



**Department
of Health**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

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

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

February 22, 2021

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ronald E. Simmons, P.A.


Re: License No. 000499

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Modification Order No. 21-034. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect March 1, 2021.

Please direct any questions to: Board for Professional Medical Conduct, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204, telephone # 518-402-0846.

Sincerely,



Michael S. Jakubowski, M.D.
Interim Executive Secretary
Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc: Paul J. Curtin, Jr., Esq.
The Curtin Firm
42 Albany Street
Cazenovia, New York 13035

IN THE MATTER
OF
RONALD SIMMONS, R.P.A.

MODIFICATION

ORDER

Upon the proposed Application for a Modification Order of Ronald Simmons, R. P.A. (Respondent), which is made a part of this Modification Order, it is agreed to and

ORDERED, that the attached Application, and its terms, are adopted and SO ORDERED, and it is further

ORDERED, that this Modification Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, either

- by mailing of a copy of this Modification Order, either by first class to Respondent at the address in the attached Application or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, OR
- upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney, whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATE: 2/21/2021


THOMAS T. LEE, M.D.
Interim Chair
State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

IN THE MATTER
OF
RONALD SIMMONS, R.P.A.

MODIFICATION
AGREEMENT
AND
ORDER

Ronald Simmons, R.P.A., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about August 13, 1976, I was authorized to perform medical services as a physician assistant in the State of New York and issued License No. 000499 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is [REDACTED] and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address. I am currently subject to BMC Order # 13-309 (Attachment I) (henceforth "Original Order"), which went into effect on or about October 9, 2013, and was issued upon an Application for Consent Order signed by me on September 21, 2013, (henceforth "Original Application"), adopted by the Original Order. I hereby apply to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct for an Order (henceforth "Modification Order"), modifying the Original Order, as follows:

- to permit me to surrender my license as a physician assistant and to preclude me from performing medical services in the State of New York;
- to substitute a surrender of my license for so much of the penalty as remains for me to serve, as set forth in the Original Order (attached "Attachment I");

- to release me from the condition set forth in the Original Order requiring that I register and continue to be registered with the New York State Education Department and pay all registration fees. By its terms, the condition continues so long as I remain a licensee in New York State; upon the effective date of this Modification Order and the surrender of my license, this condition and requirement shall cease; and
- to subject me to the terms and conditions set forth in the attached document entitled "Requirements for Closing a Medical Practice Following a Revocation, Surrender, Limitation or Suspension of a License" (henceforth "Attachment II", which is attached).

I make this Application of my own free will and accord and not under duress, compulsion or restraint, and seek the anticipated benefit of the requested Modification. In consideration of the value to me of the acceptance by the Board of this Application, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Original Order or the Modification Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, and ask that the Board grant this Application.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct and the Chair of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed agreement and Order, based upon my application, or to decline to do so. I further understand and agree that no prior or separate written or oral communication can limit that discretion.


DATE 2 / 10, 2021




RONALD SIMMONS, R.P.A.
RESPONDENT

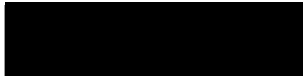
The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Modification Agreement and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: 2-10-21




 ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

DATE: 2/17/21



COURTNEY BERRY
Associate Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 2/19/2021



PAULA M. BREEN
Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

ATTACHMENT I

PUBLIC

NEW YORK
state department of
HEALTH

Nirav R. Shah, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

Sue Kelly
Executive Deputy Commissioner

October 2, 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ronald A. Simmons, R.P.A.

REDACTED

Re: License No. 000499

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Order No. 13-309. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect October 9, 2013.

Please direct any questions to: Board for Professional Medical Conduct, 90 Church Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10007-2919, telephone # 212-417-4445.

Sincerely,

REDACTED

Katherine A. Hawkins, M.D., J.D.
Executive Secretary
Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc: Andrew Silver, Esq.
Silver & Collins
44 Court Street
Canton, NY 13617

**IN THE MATTER
OF
RONALD A. SIMMONS, RPA**

**CONSENT
ORDER**

Upon the application of (Respondent) RONALD A. SIMMONS, RPA in the attached Consent Agreement and Order, which is made a part of this Consent Order, it is

ORDERED, that the Consent Agreement, and its terms, are adopted and it is further

ORDERED, that this Consent Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, either

by mailing of a copy of this Consent Order, either by first class mail to Respondent at the address in the attached Consent Agreement or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, OR

upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney, whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATE: 10/01/13

REDACTED

ARTHUR S. HENGERER, M.D.
Chair
State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

IN THE MATTER
OF
RONALD A. SIMMONS, RPA

CONSENT
AGREEMENT

RONALD A. SIMMONS, RPA represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about August 13, 1976, I was authorized to practice as a physician's assistant in the State of New York, and issued License No. 000499 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is REDACTED

and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) has charged me with one or more specifications of professional misconduct, as set forth in a Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", attached to and part of this Consent Agreement.

I admit the first specification, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Pursuant to New York Pub. Health Law § 230-a(2), my license to practice medicine in New York State shall be suspended for three years, stayed.

Pursuant to New York Pub. Health Law § 230-a(9), I shall be placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms set forth in attached Exhibit "B."

Pursuant to New York Pub. Health Law § 230-a (3), Respondent's license to practice as a physician assistant in New York State shall be permanently limited to require a female chaperone be present when performing a physical examination on a female, subject to the terms set forth in attached Exhibit "C".

Respondent shall enroll in and complete a continuing education program consisting of a minimum of ten (10) credit hours each in the areas of ethics and boundary issues. This continuing education program is subject to the prior written approval of the Director, OPMC, and shall be completed within one year of the effective date of the Order.

I further agree that the Consent Order shall impose the following conditions:

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Educ Law § 6502 including but not limited to the

requirements that a licensee shall register and continue to be registered with the New York State Education Department (except during periods of actual suspension) and that a licensee shall pay all registration fees. Respondent shall not exercise the option provided in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6502(4) to avoid registration and payment of fees. This condition shall take effect 120 days after the Consent Order's effective date and will continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State; and

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2995-a(4) and 10 NYCRR 1000.5, including but not limited to the requirements that a licensee shall : report to the department all information required by the Department to develop a public physician profile for the licensee; continue to notify the department of any change in profile information within 30 days of any change (or in the case of optional information, within 365 days of such change); and, in addition to such periodic reports and notification of any changes, update his or her profile information within six months prior to the expiration date of the licensee's registration period. Licensee shall submit changes to his or her physician profile information either electronically using the department's secure web site or on forms prescribed by the department, and licensee shall attest to the truthfulness, completeness and correctness of any changes licensee submits to the department. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the Order's effective date and shall continue so long as Respondent

remains a licensee in New York State. Respondent's failure to comply with this condition, if proven and found at a hearing pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230, shall constitute professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(21) and N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29). Potential penalties for failure to comply with this condition may include all penalties for professional misconduct set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230-a, including but not limited to: revocation or suspension of license, Censure and Reprimand, probation, public service and/or fines of up to \$10,000 per specification of misconduct found; and

That Respondent shall cooperate fully with the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) in its administration and enforcement of this Consent Order and in its investigations of matters concerning Respondent. Respondent shall respond in a timely manner to all OPMC requests for written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with this Consent Order.

Respondent shall meet with a person designated by the Director of OPMC, as directed. Respondent shall respond promptly and provide all documents and information within Respondent's control, as directed. This condition shall take effect upon the Board's issuance of the Consent Order and will continue so long as Respondent remains licensed in New York State.

I stipulate that my failure to comply with any conditions of this Consent Order shall constitute misconduct as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29).

I agree that, if I am charged with professional misconduct in future, this Consent Agreement and Order shall be admitted into evidence in that proceeding.

I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand that if the Board does not adopt this Consent Agreement, none of its terms shall bind me or constitute an admission of any of the acts of alleged misconduct; this Consent Agreement shall not be used against me in any way and shall be kept in strict confidence; and the Board's denial shall be without prejudice to the pending disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law.

I agree that, if the Board adopts this Consent Agreement, the Chair of the Board shall issue a Consent Order in accordance with its terms. I agree that this Consent Order shall take effect upon its issuance by the Board, either by mailing of a copy of the Consent Order by first class mail to me at the address in this Consent Agreement, or to my attorney by certified mail, OR upon facsimile transmission to me or my attorney, whichever is first. The Consent Order, this agreement, and all attached Exhibits shall be public documents, with only patient identities, if any, redacted. As public documents, they may be posted on the Department's website. OPMC shall report this action to the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Federation of State Medical Boards, and any other entities that the Director of OPMC shall deem appropriate.

I stipulate that the proposed sanction and Consent Order are authorized by N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 230 and 230-a, and that the Board and OPMC have the requisite powers to carry out all included terms. I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement of my own free will and not under duress, compulsion or restraint. In consideration of the value to me of the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement, allowing me to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Consent Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, I agree to be bound by the Consent Order, and I ask that the Board adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director of OPMC and the Chair of the Board each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed agreement and Consent Order, based upon my application, or to decline to do so. I further understand and agree that no prior or separate written or oral communication can limit that discretion.

DATE 9/20/13,

REDACTED

RONALD SIMMONS, RPA
RESPONDENT

The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Consent Agreement and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: _____

~~_____~~
ANDREW SILVER, ESQ.
Respondent's Attorney

DATE: 9/25/13

REDACTED

JUDE B. MULVEY
Associate Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 9/30/13

REDACTED

KEITH W. SERVIS
Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER
OF
RONALD A. SIMMONS, R.P.A.
[REDACTED]

STATEMENT
OF
CHARGES

RONALD A. SIMMONS, R.P.A., the Respondent, was authorized to practice as a physician assistant in New York State on August 13, 1976, by the issuance of license number 000499 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. On various occasions between on or about September 13, 2010 and on or about July 21, 2011, Respondent provided medical care to Patient A (identified in the attached Appendix), a 40 year old female, at Madrid Health Care Center ("the Center") in Madrid, New York. Throughout the course of treatment, Respondent engaged in an ongoing and inappropriate sexual relationship with Patient A at locations outside of the Center.

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

**FIRST SPECIFICATION
MORAL UNFITNESS**

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in New York Education Law Section 6530(20) by engaging in conduct in the practice of medicine which evidences moral unfitness to practice medicine, in that Petitioner Charges:

1. The facts in Paragraph A.

SECOND SPECIFICATION
NEGLIGENCE ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(3) by practicing the profession of medicine with negligence on more than one occasion, in that Petitioner charges:

2. The facts in Paragraph A.

DATED: *Sept. 25*, 2013
Albany, New York

REDACTED

Michael A. Hiser
Acting Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "B"

Terms of Probation

- 1) Respondent's conduct shall conform to moral and professional standards of conduct and governing law. Any act of professional misconduct by Respondent as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law §§ 6530 or 6531 shall constitute a violation of probation and may subject Respondent to an action pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230(19).
- 2) Respondent shall maintain active registration of Respondent's license (except during periods of actual suspension) with the New York State Education Department Division of Professional Licensing Services, and shall pay all registration fees.
- 3) Respondent shall provide the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204-2719 with the following information, in writing, and ensure that this information is kept current: a full description of Respondent's employment and practice; all professional and residential addresses and telephone numbers within and outside New York State; and all investigations, arrests, charges, convictions or disciplinary actions by any local, state or federal agency, institution or facility. Respondent shall notify OPMC, in writing, within 30 days of any additions to or changes in the required information.
- 4) Respondent shall cooperate fully with, and respond in a timely manner to, OPMC requests to provide written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with the terms of this Consent Order. Upon the Director of OPMC's request, Respondent shall meet in person with the Director's designee.
- 5) Respondent's failure to pay any monetary penalty by the prescribed date shall subject Respondent to all provisions of law relating to debt collection by New York State, including but not limited to: the imposition of interest, late payment charges and collection fees; referral to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance for collection; and non-renewal of permits or licenses [Tax Law § 171(27); State Finance Law § 18; CPLR § 5001; Executive Law § 32].
- 6) The probation period shall toll when Respondent is not engaged in active medical practice in New York State for a period of 30 consecutive days or more. Respondent shall notify the Director of OPMC, in writing, if Respondent is not currently engaged in, or intends to leave, active medical practice in New York State for a consecutive 30 day period. Respondent shall then notify the Director again at least 14 days before returning to active practice. Upon Respondent's return to active practice in New York State, the probation period shall resume and Respondent shall fulfill any unfulfilled probation terms and such additional

requirements as the Director may impose as reasonably relate to the matters set forth in Exhibit "A" or as are necessary to protect the public health.

- 7) The Director of OPMC may review Respondent's professional performance. This review may include but shall not be limited to: a review of office records, patient records, hospital charts, and/or electronic records; and interviews with or periodic visits with Respondent and staff at practice locations or OPMC offices.
- 8) Respondent shall adhere to federal and state guidelines and professional standards of care with respect to infection control practices. Respondent shall ensure education, training and oversight of all office personnel involved in medical care, with respect to these practices.
- 9) Respondent shall maintain complete and legible medical records that accurately reflect the evaluation and treatment of patients and contain all information required by State rules and regulations concerning controlled substances.
- 10) Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a continuing education program in the area of ethics and boundary issues. This continuing education program is subject to the Director of OPMC's prior written approval and shall be successfully completed within the first 90 days of the probation period.
- 11) Respondent shall comply with this Consent Order and all its terms, and shall bear all associated compliance costs. Upon receiving evidence of noncompliance with, or a violation of, these terms, the Director of OPMC and/or the Board may initiate a violation of probation proceeding, and/or any other such proceeding authorized by law, against Respondent.

EXHIBIT "C"

CHAPERONE

- 1) Respondent shall, in the course of practicing medicine in New York State, examine and/ treat any female patient only in the presence of a chaperone. The chaperone shall be a licensed or registered health care professional or other health care worker, shall not be a family member, personal friend, or be in a professional relationship with Respondent which could pose a conflict with the chaperone's responsibilities. The chaperone shall be proposed by Respondent and subject to the written the approval of the Director of OPMC.
- 2) Prior to the approval of any individual as chaperone, Respondent shall cause the proposed chaperone to execute and submit to the Director of OPMC an acknowledgment of the chaperone's agreement to undertake all of the responsibilities of the role of chaperone. Said acknowledgment shall be made upon a form provided by and acceptable to the Director. Respondent shall provide the chaperone with a copy of the Order and all of its attachments and shall, without fail, cause the approved chaperone to:
 - a) Report quarterly to OPMC regarding the chaperoning of Respondent's practice.
 - b) Report within 24 hours any failure of Respondent to comply with the Order, including, but not limited to, any failure by Respondent to have the chaperone present when required, or any inappropriate conduct, whether verbal or physical, by Respondent in the presence of any patient.
 - c) Confirm the chaperone's presence at each and every examination and treatment of a female patient by Respondent, by placing the chaperone's name, title and date in the patient record for each and every visit, and by maintaining a separate log, kept in the chaperone's own possession, listing the patient name and date of visit for each and every patient visit chaperoned.
 - d) Provide copies of the log described in paragraph c, above, to OPMC at least quarterly and also immediately upon the Director's request.

ATTACHMENT II

Requirements for Closing a Medical Practice Following a Revocation, Surrender, Limitation or Suspension of a License

1. Licensee shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in practice in New York State, or under Licensee's New York license, in accordance with the terms of the Order. In addition, Licensee shall refrain from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application and from representing that Licensee is eligible to practice as a physician assistant.
2. Within 5 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall deliver Licensee's original license to practice as a physician assistant in New York State and current biennial registration to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) at Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204-2719.
3. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall notify all patients of the cessation or limitation of Licensee's practice, and shall refer all patients to another licensed practitioner for continued care, as appropriate. Licensee shall notify, in writing, each health care plan with which the Licensee contracts or is employed, and each hospital where Licensee has privileges, that Licensee has ceased practice as a physician assistant. Within 45 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall provide OPMC with written documentation that all patients and hospitals have been notified of the cessation of Licensee's practice as a physician assistant.
4. Licensee shall make arrangements for the transfer and maintenance of all patient medical records. Within 30 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall notify OPMC of these arrangements, including the name, address, and telephone number of an appropriate and acceptable contact person who shall have access to these records. Original records shall be retained for at least 6 years after the last date of service rendered to a patient or, in the case of a minor, for at least 6 years after the last date of service or 3 years after the patient reaches the age of majority, whichever time period is longer. Records shall be maintained in a safe and secure place that is reasonably accessible to former patients. The arrangements shall include provisions to ensure that the information in the record is kept confidential and is available only to authorized persons. When a patient or a patient's representative requests a copy of the patient's medical record, or requests that the original medical record be sent to another health care provider, a copy of the record shall be promptly provided or forwarded at a reasonable cost to the patient (not to exceed 75 cents per page.) Radiographic, sonographic and similar materials shall be provided at cost. A qualified

person shall not be denied access to patient information solely because of an inability to pay.

5. In the event that Licensee holds a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) certificate for New York State, Licensee shall, within 15 days of the Order's effective date, advise the DEA, in writing, of the licensure action and shall surrender Licensee's DEA controlled substance privileges for New York State to the DEA. Licensee shall promptly surrender any unused DEA #222 U.S. Official Order Forms Schedules 1 and 2 for New York State to the DEA. All submissions to the DEA shall be addressed to Diversion Program Manager, New York Field Division, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, 99 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.
6. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall return any unused New York State official prescription forms to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement of the New York State Department of Health. If no other licensee is providing services at Licensee's practice location, Licensee shall properly dispose of all medications.
7. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall remove from the public domain any representation that Licensee is eligible to practice as a physician assistant, including all related signs, advertisements, professional listings (whether in telephone directories, internet or otherwise), professional stationery or billings. Licensee shall not share, occupy, or use office space in which another licensee provides health care services.
8. Licensee shall not charge, receive or share any fee or distribution of dividends for professional services rendered by Licensee or others while Licensee is barred from engaging in the practice of medicine. Licensee may be compensated for the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered, and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf, prior to the Order's effective date.
9. If Licensee is a shareholder in any professional service corporation organized to engage in the practice of medicine, Licensee shall divest all financial interest in the professional services corporation, in accordance with New York Business Corporation Law. Such divestiture shall occur within 90 days. If Licensee is the sole shareholder in a professional services corporation, the corporation must be dissolved or sold within 90 days of the Order's effective date.
10. Failure to comply with the above directives may result in a civil penalty or criminal penalties as may be authorized by governing law. Under N.Y. Educ. Law § 6512, it is a Class E Felony, punishable by imprisonment for up to 4 years, to practice the profession of medicine when a professional license has

been suspended, revoked or annulled. Such punishment is in addition to the penalties for professional misconduct set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a, which include fines of up to \$10,000 for each specification of charges of which the Licensee is found guilty, and may include revocation of a suspended license.