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March 12, 2025

Case number: 25-CRF- 0046

Frederick C. Carroll, M.D. 20570 New Gambier Road Gambier, OH 43022 fred.carroll@kch.org

Dear Doctor Carroll:

In accordance with Chapter 119., Ohio Revised Code, you are hereby notified that the State Medical Board of Ohio [Board] intends to determine whether or not to limit, revoke, permanently revoke or suspend your license or certificate, or refuse to grant or register or issue the license or certificate for which you have a pending application in accordance with Section 9.79 of the Ohio Revised Code, or refuse to renew or reinstate your license or certificate to practice medicine and surgery, or to reprimand you or place you on probation for one or more of the following reasons:

- (1) From on or around April 28, 2021 to July 1, 2024 you treated Patient 1, as identified on the attached Patient Key, as his primary care physician, providing care over the course of 15 office visits and annual wellness exams. (Patient Key is confidential and to be withheld from public disclosure.) You prescribed medication, and you provided follow-up visits after Patient 1's repeated inpatient hospitalizations, residential treatment, and intensive outpatient treatment for substance use disorder and mental health concerns.
  - a. As Patient 1's primary care physician, you were aware of his diagnoses of biopolar disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, alcohol dependence, and post-traumatic stress disorder.
  - b. Additionally, you were aware that Patient 1's medical history included two separate suicide attempts by gunshot to his mouth and head respectively. You treated him for migraine headaches.
- (2) On July 1, 2024 Patient 1 was referred to you for follow-up care after a ten-day hospitalization at Dublin Springs for alcohol dependence and suicidal ideation.
  - a. During the encounter, you engaged in sexual contact with Patient 1 when, after he mentioned that his nipples were previously pierced, you asked to see his nipples, you lifted his shirt, and you touched his nipples. This was done without the purpose of an appropriate health care service.

- (3) On July 1, 2024 after the follow-up appointment, you shared your personal cell phone number with Patient 1. From on or about July 1 to July 7, 2024, you proceeded to text Patient 1 over 130 times.
  - a. You engaged in sexual impropriety when you made comments to Patient 1 discussing potential sexual performance and penis length; when you shared your sexual preferences including a nipple fetish and preference for unprotected sex and prostate massage; when you shared your sexual history including the last time you had sex with your wife and how often you masturbate; when you shared detailed pornography preferences with Patient 1; and when you sought to learn his sexual preferences and his sexual history, information which was not clinically indicated for Patient 1's health care services.
  - b. Additionally, you engaged in sexual impropriety when you solicited an encounter with Patient 1, asking more than ten times to see him over the Fourth of July long weekend, none of which he accepted.
  - c. Furthermore you also engaged in sexual interaction with Patient 1, engaging in conduct, written communication via a telecommunications device, that was sexually demeaning to Patient 1 and which demonstrated a lack of respect for Patient 1's privacy.

Your acts, conduct, and/or omissions, as alleged in paragraphs (2-3) above, individually and/or collectively, constitute "violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provisions of this chapter or any rule promulgated by the board," as that clause is used in Section 4731.22(B)(20), Ohio Revised Code to-wit: Prohibitions, Rule 4731-26-02, Ohio Administrative Code.

Pursuant to Rule 4731-26-03(A)(1), Ohio Administrative Code, a violation of Rule 4731-26-02, Ohio Administrative Code, also constitutes a violation of Section 4731.22(B)(6), Ohio Revised Code, "a departure from, or the failure to conform to, minimal standards of care of similar physicians under the same or similar circumstances, whether or not actual injury to a patient is established."

Furthermore, for any violations that occurred on or after September 29, 2015, the Board may impose a civil penalty in an amount that shall not exceed twenty thousand dollars, pursuant to Section 4731.225, Ohio Revised Code. The civil penalty may be in addition to any other action the Board may take under section 4731.22, Ohio Revised Code.

Pursuant to Chapter 119., Ohio Revised Code, you are hereby advised that you are entitled to a hearing in this matter. If you wish to request such hearing, the request must be made in writing and must be received in the offices of the State Medical Board within thirty days of the time of mailing of this notice.

You are further advised that, if you timely request a hearing, you are entitled to appear at such hearing in person, or by your attorney, or by such other representative as is permitted to practice before this agency, or you may present your position, arguments, or contentions in

Notice of Opportunity for Hearing Frederick C. Carroll, M.D. Page 3

writing, and that at the hearing you may present evidence and examine witnesses appearing for or against you.

In the event that there is no request for such hearing received within thirty days of the time of mailing of this notice, the State Medical Board may, in your absence and upon consideration of this matter, determine whether or not to limit, revoke, permanently revoke or suspend your license or certificate, or refuse to grant or register or issue the license or certificate for which you have a pending application in accordance with Section 9.79 of the Ohio Revised Code, or refuse to renew or reinstate your license or certificate to practice medicine and surgery, or to reprimand you or place you on probation.

Please note that, whether or not you request a hearing, Section 4731.22(L), Ohio Revised Code, provides that "[w]hen the board refuses to grant or issue a license or certificate to practice to an applicant, revokes an individual's license or certificate to practice, refuses to renew an individual's license or certificate to practice, or refuses to reinstate an individual's license or certificate to practice, the board may specify that its action is permanent. An individual subject to a permanent action taken by the board is forever thereafter ineligible to hold a license or certificate to practice and the board shall not accept an application for reinstatement of the license or certificate or for issuance of a new license or certificate."

Copies of the applicable sections are enclosed for your information.

THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO

Kim G. Rothermel, M.D.

Secretary

KGR/rcl Enclosures

Via email: fred.carroll@kch.org

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## IN THE MATTER OF FREDERICK C. CARROLL M.D.

25-CRF-0046

## MARCH 12, 2025, NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING -PATIENT KEY

## SEALED TO PROTECT PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY AND MAINTAINED IN CASE RECORD FILE.