

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**

In Re: The Application of)
)
Serafino G. Sauro, M.D.) Case No. 2021-05534
036-app-4159626, Applicant.)

CONSENT ORDER

The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation, of the State of Illinois, by Vladimir Lozovskiy, one of its attorneys, (hereinafter the “Department”) and Serafino G. Sauro, M.D. (hereinafter the “Applicant”), through Jim Rochford, his attorney, hereby agree to the following:

STIPULATIONS

Serafino G. Sauro, M.D. is an Applicant for licensure as a Physician and Surgeon in the State of Illinois. At all times material to the matter(s) set forth in this Consent Order, the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation, of the State of Illinois had jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties herein.

In October 2020, Applicant submitted an application to the Department whereby he disclosed that on July 23, 2020, Applicant was dismissed from University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria Family Medicine Residency due to violation of the terms of his on-going residency probation. On September 7, 2021, the Department filed its Notice of Intent to Deny Applicant’s Illinois Physician and Surgeon License citing the following:

“Applicant’s lack of good moral character pursuant to 225 ILCS 60/9(B)(1) as evidenced by Applicant’s failure to complete residency program at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria Family Medicine Residency. Specifically, Applicant was initially placed on a formal Educational intervention (formal warning) on October 14, 2019. On or about March 6, 2020, Applicant was placed on formal probation, which was to extend to June 8, 2020. On or about June 19, 2020, the probation was extended due to repeated violations of the existing probation. On or about July 23, 2020, Applicant

was dismissed from the residency program due to violation of the terms of his probation. The violation was regarding (i) an ongoing lack of professional conduct that would be expected of a physician and (ii) lack of working together with others on the medical team to assure the best care of the patient, which would constitute grounds for disciplinary actions under Section 60/22 (A)(5) of the Illinois Medical Practice Act, relying upon the Rules for the Administration of the Medical Practice Act, Illinois Administrative Code, Title 68, Chapter VII, Subpart b, Part 1285.240 (a).”

On September 24, 2021, Applicant filed his Request for Hearing to address the issues that led to the termination from the aforementioned residency program. While his request was pending, the Department held an informal conference in this matter via webex on December 8, 2021. Nicholas Parise, D.O. was present on behalf of the Medical Licensing Board and Shami Goyal, M.D., Chief Medical Coordinator, and Vladimir Lozovskiy, regular staff attorney, appeared on behalf of the Department. Applicant appeared along with his attorneys, Jim Rochford and Timothy P. Cushing. During informal conference, Applicant provided information regarding his educational background and experience, discussed issues that led to the residency termination and provided information regarding his current plans for Illinois.

For purposes of this Consent Order, Applicant acknowledges that should this matter proceed to a contested hearing, the Illinois State Medical Board (the “Board”) could find a violation of the Medical Practice Act. Applicant has been advised of the right to a hearing, the right to contest any charges brought, and the right to administrative review of this Consent Order. Applicant knowingly waives each of these rights. Such waiver ceases if this Consent Order is rejected by either the Board or the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

Applicant and the Department have agreed, in order to resolve this matter, that Applicant, Serafino G. Sauro, M.D., be permitted to enter into a Consent Order with the Department, providing for the imposition of disciplinary measures which are fair and equitable under the

circumstances and which are consistent with the best interests of the people of the State of Illinois.

CONDITIONS

WHEREFORE, the Department, through Vladimir Lozovskiy, its attorney, and Serafino G. Sauro, M.D., Applicant, through Jim Rochford, his attorney, agree:

- A. Serafino G. Sauro, M.D., shall be granted a Physician and Surgeon License in the State of Illinois and thereafter placed on the indefinite probation for a minimum of three (3) years;
- B. During a period of Probation, Applicant shall provide the Department with quarterly reports which include: (i) current residential address and contact telephone number as well as current practice location address and contact telephone number; (ii) address and contact information for each healthcare entity where Applicant has admitting privileges and/or employed; (iii) names of all the subordinates that are employed and/or supervised by Applicant during the reporting quarter; (iv) description of job duties, responsibilities and name of immediate supervisor and/or Department's Chairperson; (v) copy of any and all incident reports within the prior quarter filed against Applicant; and (vi) information, regarding any arrests, criminal, or civil actions filed, including DUI and/or other similar offenses against Applicant; (vii) Applicant shall notify the Department of any adverse action taken against him related to the practice of medicine by another entity including but not limited to licensing authorities, insurance companies, and state and federal agencies, within ten (10) days of said adverse action; and (viii) Applicant shall notify the Department when he is the subject of any investigation initiated by another entity, including but not limited to licensing authorities, insurance companies, and state and federal agencies, within ten (10) days of said investigation;

C. During a period of Probation, Applicant shall notify the Department's Chief of Probation Investigations in writing of any change in employment and/or home address and/or telephone number within ten (10) days;

D. Applicant is not allowed to work in solo practice. Applicant can only work in a group-setting with one or more Physician and Surgeons that have unrestricted Physician and Surgeon Licenses that has never been disciplined by any state and/or federal agencies. Said practice setting shall be pre-approved in writing by the Department's Chief Medical Coordinator. Applicant's current employer, Solvera Health, Inc., has been pre-approved for Applicant to practice medicine without further action by Applicant;

E. Prior to engaging and/or changing employment that requires utilization of Illinois Physician and Surgeon License, Applicant has to obtain a written pre-approval of the setting from the Department's Chief Medical Coordinator;

F. During a period of Probation, Applicant shall request the designated person from every healthcare entity, where he is practicing medicine/utilizing his Physician and Surgeon License, to submit quarterly reports to the Department regarding any issues arising out of his employment and practice of medicine;

G. During a period of Probation, Applicant shall be prohibited from: (i) being a supervising physician for any Physician Assistants; (ii) being a collaborating physician for and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and (iii) working in nursing home and/or home care setting, but Applicant shall be allowed to work in the assisted living settings within his current employment subject to the terms and conditions herein ;

H. During a period of Probation, Applicant shall obtain a practice monitor (PM), who is a licensed Physician and Surgeon in the State of Illinois. Said practice monitor cannot be affiliated with Applicant's practice. Said practice monitor shall have an unrestricted

Illinois Physician and Surgeon License that has never been disciplined by any state and/or federal agencies. The practice monitor shall be hired at the expense of Applicant and shall be pre-approved by the Chief Medical Coordinator of the Department;

I. During first twelve (12) months of the Probation, Applicant shall request that his practice monitor to submit monthly reports about Applicant's clinical skills, judgment and care provided to his patients. On monthly basis, the practice monitor shall meet with Applicant and randomly select and review fifteen (15) charts of patients who have been seen by Applicant during the quarter. The practice monitor shall review the charts of those patients and submit independent quarterly reports to the Department evaluating the scope, appropriateness, and quality of medical care rendered by Applicant. Upon completion of twelve (12) monthly reviews, Applicant may submit a written request to change aforementioned PM monthly reviews to quarterly for the remaining period of the indefinite probation. Applicant agrees to continue to comply with the PM monthly reviews until he receives a written waiver of said condition by the Department's Chief Medical Coordinator;

J. The practice monitor shall agree to inform the Department immediately if there is evidence of clinical incompetency, inappropriate behavior, professional misconduct, a violation of Applicant's probation or any violation of the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine;

K. Applicant shall immediately notify the Department should his relationship with any practice monitor cease and immediately take actions to select a new monitor and obtain the approval of the Chief Medical Coordinator;

L. Applicant shall take and pass all 5 topic areas Ethics and Boundaries Post-Licensure ("EBAS") Essay Examination within twelve (12) months of the effective date of this

Consent Order. Information regarding how to take and pass EBAS Essay Examination is available at www.ebas.org.

M. Applicant shall ensure that all the reports required to be submitted under the terms of this Probation shall be filed with the Department no later than 1/10, 4/10, 7/10 and 10/10 of each year during the full term of the Probation;

N. Applicant agrees that a violation of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order or a violation of the terms of probation is a violation of 225 ILCS 60/22(A)(15);

O. Applicant shall not violate the Illinois Medical Practice Act of 1987, any other federal and state laws related to the practice of medicine as well as any other federal and state laws;

P. If Applicant violates any of the terms and conditions of this Order, the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation may issue an Order forthwith mandating the automatic, immediate, indefinite suspension of Applicant's Illinois Physician License for a minimum of twelve (12) months. This indefinite suspension shall not preclude the Department from taking any other disciplinary or other actions it deems appropriate. In the event Applicant contests in writing (by the filing of an appropriate petition with the Department) the factual basis underlying said indefinite suspension within thirty (30) days of the imposition thereof, then Applicant shall be afforded a hearing on the merits within thirty (30) days from filing of said petition;

Q. Applicant shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to every health care entity, where he is utilizing his Physician and Surgeon License, his employer and his practice monitor;


R. This Consent Order shall become effective immediately after it is approved by the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation of the Illinois Department of

Financial and Professional Regulation.

1/10/2022
DATE


Vladimir Lozovskiy, Attorney for the Department

01/10/2022
DATE


Serafino G. Salvo, M.D., Applicant

1/10/2022
DATE


Jim Rochford, Attorney for Applicant

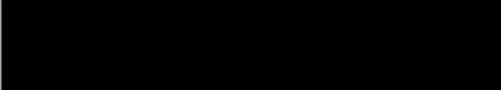
1/19/2022
DATE


Member, Illinois State Medical Board

The foregoing Consent Order is approved in full.

DATED THIS 8th day of February, 2022.

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of
the State of Illinois, Mario Treto, Jr., Acting Secretary,
Division of Professional Regulations**


Cecilia Abundis
Acting Director

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