

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of
DOUGLAS PAUL NELSON, M.D.
Holder of License No. 24103
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine in the
State of Arizona.

CASE No: MD-20-0710A
REQUEST FOR LICENSE
INACTIVATION WITH CAUSE AND
ORDER INACTIVATING LICENSE
WITH CAUSE

1. I, Douglas Paul Nelson, M.D. ("Respondent"), am the holder of License No. 24103 to practice allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

2. I hereby request that, effective at 5:00 p.m. on the date of the following Order, the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") inactivate with cause my license to practice allopathic medicine number 24103 pursuant to A.R.S. §32-1452(F). I participated in the Board's Physician Health Program ("PHP"), from August 17, 2000 through August 17, 2005 and no longer qualify for a confidential Board Order.

3. I will not practice medicine in Arizona or any other state, territory or district of the United States or a foreign country while my Arizona license is inactive. I may not hold or maintain a controlled substance certificate with the Drug Enforcement Administration or write or refill prescriptions as long as my license is inactive. If I practice medicine while my license is inactive I will be practicing medicine without a license and/or without being exempt from licensure, which amongst other things, is a felony.

4. I shall not request reactivation of my license to practice medicine in Arizona until I complete a long-term care residential program, an inpatient hospital treatment program, an intensive outpatient treatment program or any combination of these programs as required by A.R.S. § 32-1452(F) and subsequently complete an assessment with the Board's PHP Contractor, and the Board is in receipt of the assessment findings and

1 recommendations. I understand that I may also be required to complete other evaluations
2 if deemed necessary by the Board. The Board will not reactivate my license until I present
3 evidence satisfactory to the Board, in its sole discretion, that I am medically competent
4 and mentally and physically able to safely practice medicine in the State of Arizona.

5 DATED this 30 day of August, 2020:

6
7 DOUGLAS PAUL NELSON, M.D.

8 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 9 1. Respondent currently holds an active license to practice medicine in this state.
10 2. Respondent was under a Board stipulation or probationary order pursuant to
11 A.R.S. § 32-1452 that is no longer in effect.
12 3. On August 16, 2020, the Board received a complaint from a physician on behalf
13 of his female patient ("Co-Worker") who was also a co-worker of Respondent, alleging
14 inappropriate interoffice interactions by Respondent directed at his Co-Worker.
15 4. Respondent subsequently self-reported that he had relapsed with alcohol use,
16 and may have a health condition that impacts his ability to safely practice medicine.
17 5. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1452(F), Respondent has requested that his license to
18 practice medicine in the State of Arizona be placed on the status of Inactive with Cause.

19 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

- 20 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over
21 Licensee.
22 2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional
23 conduct pursuant to A.R.S. §32-1401(27)(f) ("Exhibiting a pattern of using or being under
24 the influence of alcohol or drugs or a similar substance while practicing medicine or to the
25 extent that judgment may be impaired and the practice of medicine detrimentally

1 affected.”) and A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r) (“Committing any conduct or practice that is or
2 might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public.”).

3 **ORDER**

4 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

5 1. License number 24103 held by Respondent is Inactivated with Cause.

6 2. Before Respondent can request that his license be reactivated, he shall
7 successfully complete a long-term care residential program, an inpatient hospital
8 treatment program, an intensive outpatient treatment program or any combination of these
9 programs and shall meet the applicable requirements of A.R.S. §32-1431(D).

10 3. Once Respondent has completed treatment, the Board shall determine if it should
11 refer the matter for a formal hearing for the purpose of suspending or revoking the license
12 or to place Respondent on probation for a minimum of five (5) years with restrictions
13 necessary to ensure public safety.

14 DATED this 31 day of August, 2020.

15
16 ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

17
18 By: Patricia E. McSorley
19 Patricia E. McSorley
20 Executive Director
21
22
23
24
25

1 EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed
2 This 1st day of September, 2020 to:

3 Douglas Paul Nelson, M.D.
4 Address of Record

5 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this
6 1st day of September, 2020 with:

7 Arizona Medical Board
8 1740 West Adams, Suite 4000
9 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

10 *Eunna Downey*
11 _____
12 Board staff

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25