

IN THE MATTER  
OF  
FRANK C. PURPERA, JR., M.D.

COMMISSIONER'S  
ORDER OF  
SUMMARY  
ACTION

TO: Frank Purpera, Jr., M.D.  
[REDACTED]  
Western Virginia Regional Jail  
5885 West River Road  
Salem, VA 24153

The undersigned, Sally Dreslin, M.S., R.N., Executive Deputy Commissioner, 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 Frank Purpera, Jr., M.D. (henceforth "Respondent"), New York license number 259054, 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  
August 21, 2019

  
Sally Dreslin, M.S., R.N.  
Executive Deputy Commissioner  
New York State Department of Health


Inquiries should be directed to:

Hannah E.C. Moore  
Assistant Counsel  
NYS Department of Health  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct  
Division of Legal Affairs  
2512 Corning Tower  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, New York 12237-0032  
518.473.4282

IN THE MATTER  
OF  
FRANK C. PURPERA, JR., M.D.

NOTICE OF  
REFERRAL  
PROCEEDING

TO: Frank Purpera, Jr., M.D.

  
Western Virginia Regional Jail  
5885 West River Road  
Salem, VA 24153

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 October 23, 2019, at 10:30 a.m., at the offices of the New York State Department of Health, 90 Church Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007, and at such other adjourned dates, times and places as the committee may direct.

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.

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.

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 at least 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. You may also file a written brief and affidavits with the Committee. All such documents 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, at least ten days prior to the date of the hearing. Should the parties have objection(s) to proposed witnesses or documentary evidence, the party raising the objection(s) shall contact the Bureau of Adjudication at least three days prior to the hearing date to arrange for a pre-hearing conference with the Administrative Law Judge, prior to the hearing date.

Not later than ten days prior to the date of the hearing, you are required to file one copy of your proposed exhibits (if any) with the Bureau of Adjudication at the address indicated above, and a copy of all such documents/exhibits must be served on the same date on the Department of Health attorney indicated below. On the day of the hearing, you are also required to provide the original of such exhibits and three copies, for use by the Committee.

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  
August 21, 2019

  
TIMOTHY J. MAHAR  
Deputy Counsel  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

Inquiries should be addressed to:

Hannah Moore  
Assistant Counsel  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct  
Corning Tower – Room 2512  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12237  
(518) 473-4282

IN THE MATTER

OF

FRANK C. PURPERA, JR., M.D.

STATEMENT

OF

CHARGES

FRANK C. PURPERA, JR., M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about October 13, 2010, by the issuance of license number 259054 by the New York State Education Department.

**FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

A. On or about February 12, 2019, in the United States District Court, Western District of Virginia, Respondent was found guilty by a jury verdict of 66 counts of obtaining a controlled substance by fraud in violation of Title 21 United States Code §§843(a)(3) and 843(d)(1), one count of omitting material information required to be kept in violation of Title 21 United States Code §§843(a)(4)(a) and (d)(1), and one count of false statement in violation of Title 18 United States Code §1001(a)(2); all felonies. Respondent was sentenced to a period of 20 months of incarceration followed by two years of post-release supervision, a fine of \$34,000.00, and an assessment of \$6,800.00

B. On or about February 27, 2019, the Virginia Department of Health Professions (hereinafter, "Virginia Department"), by an Order of Mandatory Suspension (hereinafter, "Virginia Order"), suspended Respondent's license to practice medicine and surgery in the Commonwealth of Virginia based upon Respondent's conviction in the United States District Court, Western District of Virginia.



**SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES**

**FIRST SPECIFICATION**  
**CRIMINAL CONVICTION (Federal)**

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(9)(a)(ii) by having been convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under federal law as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. The facts of Paragraph A.

**SECOND SPECIFICATION**  
**HAVING HAD DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN**

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(9)(d) by having his or her license to practice medicine revoked, suspended or having other disciplinary action taken, or having his or her application for a license refused, revoked or suspended or having voluntarily or otherwise surrendered his or her license after a disciplinary action was instituted by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, where the conduct resulting in the revocation, suspension or other disciplinary action involving the license or refusal, revocation or suspension of an application for a license or the surrender of the license would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state (namely N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530[9][a][2])) as alleged in the facts of the following:

2. The facts of Paragraph B.

DATE: August 21, 2019  
Albany, New York

  
TIMOTHY J. MAHAR  
Deputy Counsel  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct