a violation of a Final Order of the Board, for which disciplinary action may be initiated pursuant to Chapters 456 and 458, Florida Statutes.

7. **Purpose of Agreement** - Respondent, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, executes this Agreement. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Board to review and examine all investigative file materials concerning Respondent prior to or in conjunction with consideration of the Agreement.

Respondent agrees to support this Agreement at the time it is presented to the Board and shall offer no evidence, testimony or argument that disputes or contravenes any stipulated fact or conclusion of law. Furthermore, should this Agreement not be accepted by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Agreement and other documents and matters by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from further participation, consideration or resolution of these proceedings.

8. **No Preclusion Of Additional Proceedings** - Respondent and the Department fully understand that this Agreement and subsequent Final Order will in no way preclude additional proceedings by the Board and/or the Department against Respondent for acts or omissions not specifically set forth in the Administrative Complaint attached as Exhibit A.

9. **Waiver Of Attorney's Fees And Costs** - Upon the Board's adoption of this Agreement, the parties hereby agree that with the exception of Department costs noted above, the parties will bear their own attorney's fees and costs resulting from prosecution or defense of this matter. Respondent waives the right to seek any attorney's fees or costs from the Department and the Board in connection with this matter.

10. **Waiver of Further Procedural Steps** - Upon the Board's adoption of this Agreement, Respondent expressly waives all further procedural steps and expressly waives all rights to seek judicial review of or to otherwise challenge or contest the validity of the Agreement and the Final Order of the Board incorporating said Agreement.

*[Signatures appear on the following page.]*

SIGNED this 1st day of June, 2020.

Lisa R. Halpern  
Lisa R. Halpern, M.D.

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

**BEFORE ME** personally appeared Lisa R Halpern, whose identity is known to me or who produced \_\_\_\_\_ (type of identification) and who, under oath, acknowledges that her signature appears above.

**SWORN TO** and subscribed before me this 1st day of June, 2020.

Deborah C. Halpern  
DEBORAH C. HALPERN  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

Scott A. Rivkees, MD  
State Surgeon General

Andrew Perrin

By: Andrew Perrin  
Assistant General Counsel  
Department of Health

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**ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT**

Petitioner, Department of Health, by and through its undersigned counsel, files this Administrative Complaint before the Board of Medicine against Respondent, Lisa Rachel Halpern, M.D., and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating the practice of medicine pursuant to section 20.43, Florida Statutes; chapter 456, Florida Statutes; and chapter 458, Florida Statutes.
2. At all times material to this complaint, Respondent was a licensed physician within the state of Florida, having been issued license number ME 124528.
3. Respondent's address of record is 11550 Old Georgetown Road 628 North Bethesda, Maryland 20852.

4. At all times material to this complaint, Respondent was a licensed physician within the state of Maryland, having been issued Maryland license number D45639.

5. The Maryland Board of Physicians (the "Maryland Board") is the licensing authority charged with regulating the practice of medicine in Maryland.

6. On March 29, 2019, the Maryland Board concluded that the Respondent violated the Maryland Medical Practice Act for failing to meet the appropriate standard of care by prescribing medication without clear justification, failing to adequately diagnosis patients, failing to adequately assess patients' mental status, and for failing to keep adequate medical records.

7. The Maryland Board ordered that the Respondent be officially reprimanded and further ordered that the Respondent be placed on probation for a minimum period of one year.

8. The Order by the Maryland Board that reprimanded Respondent and placed her on probation constitutes an action against Respondent's license to practice medicine in Maryland.

9. Section 458.331(1)(b), Florida Statutes (2019), provides that having a license or the authority to practice medicine revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of any jurisdiction, including its agencies and subdivisions, is grounds for discipline.

10. On or about June 18, 2019, the Maryland Board acted against Respondent's medical license by officially reprimanding her and placing her license on probation for not less than one year.

11. Based on the foregoing, Respondent has violated section 458.331(1)(b), Florida Statutes (2019), by having her license acted against by the licensing authority of Maryland.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board of Medicine enter an order imposing one or more of the following penalties: permanent revocation or suspension of Respondent's license, restriction of practice, imposition of an administrative fine, issuance of a reprimand, placement of the Respondent on probation, corrective action, refund of fees billed or collected, remedial education and/or any other relief that the Board deems appropriate.

SIGNED this 10th day of January, 2020.

SCOTT A. RIVKEES, M.D.  
State Surgeon General

**FILED**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DEPUTY CLERK

CLERK: Annelle Morris  
DATE: JAN 10 2020

PREPARED BY:

Andrew Perrin

Andrew Perrin

Assistant General Counsel  
Florida Bar No. 1020254  
DOH Prosecution Services Unit  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-65  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3265  
(850) 558-9914 Telephone  
E-Mail: Andrew.Perrin@flhealth.gov

PCP Date: January 10, 2020

PCP Members: Mark Avila, M.D., Kevin Cairns, M.D., Andre Perez



### **NOTICE OF RIGHTS**

Respondent has the right to request a hearing to be conducted in accordance with section 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, to be represented by counsel or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses and to have subpoena and subpoena duces tecum issued on his or her behalf if a hearing is requested.

A request or petition for an administrative hearing must be in writing and must be received by the Department within 21 days from the day Respondent received the Administrative Complaint, pursuant to Rule 28-106.111(2), Florida Administrative Code. If Respondent fails to request a hearing within 21 days of receipt of this Administrative Complaint, Respondent waives the right to request a hearing on the facts alleged in this Administrative Complaint pursuant to Rule 28-106.111(4), Florida Administrative Code. Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the material facts or charges contained in the Administrative Complaint must conform to Rule 28-106.2015(5), Florida Administrative Code.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

### **NOTICE REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

Respondent is placed on notice that Petitioner has incurred costs related to the investigation and prosecution of this matter. Pursuant to section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes, the Board shall assess costs related to the investigation and prosecution of a disciplinary matter, which may include attorney hours and costs, on the Respondent in addition to any other discipline imposed.