# BEFORE THE MEDICAL LICENSING BOARD OF INDIANA CAUSE NUMBER: 202506-MED-0020

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:	)	
JEFFERY SMITH, M.D.	)	FILED
LICENSE NO: 01030268A (ACTIVE)	ý	Jun. 26, 2025 Indiana Professional
ADMINISTRATIVE	Licensing Agency	

Petitioner, the State of Indiana, by counsel, Deputy Attorney General Ryan P. Eldridge, pursuant to Ind. Code § 25-1-7-7 and Ind. Code ch. 4-21.5-3, brings this Administrative Complaint before the Medical Licensing Board of Indiana ("Board"), against the physician license of Jeffery Smith, M.D. ("Respondent") for violations of Ind. Code § 25-1-9-4. In support, Petitioner states and alleges the following:

# **FACTS**

#### **Parties**

- 1. The Office of the Attorney General ("OAG") is empowered under Ind. Code § 25-1-7-7 to prosecute this action on behalf of Petitioner against Respondent's license.
- 2. Respondent is a physician (M.D.) and holds license 01030268A, which was issued by the Board on August 21, 1980, and expires on October 31, 2025.
- 3. Respondent holds a Controlled Substance Registration (C.S.R.) 01030268B, which was issued by the Indiana Board of Pharmacy on September 30, 1986, and currently is under an indefinite suspension status.
- 4. Respondent's address on file with the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency ("IPLA") is 1101 East Glendale Boulevard, Suite 103, Valparaiso, Indiana 46383.

#### Jurisdiction

- 5. On September 28, 2023, and September 30, 2023, the OAG received consumer complaints filed against Respondent, and an investigation was then conducted as authorized by Ind. Code § 25-1-7-5(b)(4).
- 6. After investigation, the OAG determined that the complaints had merit. A copy of the consumer complaints is attached as **State's Exhibit 1 and State Exhibit 2.**
- 7. The OAG having tendered a meritorious complaint, the Board has jurisdiction to hear this matter under Ind. Code § 25-1-7-5(b)(1).
- 8. Further, at all times relevant, Respondent was a "practitioner" as defined by Ind. Code § 25-1-9-2.
- 9. As such, the Board has authority to hear this case and to impose any of the sanctions enumerated under Ind. Code § 25-1-9-9.

## **Respondent's Misconduct**

- 10. On August 6, 2023, Patient A.B. was admitted to Powers Health Rehabilitation Center Acute Rehab with the primary diagnosis of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).
- 11. On August 19, 2023, Patient A.B. was discharged from Powers Health Rehabilitation with a diagnosis of Neuromuscular Disorder Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.
- 12. On or about August 23, 2023, Respondent started to see Patient A.B. for medical treatment.
- 13. At the first appointment, Respondent acknowledged Patient A.B.'s prior diagnosis of ALS. In addition, Respondent acknowledged that her condition was progressing rapidly.
- 14. On or about August 23, 2023, Respondent performed Lyme Bloodwork for Patient A.B.

- 15. The lab tests resulted inconclusive for Lyme Disease. Respondent wrote "Highly Likely, Needed 1 other band" on the test.
  - 16. Respondent initiated treatment for Lyme Disease.
- 17. After the initiation of treatment, Patient A.B. experienced difficulty breathing on multiple occasions.
- 18. On September 25, 2023, Patient A.B. was admitted at St. Mary Medical Center for Acute Respiratory Failure with Hypercapnia and Aspiration Pneumonia. The records reflected that "Pt friend states pt is seeing physician out of valpo who has told pt to stop taking ALS medication r/t dx of lyme disease."
- 19. On September 27, 2023, a Lyme Disease Serology was performed at St. Mary. The test was negative for Lyme Disease.
  - 20. On or about October 5, 2023, Patient A.B. passed away.

#### **CHARGES**

21. Paragraphs one (1) through twenty (20) are incorporated by reference.

# Count 1 Reasonable Care 844 IAC 5-2-5

22. Respondent's conduct constitutes a violation of Ind. Code § 25-1-9-4(a)(3) in that Respondent has knowingly violated any state statute or rule, or federal statute or regulation, regulating the profession in question as evidenced by Respondent's violation of 844 IAC 5-2-5. Specifically, Respondent initiated treatment for Lyme Disease when there was inconclusive evidence that Patient A.B. suffered from Lyme Disease, especially in light of her prior diagnoses and treatment for ALS.

# Count 2 Failure to Keep Abreast Ind. Code § 25-1-9-4(a)(4)(B)

23. Respondent's conduct constitutes a violation of Ind. Code § 25-1-9-4(a)(4)(B) in Respondent has continued to practice although Respondent has become unfit to practice due to failure to keep abreast of current professional theory or practice as evidenced by Respondent's disregard of scientific evidence, testing, and prior diagnoses of ALS, and initiation of treatment for Lyme Disease without sufficient evidence or confirmation to support such change of diagnosis.

## **REQUESTED RELIEF**

**ACCORDINGLY**, Petitioner requests that the Board issue an order against Respondent that:

- I. Imposes one or more of the disciplinary sanctions authorized by Ind. Code § 25-1-9-9;
- II. Directs Respondent to pay all of the costs incurred in the prosecution of this case, as authorized by Ind. Code § 25-1-9-15;
- III. Directs Respondent to pay a fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) to be deposited into the Health Records and Personal Identifying Information Protection Trust Fund pursuant to Ind.
  Code § 4-6-14-10(b); and
- IV. Provides any other relief the Board deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE E. ROKITA Indiana Attorney General Attorney No. 18857-49

By:

Ryan P. Eldridge

Deputy Attorney General Attorney No.: 34578-49

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Office of Attorney General Todd Rokita 302 West Washington Street Indiana Government Center South, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Indianapolis, IN 46204

Email: Ryan.eldridge@atg.in.gov Telephone: (317)-233-6247

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 26th day of June, 2025, a true and correct copy of this "Appearance" and "Administrative Complaint" was served upon the below-listed party or parties:

Jeffery Smith, M.D. 1101 East Glendale Boulevard, Suite 103 Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

Sent Via U.S. Mail and E-mail

Ryan P. Eldridge

Deputy Attorney General Attorney No.: 34578-49

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# State Exhibit 1

#### Close Window

- Print This Page
- Expand All | Collapse All

# SA-045715

Staging Area ID	SA-045715	How Received	Website
		Date Received	9/28/2023
Complainant		Matter Code	MFCU Investigation
Add New Contact	✓	Matter Class	Criminal
<b>CmpInt Salutation</b>	Mrs.	Matter Type	Abuse and Neglect
<b>CmpInt First Name</b>		Matter Sub-type	
<b>CmpInt Middle Name</b>		Status	In Progress
<b>CmpInt Last Name</b>		Jurisdiction	
<b>CmpInt Suffix</b>		Notes	CC
<b>CmpInt Address</b>			
CmpInt City	Valparaiso	Approved By	
CmpInt State	IN	Supervisor	
CmpInt Zip	46385		
CmpInt Phone #		Matter	
CmpInt Email		Originating ML Matter	
County	Porter	Referred From	Private Citizen

Allegation

#### **Provider Information**

Provider Type	Family Practice	Medicaid Provider #
FIGURE IVDE	Family Flactice	Wieulcalu Floviuei #

Org/Inv Organization County Porter

Provider Name Healing Arts Center

Add New Provider

Provider Name (text) Healing Arts Center

Salutation Medicaid Provider No Confirmed

First Name

**Last Name** 

Suffix

Provider St. Address 1101 East Glendale Blvd Suite 103

Provider City Valparaiso

Provider State IN

Provider Zip 46383

Provider Phone #

# **Abuse and Neglect Details**

Victim Name A B Reported to Police No

Medicaid Patient Confirmed

No

Police Department

Reported to ISDH

Not Sure

Case #

Reported to APS Not sure

# **Details of Complaint**

**Against Employer** 

Date/Timeframe of

August-September 2023

Incident

How did you learn of Fraud

> Amount of Money Involved

> > Description of Complaint

Dr. Jeffery Smith of Healing Arts Center in Valparaiso, Indiana, told the above patient, who had recently been diagnosed with ALS by the University of Chicago and Northwestern Medicine, that ALS doesn't exist and that ALS is really only Lyme disease. He told the patient to stop taking the ALS medication prescribed by the University of Chicago saying it won't help her since she has neurological Lyme and not ALS and that she needed to treat the neurological Lyme with antibiotic infusions delivered by Dr. Smith. Dr. Smith told the patient she had neurological Lyme while only performing blood tests and a western blot test and never performed a cerebrospinal fluid test to confirm the neurological Lyme diagnosis. The patient was practically paralyzed and her tongue was fasciculating, an almost certain sign that the patient has ALS. While the patient kept deteriorating her husband would call Dr. Smith for help and Dr. Smith would say that symptoms would get worse before they got better as the patient continued to receive antibiotic infusions to treat the supposed neurological Lyme. When the patient couldn't sleep at night, due to pain, Dr. Smith told the family he couldn't provide a strong sleeping medication. Sleeping medication can be detrimental to most ALS patients because it relaxes their respiratory system and the patient can stop breathing and die. It's my assertion that Dr. Smith didn't provide the prescription sleeping pills because he knew the patient had ALS and not neurological Lyme and he knew a strong sleeping pill prescription would potentially make her stop breathing and die. This past Monday the patient's husband called Dr. Smith because his wife was having difficulty breathing and speaking and Dr. Smith said that the reason she was having these symptoms were because of her ALS, a disease he had previously told the family didn't exist. He advised the patient to start thinking about hospice. Dr. Smith told the patient and her husband that they must've started the neurological Lyme antibiotic infusion treatments too late and that they didn't catch the neurological Lyme in time to cure the patient. According to the patient Dr. Smith never felt it a duty to consult with the University of Chicago or Northwestern Medicine. Dr. Smith has been negligent and irresponsible. I'm a friend of the patient and this entire ordeal has been unbelievably painful for the patient, her husband and children, and friends and family. Please, I'm asking that you investigate this doctor for his negligence. He took an oath to first do no harm. He has done great harm to this family and used them to profit monetarily by using their grief, pain and fear and give them false hope. I'm pleading for help so that Dr. Smith can't do this to another family. Thank you!

#### **Processing Section**

**Related Cases** 

#### **System Information**

Created By

Abuse And Neglect Complaint Form Site Guest User, 9/28/2023 1:51 AM

Owner

Master Administrator

**Record Type** 

MFCU Complaint

**Last Modified By** 

Kayla Hickox, 9/28/2023 2:30 PM

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# State Exhibit 2

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# SA-045785

Provider Phone #			
Provider Zip	46383		
Provider State	IN		
Provider City	Valparaiso		
Provider St. Address	1101 E Glendale Blvd #103		
Suffix			
Last Name			
First Name			
Salutation		Medicaid Provider Confirmed	No
Provider Name (text)	Healing Arts Center		
Add New Provider		Allegation	
Provider Name	Healing Arts Center	AH 2	
Org/Inv		County	Porter
Provider Type	Family Practice	Medicaid Provider #	
Provider Informati			
	•		
County	Laporte	Referred From	Private Citizen
CmpInt Email		Originating ML Matter	
CmpInt Phone #		Matter	
CmpInt Zip	46390		
CmpInt State	IN	Supervisor	
CmpInt City	Wanatah	Approved By	
CmpInt Address		Notes	
CmpInt Last Name  CmpInt Suffix		Notes	CC
Cmpint Middle Name		Jurisdiction	In Progress
CmpInt First Name CmpInt Middle Name		Matter Sub-type Status	In Drogram
Complet First Name	Mrs.	Matter Type	Abuse and Neglect
			Criminal
Complainant Add New Contact	;;;;;	Matter Code  Matter Class	MFCU Investigation
Compleinent		Date Received	9/30/2023
	SA-045785	How Received	Website

# **Abuse and Neglect Details**

**Victim Name** Reported to Police A B

Medicaid Patient Confirmed

. No

Police Department Name

Reported to ISDH No Case #

Reported to APS No

## **Details of Complaint**

**Against Employer** 

Date/Timeframe of

August-Sept 2023

How did you learn of

Fraud

Incident

Amount of Money Involved

> Description of Complaint

Pt was diagnosed with ALS in approximately July. Pt saw Dr Smith and he told her, per pt and pt's husband, that ALS "wasn't a thing" and all ALS is actually neurological Lyme's. He told her to stop taking all her ALS medications because they wouldn't help her and that she instead should have IV antibiotic infusions for 3 months. She was taken off all her meds and started on antibiotics and rapidly declined. She is now in hospice.

#### **Processing Section**

**Related Cases** 

### **System Information**

Created By Abuse And Neglect Complaint Form Site

Guest User, 9/30/2023 2:16 PM

Owner

Master Administrator

**Record Type** 

MFCU Complaint

**Last Modified By** 

Kayla Hickox, 10/1/2023 5:05 PM

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