

**IN AND BEFORE THE OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, *ex rel.*)
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD)
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE)
AND SUPERVISION,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
HAZEM HUSSEIN SOKKAR, M.D.,)
LICENSE NO. MD 20856,)
)
Defendant.)

FILED

DEC 12 2023

OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION

Case No. 20-12-5951

MOTION TO ENFORCE BOARD ORDER

Pursuant to 59 O.S. § 513(B), the State of Oklahoma, *ex rel.* Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (the “Board”), by and through Joseph Ashbaker, Assistant Attorney General for the State of Oklahoma, requests this Court enter an Order finding Hazem Hussein Sokkar, M.D., License #20856 (the “Defendant”) has failed to comply with a previously issued Board Order, and order appropriate sanctions and remedies for those violations. In support thereof, the State submits the following brief:

I. VIOLATIONS

On May 12, 2022, the Board entered an Order Accepting Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction (“VSJ”), in which Defendant admitted that his treatment and prescribing practices as well as his record keeping were inadequate and fell below the standard of care. Further, he was ordered to participate in a supervised remedial educational plan with the assistance and guidance of a preceptor. The VSJ set out the following:

- b. Defendant shall participate in a supervised remedial educational plan with the following recommendations providing the foundation for educational intervention.
- i. **Controlled Substance Point-of-Care (PoC) Experience:** Dr. Sokkar shall participate in a clinical experience to provide the necessary support required as he returns to prescribing benzodiazepines, sedatives, and stimulants. The PoC experience is intended to allow appropriately graduated levels of independence through periods of supervision as Dr. Sokkar addresses immediate practice needs.
 1. Dr. Sokkar shall initially engage in a structured review of the profile of each patient taking controlled substances, create a written inventory, and present all patients for whom he intends to prescribe controlled substances to a Preceptor to discuss medication selection and dosing, screening for substance use disorder, informed consent and monitoring.
 2. Subsequently, Dr. Sokkar shall review all patients for whom he plans to initiate controlled substances or increase the dosage of existing medications with the Preceptor.

The VSJ goes on to state:

- ii. **Educational Preceptor:** Dr. Sokkar shall establish a relationship with an experienced educational Preceptor Board Certified in Psychiatry with expertise in Addiction Medicine. This involves regularly scheduled meetings to review cases and documentation, discuss decisions related to those cases, review specific topics, and make plans for future learning. The Preceptor serves as an educator and is not intended to function as a practice monitor. The schedule and frequency of the meetings will be determined by the Preceptor.

Subsequent to the Board entering the VSJ, Defendant began a preceptor relationship with Dr. Tracy Loper, M.D. Defendant met with Dr. Tracy for the first time on February 14, 2023. On

March 23 Dr. Tracy withdrew from the preceptorship with Defendant stating "...and further discussion with him would most likely continue to be an impasse after unfruitful argument.

The Board Secretary arranged for another preceptor to work with Defendant. Ky Dorsey, M.D. began a preceptorship with Defendant in June 2023. Dr. Dorsey withdrew as preceptor via letter dated July 21, 2023. In that letter Dr. Dorsey stated:

"My opinion is that Dr. Sokkar's insight into the deficiencies of his practice is minimal and his openness to education or change in practice is also minimal. The examples above are provided to support this conclusion. Although he had agreed to engage in this educational process, I find that he is not open to this education. It is unclear to me what benefit continuing these efforts would provide for his practice at this point."

The Board Secretary arranged a third preceptor. Dr. Jason Beaman, D.O. agreed to be a preceptor for Defendant. After one meeting Dr. Beaman terminated his preceptorship. In a letter to Board Staff Dr. Beaman stated:

"It is my professional opinion that drug screens should be done more frequent on new patients than once a year. Dr. Sokkar vehemently disagreed and offered no appreciation for the risk of benzodiazepines, comparing their safety profile to that of antihypertensives. After much discussion and insults, I terminated the arrangement. It is my belief that no preceptor will work unless that hold the same prescribing practices and beliefs as Dr. Sokkar." Emphasis added.

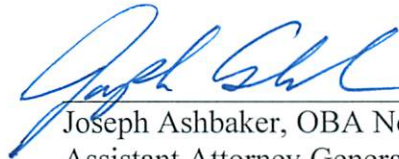
Defendant has failed to meet the terms and conditions of the board order in the form of the May 12, 2022 VSJ.

II. CONCLUSION

It is requested that this Honorable Board find, by clear and convincing evidence, that Defendant has willfully violated Board Orders and terms, and impose additional penalties as

allowed by 59O.S. §509.1 in accordance with 59 O.S. §§ 513(B), 509.1; Okla. Admin. Code § 435:5-1-7.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joseph Ashbaker, OBA No. 19395
Assistant Attorney General
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL
LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
101 N.E. 51st Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
405/522.4398
405/522.4536 – Facsimile