STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE

IN THE MATTER OF:
Michael C. Coburn, M.D. License Number MD08308
Controlled Substances Registration CMD08308
BMLD Case Number C12-956

SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter “the Board”) has received information concerning the professional activities of Michael C. Coburn, M.D. (hereinafter “Respondent”), who is licensed as a physician in Rhode Island. After initial investigation, and in light of the nature of the concern about the Respondent, the Director of the Department of Health (hereinafter "Department"), pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 5-37-5.1(21) and 42-35-14(d), makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent is a licensed physician in the State of Rhode Island and was issued his license on January 14, 1993. His primary specialty is surgery, in which he is board certified. He is a 1988 graduate of Brown University Warren Alpert School of Medicine, and recently had privileges at Kent Hospital.

2. On November 15, 2012, Kent Hospital placed Respondent on medical leave of absence after he admitted to resuming drug abuse about one month earlier and to injecting himself with Propofol and Fentanyl. Respondent disclosed this after another physician had observed him removing syringes from an operating room
and placing them in his pocket; and a search of his sleeping room at the hospital
discovered syringes, needles, blood-soaked gauzes, and multiple Propofol vial
caps. Respondent admitted to another physician that the discovered items
belonged to him.

3. Upon information and belief, Respondent has not been seeing patients since his
leave of absence from Kent Hospital; and Respondent has been fully cooperative
with the Board since he began his leave of absence.

4. Respondent is in violation of Rhode Island General Laws § 5-37-5.1(21) for
having been suspended from membership on the medical staff of Kent Hospital
while under disciplinary investigation by that hospital for acts which would
constitute grounds for action as described in chapter 5-37, to wit, § 5-37-5.1(5)
and (26); and Respondent is in violation of § 5.1(5) and (26).

ORDER

After considering the above findings, it has been determined that the continuation of the
practice of medicine by the Respondent would constitute an immediate danger to the public, and
the public health, safety, and welfare imperatively requires emergency action. It is accordingly
ordered that:

1. The Respondent is hereby suspended from practicing medicine until further Order
of the Department of Health, Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline,
pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §§ 5-37-8 and 42-35-14(c).

2. The Respondent is entitled to an administrative hearing on this suspension within
ten (10) days of this Order pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §5-37-8.
Ordered this 3rd day of January, 2013.

Michael Fine, M.D.
Director
Rhode Island Department of Health

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a copy of this SUMMARY SUSPENSION was delivered on this 3rd day of January, 2013, to the home of Michael C. Coburn, M.D.

Linda Julian