BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

In re:	)	
	)	
Orrin Abraham Walker, M.D.,	)	CONSENT ORDER
	)	
Respondent.	)	

This matter is before the North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") on information that Orrin Abraham Walker, M.D. ("Dr. Walker") violated of a law involving the practice of medicine, committed unprofessional conduct, and may be unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of abuse of controlled substances. Dr. Walker 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

Dr. Walker is a physician first licensed by the Board on or about May 27, 2000, license number 200000656.

At the times relevant herein, Dr. Walker practiced as a physician in China Grove, North Carolina specializing in family medicine.

In February 2014, the Board was contacted by law enforcement with concerns regarding Dr. Walker's prescribing practices. Specifically, state and local law enforcement officers were concerned that Dr. Walker was prescribing unusual amounts of Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen to his wife and several of her co-workers and friends. Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen is a Schedule III controlled substance.

It was discovered during the Board's investigation that Dr. Walker had fraudulently obtained and diverted Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen.

Dr. Walker fraudulently obtained Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen by calling in prescriptions for Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen to local pharmacies using the names of his wife's co-workers and friends. Dr. Walker's wife ("Ms. Walker") went to the local pharmacies, paid for and picked up the prescriptions bearing her co-workers' and friends' names. Ms. Walker delivered the Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen to Dr. Walker for his personal use.

Several of Ms. Walker's co-workers and friends were aware that Dr. Walker used their names to obtain Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen for his personal use. In exchange for the use of

their names, Ms. Walker delivered a portion of the Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen to these friends and co-workers.

During the time Dr. Walker fraudulently obtained and used Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen as described above, Dr. Walker was being treated by a physician for back pain. From January 25, 2010 to February 11, 2014, Dr. Walker's treating physician called in 55 prescriptions for Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen and 2 prescriptions for Oxycodone. Dr. Walker received a total of 6,870 units of Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen 10/325 mg and 180 units of Oxycodone 10/325 mg from his treating physician. Dr. Walker's treating physician was unaware that he was fraudulently obtaining and using Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen.

On March 10, 2014, Dr. Walker surrendered his North Carolina medical license.

N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-108(a)(10) provides that, "[i]t shall be unlawful for any person . . . [t]o acquire or obtain possession of a controlled substance by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception, or subterfuge."

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Dr. Walker acknowledges and admits that obtaining controlled substances, as described above, constitutes the violation of a law involving the practice of medicine within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(7), which is grounds for

the Board to annul, suspend, revoke, condition, or limit Dr. Walker's license or to deny any application for a license to practice medicine that he may make in the future.

Dr. Walker acknowledges and admits that illegally obtaining controlled substances, as described above, constitutes unprofessional conduct, including, but not limited to, departure from, or the failure to conform to the ethics of the medical profession and is the commission of an act contrary to honesty, justice or good morals within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(6), which is grounds under that section of the North Carolina General Statutes for the Board to annul, suspend, revoke, condition, or limit Dr. Walker's license or to deny any application for a license to practice medicine that he may make in the future.

Dr. Walker admits that when abusing medications, as described above, he is unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of use of controlled substances within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(5), which is grounds under that section of the North Carolina General Statutes for the Board to annul, suspend, revoke, condition, or limit Dr. Walker's license or to deny any application for a license to practice medicine that he may make in the future.

PROCEDURAL STIPULATIONS

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

Dr. Walker knowingly waives his right to any hearing and to any judicial review or appeal in this case.

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

Dr. Walker would like to resolve this matter without the need for more formal proceedings.

The Board has determined that it is in the public interest to resolve this case as set forth below.

ORDER

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

1. Dr. Walker's license to practice medicine is hereby INDEFINTELY SUSPENDED. Dr. Walker shall not be eligible to apply for reinstatement of his North Carolina license to practice medicine for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of this Consent Order.

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

3. Dr. Walker shall notify the Board in writing of any change in his residence and practice addresses within ten (10) days of the change.

4. Dr. Walker shall meet with the Board or members of the Board for an investigative interview at such times as requested by the Board.

5. If Dr. Walker fails to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order, that 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. Walker' license to practice medicine and surgery and to deny any application he might make in the future or then have pending for a license.

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

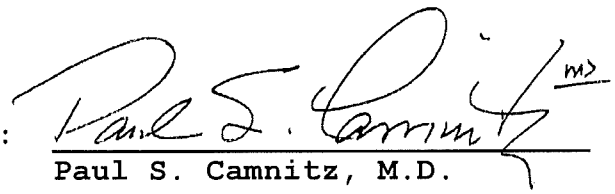
7. Dr. Walker hereby waives any requirement under any law or rule that this Consent Order be served on him.

8. Upon execution by Dr. Walker 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. Additionally, it will be reported to persons, entities, agencies and clearinghouses as required and permitted by law including, but not limited to, the National Practitioner Data Bank.

By Order of the North Carolina Medical Board this the 8th day of August, 2014.

NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

By: 

Paul S. Camnitz, M.D.
President

Consented to this the 1ST day of AUGUST, 2014.

Orrin Abraham Walker, M.D.

State of North Carolina

County of Guilford

I, R Michelle Jefferson, a Notary Public for the above named County and State, do hereby certify that Orrin Abraham Walker, 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 1st day of August, 2014.

R Michelle Jefferson
Notary Public

(SEAL)

R MICHELLE JEFFERSON
NOTARY PUBLIC
RANDOLPH COUNTY, NC
My Commission Expires 12-15-2015

My Commission Expires: 12/15/2015