

**STATE OF VERMONT
BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE**

In re: Joseph Lasek, M.D.)
) Docket No. MPS 062-0622
)

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

NOW COME Joseph Lasek, M.D. and the Vermont Board of Medical Practice and stipulate and agree as follows:

- 1. Joseph Lasek, M.D. (“Respondent”) holds Vermont medical license number 042.0010918 first issued by the Vermont Board of Medical Practice (“Board”) on March 16, 2005. Respondent is a physician.
- 2. Jurisdiction in this matter vests with the Board pursuant to 26 V.S.A. §§ 1353-1354, 1370-74, and 3 V.S.A. §§ 809-814, and other authority.

Findings of Fact

- 3. Respondent is a psychiatrist who was the Medical Director of Counseling Service of Addison County (“CSAC”) from January 1, 2021 until May 13, 2022. As Medical Director, Respondent directly supervised some CSAC employees.
- 4. Respondent currently is a sole practitioner.
- 5. On June 5, 2022, the Board received notification from CSAC that it terminated Respondent’s employment on May 13, 2022, approximately one month before his scheduled separation.
- 6. CSAC informed the Board that it made the decision to terminate Respondent’s employment after it determined he had engaged in a romantic relationship with a co-worker.
- 7. During the Board’s investigation, Respondent admitted that he had engaged in boundary crossings and a romantic relationship with a co-worker during work hours.

8. This led, in part, to Respondent's co-worker resigning from CSAC.

9. The resignation of Respondent's co-worker resulted in CSAC being unable to provide services to some of the coworker's patients and therefore affected the treatment of the patients it was unable to serve.

10. Respondent cooperated with the Committee's investigation and provided relevant information.

Conclusions of Law

11. Disruptive behavior by a physician that involves interaction with physicians, hospital personnel, office staff, patients, or support persons of the patient or others that interferes with patient care or could reasonably be expected to adversely affect the quality of care rendered to a patient can constitute unprofessional conduct. 26 V.S.A. § 1354(a)(35).

12. Consistent with Respondent's cooperation with the Board, he acknowledges that if the State were to file charges it could satisfy its burden at a hearing and a finding adverse to him could be entered by Board pursuant to 26 V.S.A. § 1354(a)(35).

13. The Board adopts as its facts and conclusions in this matter Paragraphs 1-19 and Respondent agrees that this is an adequate basis for the Board actions set forth herein. Any representation by Respondent herein is made solely for the purposes set forth in this agreement.

14. Therefore, in the interest of Respondent's desire to fully and finally resolve the matter presently before the Board, he has determined that he shall enter into this agreement with the Board. Respondent enters no further admissions here, but to resolve this matter without further time, expense, and uncertainty he has concluded that this agreement is acceptable and in the best interest of the parties.

15. Respondent agrees and understands that by executing this document he is waiving any right to challenge the jurisdiction and continuing jurisdiction of the Board in this matter, to be presented with a specification of charges and evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, and to offer evidence of his own to contest any allegations by the State.

16. The parties agree that upon the Board's acceptance of this Stipulation and Consent Order, and pursuant to the terms herein, the above-captioned matter shall be resolved by the Board. Thereafter, the Board will take no further action as to this matter absent non-compliance with the terms and conditions of this document by Respondent.

17. This Stipulation and Consent Order is conditioned upon its acceptance by the Board. If the Board rejects any part of this document, the entire agreement shall be considered void. Respondent agrees that if the Board does not accept this agreement in its current form, he shall not assert in any subsequent proceeding any claim of prejudice from any such prior consideration. If the Board rejects any part of this agreement, none of its terms shall bind Respondent or constitute an admission of any of the facts of the alleged misconduct, it shall not be used against Respondent in any way, it shall be kept in strict confidence, and it shall be without prejudice to any future disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination of any charge against Respondent.

18. Respondent acknowledges and understands that this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be a matter of public record, shall be entered in his permanent Board file, shall constitute an enforceable legal agreement, and may and shall be reported to other licensing authorities, including but not limited to the Federation of State Medical Boards Board Action Databank and the National Practitioner Data Bank. In exchange for the actions by the Board, as

set forth herein, Respondent expressly agrees to be bound by all terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

19. The parties therefore jointly agree that should the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Consent Order be deemed acceptable by the Board, it may enter an order implementing the terms and conditions herein.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing and the consent of Respondent, it is hereby ORDERED that:

1. Respondent shall be REPRIMANDED for the conduct set forth above.
2. Respondent shall successfully complete the University of California San Diego School of Medicine PACE Program Professional Boundaries course no later than one (1) year after the Board approves this Stipulation and Consent Order. The course must be live and in-person or live and interactive conducted remotely. Upon successful completion of the course, Respondent shall provide the Committee with proof of attendance. Respondent shall also provide the Committee with a brief written narrative of the course which will document what he learned from the course and how he will apply that knowledge to his practice. He shall submit the written narrative within thirty (30) days after completing the course. Respondent shall be solely responsible for all costs associated with meeting this requirement.
3. Respondent shall pay an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of \$2,000.00 pursuant to 26 V.S.A. § 1374(b)(1)(A)(iii). Payment shall be made to the "State of Vermont Board of Medical Practice" and shall be sent to the Vermont Board of Medical Practice at the following address: David Herlihy, Executive Director, Vermont Board of Medical Practice, P.O. Box 70,

Burlington, VT 05402-0070. The payment shall be due no later than six (6) months after this Stipulation and Consent Order is approved by the Board.

SIGNATURES

Dated at _____, Vermont, this ____ day of April, 2023.

DocuSigned by:
Dr. David Liebow
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David Liebow, D.P.M.
Chair, South Investigative Committee
Vermont Board of Medical Practice

Dated at Shelburne, Vermont, this 20 day of March, 2023.

[Signature]

Joseph Lasek, M.D.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Dated at Burlington, Vermont this 20th day of March, 2023.



David M. Pocius, Esq.
Paul Frank + Collins, P.C.
P.O. Box 1307
Burlington, VT 05402-1307
Counsel for Respondent

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont this 20th day of March, 2023.

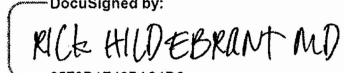
Kurt A. Kuehl

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Kurt A. Kuehl
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kurt.kuehl@vermont.gov

**AS TO JOSEPH LASEK, M.D.
APPROVED AND ORDERED
VERMONT BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE**

Signed on Behalf of the Vermont Board of Medical Practice

DocuSigned by:

By: 2573B1F49BA34D6...
Rick Hildebrandt, M.D.
Chair, Vermont Board of Medical Practice

Vote documented in the Vermont Board of Medical Practice meeting minutes,
dated 04/05/2023.

Dated: 04/05/2023