

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

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL)	
REGULATION of the State of Illinois,)	
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION,)	
	Complainant,)
	v.) No. 2022-02177
TARAS DIDENKO, M.D.,)	
License No. 036.122569,	Respondent.)

CONSENT ORDER

The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation of the State of Illinois, Division of Professional Regulation (“Department”), by and through Daniel Valentín, Staff Attorney, and TARAS DIDENKO, M.D., (“Respondent”), by and through his attorney, Gal Pissetzky, hereby agree to the following:

STIPULATIONS

Respondent holds a Certificate of Registration as a Licensed Physician and Surgeon in the State of Illinois, License No. 036.122569, which is currently in ACTIVE status. At all times material to the matter set forth in this Consent Order, the Department had jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties herein.

On November 11, 2023, the Department received information regarding Respondent’s suspension of his DEA Registration Number FD1271321.

On March 22, 2024, the Department filed a four-count Complaint against Respondent’s Physician and Surgeon License for the State of Illinois. *See Exhibit A*, attached hereto and incorporated herein. The allegations as set forth herein, if proven to be true, would constitute grounds for the Department to revoke, suspend, or otherwise discipline Respondent’s license as a Physician

and Surgeon on the authority of 225 ILCS 60/22(A), subsections (4), (5), (7), (12), (17), (26), (27), (28), (31), (33) (37), and (41); 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1285.240; 720 ILCS 570/304; and 20 ILCS 2105/2105-130.

Respondent has been advised of the right to accept or reject this Consent Order. Respondent has been advised of the right to a formal hearing and the right to Administrative Review of any Order resulting from said hearing. 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 Board or the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation of the Department ("Director").

Respondent has knowingly and voluntarily entered into this Consent Order without any threat or coercion by any person. Respondent has not relied on any statements or promises made by or on behalf of the Department other than those specifically set forth in writing herein. Respondent and the Department have agreed, to resolve this matter, that Respondent 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 of Financial and Professional Regulation of the State of Illinois, Division of Professional Regulation ("Department"), by and through Daniel Valentín, Staff Attorney, and TARAS DIDENKO, M.D., ("Respondent"), by and through his attorney, Gal Pissetzky, hereby agree to the following:

- A. Respondent's Illinois Physician and Surgeon License No. 036.122569 shall be placed on indefinite SUSPENSION for a minimum period of one (1) year.

- B. This disposition is considered public discipline for reporting purposes to entities such as the National Practitioner Data Bank.
- C. This Order is a final administrative order. The effective date of this Order is the date when it is signed by the Director unless otherwise stated.

Signatures on following page

8/28/24
DATE

[Redacted]
Daniel Valentin
Staff Attorney

30/08/24
DATE

[Redacted]
Taras Didenko, M.D.,
Respondent

8/29/24
DATE

[Redacted]
Gal Pissetzky
Attorney for Respondent

9/4/24
DATE

[Redacted]
Member
Illinois State Medical Board

The foregoing Consent Order is approved in full.

Dated this 24th day of September, 2024.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
SECRETARY MARIO TRETO, JR.

[Redacted]
Acting Director Camile Lindsay
Division of Professional Regulation

REF: Case No. 2022-02177
Lic. No. 036.122569

RECEIVED

By Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation Clerk of the Court at 12:54 pm, Mar 22, 2024

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

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL)	
REGULATION of the State of Illinois,)	
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION,)	
)	Complainant,
)	
)	v.
)	No. 2022-02177
TARAS DIDENKO, M.D.,)	
License No. 036.122569,)	
License No. [REDACTED])	Respondent.

COMPLAINT

NOW COMES THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION (“Department”), by its Chief of Medical Prosecutions, Brandon R. Thom, and as its COMPLAINT against TARAS DIDENKO, M.D., (“Respondent”), states as follows:

COUNT 1

1. The Department has the power and duty to investigate the conduct of licensees and take disciplinary action in administration and enforcement of the Illinois Medical Practice Act of 1987, 225 ILCS 60/1 *et. seq.* (“Act”), and the Rules adopted by the Department in furtherance of the Act, 68 Ill. Admin. Code § 1285.20, *et seq.*
2. Respondent is the holder of a Certificate of Licensure as a Physician and Surgeon in the State of Illinois, License No. 036.122569, which is currently in “Active” status.
3. Respondent is the holder of a Controlled Substance license in the State of Illinois, License No. [REDACTED] which is currently in “Active” status.

4. Respondent is the holder of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Registration Number [REDACTED] which is currently suspended for cause.
5. The Department has jurisdiction to investigate complaints and to bring this action pursuant to 225 Illinois Compiled Statutes, Section 60/36.
6. At all relevant times herein, Respondent practiced medicine in the State of Illinois as psychiatrist.
7. On November 11, 2023, the Department received information regarding Respondent's suspension of his DEA Registration Number [REDACTED]
8. From March 2020 to July 2023, Respondent issued or authorized to Patient V.Z., Patient M.A., Patient R.G., Patient D.S., and Patient R.C., approximately 13 prescriptions for Amphetamine, a Schedule II controlled substance, and Alprazolam (brand name: Xanax) a benzodiazepine classified as a Schedule IV controlled substance, for which 11 prescription bottles were found in Respondent's residency during a search warrant.
9. On or about December 14, 2022, the Glen Ellyn Police Department (GEPD) executed a search warrant on Respondent's personal residence and seized about 11 prescription bottles of controlled substances Respondent has prescribed to various patients.
10. As a result of the referenced search warrant and investigation of December 2022, GEPD arrested and charged Respondent with residential burglary, theft of property and illegal possession of controlled substances.

11. On November 6, 2023, the DEA issued the immediate suspension of Respondent's DEA Registration Number [REDACTED] due to violations to Federal and State controlled substance laws and regulations.
12. On or about December 28, 2023, Respondent surrendered his controlled substances privileges and DEA Registration [REDACTED] for cause.
13. The DEA Voluntary Surrender Form of Controlled Substances Privileges signed by Respondent in December 2023 advised he is no longer authorized to order, prescribe, or engage in any other controlled substance activity whatsoever.
14. The general purpose of the Medical Practice Act of 1987, 225 ILCS 60, is to protect the public by assuring them of adequately trained physicians. See *Carter-Shields, MD v. Alton Health Inst.*, 777 NE 2d 948 (2002).
15. Pursuant to the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, the Department is required to ensure that licensed controlled substance prescribers comply with applicable Federal, State, and local law. 720 ILCS 570/303(a)(2); 720 ILCS 570/311.6(c).
16. "Dispense" is defined to include "prescribing." 720 ILCS 570/102(p).
17. The DEA may revoke or suspend a controlled substance registration if it's determined that the issuance of such registration or modification would be inconsistent with the public interest. 21 USC 823(g)(1); 21 USC 824(a)(4).

18. The DEA may suspend any registration simultaneously with the institution of proceedings under this section, in cases where he finds that there is an imminent danger to the public health or safety. 21 USC 824(d); 21 CFR 1301.36(e).
19. A registered or licensed controlled substance prescriber manufacture or distribute controlled substances in schedule I or II for other purpose than those specified in the registration. 21 USC 823(d).
20. The responsibility for the proper prescribing or dispensing of controlled substances that are under the prescriber's direct control is upon the prescriber. 720 ILCS 570/312(h).
21. Every licensed practitioner shall keep a record of all controlled substances administered or dispensed. 720 ILCS 570/320(d).
22. A registered controlled substance prescriber is required to keep accurate medical records of dispensed controlled substances in Schedules II, III, IV, and V. 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1285.240; 21 CFR 1304.03(b).
23. A prescription for a controlled substance to be effective must be issued for a legitimate medical purpose by an individual practitioner acting in the usual course of his or her professional practice. The responsibility for the proper prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances is upon the prescribing practitioner. 77 Ill. Admin. Code 3100.380(a); 21 CFR 1306.04.
24. A prescription may not be issued for the dispensing of narcotic drugs listed in any Schedule to a narcotic drug dependent person for the purpose of continuing his or her dependence upon such drugs, except in the case of the course of conducting an authorized clinical

investigation in the development of a narcotic addict rehabilitation program. 77 Ill. Admin. Code 3100.380(b).

25. The foregoing acts and/or omissions of Respondent are in violation of, and grounds for revocation, suspension, or other discipline of Respondent's Physician and Surgeon license pursuant to 225 ILCS 60/22(A); subsections (4), (5), (7), (12), (17), (26), (27), (28), (31), (33) (37), and (41); 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1285.240; 720 ILCS 570/304; and 20 ILCS 2105/2105-130.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing allegations, the DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION, by Brandon R. Thom, its Chief of Medical Prosecutions, prays that the Illinois Physician and Surgeon License of TARAS DIDENKO, M.D., be suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined.

COUNT II

- I-6 The Department hereby adopts and realleges paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count I of this Complaint as paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count II.
7. On January 5, 2023, the Department received information that Respondent has been charged with arrested and charged with residential burglary, theft of property and illegal possession of controlled substances by the GEPD.
8. On or about December 14, 2022, the GEPD executed a search warrant on Respondent's personal residence and seized about 11 prescription bottles of controlled substances Respondent has prescribed to various patients, including Patient R.C.

9. On or about January 4, 2022, Patient R.C. overdosed to death on controlled substances prescribed by Respondent. Inexplicably, during the referenced search, the GEPD found at Respondent's residence a prescription bottle or pill box for amphetamine 30 mg for 60 tablets that Respondent prescribed to Patient R.C.
10. The foregoing acts and/or omissions of Respondent are in violation of, and grounds for revocation, suspension, or other discipline of Respondent's Physician and Surgeon license pursuant to 225 ILCS 60/22(A); subsections (4), (5), (7), (12), (17), (26), (27), (28), (31), (33) (37), and (41); 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1285.240; 720 ILCS 570/304; and 20 ILCS 2105/2105-130.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing allegations, the DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION, by Brandon R. Thom, its Chief of Medical Prosecutions, prays that the Illinois Physician and Surgeon License of TARAS DIDENKO, M.D., be suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined.

COUNT III

- 1-6 The Department hereby adopts and realleges paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count I of this Complaint as paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count III.
7. On January 5, 2023, the Department received information that Respondent has been charged with arrested and charged with residential burglary, theft of property and illegal possession of controlled substances by the GEPD.

8. In September 2022, Respondent and Patient D.S. finished a romantic relationship. Patient D.S. is also a psychiatric patient of Respondent.
9. Respondent harassed Patient D.S., and then broke into her home, and stole controlled substances, expensive goods, and money.
10. On December 14, 2022, the GEPD arrested Respondent due to the referenced domestic incident involving Patient D.S., and Respondent was charged with residential burglary, theft of property and illegal possession of controlled substances.
11. *“Romantic or sexual interactions between physicians and patients that occur concurrently with the patient physician relationship are unethical. Such interactions detract from the goals of the patient-physician relationship and may exploit the vulnerability of the patient, compromise the physician’s ability to make objective judgments about the patient’s health care, and ultimately be detrimental to the patient’s wellbeing. A physician must terminate the patient-physician relationship before initiating a dating, romantic, or sexual relationship with a patient.”* Opinion 9.1.1., Code of Medical Ethics, American Medical Association.
12. Respondent actions are indicative that he uses or abuses his place of trust and relationship with Patient D.S. to divert controlled substances for himself, and that he is an addict or otherwise suffers or struggles with substance abuse disorder and other mental, behavioral, and physical conditions that impair him to practice medicine safely and ethically in the State of Illinois. Allowing Respondent to practice medicine under these circumstances poses an imminent danger to Patient D.S., himself, his family and friends, the public health, and safety of his patients. 720 ILCS 570/305.

13. The foregoing acts and/or omissions of Respondent are in violation of, and grounds for revocation, suspension, or other discipline of Respondent's Physician and Surgeon license pursuant to 225 ILCS 60/22(A); subsections (4), (5), (7), (12), (17), (26), (27), (28), (31), (33) (37), and (41); 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1285.240; 720 ILCS 570/304; and 20 ILCS 2105/2105-130.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing allegations, the DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION, by Brandon R. Thom, its Chief of Medical Prosecutions, prays that the Illinois Physician and Surgeon License of TARAS DIDENKO, M.D., be suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined.


COUNT IV

- 1-6 The Department hereby adopts and realleges paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count I of this Complaint as paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count IV.
7. On March 18, 2022, the Department received information regarding Respondent's treatment and interaction with Patient T.L.
8. On or about February 15, 2022, Respondent contacted Patient T.L. on the phone and via text messages because he was upset with an online review left by the patient. Respondent used offensive, profane, and unprofessional text messages in a manner that suggests cognitive disabilities or substance abuse.
9. The foregoing acts and/or omissions of Respondent are in violation of, and grounds for revocation, suspension, or other discipline of Respondent's Physician and Surgeon license

pursuant to 225 ILCS 60/22(A); subsections (5), (7), (12), (17), (26), (27), (28), (31), (33) (37), and (41); 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1285.240; 720 ILCS 570/304; and 20 ILCS 2105/2105-130.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing allegations, the DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION, by Brandon R. Thom, its Chief of Medical Prosecutions, prays that the Illinois Physician and Surgeon License of TARAS DIDENKO, M.D., be suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined.

COUNT V

- 1-6 The Department hereby adopts and realleges paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count I of this Complaint as paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count V.
7. An Illinois controlled substances license maybe suspended or revoked upon a finding that the registrant has had suspended or revoked his or her Federal registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances. 720 ILCS 570/304(a)(3).
8. "Dispense" is defined to include "prescribing." 720 ILCS 570/102(p).
9. Respondent, by operation of law, no longer qualifies for a Controlled Substance License in the State of Illinois because his DEA Registration Number is suspended or revoked, so the appropriate course of action is to immediately and summarily suspend License No. 
10. Respondent, who practices medicine in the field of psychiatry, requires an active State and Federal controlled substance registrations to practice within his field of medicine. Allowing

Respondent to practice medicine while his DEA Registration is suspended or revoked poses an imminent danger to the public health or safety of his patients. 720 ILCS 570/305.

11. As set forth in Counts I thru IV of the Complaint, Respondent has repeatedly prescribed controlled substances unlawfully and engaged in controlled substances illicitly outside of the usual course of professional practice in clear disregard with all his duties as a physician and controlled substance prescriber.
12. Respondent actions are indicative that he suffers or struggles with substance abuse disorder and other mental, behavioral, and physical conditions that impair him to practice medicine safely and ethically in the State of Illinois. Allowing Respondent to practice medicine under these circumstances poses an imminent danger to himself, his family and friends, the public health, and safety of his patients. 720 ILCS 570/305.
13. The foregoing acts and/or omissions of Respondent are in violation of, and grounds for revocation, suspension, or other discipline of Respondent's Physician and Surgeon license pursuant to 225 ILCS 60/22(A); subsections (5), (7), (12), (17), (26), (27), (28), (31), (33) (37), and (41); 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1285.240; 720 ILCS 570/304; and 20 ILCS 2105/2105-130.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing allegations, the DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION, by Brandon R. Thom, its Chief of Medical Prosecutions, prays that the Illinois Physician and Surgeon License of TARAS DIDENKO, M.D.. be suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
SECRETARY MARIO TRETO, JR.



Chief of Medical Prosecutions Brandon R. Thom

Daniel Valentín
Staff Attorney | Medical Prosecutions Unit
Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
555 W. Monroe St., Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60661
P: 312-793-0073
E: daniel.valentin@illinois.gov