

BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

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| In re: |) | |
| |) | |
| Amsalu Moges Bizuneh, M.D., |) | NON-DISCIPLINARY |
| |) | CONSENT ORDER |
| Respondent. |) | |

This matter is before the North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") regarding information provided to the Board concerning Amsalu Moges Bizuneh, M.D. ("Dr. Bizuneh"). Dr. Bizuneh makes the following admissions, and the Board makes the following findings and conclusions:

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 to it in Article 1 of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the rules and regulations promulgated thereto.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Dr. Bizuneh was first issued a license to practice medicine by the Board on or about July 21, 2006, license number 2006-01183.

At all times relevant hereto, Dr. Bizuneh practiced internal medicine in Charlotte, North Carolina.

On March 16, 2022, Dr. Bizuneh was arrested for Driving While Impaired ("DWI") in Gaston County, North Carolina. As a result,

the Board ordered Dr. Bizuneh to submit to an examination at the North Carolina Professionals Health Program ("NCPHP").

In July 2022, Dr. Bizuneh signed a six-month monitoring contract with NCPHP in which he agreed to abstain from the use of alcohol.

In October 2022, Dr. Bizuneh tested positive for alcohol. As a result of the positive test, NCPHP did not support Dr. Bizuneh's return to work as a hospitalist.

The Board ordered Dr. Bizuneh to submit for a comprehensive examination. On November 7, 2022, Dr. Bizuneh presented to Talbott Recovery ("Talbott") for the comprehensive examination. Talbott diagnosed Dr. Bizuneh with moderate alcohol use disorder and recommended he submit to residential treatment at a NCPHP-approved facility.

Dr. Bizuneh submitted to residential treatment at Talbott on January 30, 2023. He successfully completed residential treatment on February 24, 2023. Dr. Bizuneh did not practice medicine from October 2022 to March 2023 in order to focus on his recovery.

On March 2, 2023, Dr. Bizuneh signed a five-year monitoring contract with NCPHP. NCPHP supports Dr. Bizuneh's return to the practice of medicine.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Dr. Bizuneh acknowledges that, when left untreated, his alcohol use disorder may constitute him being unable to practice

medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, drunkenness, excessive use of alcohol, drugs, chemical, or any other type of material or by reason of any physical or mental abnormality within the mean 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. Bizuneh's license to practice medicine or to deny any application he may make in the future.

PROCEDURAL STIPULATIONS

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

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

Dr. Bizuneh acknowledges that he has read and understands this Non-Disciplinary Consent Order and enters into it voluntarily.

Dr. Bizuneh desires 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. Bizuneh's consent, it is ORDERED that:

1. Dr. Bizuneh shall maintain his current contract with NCPHP and abide by its terms, including the timely payment of any fees required by NCPHP.

2. Unless lawfully prescribed for him by someone other than himself, Dr. Bizuneh shall refrain from the use or possession of alcohol and all other mind- or mood-altering substances and all controlled substances including but not limited to, sedatives, stimulants, and pain medication.

3. Upon request by the Board, Dr. Bizuneh 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.

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

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

6. Upon request, Dr. Bizuneh shall provide the Board with any information the Board deems necessary to verify compliance with the terms and conditions of this Non-Disciplinary Consent Order.

7. If Dr. Bizuneh fails to comply with any of the terms of this Non-Disciplinary 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, or revoke his license to practice medicine he might make in the future or then have pending for a license to practice medicine.

8. This Non-Disciplinary Consent Order shall take effect immediately upon its execution by both Dr. Bizuneh and the Board, and it shall continue in effect until specifically ordered otherwise by the Board.

9. Dr. Bizuneh hereby waives any requirement under any law or rule that this Non-Disciplinary Consent Order be served on him.

10. Upon execution by Dr. Bizuneh and the Board, this Non-Disciplinary 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 Federation of State Medical Boards and the National Practitioner Data Bank.

By Order of the North Carolina Medical Board this the 29th day of July, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

By: 

Michaux R. Kilpatrick, M.D., Ph.D.
President

Consented to this the 27 day of June, 2023.

Amsalu Moges Bizuneh
Amsalu Moges Bizuneh, M.D.

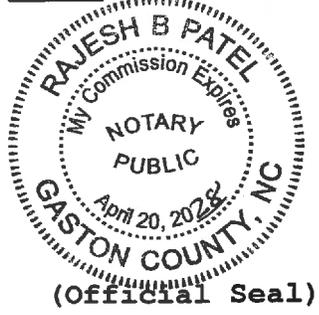
State of NC

County of Gaston

I, Rajesh B. Patel, do hereby certify that Amsalu Moges Bizuneh, 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 27th day of June, 2023.

Rajesh B. Patel
Notary Public



My Commission Expires: 04/20/2028