

**Minutes
Credentials Committee Meeting
Florida Board of Medicine
Marriott Tampa Airport
Tampa, FL 32812
(813) 879-5151
April 8, 2010**

To accommodate individuals required to appear before the Committee, the Chairman may adjusted the sequence of the agenda items. The minutes reflect the actual sequence of events rather than the original agenda order.

Dr. George Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Those present included the following:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

George Thomas, M.D. Chairman
Jason Rosenberg, M.D.
Lisa Tucker, M.D.
Robert Nuss, M.D.
Michael Chizner, M.D.,

STAFF PRESENT:

Chandra Prine, Program Operations Administrator

BOARD COUNSEL:

Donna McNulty, Assistant Attorney General

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PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Dr. George Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Those present included the following:

GEORGE THOMAS, M.D. —TO INTERVIEW TABS 1-9

Tab 1 Howard L. Peters, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to disclose DUI arrest on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr.Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$500.00 fine. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$500.00 fine.

Tab 2 Lucas Georgandellis, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to follow through with the required evaluation from Professional Resource Network.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr.Tucker made a motion to accept Dr. Georgandellis' request for withdrawal of his licensure application. Dr. Nuss seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to accept the request for withdrawal of the licensure application.

Tab 3 Angel B. Bassuk, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to meet the practice requirement pursuant to section 458.313(1)(c), F.S. and failure to list malpractice claims on the licensure application.

Represented by Bruce Lamb, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. Dr. Tucker made a motion to table the application for one year to allow the applicant the opportunity to take and pass the SPEX examination then reappear and consider other conditions which may be imposed. If the applicant does not pass the examination within one year the application will expire. The applicant waived the 90 days for the Board to act on the application. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0

ACTION: The Committee voted to table the application for one year to allow the applicant the opportunity to take and pass the SPEX examination then reappear and consider other conditions which may be imposed. If the applicant does not pass the examination within one year, the application file will expire.

Tab 4 Mark E. Sylvester, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Positive answers to questions on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 5 Mark A. Bishara, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Performance evaluation from Morristown Memorial Hospital and failure to disclose “*failure to receive specialty board certification*” on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$750.00 fine. Dr. Rosenberg seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$750.00 fine.

Tab 6 Philip D. Witkop, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to disclose repeated medical education on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Nuss seconded the motion which carried 3/2.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 7 Ronald Kufner, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Positive responses to questions on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 8 Igor Nichiporenko, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Failure to disclose plea of nolo contendere to a crime and arrest related to the use of alcohol on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$500.00 fine. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$500.00 fine.

Tab 9 Christian D. Gonzalez, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Positive responses to questions on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

MICHAEL CHIZNER, M.D. —TO INTERVIEW TABS 10-18

Tab 11 Ajmal A. Sultan, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Failure to disclose probation during medical school on the licensure application and positive responses to other questions on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$250.00 fine. Dr. Tucker seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$250.00 fine.

Tab 12 Drew C. Hunter, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to disclose leave of absence during medical school on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$250.00 fine. Dr. Tucker seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$250.00 fine.

Tab 13 James M. Smith, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Positive response to questions on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 14 Premnath R. Karre, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Failure to disclose repeated medical education on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page.

Tab 15 Jeanne-Elyse G. Cedeno, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Medical education; resignation from Jackson Memorial, postgraduate training at Baylor College and positive response to questions on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 16 Hemon Saunders, M.D. – Limited License

Issue(s) Lack of practice since 2004 pursuant to section 458.317(1)(c), FS.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure with six months of indirect supervision. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion which carried 5/0. The Committee voted to delegate to the Chair of the Credentials Committee the authority to approve the supervisor and practice plan.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure with six months of indirect supervision. The Committee voted to delegate to the Chair of the Credentials Committee the authority to approve the supervisor and practice plan.

Tab 17 Mark C. Walker, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Positive responses to questions on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. Dr. Tucker made a motion to table the application for one year to allow the applicant to take and pass the SPEX examination then reappear and consider other conditions which may be imposed. If the applicant does not pass the examination within one year the application file will expire. The applicant waived the 90 days for the Board to act on the application. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0

ACTION: The Committee voted to table the application for one year to allow the applicant to take and pass the SPEX examination then reappear and consider other conditions that may be imposed. If the applicant does not pass the examination within one year the application file will expire

Tab 18 Sharatchandra S. Bidari, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Training requirement pursuant to section 458.311(1)(f)3.c., F.S.

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

JASON ROSENBERG, M.D. —TO INTERVIEW TABS 19-26

Tab 19 Tad R. Connine, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to meet section 458.31(1)(c), FS. lack of practice since 2005; action by the Georgia, Maryland, Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia and failure to comply with the order issued by the Florida Board of Medicine; positive responses to the question on the licensure application.

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the application for licensure with the following conditions: 1) the applicant shall comply with the previous Final Order (2002) of the Florida Board of Medicine; 2) five years probation with the first year of practice under indirect supervision with quarterly reports by the supervisor and applicant; and for the remaining years of probation quarterly reports from the applicant; and first and last appearances before the Probation Committee; 3) comply with the PRN contract; and 4) restricted from practicing addiction medicine unless he is participating in or has completed an approved training program in addiction medicine. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure with the following conditions: 1) the applicant shall comply with the previous Final Order (2002) of the Florida Board of Medicine; 2) five years probation with the first year of practice under indirect supervision with quarterly reports by the supervisor and applicant; and for the remaining years of probation quarterly reports from the applicant; and first and last appearances before the Probation Committee; 3) comply with the PRN contract; and 4) restricted from practicing addiction medicine unless he is participating in or has completed an approved training program in addiction medicine.

Tab 20 Thomas G. Grossman, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Practice requirement pursuant to section 458.313(1)(c), F.S.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the application for licensure. The motion was seconded which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 21 James M. Welden, III, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Criminal background check.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 22 Samir Haddad, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Postgraduate training at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital.

The applicant was present. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to deny the application for licensure based on action in another state and for misrepresenting or concealing material facts. Dr. Nuss seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to deny the application for licensure.

Tab 23 Elaine G. Khatod, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Positive responses to questions on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Judy Rivenbark, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the application for licensure. The motion was seconded which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 24 Jonathan T. Lord, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Practice requirement pursuant to section 458.313(1)(c), F.S.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Nuss seconded the motion which carried 4/1.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 25 Jacques H. Minville, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Requirements of section 456.0635(1)(c), F.S.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 26 Consuelo M. Beck-Saque', M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Practice requirement pursuant to section 458.313(1)(c), F.S.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

ELIZABETH TUCKER, M.D. —TO INTERVIEW TABS 27-35

Tab 27 Rashmi T. Nair, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Training requirement pursuant to section 458.311(1)(f)3.c., F.S.

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Tucker seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 28 Peri M. Sert, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Failure to meet the training requirement pursuant to section 458.311(1)(f)3.a, F.S.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Nuss made a motion to approve the application for licensure with six months of indirect supervision. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion which carried 5/0. The Committee voted to delegate to the Chair of the Credentials Committee the authority to approve the supervisor and practice plan.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure with six months of indirect supervision. The Committee voted to delegate to the Chair of the Credentials Committee the authority to approve the supervisor and practice plan.

Tab 29 Srikanthan Kandasamy, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Training requirement pursuant to section 458.311(1)(f)3.c., F.S.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Nuss made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 30 Sriprintha Navarathinarajah, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to disclose leave of absence during medical school on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Nuss made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 31 Robert K. Bogle, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Status of student loans, activities at Florida Orthopedic Institute and the conditions of discharge from active duty.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Nuss seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 32 Rigoberto J. Mendoza, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to list a conviction on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a \$500.00 fine. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$500.00 fine.

Tab 33 David G. Lotufo, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Resignation from Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 34 Didier P. De Canniere, M.D. – Medical Faculty Certificate

Issue(s) Training requirement pursuant to section 458.3145, (1)(d), F.S.

Represented by Monica Rodriguez, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Nuss seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 35 Pertti K. Hakala, M.D. – Medical Faculty Certificate

Issue(s) Training requirement pursuant to section 458.3145(1)(d), F.S. and lack of a social security number.

Represented by Monica Rodriguez, Esq.

The applicant was not present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

ROBERT NUSS, M.D. —TO INTERVIEW TABS 36-43

Tab 36 Lorenz G. Theiler, M.D. – Medical Faculty Certificate

Issue(s) Training requirement pursuant to section 458.3145(1)(d), F.S.

Represented by Monica Rodriguez, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Tucker seconded the motion which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 37 Paul A. Conti, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to disclose probation at Southern Illinois University during postgraduate training on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$500.00 fine. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page and a \$500.00 fine.

Tab 38 Steven I. Wengrover, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Malpractice cases

The applicant was not present. The Committee voted to table the application to the next scheduled meeting.

ACTION: The Committee voted to application to the next scheduled meeting.

Tab 39 Ivan M. Chaitowitz, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Failure to meet the training requirement pursuant to section 458.311(1)(f) 3.c., F.S.

The applicant was not present. Dr. Chaitowitz submitted a letter requesting to withdraw his licensure application. After discussion, a motion was made to accept Dr. Chaitowitz's request for withdrawal of his licensure application. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to accept the request for withdrawal of the licensure application.

Tab 40 Sung W. Chang, M.D. – Licensure

Issue(s) Request to have conditions lifted from the medical license.

The licensee was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Tucker made a motion to lift the conditions from the license. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 4/1.

ACTION: The Committee voted to lift the conditions from the license.

Tab 41 Michael S. Fenster, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Malpractice cases.

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Chizner made a motion to approve the application. The motion was seconded which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 42 Robert Bonvino, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Petition for waiver of rule 64B8-2.00, F.A.C.

Represented by Jennifer Hanson, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, a motion was made to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approve the application for licensure. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approved the application for licensure.

Tab 43 Randolph D. Cohen, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Action taken by the St. John Medical Center.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Thomas seconded the motion which carried 4/1.

ACTION: The Committee voted to approve the application for licensure.

Tab 10 Jonathan D. Ingram, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to disclose probation during medical school on the November 2007 and January 2009 licensure applications.

The applicant was not present. The Committee voted to table the application to the next scheduled meeting.

ACTION: The Committee voted to application to the next scheduled meeting.

GEORGE THOMAS, M.D. —TO INTERVIEW TABS 44-47

INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Tab 44 Mohamad Abdelazim, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Petition for Waiver or Variance of rule 64B8-4.009(5), F.A.C.

The applicant was not present. After discussion, a motion was made to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approve the application for licensure. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approved the application for licensure.

Tab 45 Mirela Galatanu, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Petition for Waiver or Variance of rule 64B8-4.009(5), F.A.C.

The applicant was not present. After discussion, a motion was made to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approve the application for licensure. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approved the application for licensure.

Tab 46 Jean Desse, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Petition for Waiver or Variance of rule 64B8-4.009(4) & (5), F.A.C.

The applicant was not present. After discussion, a motion was made to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approve the application for licensure. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approved the application for licensure.

Tab 47 Salvatore M. Laria, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Petition for Waiver or Variance of rule 64B8-4.009(5), F.A.C.

The applicant was not present. After discussion, a motion was made to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approve the application for licensure. The motion was seconded, which carried 5/0.

ACTION: The Committee voted to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver and approved the application for licensure.

NEW BUSINESS

New Licensee Survey Report FYI

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.