

BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

In re:)
)
Ramesh L. Krishnaraj, M.D.,) CONSENT ORDER
)
Respondent.)

This matter is before the North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") on information regarding Ramesh L. Krishnaraj, M.D. ("Dr. Krishnaraj"). Dr. Krishnaraj admits and the Board finds and concludes that:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The Board is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted it in Article 1 of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the rules and regulations promulgated thereto.

FINDINGS OF FACT

On September 18, 1999, the Board issued a license to Dr. Krishnaraj, license number 9901228.

During the time relevant herein, Dr. Krishnaraj practiced medicine in Morganton, North Carolina.

Dr. Krishnaraj has a history of alcohol use disorder and has been monitored by the North Carolina Physicians Health Program ("NCPHP") since March 2007.

In January 2015, Dr. Krishnaraj signed a five-year monitoring contract with NCPHP, requiring Dr. Krishnaraj to abstain from the use of alcohol or other mood-altering chemicals.

On June 26, 2015, NCPHP notified the Board that Dr. Krishnaraj had used alcohol in violation of his NCPHP contract. Dr. Krishnaraj thereafter entered residential treatment, and he signed a public non-practice agreement.

Dr. Krishnaraj completed residential treatment on August 4, 2015, with the treatment team's support for his return to practice after September 7, 2015. Dr. Krishnaraj, therefore, has requested that his public non-practice agreement be dissolved.

The Board considered Dr. Krishnaraj's request at the September 2015 meeting of the Board.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

When consuming alcohol, Dr. Krishnaraj is unable to practice medicine and surgery with the reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness or excessive use of drugs, within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(5) and grounds exist under that section of the North Carolina General Statutes for the Board to annul, suspend or revoke Dr. Krishnaraj's license to practice medicine and surgery and to

deny any application he might make in the future or then have pending for a license.

PROCEDURAL STIPULATIONS

Dr. Krishnaraj acknowledges and agrees that the Board has jurisdiction over him and over the subject matter of this case.

Dr. Krishnaraj acknowledges that he has read and understands this Consent Order and enters into it voluntarily.

ORDER

Now, therefore, with Dr. Krishnaraj's consent, it is ORDERED that:

1. Dr. Krishnaraj's license is hereby INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED; however, that suspension is IMMEDIATELY STAYED. Dr. Krishnaraj's public non-practice agreement is hereby dissolved. Dr. Krishnaraj may resume the practice of medicine within the terms of this Consent Order and subject to its conditions.

2. Dr. Krishnaraj shall maintain and abide by his monitoring contract with NCPHP and abide by all of its terms and conditions.

3. Dr. Krishnaraj shall abstain completely from the consumption of alcohol and from all other mood- or mind-altering drugs unless prescribed to him by a licensed practitioner and the use of such drugs is approved in advance by NCPHP.

4. Upon request by the Board, Dr. Krishnaraj shall supply

urine, blood, hair or any other bodily fluid or tissue sample the Board might reasonably require for the purposes of analysis to determine if he has consumed any of the substances mentioned above. All costs of obtaining and analyzing such samples shall be borne by Dr. Krishnaraj.

5. Dr. Krishnaraj shall meet with the Board or members of the Board for an Investigative Interview in November 2015 and at any other time the Board may request.

6. Dr. Krishnaraj shall obey all laws. Likewise, he shall obey all rules and regulations involving the practice of medicine.

7. Dr. Krishnaraj shall notify the Board in writing of any change in his addresses within ten (10) days of the change.

8. Dr. Krishnaraj agrees that, should he violate the terms of this Consent Order, the Board will have sufficient basis to summarily suspend his license, and Dr. Krishnaraj further agrees that, should the Board summarily suspend his license for violation of this Consent Order, he knowingly and voluntarily waives his right to a prompt hearing on the summary suspension.

9. If Dr. Krishnaraj fails to comply with any provision of this Consent Order, such failure shall constitute unprofessional conduct within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. §

90-14(a)(6) and shall be grounds, after any required notice and hearing, for the Board to annul, suspend, revoke, condition, or limit Dr. Krishnaraj's medical license or to deny any application he might make in the future or then have pending for a license.

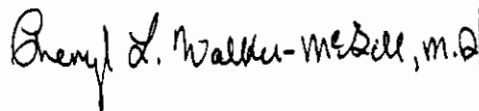
10. This Consent Order shall take effect immediately upon its execution by both Dr. Krishnaraj and the Board, and it shall continue in effect until specifically ordered otherwise by the Board.

11. Upon execution by Dr. Krishnaraj and the Board, this Consent Order shall become a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and shall be subject to public inspection and dissemination pursuant to the provisions thereof. It will be reported to the Federation of State Medical Boards and any other databanks required by law including, but not limited to, the National Practitioner Data Bank.

By Order of the North Carolina Medical Board this the 23rd day of September, 2015.

NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

By:



Cheryl L. Walker-McGill, M.D.
President

Consented to this the 23rd day of September, 2015.

Ramesh L. Krishnaraj
Ramesh L. Krishnaraj, M.D.

State of NC
County of CALDWELL

I, Kathy L. White, a Notary Public for the above named County and State, do hereby certify that Ramesh L. Krishnaraj, M.D. personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal
this the 23rd day of September, 2015.

[Signature]
Notary Public



Commission expires: May 4, 2018