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

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel.)	FILED
THE OKLAHOMA BOARD)	2 6 2015
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE)	MAR 26 2015
AND SUPERVISION,)	OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION
Plaintiff,)	MEDICAL LICENSURE
)	***************************************
v.) (Case No: 12-09-4614
)	
CATHERINE LOUISE WHITE, M.D.)	
LICENSE NO. 27039,)	
Defendant.)	

ORDER RESTRICTING LICENSE

This cause came on for hearing before the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (the "Board") on March 12, 2015, at the office of the Board, 101 N.E. 51st Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105, pursuant to notice given as required by law and rules of the Board.

Defendant, Catherine Louise White, M.D., holding Oklahoma medical license no. 27039, appeared in person, and Mr. David Hyman, Attorney at Law, appeared in support of Defendant.

Jason T. Seay, Assistant Attorney General, appeared on behalf of the Plaintiff, State of Oklahoma, *ex rel*. Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision.

The Board *en banc* after hearing arguments of counsel, reviewing the exhibits admitted and the sworn testimony of witnesses, and being fully advised in the premises found that there is clear and convincing evidence to support the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Orders:

Findings of Fact

- 1. The Board is a duly authorized agency of the State of Oklahoma empowered to license and oversee the activities of physicians and surgeons in the State of Oklahoma pursuant to 59 Okla. Stat. § 480 *et seq*.
- 2. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter, and notice has been given in all respects in accordance with law and the rules of the Board.
 - 3. Defendant, Catherine Louise White, M.D., holds Oklahoma license no. 27039.

- 4. The Board received Defendant's application for an Oklahoma license on April 24, 2009. In the application, Defendant cited her last practice history as follows,
 - "5/08 to present.....Unemployed secondary to resignation from residency for personal reasons (i.e. infirm elderly in-laws requiring home care and being a poor match with residency program with differing philosophies concerning patient care.)"
- 5. While credentialing the Defendant, the Board received several documents and learned that Bill Johnson, MD, Acting Program Director at the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center, sent a letter to Defendant on June 13, 2007 informing her that she was not ready to assume independent leadership of a care team and that she did not meet the criteria for advancement from R-1 to R-2 (Resident 1 to Resident 2). He outlined an improvement plan and requirements.
- 6. Again, on August 22, 2007, Dr. Johnson informed Defendant in writing that although she had improved in several of the competencies cited in the June 13, 2007 letter, she still fell short of the expectations and required improvement.
- 7. On March 10, 2008, Dr. Johnson met with Defendant and announced that she was being promoted to PGY-2 (Post Graduate Year 2) in May of 2008.
- 8. On May 1, 2009 Defendant was accepted in a residency program, "In His Image" in Tulsa, OK, to begin July 1, 2009, under the direction of Mitchell W. Duininck, M.D., ("Defendant's Residency Director").
- 9. Defendant was required to make a personal appearance before the Board on June 26, 2009, due to clinical competency and reasons for leaving her residency training in May of 2008. Defendant was granted her training license on July 1, 2009, followed by her full and active license on July 1, 2010.
- 10. Defendant applied for Family Medicine privileges at Newman Memorial Hospital on May 31, 2012, pending completing her residency on June 30, 2012. On August 6, 2012, Newman Memorial Hospital approved her appointment for active status with privileges in Family Medicine with Obstetrics for an initial provisional period of one year ending July 31, 2013.
- 11. Defendant began work at Newman Memorial Hospital on August 6, 2012. On August 7, 2012, Newman Memorial Hospital received Defendant's Residency Director's Residency Verification and letter. The letter stated that he (Dr. Duininck) and faculty members did not feel that Defendant had obtained a level of competency and ability to practice medicine independently on an inpatient basis, including providing maternity and obstetrical care. Dr. Duininck recommended that Defendant practice in an outpatient setting, not including severely ill or trauma patients.
- 12. Defendant worked at Newman Memorial Hospital until August 21, 2012. Defendant was terminated on August 22, 2012.

- 13. Newman Memorial Hospital reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank on 08-22-2012 that Defendant had her clinical privileges revoked due to being recruited with an understanding that she possessed medical skills for a full spectrum primary care practice. The skills represented were for office, emergency, critical and obstetric care. Upon receipt of a final report from her training program, it was determined that she did not possess the skill set represented. Therefore......the privileges 'conditionally extended' were immediately terminated to address the potential for adverse affect on the health or welfare of patients.
- 14. On March 12, 2015, Dr. Stewart Beasley, PhD, appeared before the Board as an expert witness. The Board reviewed and qualified Dr. Beasley as an expert. Dr. Beasley testified in front of the Board as to his opinion regarding the Defendant's psychological conditions. The Board also reviewed the KSTAR assessments on the Defendant regarding whether she could safely practice medicine in a clinical setting. Dr. Beasley's testimony did not materially contradict the findings in the KSTAR assessment.

Conclusions of Law

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter herein pursuant to 59 O.S. § 480 et seq.
- 2. Defendant has been proven guilty of the violations set forth in Paragraph 11, Paragraphs (A) and (B), of the Complaint filed of record on March 22, 2013, as shown below. Defendant's license shall be restricted from direct patient care until such time as she can present satisfactory evidence to the Board Secretary of her ability to safely and competently practice medicine in a direct patient care setting. After receipt of said evidence, the Board Secretary will put this matter on the Agenda for the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.
 - 11. That Defendant is guilty of unprofessional conduct in that she:
 - A. Was found to be physically or mentally unable to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety in violation of Oklahoma Administrative Code 435:10-7-4.(17); and
 - B. Engaged in practice or other behavior that demonstrates an incapacity or incompetence to practice medicine and surgery in violation of Oklahoma Administrative Code 435:10-7-4.(18).

Orders

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision as follows:

1. The license of Defendant CATHERINE LOUISE WHITE, M.D. is hereby RESTRICTED from direct patient care until such time as she can present satisfactory evidence to the Board Secretary of her ability to safely and competently practice medicine in a direct patient care setting. After receipt of said evidence, the Board

Secretary will put this matter on the Agenda for the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

- 2. Promptly upon receipt of an invoice, Defendant shall pay all costs of this action authorized by law.
- 3. A copy of this written order should be sent to Defendant as soon as it is processed.

Dated this 26th day of March, 2015.

Billy H. Stout, M.D., Board Secretary Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision

Certificate of Mailing

This is to certify that on the day of March, 2015, a true and correct copy of this order was sent by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to:

David J. Hyman Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson Williams Center Tower II Two West Second Street, Suite 700 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103-3117 (918) 591-5350 Telephone (918) 925-5350 Facsimile

Nancy Thiemann, Legal Secretary