Adverse Actions Report January-February 2025

The *Forum* presents a two-month report of recent adverse actions. This report does not include non-adverse action such as reentry agreements or relief of consent order obligations. To view all public actions, visit www.ncmedboard.org/BoardActions.

Name/license #/location	Date of action	Cause of action	Board action
ANNULMENTS			
NONE			
SUMMARY SUSPENSIONS			
NONE			
REVOCATIONS			
CIRELLI, Stephen Rocco, MD (200201566) Johnson City, TN	2/3/2025	MD's felony conviction for Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Substances; Conspiracy to Falsify Medical Records; Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering	Revocation of NC medical license
DALBY, Richard Hunter, LP (100000471) Durham, NC	2/10/2025	The hospital where LP practiced received a report that he was falling asleep during a case and went into the locker room to drink liquid from a container in his locker, followed by rinsing with mouthwash. LP was given a drug and alcohol screen, the results of which were positive for alcohol. LP was terminated from his position at the hospital. In March 2015, LP also received a Public Letter of Concern from the Committee and the Board after he was found to have consumed alcohol while on call for the hospital where he worked. The Board ordered LP to NCPHP for a comprehensive examination. To date, he has not complied with the Board's order. LP has not practiced perfusion since September 2024.	Revocation of perfusionist license

SUSPENSIONS			
GROSSMAN, Peter Daniel, MD (201302114) Atlanta, GA	1/16/2025	MD worked at a women's health clinic where he primarily performed abortions. In 2023MD made inappropriate and sexually charged comments toward two female coworkers. MD claims that his intentions were misinterpreted. As a result of this behavior, MD completed CME courses on professional boundaries and professional sexual misconduct. Colleagues also observed MD having aunusually high surgical complication rate, with some patients having to be transferred to the hospital for emergency care. The Board reviewed medical records of six patients who developed complications following surgeries performed by MD. In October 2023the Board ordered MD to a comprehensive examination to ascertain MD's fitness to practice medicine. During the examination in January 2024, MD demonstrated cognitive impairment ranging from mild to severe in multiple areas.	Indefinite Suspension
UWENSUYI-EDOSOMWAN, Fidelis Iguodala, MD (009600362) Waxhaw, NC	2/21/2025	In 2015, MD was charged with nineteen counts of misdemeanor sexual battery offenses and eighteen counts of felony sexual offenses resulting from patient allegations. MD entered into an Interim Non-Practice Agreement with the Board. In 2023 MD entered an Alford Plea to four counts of misdemeanor	Indefinite suspension of medical license

		assault on a female, and the remaining sexual offense charges were dismissed. MD was ordered to pay a fine and sentenced to eighteen months of supervised probation. MD submitted to examination by NCPHP.. The Board ordered MD to undergo a professional competency evaluation in 2024. The evaluation found that MD demonstrated significant knowledge gaps in many topic areas and inadequate overall clinical judgement and reasoning. In some cases, MD's recommended care could have placed patients in danger. An evaluation at a PROBE: Ethics & Boundaries Course concluded that MD has not demonstrated an ability to think ethically about the concern that prompted his referral to PROBE.	
LIMITATIONS/CONDITIONS			
DEMARCHI, William Michael, MD (202201446) Raleigh, NC	1/31/2025	As Medical Director of a skilled nursing facility, MD pre-signed blank prescriptions for controlled substances and other medications for the facility's Director of Nursing to use in his absence. MD issued hand-written prescriptions in violation of the STOP Act. The Board found that MD prescribed a Schedule IV controlled substance to an immediate family member. The Board also found that Some of the APPs supervised by MD did not have Collaborative Practice Agreements with MD.	Consent Order with terms and conditions

		Additionally, MD serves as the medical doctor on staff at an aesthetic medical spa owned and operated by his family member who is not a licensee of the Board. As a rule, a business where medicine is practiced must be owned by a licensee of the Board. Furthermore, the Board received two complaints alleging MD failed to sign death certificates for two patients in a timely manner, despite repeated requests.	
REPRIMANDS			
BOBB, Michael Dean, Jr. DO (201200926) Zanesville, OH	1/13/2025	In May 2024, the Ohio Medical Board indefinitely suspended DO's license, issued a fine and required him to complete continuing medical education on Professionalism and Boundaries. From 2020 through 2022, DO engaged in a sexual relationship with a Patient who was also employed as a nurse at the primary care practice where he worked. DO relocated to NC to practice as a hospitalist in a locum tenens position in November 2022. When the NC hospital where he worked learned about the Ohio Board's Consent Order, it did not renew DO's employment contract.	Reprimand
DURBIN, Courtney Lynne, PA-C (001006588) Charlotte, NC	2/27/2025	The Board is concerned that PA's diagnosis, documentation and treatment of two patients she treated via telemedicine failed to comply with the standard of care. PA ordered only one laboratory	Reprimand; PA shall complete CME on testosterone replacement therapy and telemedicine documentation

		test for both Patients A and B, failed to perform follow-up laboratory testing after initiating their testosterone treatments and increased both patients' testosterone dosage without any additional testing or monitoring. Patient A experienced a medication induced overdose due to high levels of testosterone. Patient B's testosterone levels were later found to be over twice the targeted range for testosterone treatment.	
EPSTEIN, Micheline Lataliza, MD (201901497) Charlotte, NC	2/13/2025	In 2024, MD was censured, reprimanded and required by the New York Medical Board to complete CME based on MD committing professional misconduct. MD revealed personally identifiable facts, data, or information obtained in a professional capacity without the prior consent of the individual and for no medically justifiable reason.	Reprimand
FRERICHS, R. Everett, MD (000033241) Wilmington, NC	2/26/2025	MD documented that he examined Baby A within hospital policy at twenty-four hours of birth. However, a contradictory note by MD indicates that MD had only spoken to the parents by phone and planned to round on Baby A the following Monday. MD documented that he had examined Baby B at approximately twenty-nine hours after Baby B's birth, which is outside of the hospital's policy.	Reprimand; Conditions for reinstatement established
GINSBURG, Justin Davis, PA-C	1/2/2025	During renewal of his	Reprimand; PA shall

(001003343) Winston-Salem, NC		physician assistant license, PA disclosed that his employment was terminated for making false representations in psychiatric patient records. Three patients told their physician that they were never seen by PA although their charts showed PA had seen and treated each of them. In one case, PA decreased some of a patient's medications and discontinued other medications. PA acknowledged his actions and cooperated with identifying the relevant patients to correct the medical record. PA has entered a two-year monitoring contract with NCPHP, and NCPHP supports PA's safety to practice as a physician assistant.	complete CME courses on professional ethics and medical record documentation
HOQUE, Mohammed Merajul, MD (201801169) Las Vegas, NV	2/12/2025	MD practiced vascular and interventional radiology in Nevada. In 2020, a female patient presented to MD for a radiology guided biopsy of a right renal mass. MD performed a time out to ensure the surgical team was aware of the correct surgery and the correct location on her body. The right renal biopsy was cancelled, and MD performed a biopsy on the left renal mass. At a follow-up with her urologist, Patient was informed that MD biopsied her left kidney instead of the right kidney. In September 2024, MD self-reported to the Board that he entered into a	Reprimand

		Settlement Agreement with the Nevada Board. The basis being MD's malpractice and failure to maintain adequate records. MD was reprimanded and ordered to fulfill certain requirements. The Nevada Board has confirmed MD's completion of all requirements of the Agreement and that his compliance file would be closed.	
KENT, Collin Lyle, MD (202201555) Durham, NC	1/22/2025	MD reported on his NC license renewal that he was arrested and charged with Misdemeanor Sexual Abuse while attending a concert. The complainant alleged that MD, while intoxicated, touched her clothed buttocks without her permission. After the incident, MD self-reported for evaluation and treatment. He was diagnosed with Alcohol Use Disorder, Mild, and began treatment. The Board issued an Order for Examination requiring MD to submit to a comprehensive examination at NCPHP. MD later signed and agreed to comply with a two-year monitoring contract with the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program, Virginia being his state of residence. In July 2024, MD plead guilty to Misdemeanor Sexual Abuse and was sentenced to 12 months probation.	Reprimand; Two years probation
LOPEZ, Kendra Lynne, PA-C (001009762) Charlotte, NC	2/13/2025	A former employee of the aesthetics clinic owned by PA complained to the Board that a prescription of	Reprimand

		compounded lidocaine cream was written with her name and personal information as the patient for whom it was prescribed. Complainant stated that she was not a patient and had not been aware that the prescription had been written. The Board's investigation found there were 26 prescription orders from PA for 100 grams each of the compounded lidocaine and benzocaine creams. A significant number of these prescriptions were written in the names of clinic employees or their friends and family, who were not patients. The compounding pharmacy also produced evidence of conversation and communication with PA or clinic staff verifying that the compounded creams were for specific patients and that the compounding pharmacy warned of their danger when not used properly. During her interview, PA admitted to writing prescriptions for employees to have the compounded cream on hand for patient procedures. The writing of prescriptions for compounded medications in the names of employees and others who are not patients potentially violates State and Federal regulations.	
RIYAZ, Farhaad Rahman, MD (202003897) Northville, MI	2/5/2025	MD practiced dermatology via telemedicine in multiple states. His medical licenses	Reprimand; $1,000 fine

		were subject to discipline in multiple states where MD held licenses as a result of a 2021 felony conviction for purchasing Amazon items online and returning lesser priced items in their place. In 2023, MD's NC license was suspended for six months. In August 2024 he was reprimanded by the Arizona Medical Board for failure to disclose that he was under investigation when he signed his Interstate Medical Licensure Compact application. Although the Board acted against MD's NC license based on his felony conviction, the finding of the Arizona Board warrants additional discipline from this Board as well.	
RUSSO, Anthony Paul, Jr. DO (201901110) Davidson, NC	1/9/2025	During the Board's investigation of a complaint, a patient's medical records were reviewed by an independent medical expert who opined that DO's care of Patient was below the standard of care. DO failed to properly administer anesthesia to keep Patient unconscious throughout the placement of a dental implant and failed to properly document an anesthetic record. Additionally, the Board received a complaint that DO spanked and groped a member of the oral surgeon's staff. During the Board's investigation of this complaint, other employees reported past incidents of unwanted touching and	Reprimand; DO shall complete CME in workplace boundaries; anesthetic documentation; and assessment of patients perioperatively

		inappropriate comments towards females by DO.	
WEIL, Andrew Campbell, MD (201300837) Greenville, NC	1/24/2025	MD began using nitrous oxide in March 2024 to cope with his anxiety. In April 2024, while at home, he inhaled half of a tank of nitrous oxide. While driving to work, he took two inhalations of nitrous oxide and was involved in a single vehicle wreck. MD was charged with Driving While Impaired and Huffing Toxic Chemicals. MD self-reported the DWI charge to the Board. He was ordered to NCPHP for examination. An independent medical evaluation of MD resulted in a recommendation for further treatment. He completed inpatient treatment, and the treatment center supported MD as being safe to practice medicine beginning on August 30, 2024. NCPHP also supported MD as safe to practice medicine. MD signed a five-year monitoring contract with NCPHP in August 2024.	Reprimand
DENIALS OF LICENSE/APPROVAL			
WHITE, Anne Litton, MD (000029552) Bermuda Run, NC	1/21/2025	MD's license was indefinitely suspended In March 2022. MD has a disciplinary history with the Board dating back to Consent Orders in 2005. Subsequent Orders of discipline include a reprimand in 2009, probation in 2018, and fine in 2019. In 2020 the Indiana Medical Board ordered probation and a fine for failure to disclose the	Denial of licensure

		pending NC Board action. In 2021 MD was convicted of misdemeanor False Statements in Applications for Insurance and paid a fine and restitution. Following a 2022 hearing MD's NC license was indefinitely suspended, and she was not allowed to apply for reinstatement for at least two years. In August 2024, MD's application for reinstatement was denied and MD was granted a hearing in December 2024 on the Board's denial of reinstatement.	
SURRENDERS			
NONE			
PUBLIC LETTERS OF CONCERN			
ADAMS, James Wellington, MD (009801132) Leland, NC	2/26/2025	The Board is concerned that MD's care of a patient fell below the standard of care and had MD's care of a Patient reviewed by an independent medical expert. The reviewing expert found issues with MD's documentation and care of Patient. In MD's care of Patient, the referral to nephrology was not done in an appropriate time frame based on the lab results. By the time Patient was referred, there was little that could be done to reverse the condition. Drug changes that were implemented per recommendations of nephrology could have been implemented much earlier and may have made a difference in reversing his condition. Adequate communication would have	Public Letter of Concern; MD shall complete six hours continuing medical education

		included a discussion of the possible treatment and prognosis of the condition.	
ALTOM, Laura Kathleen, MD (201600654) Raleigh, NC	2/25/2025	The Board is concerned that MD's failure to timely report test results to a patient could delay care and may have failed to conform to the standard of care. When investigating Patient's complaint, MD failed to respond to Board inquiries.	Public Letter of Concern
CALHOUN, Shannon Patrick, DO (200501925) Omaha, NE	1/31/2025	The Board is concerned that in 2024 the Wyoming Board reprimanded DO, assessed a fine and placed conditions on his medical license. DOs had failed to respond in a timely manner to repeated requests by the Wyoming Board concerning regulatory actions taken against his medical licenses in Colorado, New Mexico, Wisconsin, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Florida, Illinois, Hawaii, and California.	Public Letter of Concern
DIREZZE, Justin Paul, MD (202103278) Novi, MI	1/30/2025	The Board is concerned that in November 2023, the Michigan Board placed MD's medical license on probation, imposed a fine and ordered him to complete ten hours of CME in documentation and supervision and in wound management due to documentation errors and violating the Public Health Code. The Board notes MD's compliance with the Michigan Board Order, completion of the required CME, and discharge from probation.	Public Letter of Concern
EATON, Matthew Travis, DO (202001172) Monticello, KY	2/4/2025	The Board is concerned that DO failed to properly	Public Letter of Concern

		supervise a PA who operated an urgent care and a weight loss clinic. The Board investigated complaints against the PA involving allegations that the PA used unlicensed staff to perform injections for weight loss, and that the PA was not on site when the injections were being administered. DO is accountable for the care provided by his supervisee. During the course of its investigation, the Board learned that the DO and PA's collaboration agreement did not specify the type of medicine the PA would be practicing, and that DO was unaware that the PA owned and operated a weight loss clinic. DO did not have access to any medical records at the weight loss clinic.	
MARCHUK, Jerome Michael, MD (000018800) Mooresville, NC	2/4/2025	The Board is concerned that MD's care of a patient may have fallen below the standard of care. MD performed surgery on a patient who had a medical history of testicular pain. After the surgery, Patient noted left testicular pain and testicular positional abnormality. This resulted in Patient seeking multiple opinions from urologists leading to surgical correction. The Board had MD's care of Patient reviewed by an independent medical expert. The reviewing expert criticized MD's failure to perform bilateral scrotal	Public Letter of Concern

		surgery,resulting in a poor postoperative result for Patient and failing to ensure that both testicles had been replaced in their normal position.	
MISCH, William Kyle, PA-C (001012141) Westerville, OH	2/19/2025	The Board became aware of PA's DWI conviction in Ohio and revocation of his NC driver's license. PA admitted to knowingly driving without a valid license on multiple occasions. In November 2023 PA fled the scene of a car accident in which the occupants of the other vehicle required medical attention. This resulted in felony charges. In January 2024 PA was suspended from a hospital in Ashville when he was discovered drinking while on-duty. NCPHP assessed and diagnosed PA with severe alcohol use disorder. PA successfully completed inpatient treatment and signed a five-year monitoring contract with NCPHP. PA inactivated his NC PA license in January 2024 and must apply for reinstatement in the future.	Public Letter of Concern
SMIGRODZKI, Rafal Marek, MD (201401922) Winston-Salem, NC	1/7/2025	According to records reviewed during the course of the Board's investigation, MD prescribed multiple non-controlled substances to himself 2019 to the present. MD's self-prescribing was frequent, continuous, and covered multiple medical conditions. For some medical conditions MD acted as his own primary care physician. Self--prescribing in this manner	Public Letter of Concern

		is contrary to longstanding principles of medical ethics. MD did not document his self-care and prescribing in a medical record. This suggests that MD did not conduct proper examinations, order tests, or otherwise follow standard medical practice in establishing diagnoses that would justify the prescriptions.	
SMITH, Joshua David, MD (201802210) Hickory, NC	2/20/2025	The Board is concerned that in 2024, MD mistakenly operated on Patient's left middle finger. MD immediately disclosed the error, apologized, and addressed Patient's options for correcting the error. Patient agreed to return to the operating room so that MD could operate on the correct finger, which was done without complication.	Public Letter of Concern
MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS			
BIRCHARD, Katherine Rachel, MD (200400190) Chapel Hill, NC	1/27/2025	A DWI charge in 2023 resulted in the Board issuing an Order for Examination by NCPHP. NCPHP recommended that MD undergo a comprehensive examination to rule out an alcohol use disorder and determine her safety to return to clinical practice. NCPHP did not support MD as safe to practice medicine at the time. The comprehensive examination found that prior to attempting to return to practice she needed to complete a residential	Consent Order; MD shall not practice medicine until given permission to do so by the Board

		treatment program and after treatment enter into a NCPHP monitoring contract. In May 2024, MD stated that she would be deferring the recommended residential treatment due to a health emergency in her family.	
DUNN, Lawrence Anthony, MD (000030018) Raleigh, NC	2/6/2025	The Board was notified of a Change in Staff Privileges by MD's employer regarding allegations of MD's professional boundary violations and substandard prescribing. MD hired Person A to be his scribe. He personally paid her salary and health insurance. Person A filed a complaint against MD alleging that he crossed professional boundaries. MD acknowledged that in addition to hiring Person A, he treated her as a patient for psychiatric issues and administered ketamine injections at her apartment. An investigation further revealed that MD treated another former employee and prescribed her diazepam for anxiety. MD was terminated from his employment and his privileges summarily suspended indefinitely until an investigation was completed. MD underwent a comprehensive evaluation at NCPHP, which resulted in	License inactivated

		a number of treatment recommendations. In July 2024, NCPHP notified the Board that MD had chosen not to follow its recommendations and that he would be closing his practice and retiring from the practice of medicine.	
SCHULTZ, Heather Kay, PA-C (001014131) Matthews, NC	1/16/2025	PA has fulfilled the requirements set forth in her Reentry Agreement.	Reentry Completion
CONSENT ORDERS AMENDED			
NONE			
TEMPORARY/DATED LICENSES: ISSUED, EXTENDED, EXPIRED, OR REPLACED BY FULL LICENSES			
NONE			
COURT APPEALS/STAYS			
NONE			
DISMISSALS			
NONE			