STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND
DISCIPLINE

No. C10-156

IN THE MATTER OF ALEXANDRA THRAN, MD License No. MD10960

## CONSENT ORDER

The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") received notice from the Respondent that she used Facebook, a form of social media, in a manner that inadvertently violated confidentiality. This matter was referred to an investigating committee of the Board. The findings of fact and conclusions of law are set forth below.

## FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Respondent is a 48 year old Emergency Medicine Physician who previously had privileges to practice medicine at the Westerly Hospital. The respondent is a graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and she has held a license to practice medicine in Rhode Island since 2002.
- 2. The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline learned that the Respondent resigned her clinical privileges at the Westerly Hospital because she had used her Facebook account inappropriately to communicate a few of her clinical experiences in the Hospital's Emergency Department.

The Respondent did not use patient names and had no intention to reveal any confidential patient information. However, because of the nature of one person's injury was such that the patient was identified by unauthorized third

- parties. As soon as it was brought to the Respondent's attention that this had occurred, the Respondent deleted her Facebook account.
- The Respondent has expressed her willingness to attend an appropriate CME
  course that the Board finds acceptable dealing with physician-patient
  confidentiality issues.
- 4. The Respondent is guilty of "unprofessional conduct" in violation of R.I.G.L. 5-37-5.1(19) by revealing personally identifiable information to third parties.

## The parties agree as follows:

- (a) Respondent is a physician licensed and doing business under and by virtue of the Laws of the State of Rhode Island, allopathic license number, MD 10960;
- (b) Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board;
- (c) Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of an Investigating Committee of the Board and is subject to the final approval of the Board. This Consent Order is not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Board.
- (d) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
  - (1) The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
  - (2) The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
  - (3) The right to cross-examine witnesses;

(4) The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;

(5) The right to further procedural steps except for those

specifically contained herein;

(6) Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;

(7) Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be

presented to the Board for consideration and review;

(8) Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board

to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in

order to review adequately this Consent Order;

(9) Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the

Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this

Consent Order. The signing of this Consent Order is for settlement

purposes only.

(10) The Respondent is issued a Reprimand and will attend a CME

course approved in advance by the Board.

(11) Respondent shall pay a Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollar

administrative fee upon ratification of this order.

Respondent,

Alexandra Thran, MD

Attorney for the Respondent,

George E. Wakeman, Jr., Esq.

Adler | Cohen | Harvey | Wakeman | Guekguezian, LLP

Ratified by the Board	of Medical Licensure and Discipline at a meeting held
on 4 3	, 2011.
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Michael Fine, MD	
Director of Health	