



# Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.  
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

March 14, 2018

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Noel Blackman, M.D.  
Moshannon Valley Correctional Institution  
[REDACTED]  
555 Geo Drive  
Phillipsburg, PA 16866

Pooja Rawal, Esq.  
New York Department of Health  
Corning Tower Building – Room 2512  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, New York 12237

**RE: In the Matter of Noel Blackman, M.D.**

Dear Parties:

Enclosed please find the Determination and Order (No.18-054) of the Hearing Committee in the above referenced matter. This Determination and Order shall be deemed effective upon the receipt or seven (7) days after mailing by certified mail as per the provisions of §230, subdivision 10, paragraph (h) of the New York State Public Health Law.

Five days after receipt of this Order, you will be required to deliver to the Board of Professional Medical Conduct your license to practice medicine together with the registration certificate. Delivery shall be by either certified mail or in person to:

Office of Professional Medical Conduct  
New York State Department of Health  
Office of Professional Medical Conduct  
Riverview Center  
150 Broadway - Suite 355  
Albany, New York 12204

If your license or registration certificate is lost, misplaced or its whereabouts is otherwise unknown, you shall submit an affidavit to that effect. If subsequently you locate the requested items, they must then be delivered to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct in the manner noted above.

As prescribed by the New York State Public Health Law §230, subdivision 10, paragraph (i), (McKinney Supp. 2015) and §230-c subdivisions 1 through 5, (McKinney Supp. 2015), "the determination of a committee on professional medical conduct may be reviewed by the

Administrative Review Board for professional medical conduct." Either the licensee or the Department may seek a review of a committee determination.

Request for review of the Committee's determination by the Administrative Review Board stays penalties other than suspension or revocation until final determination by that Board. Summary orders are not stayed by Administrative Review Board reviews.

All notices of review must be served, by certified mail, upon the Administrative Review Board and the adverse party within fourteen (14) days of service and receipt of the enclosed Determination and Order.

The notice of review served on the Administrative Review Board should be forwarded to:

James F. Horan, Esq., Chief Administrative Law Judge  
New York State Department of Health  
Bureau of Adjudication  
Riverview Center  
150 Broadway – Suite 510  
Albany, New York 12204

The parties shall have 30 days from the notice of appeal in which to file their briefs to the Administrative Review Board. Six copies of all papers must also be sent to the attention of Mr. Horan at the above address and one copy to the other party. The stipulated record in this matter shall consist of the official hearing transcript(s) and all documents in evidence.

Parties will be notified by mail of the Administrative Review Board's Determination and Order.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of James F. Horan.

James F. Horan  
Chief Administrative Law Judge  
Bureau of Adjudication

JFH: cac  
Enclosure

**STATE OF NEW YORK : DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT**

-----X  
:  
**IN THE MATTER** :  
:  
**OF** :  
:  
**NOEL BLACKMAN, M.D.** :  
:  
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**DETERMINATION**  
**AND**  
**ORDER**  
BPMC-18-054

A hearing was held on January 17, 2018, at the offices of the New York State Department of Health (Department).<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to § 230(10)(e) of the Public Health Law (PHL), **MARY E. RAPPAZZO, M.D.**, Chairperson, **GREGORY ALLEN THREATTE, M.D.** and **GAIL S. HOMICK HERRLING**, duly designated members of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, served as the Hearing Committee in this matter. **DAWN MacKILLOP-SOLLER, ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE (ALJ)**, served as the Administrative Officer.

The Department appeared by Pooja Rawal, Senior Attorney. A Notice of Referral Proceeding and Statement of Charges dated October 23, 2017, were served upon Noel Blackman, M.D. (Respondent), who did not appear at the hearing.<sup>2</sup> The Hearing Committee received and examined documents from the Department and a stenographic reporter prepared a transcript of the proceeding. After consideration of the entire record, the Hearing Committee sustains the charge that the Respondent committed professional misconduct, in violation of Education Law (Educ. Law) § 6530(9)(a)(ii), by having been convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under federal law. The Hearing Committee votes 3-0 to revoke the Respondent's medical license in New York.

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<sup>1</sup> The location of the hearing was 150 Broadway, Suite 510, Menands, New York.

<sup>2</sup> The Notice of Referral Proceeding and Statement of Charges were personally served on the Respondent pursuant to PHL § 230(10)(d)(i). As such, the ALJ determined that jurisdiction was established and the hearing could continue despite the Respondent's absence. [Appendix I; Exhibit 1].

## BACKGROUND

This case began with an Order by the Commissioner of Health, Howard A. Zucker, M.D., J.D., summarily suspending the Respondent's medical license pursuant to PHL § 230(12)(b). The Department brought the case pursuant to PHL § 230(10)(p), which provides for a hearing when a registered provider or licensee is charged solely with a violation of Educ. Law § 6530(9). In such cases, the charge of misconduct is based upon a prior criminal conviction in New York or another jurisdiction, or upon a prior administrative adjudication regarding conduct that would amount to professional misconduct, if committed in New York. The Respondent is charged with one specification of professional misconduct pursuant to Educ. Law § 6530(9)(a)(ii) by having been convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under federal law.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

These Findings of Fact were made by the Hearing Committee after a review of the record in this matter. Under PHL § 230(10), the Department had the burden of proving its case by a preponderance of the evidence. The references in brackets refer to exhibits [Ex.]. The following findings and conclusions are the unanimous determinations of the Hearing Committee:

1. On April 11, 1980, the Respondent was authorized to practice medicine in New York by the Education Department and was issued license number 141896. [Ex. 2].
2. On or about August 24, 2016, in the United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, the Respondent pled guilty to one felony count of Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute Oxycodone pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 846, 841(b)(1)(C) and 841(a)(1). On May 12, 2017, the Respondent was sentenced to 50 months imprisonment, followed by a period of three years of supervised release, an assessment in the amount of \$100.00 and a fine totaling \$15,000.00.

The Respondent was also subject to forfeiture of \$503,200.00, a cellular telephone, a laptop and cash in the amount of \$33,000.00. [Ex. 3].

#### VOTE OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE

The Respondent violated New York Educ. Law § 6530(9)(a)(ii) by having been convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under federal law.

VOTE: Sustained (3-0)

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

In the United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, a federal court, the Respondent was adjudicated guilty of the felony crime of Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute Oxycodone pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 846, 841(b)(1)(C) and 841(a)(1). The conduct that is the subject of the Statement of Charges in this action constitutes a crime under federal law. Therefore, the specification of misconduct contained in the Statement of Charges of this proceeding is sustained.

The Hearing Committee considered the full spectrum of penalties available by statute, including revocation, suspension and/or probation, censure and reprimand, and the imposition of monetary penalties and determined that the Respondent's participation in a drug dealing scheme involving excessive amounts of Oxycodone, which resulted in the seizure of valuable assets at the time of his arrest at an airport in Guyana and extensive prison sentence, warranted revocation of his medical license.

#### ORDER

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. The specification of professional misconduct, as set forth in the Statement of Charges, is

**SUSTAINED;**

2. The Respondent's license to practice as a physician in New York is **REVOKED**;

3. This Determination and Order shall be effective upon service on the Respondent. Service shall be either by certified mail or upon the Respondent at his last known address and such service shall be effective upon receipt or seven days after mailing by certified mail, whichever is earlier, or by personal service and such service shall be effective upon receipt.

**DATED:** Albany, New York  
March 7, 2018

[REDACTED]  
Mary E. Rappazzo, M.D., Chairperson

Gregory Allen Threatte, M.D.  
Gail S. Homick Herrling

To: Noel Blackman, M.D.  
Moshannon Valley Correctional Institution  
[REDACTED]  
555 Geo Drive  
Phillipsburg, PA 16866

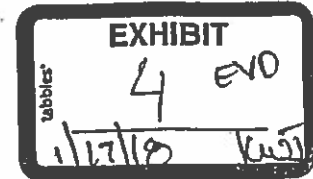
Pooja Rawal, Esq.  
Senior Attorney  
New York State Department of Health  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct  
Corning Tower Building – Room 2512  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, New York 12237

# APPENDIX I

IN THE MATTER  
OF  
NOEL BLACKMAN, M.D.

COMMISSIONER'S  
ORDER OF  
SUMMARY  
ACTION

TO: NOEL BLACKMAN, M.D.  
[REDACTED]  
Moshannon Valley Correctional Institution  
555 Geo Drive  
Philipsburg, PA 16866



The undersigned, Howard A. Zucker, M.D., J.D., Commissioner of Health, pursuant to N.Y. Public Health Law §230, upon the recommendation of a Committee on Professional Medical Conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, has determined that NOEL BLACKMAN, M.D. (henceforth "Respondent"), New York license number 141896 has pleaded or been found guilty or convicted of committing an act constituting a felony under New York State law, federal law, or the law of another jurisdiction which, if committed within this state, would have constituted a felony under New York State law, as is more fully set forth in the Statement of Charges attached to the Notice of Referral Proceeding or Notice of Hearing and made a part hereof.

It is therefore:

ORDERED, pursuant to N.Y. Public Health Law §230(12)(b), that effective immediately, Respondent shall not practice medicine in the State of New York, or practice in any setting under the authority of Respondent's New York license.

Any practice of medicine in violation of this Order shall constitute Professional Misconduct within the meaning of N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(29) and may constitute unauthorized medical practice, a Felony defined by N.Y. Educ. Law §6512.


This Order shall remain in effect until the final conclusion of a hearing which shall commence within ninety days of the service of this order and shall end within ninety days thereafter. The hearing will be held pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230, and N.Y. State Admin. Proc. Act §§301-307 and 401. The hearing will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of



the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct on a date and at a location to be set forth in a written Notice of Hearing or Notice of Referral Proceeding provided to the Respondent contemporaneously with this Order.

THESE PROCEEDINGS MAY RESULT IN A DETERMINATION THAT YOUR LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN NEW YORK STATE BE REVOKED OR SUSPENDED, AND/OR THAT YOU BE FINED OR SUBJECT TO OTHER SANCTIONS SET FORTH IN NEW YORK PUBLIC HEALTH LAW §230-a. YOU ARE URGED TO OBTAIN AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER.

DATED: Albany, New York  
October 23 2017

  
Howard A. Zucker, M.D., J.D.  
Commissioner of Health  
New York State Department of Health

Inquiries should be directed to:

Pooja A. Rawal  
Senior Attorney  
New York State Health Department  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct  
Corning Tower, Room 2512  
Albany, New York 12237  
(518) 473-4282

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER  
OF  
NOEL BLACKMAN, M.D.

NOTICE OF  
REFERRAL  
PROCEEDING

TO: NOEL BLACKMAN, M.D.  
[REDACTED]  
Moshannon Valley Correctional Institution  
555 Geo Drive  
Philipsburg, PA 16866

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

An adjudicatory proceeding will be held pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230(10)(p) and N.Y. State Admin. Proc. Act §§301-307 and 401. The proceeding will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Committee) on December 20, 2017, at 10:30 a.m., at the offices of the New York State Department of Health, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 510, Menands (Albany), NY 12204-2719.<sup>1</sup>

At the proceeding, evidence will be received concerning the allegations set forth in the Statement of Charges, which is attached. A stenographic record of the proceeding will be made and the witnesses at the proceeding will be sworn and examined.

You may appear in person at the proceeding and may be represented by counsel who shall be an attorney admitted to practice in New York state. You may produce evidence or sworn testimony on your behalf. Such evidence or sworn testimony shall be strictly limited to evidence and testimony relating to the nature and severity of the penalty to be imposed upon the licensee. Where the charges are based on the conviction of state law crimes in other jurisdictions, evidence may be offered which would show that the conviction would not be a crime in New York State. The Committee also may limit the number of witnesses whose testimony will be received, as well as the length of time any witness will be permitted to testify.

<sup>1</sup> For GPS purposes, enter "Menands", not "Albany".

If you intend to present sworn testimony, the number of witnesses and an estimate of the time necessary for their direct examination must be submitted to the New York State Department of Health, Division of Legal Affairs, Bureau of Adjudication, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway - Suite 510, Albany, NY 12204-2719, ATTENTION: HON. JAMES HORAN, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF ADJUDICATION (Telephone: (518-402-0748), (henceforth "Bureau of Adjudication") as well as the Department of Health attorney indicated below, no later than twenty days prior to the scheduled date of the Referral Proceeding, as indicated above. Should the parties have objection to proposed witnesses or documentary evidence, the party raising the objection shall contact the Bureau of Adjudication to arrange for a pre-hearing conference with the Administrative Law Judge, prior to the hearing date.

Pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230(10)(p), you shall file a written answer to each of the charges and allegations in the Statement of Charges not later than ten days prior to the date of the hearing. Any charge or allegation not so answered shall be deemed admitted. You may wish to seek the advice of counsel prior to filing such answer. The answer shall be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, and a copy shall be forwarded to the attorney for the Department of Health whose name appears below. You may file a written brief and affidavits with the Committee. Six copies of all papers you submit must be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication at the address indicated above, no later than fourteen days prior to the scheduled date of the Referral Proceeding, and a copy of all papers must be served on the same date on the Department of Health attorney indicated below. Pursuant to §301(5) of the State Administrative Procedure Act, the Department, upon reasonable notice, will provide at no charge a qualified interpreter of the deaf to interpret the proceedings to, and the testimony of, any deaf person. Pursuant to the terms of N.Y. State Admin. Proc. Act §401 and 10 N.Y.C.R.R. §51.8(b), the Petitioner hereby demands disclosure of the evidence that the Respondent intends to introduce at the hearing, including the names of witnesses, a list of and copies of documentary evidence and a description of physical or other evidence which cannot be photocopied.

YOU ARE HEREBY ADVISED THAT THE ATTACHED CHARGES WILL BE MADE PUBLIC FIVE BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THEY ARE SERVED.

Department attorney: Initial here 

The proceeding may be held whether or not you appear. Please note that requests for adjournments must be made in writing to the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, with a copy of the request to the attorney for the Department of Health, whose name appears below, at least five days prior to the scheduled date of the proceeding. Adjournment requests are not routinely granted. Claims of court engagement will require detailed affidavits of actual engagement. Claims of illness will require medical documentation. Failure to obtain an attorney within a reasonable period of time prior to the proceeding will not be grounds for an adjournment.

The Committee will make a written report of its findings, conclusions as to guilt, and a determination. Such determination may be reviewed by the administrative review board for professional medical conduct.

THESE PROCEEDINGS MAY RESULT IN A  
DETERMINATION THAT YOUR LICENSE TO PRACTICE  
MEDICINE IN NEW YORK STATE BE REVOKED OR  
SUSPENDED, AND/OR THAT YOU BE FINED OR  
SUBJECT TO OTHER SANCTIONS SET OUT IN NEW  
YORK PUBLIC HEALTH LAW §§230-a. YOU ARE URGED  
TO OBTAIN AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN  
THIS MATTER.

DATED: Albany, New York  
October 23, 2017

  
MICHAEL A. HISER  
Deputy Counsel  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

Inquiries should be addressed to:

Pooja A. Rawal  
Senior Attorney  
New York State Health Department  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct  
Corning Tower, Room 2512  
Albany, NY, 12237  
Phone: 518-473-4282

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER  
OF  
NOEL BLACKMAN, M.D.

STATEMENT  
OF  
CHARGES

NOEL BLACKMAN, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about April 11, 1980, by the issuance of license number 141896 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. On or about February 7, 2016, the Respondent was arrested while attempting to leave the country for illegally prescribing more than 350,000 oxycodone pills in a drug-dealing operation. On or about February 25, 2016, the Respondent was indicted in the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York, for Conspiracy to Distribute Oxycodone [21 U.S.C. §§ 846, 841(b)(1)(C)], a felony, and Distribution of a Controlled Substance [21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(C)], also a felony. On or about August 24, 2016, the Respondent pled guilty to one felony count of Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute Oxycodone [21 U.S.C. §§ 846; 841(b)(1)(C); 841(a)(1)]. On or about November 4, 2016, the Respondent agreed to the forfeiture of \$503,200.00, one black Alcatel cellular telephone, one HP laptop computer, and \$33,000.00 seized from the Respondent's luggage. On or about May 12, 2017, the Respondent was convicted and sentenced to fifty months in the Federal Bureau of Prisons and upon release will be on supervised release for a term of three years and was ordered to pay a \$100.00 assessment and a \$15,000.00 fine.

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

CRIMINAL CONVICTION

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6350(9)(a)(ii) by having been convicted of an act constituting a crime (felony) under federal law as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. The facts as alleged in paragraph A.

DATE: October 23, 2017  
Albany, New York

  
MICHAEL A. HISER  
Deputy Counsel  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct