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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE
CASE NO. 2089

IN RE: THE LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF
KENTUCKY HELD BY CLIFFORD FREEMAN, M.D., LICENSE NO. 53171,
2501 KENTUCKY AVE, PADUCAH, KENTUCKY 42003

COMPLAINT

Comes now the Complainant, Chair of the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure's Inquiry Panel B, and on behalf of the Panel which met on January 19, 2023, states for its Complaint against the licensee, Clifford Freeman, M.D., as follows:

1. At all relevant times, Clifford Freeman, M.D., was licensed by the Board to practice medicine within the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
2. The licensee's medical specialty is Emergency Medicine.
3. The Board received an anonymous grievance concerning the arrest of the licensee for Strangulation 1st and Assault 4th (Domestic Violence). The grievant provided documentation from the VINE program and included a media article.
4. A Paducah Police Department report details the facts of the incident involving the licensee as the police found them. The licensee and his wife were engaged in a domestic dispute on or about July 1, 2022. His wife stated the licensee tackled and strangled her on several occasions. The licensee's wife had significant red abrasions around her neck and visible scraping on her knees. The licensee had ingested alcohol that evening.
5. The licensee was indicted on charges of Strangulation 2nd Degree and Assault 4th Degree Domestic Violence with Minor Injury, in *Commonwealth v. Freeman*, Case No. 22-CR-00983 (McCracken Circuit Court) on October 7, 2022.

6. On or about July 14, 2022, Dr. Tina F. Simpson, Kentucky Physicians Health Foundation (“KPHF”) Medical Director, took a detailed history of the events that led to the licensee’s arrest as well as a thorough personal and familial health history. The licensee submitted to KPHF’s standard testing, the results of which were positive for high levels of alcohol metabolites, indicative of an unhealthy relationship with alcohol. Based on the information, she directed him to refrain from clinical practice until such time as he had successfully completed residential treatment at a facility experienced in the treatment and evaluation of licensed healthcare professionals.
7. On July 20, 2022, the licensee was admitted to Florida Recovery Center (“FRC”) where he was diagnosed with Alcohol Use Disorder, Severe.
8. On or about October 13, 2022, the licensee completed treatment at FRC.
9. On or about January 19, 2023, the licensee entered into a Plea Agreement with the Commonwealth of Kentucky in his criminal case, *Commonwealth v. Freeman*, Case No. 22-CR-00983 (McCracken Circuit Court). Pursuant to the agreement, his Second-Degree Strangulation charge was amended to Second Degree Disorderly Conduct (Class B Misdemeanor) and his Fourth Degree Assault charge was dismissed. The recommendations on the plea of guilty were as follows:
 - One day imprisonment for count one;
 - \$250 fine for count one;
 - Forfeiture of all items seized; and
 - Dr. Freeman must abide by all conditions set forth by the Kentucky Physicians Health Foundation.

10. By his conduct, the licensee has violated KRS 311.595(4) and (7). Accordingly, legal grounds exist for disciplinary action against his license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

11. The licensee is directed to respond to the allegations delineated in the Complaint within thirty (30) days of service thereof and is further given notice that:

(a) His failure to respond may be taken as an admission of the charges;
and

(b) He may appear alone or with counsel, may cross-examine all prosecution witnesses and offer evidence in his defense.

12. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a hearing on this Complaint is scheduled for **July 12 & 13, 2023**, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, at the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, Hurstbourne Office Park, 310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B, Louisville, Kentucky 40222. Said hearing shall be held pursuant to the Rules and Regulations of the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure and pursuant to KRS Chapter 13B. This hearing shall proceed as scheduled and the hearing date shall only be modified by leave of the Hearing Officer upon a showing of good cause.

WHEREFORE, Complainant prays that appropriate disciplinary action be taken against the license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Kentucky held by Clifford Freeman, M.D.

This 2nd day of February, 2023.



DALE E. TONEY, M.D.
CHAIR, INQUIRY PANEL B

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the original of this Complaint was delivered to Mr. Michael S. Rodman, Executive Director, Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, 310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B, Louisville, Kentucky 40222; a copy was mailed to Keith Hardison, Esq., Hearing Officer, 2616 Bardstown Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40205; a copy was mailed via certified mail return-receipt requested to the licensee, Clifford Freeman, M.D., License No. 53171, 2501 Kentucky Avenue, Paducah, Kentucky 42003 and sent via email to counsel for the licensee, Brian R. Good, Esq., Elder & Good, PLLC, 159 St. Matthews Avenue, Suite 1, Louisville, Kentucky 40207 – bgood@eldergood.com on this 2nd day of February, 2023.



NICOLE A. KING
Assistant General Counsel
Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure
310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B
Louisville, Kentucky 40222
(502) 429-7150