

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND)	
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION)	
of the State of Illinois,)	Complainant,
v.)	
Steven R D Best, M.D.)	
License No 036-086358,)	Respondent.

No 2020-07235

CONSENT ORDER

The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation, of the State of Illinois, by Vladimir Lozovskiy, one of its attorneys, (hereinafter the "Department") and Steven R.D. Best, M.D. (hereinafter the "Respondent"), through Jed Stone, his attorney, agree to the following:

STIPULATIONS

Steven R.D. Best, M.D. is licensed as a Physician and Surgeon in the State of Illinois, holding Illinois Physician and Surgeon License No 036-086358. Said license is in Active status. At all times material to the matter(s) set forth in this Consent Order, the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation, of the State of Illinois had jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties herein.

Information has come to the attention of the Department indicating that in April 2018, in the United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Secretary of the United States Department of Labor filed a complaint against Respondent alleging Respondent's breach of his fiduciary duties to the members of the retirement plan that he was responsible to administer and/or maintain. The allegation(s) as set forth herein, if proven to be true, may constitute grounds for suspending, revoking or other discipline of Respondent's license as a Physician and Surgeon, on the authority of 225 Illinois Compiled Statutes, Paragraph 60/22(A)(5).

Subsequently, the Department filed a formal complaint. While this matter was pending, the Department and Respondent, through his attorney, Jed Stone, engaged in negotiations for an amicable resolution of this matter. During negotiations, Respondent provided information that he utilized money from the retirement pension fund upon advise of his accountant. In October 2018, in the United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Respondent agreed to Consent Order and Judgment whereby he agreed to the following: (a) Respondent was removed as a fiduciary of the retirement Plan; (b) Respondent was removed as Plan Administrator or Trustee to the Plan; (c) Respondent is permanently enjoined from serving or acting as fiduciary or service provider with respect to any employee benefit plan subject to ERISA; (d) Respondent shall send a check or wire transfer in the amount of \$419,758.47 (the "settlement amount") to the Plan trust account for the benefit of the Plan; (e) Respondent agrees that he will not make any withdrawals or distributions from any Plan account or any Plan assets. All funds have been repaid. No members of the retirement plan suffered any loss.

For purposes of this Consent Order only, Respondent acknowledges that should this matter proceed to a contested hearing, the Illinois Medical Disciplinary Board (the "Board") could find a violation of the Medical Practice Act. The Department and Respondent stipulate that the above acknowledgement is made only for the purposes of this Consent Order. In the event that this Consent Order is not approved by the Board or is not approved by the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation ("Director"), this acknowledgement shall not be admissible in any proceeding and the matter will be set for an evidentiary hearing on the merits as if this Consent Order had not been submitted. In addition, upon approval of this Consent Order, neither this acknowledgement nor this Consent Order may be utilized in any other proceeding, except one to enforce this Agreement.

Respondent has been advised of the right to a hearing on the pending complaint, the right to contest any charges brought, and the right to administrative review of this Consent Order. Respondent knowingly waives each of these rights, as well as the right to administrative review of this Consent Order. Such waiver ceases if this Consent Order is rejected by either the Medical Disciplinary Board or the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

Respondent and the Department have agreed, in order to resolve this matter, that Respondent, Steven R. D. Best, M.D., be permitted to enter into a Consent Order with the Department, providing for the imposition of disciplinary measures which are fair and equitable under the circumstances and which are consistent with the best interests of the people of the State of Illinois.

CONDITIONS

WHEREFORE, the Department, through Vladimir Lozovskiy, its attorney, and Steven R. D. Best, M.D., Respondent, through Jed Stone, his attorney, agree:

- A Illinois Physician and Surgeon License of Steven R. D. Best, M.D., license No 036-086358, is hereby Reprimanded;
- B Within twelve (12) months of the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent shall show a proof of completion of (1) twenty (20) Category 1 CMEs in the area of professional responsibility/medical ethics. Said CMEs have to be pre-approved in writing by Chief Medical Coordinator and said CMEs are not allowed be used as a part of annually required CMEs for the next reporting period.
- C Respondent shall be fined in the amount of ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars. Respondent shall pay the aforementioned fine within twelve (12) months from the final approval of this Order. Respondent shall submit a check or series of checks

payable to the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. Said checks shall be mailed to the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Attention: CMU/Accounts Receivable - Fine Payments, 320 W Washington St., 3rd Floor, Springfield, Illinois 62786.

D. If Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of this Order, the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation may issue an Order forthwith mandating the automatic, immediate, indefinite suspension of Respondent's Illinois Physician License for a minimum of twelve (12) months. This indefinite suspension shall not preclude the Department from taking any other disciplinary or other actions it deems appropriate. In the event Respondent contests in writing (by the filing of an appropriate petition with the Department) the factual basis underlying said indefinite suspension within thirty (30) days of the imposition thereof, then Respondent shall be afforded a hearing on the merits within thirty (30) days from filing of said petition.

E. This Consent Order shall become effective immediately after it is approved by the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.


9/28/2021

DATE

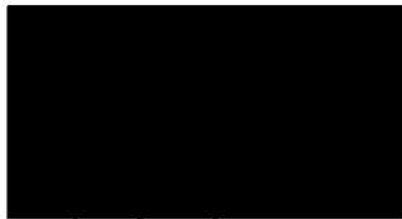

Vladimir Lozovskiy, Attorney for the Department

21 Sept 21

DATE


Steven R D Best, M.D., Respondent

9/27/20
DATE



Jed Stone, Attorney for Respondent

DATE

Member, Medical Disciplinary Board

The foregoing Consent Order is approved in full

DATED THIS 28th day of November, 2021

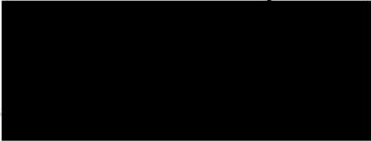
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois,
Mario Treto, Jr., Acting Secretary
Division of Professional Regulation.



Cecilia Abundis
ACTING DIRECTOR

REF: Case No 2020-07235/License No 036-086358

9/27/30



10/7/2021

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