

STATE OF MAINE
BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE

IN RE: LAWRENCE P. STROHMEYER, D.O.)
)
) CONSENT AGREEMENT
) AND BOARD ORDER
)
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This document is a Consent Agreement and Board Order between LAWRENCE P. STROHMEYER, D. O., the Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure (the "Board"), and the Maine Department of the Attorney General.

In May, 1994, the Board received a complaint concerning Dr. Strohmeyer. Following the completion of its investigation, the Board concluded that the complaint was of sufficient merit to require further Board action.

An informal conference between the Board and Dr. Strohmeyer, at which he was represented by counsel, was held on April 4, 1996. Following further consideration and discussion of the complaint and investigation by the parties, the Board, Dr. Strohmeyer and the Department of the Attorney General enter into the following Consent Agreement, pursuant to 10 M.R.S.A. §8003(5) and 32 M.R.S.A. §2591-A (1) (A), to resolve the pending complaint.

FINDINGS

The parties to this Consent Agreement agree to the following findings:

1. Dr. Lawrence P. Strohmeyer engaged in unprofessional conduct, as defined by 32 M.R.S.A. §2591-A(2)(F), by treating and prescribing for Ellen Waldron on an ongoing basis from 1992 to 1995 after he and Ellen Waldron had established a romantic relationship.

2. Dr. Lawrence P. Strohmeyer engaged in unprofessional conduct, as defined by 32 M.R.S.A. § 2591-A(2)(F), when he prescribed scheduled drugs for Ellen Waldron from February, 1994 to April, 1994, in spite of the fact that other physicians who were primarily responsible for Ms. Waldron's treatment had asked him not to do so.

3. Dr. Strohmeyer engaged in unprofessional conduct, as defined by 32 M.R.S.A. § 2591-A (2)(F), from 1992 to 1994 when he prescribed questionable quantities of narcotics for the treatment of chronic ongoing problems in spite of Ms. Waldron's history of alcohol abuse.

4. There is no evidence to suggest that Dr. Strohmeyer acted with malice or with an intent to harm the patient.

Based on the foregoing findings, the parties agree to the entry of a Board Order that imposes the following conditions on Dr. Strohmeyer's license to practice osteopathic medicine in the State of Maine:

CONDITIONS

1. Dr. Strohmeyer shall pay a fine of \$4,000.00 in accordance with the following schedule:

\$1,000 on or before July 1, 1996
\$1,000 on or before October 1, 1996
\$1,000 on or before February 1, 1997
\$1,000 on or before April 1, 1997

2. Dr. Strohmeyer is prohibited from treating and prescribing for Ellen Waldron or anyone with whom he has a romantic relationship.

3. Prior to April 1, 1997, Dr. Strohmeyer must submit satisfactory evidence of completion of 25 hours of educational courses, approved in advance by the Board or Case Reporter, regarding the following subject matter:

(a) pain management for persons with a history of substance abuse;

(b) professional boundary issues pertaining to a physician and/or psychiatrist and family members or persons with whom the physician or psychiatrist has an intimate relationship.

Following completion of the courses, Dr. Strohmeyer agrees to give a presentation to the Board on this subject matter of the CME requirements.

The CME hours obtained as a result of completion of this requirement will be in addition to the CME hours required by 32 M.R.S.A. §2581 for renewal of Dr. Strohmeyer's license to practice osteopathic medicine.

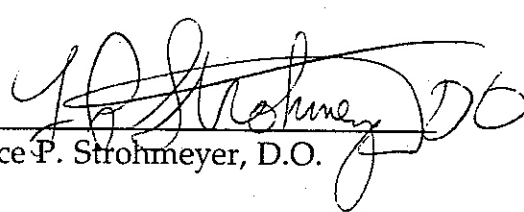
TERM OF LICENSE

The term of this Consent Agreement and conditional license is from April 4, 1996 to April 1, 1997, unless amended by agreement of the parties or further Board action. Dr. Strohmeyer may reapply for full licensure upon satisfactory completion of the above conditions.

WAIVER OF RIGHT TO APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION

I, Lawrence P. Strohmeyer, D.O., understand the terms of the foregoing Consent Agreement. I understand that by signing, I waive certain rights to have a hearing and to appeal the issuance of the conditional license contained herein. I sign this Agreement voluntarily, without any threat or promise. I understand that this Consent Agreement contains the entire agreement and there is no other agreement of any kind verbal, written or otherwise regarding this matter.

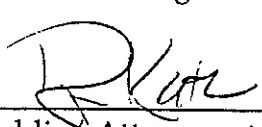
Date: 4-4-96



Lawrence P. Strohmeyer, D.O.

STATE OF MAINE
KENNEBEC, SS.

Before me, this 4 day of April, 1996, personally appeared Lawrence P. Strohmeyer, D. O., known to me, who after first being duly sworn, signed the foregoing Agreement in my presence or affirmed that the signature above is his own.



~~Notary Public~~ Attorney at Law

BOARD ORDER

The Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure finds that Lawrence P. Strohmeyer engaged in unprofessional conduct as set out more fully in the Consent Agreement entered into by the parties on April 4, 1996 and hereby votes to enter into a Consent Agreement imposing certain conditions on the license of Lawrence P. Strohmeyer, D.O. to practice osteopathic medicine, as more specifically set out in said Consent Agreement and incorporated herein by reference.

Date: *April 96*

STATE OF MAINE
BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE

By: *Louis A. Hanson*
Louis A. Hanson, D.O., Chair

Approved By:

Date: *April 4, 1996*

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: *Jaime L. Colombe*
Assistant Attorney General

**STATE OF MAINE
BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE**

IN RE: LAWRENCE P. STROHMEYER, D.O.

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**CONSENT AGREEMENT
AND BOARD ORDER**

The Board of Osteopathic Licensure (hereafter "the Board"), Lawrence P. Strohmeyer, D.O. and the Office of the Attorney General enter into the following Consent Agreement to resolve an investigation, pending complaints and Dr. Strohmeyer's application for renewal of his license to practice medicine.

I. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The parties agree that the Consent Agreement ("Agreement") is based upon the following findings and conclusions by the Board:

1. Dr. Strohmeyer has been licensed to practice osteopathic medicine in the State of Maine since 1991. Dr. Strohmeyer's specialty is psychiatry.
2. Dr. Strohmeyer and the Board entered into a Consent Agreement in April 1996. As a result of that Agreement, Dr. Strohmeyer was required to complete an educational course regarding pain management for persons with a history of substance abuse and a course regarding professional boundary issues.
3. Between January 2004 and October 2004, four complaints were filed against Dr. Strohmeyer. Based on these complaints, the Board commenced an investigation which involved the review of prescription profiles and the records of eight patients (which in some cases included the records of other physicians). The investigation also included interviewing the complainants, Dr. Strohmeyer, several former and current employees, and some physicians who had treated Dr. Strohmeyer's patients.
4. The Board submitted the information gathered during the investigation to Carlyle B.

Voss, M.D. for an independent evaluation. Dr. Voss filed his report with the Board on March 28, 2006. This report contained various findings, some of which Dr. Strohmeyer disputes.

5. The Board also requested that Dr. Strohmeyer undergo a neuropsychological examination and substance abuse evaluation. This was performed by Margaret Zellinger, Ph.D., who filed her report with the Board on July 7, 2006. This report made the following diagnoses: Mild Neurocognitive Deficit, Bipolar I Disorder (Provisional) and Alcohol Related Disorder. The report contained a number of recommendations. The Board notes that Dr. Strohmeyer disputes the report's findings.

6. Dr. Strohmeyer did not maintain appropriate professional boundaries in several instances, e.g., when he shared his personal and financial difficulties with patients; accepted loans from two office staff, at least one of whom was also a patient, and allowed a patient to send e-mails to him that were of an overly personal and inappropriate nature without taking appropriate steps to stop this behavior.

7. Dr. Strohmeyer failed to meet professional standards by the manner in which he maintained his office between January 2001 and October 2004, e.g., by sometimes arriving late for patient appointments; cancelling patient appointments without adequate notice to the patients; and not returning patient calls in a timely manner.

8. Dr. Strohmeyer did not appropriately supervise his staff to assure that patient information was being handled in a confidential and professional manner.

9. Dr. Strohmeyer did not meet the standard of care when he: prescribed a high dose of Wellbutrin to a patient, potentially placing her at risk of seizures or other complications; prescribed Klonopin to a patient even though she was not compliant with the proper dosing schedule and had a

history of substance abuse; prescribed two stimulant medications for fibromyalgia to a patient with a chronic bipolar disorder; treated patients for therapeutic lifestyle changes by prescribing medication for off label uses and beyond recommended dosages without consulting with another appropriate physician and when he failed to maintain adequate documentation regarding pain control, weight management and substance abuse.

10. Dr. Strohmeyer has been provisionally diagnosed with a condition which if not properly managed could result in the licensee performing his duties in a manner that endangers the health or safety of patients. Dr. Strohmeyer has been prescribed medication for the treatment of this condition. However, Dr. Strohmeyer has not received adequate oversight care by a mental health professional in the past couple of years.

11. Dr. Strohmeyer denies that he has a problem with substance abuse. A second evaluation done by Shawn Wilson, M.D., found no evidence of dependence or addiction but diagnosed Dr. Strohmeyer with Substance Abuse and Mood Disorder due to Substance Use. Dr. Strohmeyer consumed alcohol for several years in spite of the fact that he takes medication that carries a recommendation to avoid alcohol consumption. Dr. Strohmeyer has agreed to stop consuming alcohol, and will receive continuing evaluation by the health care professional who will be providing treatment pursuant to II. 2. of this Agreement.

12. Dr. Strohmeyer failed to meet professional standards applicable to some interactions with peers, e.g., when he failed or declined to promptly turn over records to other professionals regarding his present or former patients; failed to coordinate medication management with other physicians; failed to promptly return the calls of other professionals; withheld patient records from

the Board without sufficient justification and in spite of patient authorization; and wrote a derogatory statement about a professional in at least one patient record.

13. On or about July 12, 2004, Dr. Strohmeyer wrote a brief letter containing professional opinions regarding a person whom he had only observed from a distance, without proper evaluation.

14. The Board concludes that the above findings are grounds for discipline under 32 M.R.S.A. § 2591-A (2) (C), (E), (F) and (H). The Board has not received any complaints regarding Dr. Strohmeyer since September 2004; Dr. Strohmeyer's practice appears to be managed in a much more professional manner and Dr. Strohmeyer appears to be taking better care of himself. One of the purposes of this Consent Agreement is to help ensure that this apparent progress continues.

II. RENEWAL AND CONDITIONS OF LICENSURE

The Board renews Dr. Strohmeyer's license to practice osteopathic medicine in the State of Maine, subject to the following probationary conditions, to which Dr. Strohmeyer agrees:

1. **Supervising Psychiatrist.** Dr. Strohmeyer must have a supervising psychiatrist at all times during the term of this Agreement.

A. **General Requirements of Supervisor.** The supervising psychiatrist must:

1. be approved by the Board, have read the evaluations of Dr. Voss, Dr. Zellinger, Dr. Wilson and this Agreement;
2. meet (in person or by telephone) with Dr. Strohmeyer **at least once a month** to discuss **no less than two (2) cases**, selected by Dr. Strohmeyer;

3. have access to and review a sampling of Dr. Strohmeyer's patient charts (**at least five (5) cases per month, randomly selected by the supervisor from the appointment log maintained by Dr. Strohmeyer's office staff for the previous month**);
4. speak with staff at Dr. Strohmeyer's office on a regular basis to determine if there are any concerns regarding Dr. Strohmeyer's professional and ethical behavior or whether patients or others have complained or expressed concerns in these areas.

B. Reporting Requirements.

1. Routine Supervisor Reports. Dr. Strohmeyer shall ensure that the supervising psychiatrist reports to the Board on a monthly basis, beginning on the **first day of the second month** following the execution of this Agreement by the parties, and the first of each and every month thereafter, in accordance with the following subsection.
2. Content of Routine Reports. At a minimum, the routine reports from the supervising psychiatrist should include the following information:
 - a. the amount and type of contact between the supervising psychiatrist and the licensee in the past month;
 - b. the number of patients discussed, the number of charts reviewed;
 - c. whether the contact with Dr. Strohmeyer, or review of patient cases and charts raised any concerns regarding Dr. Strohmeyer's competence, professional or ethical behavior and what advice the supervisor gave to Dr.

Strohmeyer with respect to each concern raised;

- d. whether any complaints were made or concerns expressed by office staff or others regarding Dr. Strohmeyer's competence, professional or ethical behavior during the reporting period and the specific nature of those complaints or concerns;
- e. whether Dr. Strohmeyer is obtaining consultation as required by Condition 3; and
- f. recommendations, if any, regarding how to address any complaints or concerns.

3. Immediate Reports. The supervisor **shall immediately report** to the Board if there is reason to believe that Dr. Strohmeyer is acting in a manner that indicates impairment or a concern for current patients. A verbal report shall be followed by a detailed **written report** to the Board **within 48 hours** of the time that the supervising psychiatrist becomes aware of the situation.

4. Confidentiality. To the extent allowed by law, the reports submitted by the supervising psychiatrist pursuant to this Condition shall not be disclosed to the public.

2. Mental Health and Alcohol Use Treatment.

A. General.

- 1. Dr. Strohmeyer agrees to receive treatment and medication management regarding any mental health or alcohol use issues from a psychiatrist who has read the reports of Dr. Voss, Dr. Zellinger, Dr. Wilson and this Agreement and

who has been approved by the Board or Case Reporter prior to the execution of this Agreement. The treating psychiatrist and the supervising psychiatrist may not be the same professional.

2. Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that he will obtain medications to manage any mental condition and substance use only from the psychiatrist approved by the Board and will not prescribe for himself or obtain such medications from any other sources.
3. Abstinence. So long as this Agreement remains in effect, Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that he will completely abstain from the use of any and all mood or mind altering substances (hereinafter "prohibited substance"), whether illicit or not, including but not limited to: alcohol, cocaine, opiates, DEA scheduled drugs and other mood or mind altering drugs. A drug that is dispensed or prescribed for Dr. Strohmeyer by a physician who is known to or approved by the Board is not considered a "prohibited substance".

B. Frequency of Treatment and Reports.

1. Dr. Strohmeyer will meet with the professional providing treatment and medication management **at least once a month** but more frequently if recommended by the professional. Dr. Strohmeyer will ensure that the professional submits a report to the Board on the **first day of March, June, September and December of every year in which this Agreement is in effect.**
2. The reports shall include but not be limited to: the date(s) of the treatment sessions or other contacts with the licensee; progress made by Dr. Strohmeyer

and details of any issues or concerns raised by these contacts or by others that may relate to Dr. Strohmeyer's ability to practice psychiatry.

3. Immediate Reports. The professional providing treatment **shall immediately report** to the Board if Dr. Strohmeyer fails to attend treatment sessions, to follow the treatment plan or if there is reason to believe that Dr. Strohmeyer is acting in a manner that indicates impairment or a concern for current patients. A verbal report shall be followed by a detailed **written report** to the Board **within 48 hours** of the time that the treating psychiatrist becomes aware of the situation.
4. Confidentiality. The reports submitted pursuant to this Condition shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except as may be required for Board review or action, or as permitted by law.

C. Change or Addition of Treatment Professional.

1. If Dr. Strohmeyer desires to change or add to the professional providing treatment, Dr. Strohmeyer will inform the Board in writing **prior to the change or addition**, or promptly thereafter if prior notice is not possible. This notice to the Board must be accompanied by a written explanation from Dr. Strohmeyer and the current treating professional of the reason for the change or addition.
2. If the Board does not approve of the change or addition, Dr. Strohmeyer and the Board will work in good faith to obtain a mutually agreeable provider.

3. Consultants.

Dr. Strohmeyer's current practice includes areas of medicine beyond the usual scope of psychiatry, e.g. weight loss management and pain management.

A. If Dr. Strohmeyer continues to treat his patients in areas outside of the usual scope of psychiatry, he shall show evidence in the patient's records that he has consulted with a physician with training and expertise in the areas of medicine outside of the usual scope of psychiatry.

B. If Dr. Strohmeyer prescribes for pain management, he shall also comply with 02 CMR 383, Chapter 11, *Use of Controlled Substances for Treatment of Pain* (eff. 3-22-1999).

4. Education.

A. **Within the first two (2) years** of this Agreement, Dr. Strohmeyer must attend an educational program approved by the Case Reporter of at least **20 hours** duration regarding issues related to ethics and professional boundaries. Dr. Strohmeyer must provide the educational program with a copy of this Agreement prior to the commencement of the program.

B. Dr. Strohmeyer will ensure that the Board receives a report from the educational program that describes Dr. Strohmeyer's participation in the program, his level of understanding and appreciation for the principles taught and whether he has satisfactorily completed the program. Dr. Strohmeyer will sign releases, as needed, if the Board requires additional written information from the program or needs to speak with program personnel regarding any aspects of the report.

C. This education will be part of the 100 hours that Dr. Strohmeyer is required to obtain for biennial renewal of his license.

5. Evaluation by an Independent Professional.

Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that, if at any time during the term of this Agreement, the Board believes that an independent evaluation is necessary, he will cooperate in obtaining this evaluation from a professional approved by the Board and in the timeframe requested by the Board.

6. Waiver of Physician/Therapist/Patient Privilege.

Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that, for monitoring and enforcement of this Consent Agreement, the Board, its agents and the Office of the Attorney General shall have access to all confidential information, assessments, evaluations, diagnoses, records, reports, test results and other data relevant to the purposes of this Consent Agreement, including information related to substance abuse, if any, and mental health, that is generated or created since the execution of this Agreement.

Dr. Strohmeyer also agrees that the Board or its authorized agents or the Office of the Attorney General may communicate orally with professionals involved in his testing, care, supervision and treatment. Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that he will promptly sign any and all authorizations so that the Board, its agents and the Office of the Attorney General can have access to information relevant to Dr. Strohmeyer's treatment, his ability to competently and professionally care for patients, and his compliance with the conditions of his Consent Agreement.

7. Notice of Consent Agreement.

A. Dr. Strohmeyer shall provide a copy of this Agreement, and any subsequent amendments, to the Chief of Staff at any institution(s) where he holds privileges, his supervising psychiatrist and any treatment professionals, other physicians who may join the practice and any management level office staff.

B. Each of the foregoing shall sign and date an acknowledgement that he or she has read the Agreement or the subsequent amendment. A copy of each signed acknowledgement must be sent to the Board **within thirty (30) days** of the date of the execution of this Agreement or of the execution of subsequent amendments.

C. Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that if new individuals assume similar roles during the existence of this Agreement, or any subsequent amendment, he will promptly provide a copy of this

Agreement, as amended, to the new individual(s) and send the Board a dated and signed acknowledgement from each.

D. In the event that Dr. Strohmeyer applies for licensure in other jurisdictions while the Agreement, as amended, is in effect, Dr. Strohmeyer agrees to notify the other jurisdictions of the existence of this Agreement, and any amendments thereto, and provide a letter to the Board that he has done so.

8. Costs.

A. Dr. Strohmeyer agrees to pay for the costs incurred in connection with the Board's investigation, in accordance with 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003-D. The Board will provide Dr. Strohmeyer with an invoice setting out the amount of such costs, at or prior to the time of the execution of this Agreement. **Half of the assessed costs must be paid to the Board by the end of the first year of the Agreement. The second half of the assessed costs must be paid by the end of the second year of the Agreement.** Payments shall be made by sending to the Board a cashier's check or money order, made payable to the "Board of Osteopathic Licensure".

B. Dr. Strohmeyer will be responsible for all costs resulting from the carrying out, monitoring and the enforcement of this Agreement, pursuant to 10 M.R.S.A. §8003-D.

9. Amendments.

A. Requests for amendments shall be submitted to the Board in writing and supported by professional opinions, if appropriate and available.

B. Requests for amendments will not suspend any obligations under this Agreement. Dr. Strohmeyer will be expected to comply with the terms of the Agreement until his request is acted upon favorably by Board vote and approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

C. Amendments will be decided in the discretion of the Board, with or without a hearing, and must have the approval of a representative of the Attorney General. There will be no appeal from the discretionary decisions regarding amendments of this Agreement.

D. Any action by the Board seeking to increase the conditions of licensure will be taken only after hearing, unless allowed by law, this Agreement or by subsequent agreement of the parties.

E. Except for good cause, amendments will not be considered by the Board more frequently than every six months, commencing upon the execution of this Agreement by all parties

10. **Notices.**

The Board can be reached at:

142 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0142
(207) 287-2480
Fax: (207) 287-3015
E-mail: susan.e.strout@maine.gov

Dr. Strohmeyer can be reached at: Work: (207) 872-9534

RR #4, Box 8130
Waterville, ME 04901

Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that at or prior to the execution of the Agreement he will provide the Board's Executive Secretary with his home number, his cell phone and/or beeper number, and his e-mail address and fax numbers, if any. This contact information, to the extent that it is not generally available to the public, will be kept confidential and used by the Board only for the purposes intended by this Agreement.

Dr. Strohmeyer further agrees that he will promptly notify the Board if he changes address or any of the methods of contacting him identified in this Condition.

11. **Term of Board Order.**

A. This Agreement and Board Order regarding probationary license will terminate **five (5) years** from the date that all parties execute this Agreement, provided Dr. Strohmeyer has completed all of the requirements of his Agreement, and any amendments, there have been no repeated instances of non-compliance during the term of the Agreement, and there are no pending investigations or grounds for discipline at the time set for termination. If any of the foregoing exists, Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that he will in good faith negotiate a reasonable extension of this Agreement.

B. The Board will automatically review the term of the Board Order when this Agreement has been in effect for **three (3) years**. Dr. Strohmeyer has the right to request an earlier review pursuant to Condition 10 of this Agreement.

III. VIOLATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT

1. **General.** Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that if he fails to meet any of the obligations of this Agreement, the Board may impose by agreement, or after notice and an opportunity for hearing, any of the sanctions found in Title 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003 and Title 32 M.R.S.A. § 2591-A, including revocation, long-term suspension or non-renewal of his license. The Board may also impose the sanctions provided in this Agreement.

2. **Failure to Meet Reporting and Time Requirements.** Dr. Strohmeyer agrees that if he fails to meet any of the reporting or other time requirements set out in this Agreement (without having requested an extension prior to the due date and having that request granted by the Board), the Board may, in its discretion, automatically and without the need to hold a hearing, assess Dr. Strohmeyer a **fine of \$100 for each violation, per month or portion of a month**, that he is out of

compliance with the reporting or time requirement set out in this Agreement, or any amendments thereto. Dr. Strohmeyer will be notified of the assessment of the fine in writing by the Board. Dr. Strohmeyer must pay the fine to the Board **within thirty (30) days** of receiving notice that the fine was assessed. He must do so by cashier's check or money order made out to "Treasurer, State of Maine." The Board's decision not to impose this sanction in one instance of noncompliance with a reporting or other time requirement does not constitute a waiver of the Board's right to impose a fine regarding a subsequent violation of the same reporting or other time requirement.

3. Emergency Suspension.

A. Dr. Strohmeyer's license will be immediately, indefinitely and automatically suspended if the Board receives credible evidence that Dr. Strohmeyer is impaired and unable to competently perform his responsibilities to his patients.

B. The immediate, indefinite and automatic suspension of Dr. Strohmeyer's license will become effective at the time Dr. Strohmeyer receives actual notice from the Board, the Case Reporter or counsel for the Board that the suspension has been imposed. Actual notice can be provided by telephone, in person, in writing, by facsimile, e-mail or other means or any combination of the above-referenced means.

C. The indefinite, automatic suspension will continue until the Board holds a hearing on the matter, unless the Board, in its discretion, determines that no further sanction or a lesser sanction is warranted.

D. Hearing.

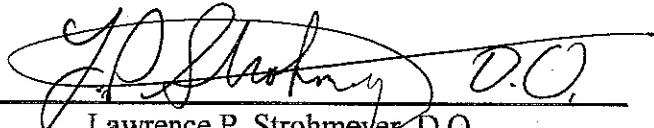
1. If the suspension has not already been lifted in accordance with other provisions of this Agreement, Dr. Strohmeyer's indefinite, automatic suspension will

continue until the Board reaches a decision after hearing.

2. Prior to a hearing before the Board, Dr. Strohmeyer may be requested to provide a written, detailed explanation of the circumstances related to the reason for suspension.
3. The Board will attempt to hold a hearing within 60 days of the automatic suspension or as soon thereafter as practicable (unless both Dr. Strohmeyer and the Board agree to hold the hearing later or to have an informal conference prior to the hearing). The hearing will be held pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedures Act.
4. After hearing, the Board may impose such other discipline, including without limitation, fines, further suspension, probation, non-renewal or revocation, as the Board deems appropriate, subject to Dr. Strohmeyer's right to appeal any such decision, or the Board may, in its sole discretion, enter into a consent agreement with Dr. Strohmeyer.

I, LAWRENCE P. STROHMEYER, D.O., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO FURTHER HEARINGS OR APPEALS REGARDING MY RENEWAL APPLICATION AND THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT. KNOWING THIS, I SIGN THIS AGREEMENT VOLUNTARILY, WITHOUT ANY THREAT OR PROMISE. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND, VERBAL, WRITTEN, OR OTHERWISE. I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE CONSENT AGREEMENT WITH LEGAL COUNSEL PRIOR TO SIGNING IT.

Dated: 3-7-07


Lawrence P. Strohmeyer, D.O.

STATE OF MAINE
Kennebec, SS.

Before me this 7th day of March, 2007, personally appeared Lawrence P. Strohmeyer, D.O., who after first being duly sworn, signed the foregoing Consent Agreement in my presence or affirmed that the signature above is his own.


Notary Public/Attorney at Law

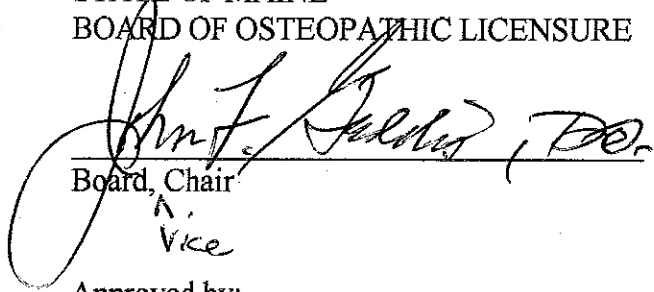
My commission expires:

DAWN GENEST
Notary Public, Maine
My Commission Expires January 7, 2011

BOARD ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by vote of the Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure that Lawrence P. Strohmeyer, D.O.'s license to practice osteopathic medicine in the State of Maine is hereby renewed, subject to the terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement signed by Dr. Strohmeyer on March 7, 2007, which are incorporated herein by reference.

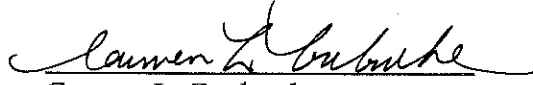
STATE OF MAINE
BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE


Board, Chair
Vice

Dated: March 8, 2007

Approved by:

STATE OF MAINE, OFFICE OF
ATTORNEY GENERAL


Carmen L. Coulombe
Assistant Attorney General

Dated: March 8, 2007

MAINE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE

IN RE: Lawrence Strohmeier, D.O.) INTERLOCUTORY
Disciplinary proceeding-INV#-11-16) DECISION AND ORDER

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to the authority found in 32 M.R.S. §2591-A, *et seq.*, 5 M.R.S. §9051, *et seq.* and 10 M.R.S. §8001, *et seq.*, the Board of Osteopathic Licensure (Board) met in public session at the Board's offices located in Augusta, Maine at 9:30 a.m. on March 8, 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct an adjudicatory hearing to determine whether Dr. Lawrence Strohmeier violated certain Board statutes and Rules as alleged in the Notice of Hearing (Complaint).

A quorum of the Board was in attendance during all stages of the proceedings. Participating Board members were Chairman David Rydell, D.O., John Gaddis, D.O., Joseph DeKay, D.O., Gary Palman, D.O., and public member Kathy W. Walker, L.C.S.W. Lonnie Lauer, D.O., served as the Board's complaint officer and therefore did not participate as a Board member except to be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum. Carrie Carney, Ass't. Attorney General presented the State's case. Dr. Strohmeier was present and represented by Michael Duddy, Esq. James E. Smith, Esq. served as Presiding Officer. There were no conflicts of interest found to disqualify any member of the Board from participating in this proceeding.

State's Exhibits A-K were admitted into the Record and the Board took administrative notice of its statutes and Rules. Subsequent to the parties' opening statements, the taking of testimony, submission of exhibits, and the closing arguments, the Board deliberated and made the following findings of fact by a preponderance of the credible evidence regarding the violations alleged in the Notice of Hearing.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Lawrence Strohmeier, D.O., 59 years of age, has been licensed as an osteopathic physician in the State of Maine since 1991. His medical specialty is psychiatry.

2. On March 7, 2007, Dr. Strohmeyer entered into a consent agreement with the Board in which he admitted to a number of violations of the standard of practice of osteopathic medicine.
3. As part of the March 2007 consent agreement, Dr. Strohmeyer agreed to completely abstain from the use of any and all mood or mind altering substances, including alcohol.
4. In that document, Dr. Strohmeyer also agreed to receive, once a month, treatment and medication management regarding mental health and alcohol use issues from a psychiatrist. His treating psychiatrist is required to submit quarterly reports to the Board regarding treatment and any issues or concerns.
5. On or about August 29, 2011, Dr. Strohmeyer was served with a criminal summons from the Maine State Police for the charge of Cruelty to Animals. This charge resulted in the following State Police observations (5a-h) which are derived from the police report and were not contested at this hearing.
 - a. On or about August 29, 2011, Troopers from the Maine State Police responded to a call about animals being in an abandoned house located near 590 Manchester Road in Belgrade, Maine.
 - b. The house to which the Troopers responded was Dr. Strohmeyer's, but was being foreclosed upon by a bank.
 - c. Upon their arrival, the Troopers found two dogs in the house. One dog, a black and white border collie, appeared to be malnourished. Trooper Joseph Chretien described this dog's appearance as "a skeleton with fur." The other dog, a shepherd mix, could not use its rear legs and had to pull itself along by its front legs while the rear legs dragged behind.
 - d. There was no food or water in the house for the dogs.
 - e. The house appeared in a state of disarray. Trooper Joseph Chretien described the inside of the house as "[t]he entire area where the dogs could access was covered in feces... I checked the upstairs bedroom that was also covered in feces and trash." He further observed that the kitchen, living room area "was [mostly] covered under garbage, bottles and trash...empty beer bottles (900 by one estimate) occupied virtually every surface." Trooper Sean Kinney added that "it was almost impossible to step anywhere without stepping on something...the entry hallway was completely covered in [multiple layers of] old dog feces."
 - f. When Animal Control Officer Kathleen Ross arrived at the house to take care of the dogs, she determined that the dogs had been starved to near death.

g. Dr. Strohmeier subsequently told Trooper Moody that he had been to the house ten days prior, and that the dogs had looked a little thin.

h. One of the troopers found an empty prescription bottle in the home with Dr. Arthur Dingley noted as the prescribing physician. Dr. Dingley is Dr. Strohmeier's treating psychiatrist. The trooper called Dr. Dingley and informed him of the deplorable condition of the home.

6. On or about September 12, 2011, the Board received a report from Dr. Arthur Dingley, in which he expressed concerns about Dr. Strohmeier's ability to care for his patients. Dr. Dingley's concerns arose from a treatment session on the above date with the licensee during which no mention was made of the law enforcement contact until Dr. Dingley raised the subject. At the same session, Dr. Strohmeier informed Dr. Dingley that he was living at his office in Winslow, Maine and that the dogs had been ill. He added that his life was in shambles and that he had no residence, no friends, and could not pay his bills. He informed Dr. Dingley that there was no connection between the care of his dogs and taking care of people.

Dr. Dingley had no previous knowledge that Dr. Strohmeier was not living in his house and felt that he could no longer trust the licensee. He told the Board's investigator during a phone conversation on September 14, 2011 that he did not think Dr. Strohmeier could safely practice his profession and that the situation was emergent.

7. Dr. Strohmeier's supervising psychiatrist is Paul F. Perkins, M.D. whose primary role is to review the licensee's clinical work. Dr. Perkins was aware that Dr. Strohmeier's residence was in foreclosure proceedings but was unaware of the animal cruelty charges until September 19, 2011. Dr. Perkins thought that Dr. Strohmeier's patient charts appeared to be satisfactory as of September 26, 2011 and that he was a gifted but eccentric psychiatrist.

8. On October 13, 2011, the Board suspended Dr. Strohmeier's license to practice pursuant to 5 M.R.S. § 10004(3).

9. On or about November 28, 2011, Dr. Strohmeier was evaluated by psychiatrist W. Allen Schaffer, M.D., who wrote an evaluation/assessment on December 23, 2011. In that report, he opined that the licensee had a chronic psychiatric condition which impaired his ability to care for patients and to practice as a physician. In brief, Dr. Schaffer recorded that Dr. Strohmeier felt he had taken great care of the dogs and his conscious strategy had been "to keep the dogs underfed because less weight would place less burden upon the [one dog's] spinal stenosis and upon the renal failure" of the other. Dr. Strohmeier would visit the dogs several times each week and would

“communicate with the dogs and ask how they were feeling” and “was pleased to find out they were not in pain.”

10. Dr. Schaffer asked the licensee “about the disconnection that exists between his description of a caring household for the dogs, and the horrible situation reported by the police.”

Dr. Strohmeyer did not know how he disconnected from it. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Schaffer asked Dr. Strohmeyer several questions relating to his sensory perceptions on entering his house. Dr. Strohmeyer, after responding, then realized that he had not before experienced the environment in which the dogs were living. He stated that he never wanted a similar thing to happen again and needed to understand how it came about in the first place. Dr. Schaffer also noted that during the evaluation, the licensee remained proud of the fact that “both of my dogs were rescue dogs, I removed them from bad situations.” Dr. Schaffer then wrote that “he seems startled by the observation that both had to be rescued from him.”

11. Dr. Schaffer found alarming Dr. Strohmeyer’s “pseudo-medical justification for starving the dogs because it reduced suffering from their chronic medical conditions.” He wrote that “it demonstrates that he is capable of suspending professional medical judgment through dissociation and rationalizing cruelty.”

12. Dr. Schaffer was also troubled that Dr. Strohmeyer perceived himself as a self-taught “sleep specialist” and considered himself “board eligible in sleep medicine” when he could not identify any training or expertise in that new area of his practice.

13. Dr. Strohmeyer also told this psychiatrist that he hoarded and hadn’t thrown out a bottle in 20 years. Dr. Schaffer diagnosed Dr. Strohmeyer as having a mixed personality disorder with two primary features: Narcissistic Personality Disorder and Obsessive Compulsive Personality Disorder. This psychiatrist explained in his report that personality disorders of a lesser severity can cause distress in the patient experiencing them. He then gave his opinion that Dr. Strohmeyer had a severe personality disorder which causes others to suffer, “and this is the case.”

14. Dr. Schaffer rated Dr. Strohmeyer to be “a **high risk of harm to animals and to patients** because of his ability to dissociate actual circumstances from his perception.” (emphasis in original)

15. Dr. Schaffer recommended that a sustained and longitudinal observation followed by a prescribed treatment program is required before Dr. Strohmeyer could resume direct patient care activities. The evaluation/assessment was discussed with the licensee on December 22, 2011. Dr.

Strohmeyer, who has difficulty being on time, was late and was one half hour late and at the wrong location for the prior appointment. Dr. Strohmeyer endorsed the diagnosis of a chronic dissociative state but disagreed that it extended into his medical practice.

16. Carlyle Voss, M.D. is a psychiatrist who was retained by the licensee to give his opinions addressing several areas of the Board's concerns. He interviewed the licensee on January 23, 2012 and spoke with Dr. Dingley and Dr. Perkins. Dr. Voss diagnosed the licensee as having Schizotypal personality possibly with some features of Asperger's. He recognized that Dr. Strohmeyer has had Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, hoarding type, but disagreed with Dr. Schaeffer's diagnosis of Narcissistic Personality Disorder.

17. Dr. Voss found that Dr. Strohmeyer was "practicing responsibly and effectively." There were no apparent lapses in patient care and no specific deficiencies in his case of his patients. Dr. Voss further noted that concerns for Dr. Strohmeyer's future patient care are speculative, but found them to be stated for good reason. Dr. Voss recommended that the Board receive collateral information regarding Dr. Strohmeyer's past practice from his office manager and patients to help determine if the licensee put patients at risk.

18. Accordingly, the Board heard testimony from Dr. Strohmeyer's former office manager. She explained that he was a bit disorganized but that his patients were fond of him. She also stated that he began having financial problems beginning approximately five years ago once Medicare and various HMO's reduced their payment for services by approximately one-third.

19. Dr. Strohmeyer was also recently requested by the Board to be screened for alcohol/drug abuse. Dr. Strohmeyer had revealed to Dr. Schaeffer that he had a glass of wine the week before, which is in violation of the consent agreement. The licensee testified that Dr. Dingley had authorized him to drink. The licensee was referred by the Medical Professionals Health Program (MPHP) to Dr. Schaeffer who determined by December 27, 2011 that the licensee did not meet the criteria for alcohol or drug abuse and therefore was not required to participate in the MPHP.

20. Dr. Strohmeyer requested that he not be ordered to attend an out of state treatment program since he allegedly has no money. Moreover, he objected to any screening for substances and he claimed that the MMPC felt he wouldn't benefit from such screening.

III.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board, based on the above findings and those alluded to in the record but not cited herein, concluded by the following votes that Lawrence Strohmeier, D.O. violated the following statutes cited in Counts I, II, and IV.

I. Violation of 32 M.R.S. § 2591-A(2)(F), unprofessional conduct by violating a standard of professional behavior that has been established in the practice for which the licensee is licensed;

Dr. Strohmeier admitted this violation.

II. Violation of 32 M.R.S. § 2591-A(2)(E)(1), incompetence by engaging in conduct that evidences a lack of ability or fitness to discharge the duty owed by the licensee to a client or patient or the general public; (3-2)

III. Violation of 32 M.R.S. § 2591-A(2)(E)(2), incompetence by engaging in conduct that evidences a lack of knowledge, or inability to apply principles or skills to carry out the practice for which the licensee is licensed; (Dismiss 5-0)

IV. Violation of 32 M.R.S. § 2591-A(2)(H), violation of a statute of the Board. (5-0)

IV.

SANCTIONS

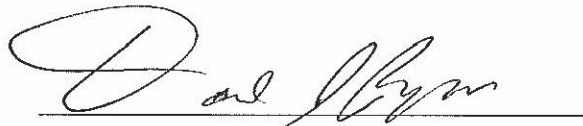
The Board voted 5-0 to sanction Dr. Strohmeier as follows:

1. Dr. Strohmeier's license to practice osteopathy is hereby suspended for a period of 180 days, or less if reduced by the Board. In the event that Dr. Strohmeier violates this or the remaining sanctions and conditions, a further suspension and/or other sanctions may be ordered.

2. Dr. Strohmeier shall initiate, and enroll in and actively participate in an intensive individual outpatient program subject to the prior approval of the Board's case reporter. He shall deliver the consent agreement and the exhibits in evidence in this matter to the program's director who shall acknowledge receipt thereof to the Board's Executive Secretary. The program shall recommend a treatment plan for Dr. Strohmeier which he shall complete initiate, if reasonably possible, by May 1, 2012.

3. The Board will consider the assessment/evaluation that arises from the outpatient program and reserves the right to order additional conditions on Dr. Strohmeyer's medical license, which may include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Screening for alcohol or other substances.
 - b. Resumption of therapy w Dr. Dingley or another psychiatrist with Board approval.
 - c. Resumption of monitoring with Dr. Perkins, or another psychiatrist with Board approval.
4. The Board also reserves the right not to address some or all of its concerns until Dr. Strohmeyer completes the outpatient program.

Dated: April 12, 2012



David Rydell, D.O., Chairman
Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure

V. **APPEAL RIGHTS**

To the extent that an interlocutory decision may be appealed, and pursuant to the provisions of 5 M.R.S. §10051.3 and 10 M.R.S. §8003, any party that appeals this decision and order must file a petition for review in the Superior Court within 30 days of receipt of this order. The petition shall specify the person seeking review, the manner in which they are aggrieved and the final agency action which they wish reviewed. It shall also contain a concise statement as to the nature of the action or inaction to be reviewed, the grounds upon which relief is sought and a demand for relief. Copies of the petition for review shall be served by certified mail, return receipt requested upon the Maine State Board of Osteopathic Licensure, all parties to the agency proceedings and the Attorney General.

MAINE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE

IN RE: Lawrence Strohmeier, D.O.) DECISION AND
Disciplinary proceeding – INV#11-16) ORDER

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to the authority found in 32 M.R.S. §2591-A, *et seq.*, 5 M.R.S. §9051, *et seq.* and 10 M.R.S. §8001, *et seq.*, the Board of Osteopathic Licensure (Board) met in public session at the Board's offices located in Augusta, Maine at 9:30 a.m. on March 8, 2012 and October 11, 2012 . The purpose of the meeting was to conduct an adjudicatory hearing to determine whether Dr. Lawrence Strohmeier violated certain Board statutes and Rules as alleged in the Notice of Hearing (Complaint).

A quorum of the Board was in attendance during all stages of the proceedings. Participating Board members at both sessions were Chairman David Rydell, D.O., Joseph DeKay, D.O., Gary Palman, D.O., and public member Kathy W. Walker, L.C.S.W. John Gaddis, D.O., attended the first session. Lonnie Lauer, D.O., served as the Board's case officer and therefore did not participate as a Board member except to be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum. Carrie Carney, Assistant Attorney General, presented the State's case. Dr. Strohmeier was present at both sessions and represented by Michael Duddy, Esquire. James E. Smith, Esquire served as Presiding Officer. There were no conflicts of interest found to disqualify any member of the Board from participating in this proceeding.

State's Exhibits A-M were admitted into the Record and the Board took administrative notice of its statutes and Rules. Subsequent to the parties' opening statements, the taking of testimony, submission of exhibits, and the closing arguments, the Board deliberated and made the following findings of fact by a preponderance of the credible evidence regarding the violations alleged in the Notice of Hearing.

II.

FINDINGS OF FACT

A. **The Board's Findings in its Interlocutory Decision Issued April 12, 2012**

1. Lawrence Strohmeier, D.O., 59 years of age, has been licensed as an osteopathic physician in the State of Maine since 1991. His medical specialty is psychiatry.

2. On March 7, 2007, Dr. Strohmeier entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in which he admitted to a number of violations of the standard of practice of osteopathic medicine.

3. As part of the March 2007 Consent Agreement, Dr. Strohmeier agreed to completely abstain from the use of any and all mood or mind altering substances, including alcohol.

4. In that document, Dr. Strohmeier also agreed to receive, once a month, treatment and medication management regarding mental health and alcohol use issues from a psychiatrist. His treating psychiatrist is required to submit quarterly reports to the Board regarding treatment and any issues or concerns.

5. On or about August 29, 2011, Dr. Strohmeier was served with a criminal summons from the Maine State Police for the charge of Cruelty to Animals. This charge resulted in the following State Police observations (5a-h) which are derived from the police report and were not contested at this hearing.

a. On or about August 29, 2011, Troopers from the Maine State Police responded to a call about animals being in an abandoned house located near 590 Manchester Road in Belgrade, Maine.

b. The house to which the Troopers responded was Dr. Strohmeier's, but was being foreclosed upon by a bank.

c. Upon their arrival, the Troopers found two dogs in the house. One dog, a black and white border collie, appeared to be malnourished. Trooper Joseph Chretien described this dog's appearance as "a skeleton with fur." The other dog, a shepherd mix, could not use its rear legs and had to pull itself along by its front legs while the rear legs dragged behind.

d. There was no food or water in the house for the dogs.

e. The house appeared in a state of disarray. Trooper Joseph Chretien described the inside of the house as "[t]he entire area where the dogs could access was covered in

feces... I checked the upstairs bedroom that was also covered in feces and trash.” He further observed that the kitchen, living room area “was [mostly] covered under garbage, bottles and trash...empty beer bottles (900 by one estimate) occupied virtually every surface.” Trooper Sean Kinney added that “it was almost impossible to step anywhere without stepping on something...the entry hallway was completely covered in [multiple layers of] old dog feces.”

f. When Animal Control Officer Kathleen Ross arrived at the house to take care of the dogs, she determined that the dogs had been starved to near death.

g. Dr. Strohmeyer subsequently told Trooper Moody that he had been to the house ten days prior, and that the dogs had looked a little thin.

h. One of the troopers found an empty prescription bottle in the home with Dr. Arthur Dingley noted as the prescribing physician. Dr. Dingley is Dr. Strohmeyer’s treating psychiatrist. The trooper called Dr. Dingley and informed him of the deplorable condition of the home.

6. On or about September 12, 2011, the Board received a report from Dr. Arthur Dingley, in which he expressed concerns about Dr. Strohmeyer’s ability to care for his patients. Dr. Dingley’s concerns arose from a treatment session on the above date with the licensee during which no mention was made of the law enforcement contact until Dr. Dingley raised the subject. At the same session, Dr. Strohmeyer informed Dr. Dingley that he was living at his office in Winslow, Maine and that the dogs had been ill. He added that his life was in shambles and that he had no residence, no friends, and could not pay his bills. He informed Dr. Dingley that there was no connection between the care of his dogs and taking care of people.

Dr. Dingley had no previous knowledge that Dr. Strohmeyer was not living in his house and felt that he could no longer trust the licensee. He told the Board’s investigator during a phone conversation on September 14, 2011 that he did not think Dr. Strohmeyer could safely practice his profession and that the situation was emergent.

7. Dr. Strohmeyer’s supervising psychiatrist is Paul F. Perkins, M.D. whose primary role is to review the licensee’s clinical work. Dr. Perkins was aware that Dr. Strohmeyer’s residence was in foreclosure proceedings but was unaware of the animal cruelty charges until September 19, 2011. Dr. Perkins thought that Dr. Strohmeyer’s patient charts appeared to be satisfactory as of September 26, 2011 and that he was a gifted but eccentric psychiatrist.

8. On October 13, 2011, the Board suspended Dr. Strohmeyer's license to practice pursuant to 5 M.R.S. § 10004(3).

9. On or about November 28, 2011, Dr. Strohmeyer was evaluated by psychiatrist W. Allen Schaffer, M.D., who wrote an evaluation/assessment on December 23, 2011. In that report, he opined that the licensee had a chronic psychiatric condition which impaired his ability to care for patients and to practice as a physician. In brief, Dr. Schaffer recorded that Dr. Strohmeyer felt he had taken great care of the dogs and his conscious strategy had been "to keep the dogs underfed because less weight would place less burden upon the [one dog's] spinal stenosis and upon the renal failure" of the other. Dr. Strohmeyer would visit the dogs several times each week and would "communicate with the dogs and ask how they were feeling" and "was pleased to find out they were not in pain."

10. Dr. Schaffer asked the licensee "about the disconnection that exists between his description of a caring household for the dogs, and the horrible situation reported by the police." Dr. Strohmeyer did not know how he disconnected from it. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Schaffer asked Dr. Strohmeyer several questions relating to his sensory perceptions on entering his house. Dr. Strohmeyer, after responding, then realized that he had not before experienced the environment in which the dogs were living. He stated that he never wanted a similar thing to happen again and needed to understand how it came about in the first place. Dr. Schaffer also noted that during the evaluation, the licensee remained proud of the fact that "both of my dogs were rescue dogs, I removed them from bad situations." Dr. Schaffer then wrote that "he seems startled by the observation that both had to be rescued from him."

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12. Dr. Schaffer was also troubled that Dr. Strohmeyer perceived himself as a self-taught "sleep specialist" and considered himself "board eligible in sleep medicine" when he could not identify any training or expertise in that new area of his practice.

13. Dr. Strohmeyer also told this psychiatrist that he hoarded and hadn't thrown out a bottle in 20 years. Dr. Schaffer diagnosed Dr. Strohmeyer as having a mixed personality disorder with two primary features: Narcissistic Personality Disorder and Obsessive Compulsive Personality

Disorder. This psychiatrist explained in his report that personality disorders of a lesser severity can cause distress in the patient experiencing them. He then gave his opinion that Dr. Strohmeyer had a severe personality disorder which causes others to suffer, “and this is the case.”

14. Dr. Schaffer rated Dr. Strohmeyer to be “a **high risk of harm to animals and to patients** because of his ability to dissociate actual circumstances from his perception.” (emphasis in original).

15. Dr. Schaffer recommended that a sustained and longitudinal observation followed by a prescribed treatment program is required before Dr. Strohmeyer could resume direct patient care activities. The evaluation/assessment was discussed with the licensee on December 22, 2011. Dr. Strohmeyer, who has difficulty being on time, was late and was one half hour late and at the wrong location for the prior appointment. Dr. Strohmeyer endorsed the diagnosis of a chronic dissociative state but disagreed that it extended into his medical practice.

16. Carlyle Voss, M.D. is a psychiatrist who was retained by the licensee to give his opinions addressing several areas of the Board’s concerns. He interviewed the licensee on January 23, 2012 and spoke with Dr. Dingley and Dr. Perkins. Dr. Voss diagnosed the licensee as having Schizotypal personality possibly with some features of Asperger’s. He recognized that Dr. Strohmeyer has had Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, hoarding type, but disagreed with Dr. Schaeffer’s diagnosis of Narcissistic Personality Disorder.

17. Dr. Voss found that Dr. Strohmeyer was “practicing responsibly and effectively.” There were no apparent lapses in patient care and no specific deficiencies in his care of his patients. Dr. Voss further noted that concerns for Dr. Strohmeyer’s future patient care are speculative, but found them to be stated for good reason. Dr. Voss recommended that the Board receive collateral information regarding Dr. Strohmeyer’s past practice from his office manager and patients to help determine if the licensee put patients at risk.

18. Accordingly, the Board heard testimony from Dr. Strohmeyer’s former office manager. She explained that he was a bit disorganized but that his patients were fond of him. She also stated that he began having financial problems beginning approximately five years ago once Medicare and various HMO’s reduced their payment for services by approximately one-third.

19. Dr. Strohmeyer was also recently requested by the Board to be screened for alcohol/drug abuse. Dr. Strohmeyer had revealed to Dr. Schaeffer that he had a glass of wine the week before, which is in violation of the Consent Agreement. The licensee testified that Dr.

Dingley had authorized him to drink. The licensee was referred by the Medical Professionals Health Program (MPHP) to Dr. Schaeffer who determined by December 27, 2011 that the licensee did not meet the criteria for alcohol or drug abuse and therefore was not required to participate in the MPHP.

20. Dr. Strohmeyer requested that he not be ordered to attend an out of state treatment program since he allegedly has no money. Moreover, he objected to any screening for substances and he claimed that the MMPC felt he wouldn't benefit from such screening."

21. In addition to the above facts, the Board "concluded by the following votes that Lawrence Strohmeyer, D.O. violated the following statutes cited in Counts I, II, and IV.

A. Violation of 32 M.R.S. § 2591-A (2)(F), unprofessional conduct by violating a standard of professional behavior that has been established in the practice for which the licensee is licensed;

Dr. Strohmeyer admitted this violation.

B. Violation of 32 M.R.S. § 2591-A(2)(E)(1), incompetence by engaging in conduct that evidences a lack of ability or fitness to discharge the duty owed by the licensee to a client or patient or the general public; (3-2)

C. Violation of 32 M.R.S. § 2591-A (2)(E)(2), incompetence by engaging in conduct that evidences a lack of knowledge, or inability to apply principles or skills to carry out the practice for which the licensee is licensed; (Dismiss 5-0)

D. Violation of 32 M.R.S. § 2591-A (2)(H), violation of a statute of the Board. (5-0)"

The Board further, by the vote of 5-0, ordered the following sanctions.

1. Dr. Strohmeyer's license to practice osteopathy is hereby suspended for a period of 180 days, or less if reduced by the Board. In the event that Dr. Strohmeyer violates this or the remaining sanctions and conditions, a further suspension and/or other sanctions may be ordered.

2. Dr. Strohmeyer shall initiate and enroll in an intensive individual outpatient program subject to the prior approval of the Board's case reporter. He shall deliver the Consent Agreement and the exhibits in evidence in this matter to the program's director who shall acknowledge receipt thereof to the Board's Executive Secretary. The program shall recommend a treatment plan for Dr. Strohmeyer which he shall initiate, if reasonable possible, by May 1, 2012.

3. The Board will consider the assessment/evaluation that arises from the outpatient program and reserves the right to order additional conditions on Dr. Strohmeyer's medical license, which may include, but not be limited to:

- a. Screening for alcohol or other substances.
- b. Resumption of therapy w Dr. Dingley, or another psychiatrist.
- c. Resumption of monitoring with Dr. Perkins, or another psychiatrist.

4. The Board also reserves the right not to address some or all of its concerns until Dr. Strohmeyer completes the outpatient program.”

B. The Board's Additional Findings After its Interlocutory Decision Issued April 12, 2012

Dr. Strohmeyer introduced evidence at the Board's October 11, 2012 session that he has substantially complied with the Board's recommendations by attending the outpatient program at St. Mary's Regional Medical Center where he was discharged on July 5, 2012. He has a scheduled appointment on November 16, 2012 with Dr. Kevin Kavookjian of St. Mary's out-patient psychiatric department. This psychiatrist will be the referring physician for Dr. Strohmeyer's recommended neuropsychiatric testing. Dr. Strohmeyer lacks funding except for his basic needs and relies on FQHC for psychiatric care. Dr. Scott Treworgy, respondent's attending physician at St. Mary's, will arrange for Dr. Strohmeyer's counseling and drug samples and prescriptions. Respondent Strohmeyer stated that when he re-enters the practice of psychiatry, he will integrate with the rest of the mental health provider network by engaging in lectures, conferences, introductions and contacts suggested by his supervising psychiatrist, Dr. Perkins.

In addition, Dr. Strohmeyer has apparently increased his family contacts, quit smoking, ramped up his office to reopen but is limited by the lack of financial resources. His concentration has improved and he is better able to perceive social cues accurately. He further offered that "...the treatment approach initiated by the Board of Osteopathic Examiners has been very useful at getting to my affective condition which seemed to escape detection previously." Dr. Strohmeyer added that he had not realized how depressed he had been and looked forward to neuropsych testing and reviewing the interpretive process with his psychiatrist.

The Board subsequently deliberated and by a vote of 4-0 granted Dr. Strohmeyer a conditional license as follows. First, Dr. Strohmeyer shall work in a Board preapproved group practice for a period of a minimum one year. Second, he is required to comply with the conditions

listed in the 2007 Consent Agreement to the extent that each condition remains applicable and until such time as a new Consent Agreement is executed by the parties addressing, among other issues, Dr. Strohmeyer's new practice setting.

WHEREFORE, a conditional license is hereby granted to Lawrence Strohmeyer, D.O. effective October 12, 2012. Dr. Strohmeyer shall not practice medicine until such time as he is authorized by the Board.

Dated: November , 2012



David Rydell, D.O., Chairman

Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure

III. APPEAL RIGHTS

Pursuant to the provisions of 5 M.R.S. §10051.3 and 10 M.R.S. §8003, any party that appeals this decision and order must file a petition for review in the Superior Court within 30 days of receipt of this order. The petition shall specify the person seeking review, the manner in which they are aggrieved and the final agency action which they wish reviewed. It shall also contain a concise statement as to the nature of the action or inaction to be reviewed, the grounds upon which relief is sought and a demand for relief. Copies of the petition for review shall be served by certified mail, return receipt requested upon the Maine State Board of Osteopathic Licensure, all parties to the agency proceedings and the Attorney General.