ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Complainant,
v.

RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M.D.

Respondent.

BEFORE THE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMMISSION OF ALABAMA

CASE NO. 15-005

ORDER

This matter is before the Medical Licensure Commission on an Order to Show Cause entered by the Medical Licensure Commission on October 11, 2016, requiring the Respondent, Russell Wayne Stevens, M.D., to appear and show cause why the probationary status of his license to practice medicine in Alabama should not be terminated and his license suspended or revoked. Dr. Stevens’ license to practice medicine was suspended by Order of the Commission on July 31, 2015. Thereafter, on February 5, 2016, the Commission entered an Order reinstating Dr. Stevens’ license to practice medicine and placed such license on indefinite probation, subject to certain conditions. One of such conditions was that Dr. Stevens maintain an advocacy contract with the Alabama Physicians Health Program. A hearing was held on October 26, 2016. Dr. Stevens was present and was not represented by an attorney.

Based on the evidence presented, including Dr. Stevens’ testimony, the Medical Licensure Commission specifically finds that Dr. Stevens has suffered a relapse on alcohol which is a violation of his contract with the Alabama Physician Health Program. Consequently, it is the Order of the Medical Licensure Commission that Dr. Stevens’ license
to practice medicine in Alabama is REVOKED. It is the further Order of the Medical Licensure Commission that Dr. Stevens shall not be permitted to apply for the reinstatement of his license until the expiration of one year from the date of this Order. If Dr. Stevens shall apply for reinstatement of his license he must be prepared to demonstrate to the Commission the following:

1. He must have a current, active advocacy contract with the Alabama Physicians Health Program.

2. He must demonstrate that he has been in good recovery for a minimum of one year.

3. He must demonstrate that he has submitted to regular random drug screens administered by the Alabama Physicians Health Program.

4. He must be in compliance with all continuing medical education requirements.

Should the Commission decide to reinstate Dr. Stevens' license, such reinstatement shall be upon such terms and conditions as the Commission deems appropriate at the time of such reinstatement.

ENTERED this 3rd day of November, 2016.

[Signature]

JAMES E. WEST, M.D.
Chairman, Medical Licensure
Commission of Alabama
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Complainant,

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CASE NO. 15-005

ORDER

Dr. Steven’s has submitted a practice plan as required by the Commission’s Order dated February 5, 2016. Such plan, which is attached hereto as exhibit “A”, is approved. Although not specifically mentioned in the plan, Dr. Stevens is reminded that he is prohibited from engaging in the practice of weight management.

ENTERED this 4th day of March, 2016.

JAMES E. WEST, M.D.
Chairman, Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama
**Practice Plan**

After Hours Clinic: Primary Care & Urgent Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Employed Physician</th>
<th>Job Category:</th>
<th>Outpatient Clinic</th>
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<td>Department/Group:</td>
<td>Family Medicine, Urgent Care</td>
<td>Job Code/ Req#:</td>
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<tr>
<td>HR Contact:</td>
<td>Mr. Rick Bellestri</td>
<td>Date prepared:</td>
<td>February 15, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Train Applicant(s):</td>
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<td>Posting Expires:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitor:</td>
<td>Donald Ashley, MD</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Internal posting URL:</td>
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**Address Primary Work Site:**

1800 Birmingham Road  
Jasper, Alabama 35501  
Ph: (205) 384-4585

**PHYSICIAN INFO**

Russell Wayne Stevens, MD  
License 26655  
12690 Dominion Drive  
Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
Ph: (251) 223-1836

**Job Description**

**ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Job will encompass assessing & treating a wide range of conditions, ailments, & injuries; from sinus/respiratory infections to broken bones & lacerations. I will be generating a patient base of regular, long-term patients. Patients with more serious conditions will be referred to specialists, or other healthcare facilities, for more intensive care. I will be providing primary medical care for families across several generations, from newborn to death. I will be a coordinator of health care for my patients, acting as the central director. I will diagnose illnesses, prescribe & administer medications, and prescribing treatment for people suffering from illness and injury. I will examine patients, obtain medical histories, review x-rays, interpret lab results, and order/perform diagnostic tests. I will be counseling patients on diet, hygiene, & preventive healthcare.

Working conditions will be pleasant. Hours of work will generally be 40-46 hours/week. Exceptions of longer hours may rarely occur. There is no hospital work involved. No night time call is required. There will be at least one other provider working with me at all times. Hours of the Primary Care Clinic are 0800 to 1700 hrs. Hours of the Urgent Care Clinic is 1000 to 2300 hrs. Neither practice provides Chronic Pain Management or Addiction Medicine services. Every quarter four (4) of my medical records will be audited by Dr. Donald Ashley and submitted to the ALBME. I will continue to comply with all requirements of the Alabama Physician’s Health Program.

**PHYSICIAN SIGNATURE:**

Reviewed By:  
Approved By:  
Last Updated By:  
Date:  
Date:  
Date/Time:
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Complainant,

v.

RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M.D.

Respondent.

ORDER

This matter is before the Medical Licensure Commission on a Motion to Lift Suspension filed by Dr. Stevens on October 23, 2015. On November 11, 2015, the Commission entered an Order to Show Cause requiring Dr. Stevens to appear and show cause why his motion should not be denied. A hearing was held on January 27, 2016. Dr. Stevens was present and was not represented by an attorney. William F. Addison, Esq. represented the Board of Medical Examiners.

Dr. Stevens’ license to practice medicine in Alabama was suspended by Order of the Commission dated July 31, 2015. That Order provided that the Commission would consider lifting the suspension upon the completion by Dr. Stevens of certain specific requirements. Based upon the evidence presented, including Dr. Stevens’ testimony and a report from Acumen Assessments, LLC with regard to their re-evaluation of Dr. Stevens pursuant to the Commission’s Order, it is the opinion of the Commission that the suspension of Dr. Stevens’ license should be lifted. Accordingly, it is the Order of the Medical Licensure Commission that the license to practice medicine in Alabama of the Respondent, Russell Wayne Stevens, M.D., shall be REINSTATED and placed upon INDEFINITE PROBATION subject to he
following:

1. Dr. Stevens shall not engage in the active practice of medicine in Alabama until he has submitted to the Medical Licensure Commission, for its prior approval, a detailed practice plan. Such plan must provide for the following:

   a.) No solo practice will be approved.
   
b.) There shall be a single person who shall be designated as his practice contact.
   
c.) There shall be a Commission approved monitoring physician who must agree to review at least five of Dr. Stevens’ patient charts per quarter and to report to the MLC with regard to such review.
   
d.) The practice shall not include the practice of addiction medicine, pain management, or weight management.

2. Dr. Stevens shall maintain, for an indefinite period of time, an advocacy contract with the Alabama Physicians Health Program (APHP). In addition to any other requirements imposed by the APHP, such contract shall provide that Dr. Stevens submit to urine, blood, and/or hair testing, and/or polygraph testing, at frequencies desired by the APHP.

3. Dr. Stevens shall acquire a psychiatrist, who shall be the only person approved to prescribe antidepressants for him. In addition he shall acquire a single physician, who shall be experienced in pain management and substance abuse, who shall be the only person authorized to prescribe controlled substances and/or pain medication for him. Such physicians must be pre-approved by the Medical Licensure Commission and must agree to
provide written reports to the Commission. Presently, Christopher Jenkins, M.D. has been approved to fulfill both requirements and continues to be approved. If Dr. Stevens shall desire to change physicians he shall obtain prior approval of the Medical Licensure Commission.

4. Within 30 days of the date of this order Dr. Stevens shall submit to the Medical Licensure Commission documentation of all CME completed by him in 2015.

In its Order of July 31, 2015, the Commission assessed against Dr. Stevens an administrative fine in the amount of $10,000.00, and, subsequently, assessed administrative costs in the amount of $7,111.02. Dr. Stevens shall be permitted to pay such fine and costs in installments of $2,500.00, with an initial installment being due on the last day of April 2016, and with subsequent installments of $2,500.00 due on or before the last day of July, October and January, until he shall have paid the entire amount due.

ENTERED this 5th day of February, 2016.

[Signature]

JAMES E. WEST, M.D.
Chairman, Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Complainant,

v.

RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M.D.

Respondent.

ORDER

Dr. Stevens has requested clarification of certain portions of the Commission’s Order dated July 31, 2015. Based upon such request, Dr. Stevens is advised as follows:

1. The prescribing course to be presented in November in Huntsville by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama is approved.

2. The Commission approves Dr. Christopher Jenkins, M.D., to be Dr. Stevens’ prescribing physician and to manage his personal pain management.

ENTERED this 5th day of October, 2015.

JAMES E. WEST, M.D.
Chairman, Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Complainant,

v.

RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M.D.

Respondent.

ORDER

This matter is before the Medical Licensure Commission upon a Motion For Relief filed by the Respondent, Russell Wayne Stevens, M.D. In its order dated July 31, 2015, the Medical Licensure Commission assessed against Dr. Stevens an administrative fine in the amount of $10,000.00 and, subsequently, assessed administrative costs in the amount of $7,111.02. Dr. Stevens is requesting the Commission to reduce the amount of the fine and the administrative costs or, in the alternative, that he be allowed to be pay such sums in installments.

Having reviewed Dr. Stevens’ request, it is the Order of the Medical Licensure Commission that he be allowed to pay the fine and costs in installments. Dr. Stevens shall pay an initial installment of $2,500.00 on or before January 31, 2016, and he shall pay subsequent installments of $2,500.00 on or before the last day of April, July, October, and January until he shall have paid the entire amount due.

Entered this the 16th day of September, 2015.

JAMES H. WALBURN, M.D., VICE-CHAIRMAN
MEDICAL LICENSURE COMMISSION OF ALABAMA
This matter is before the Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama on an Administrative Complaint filed by the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners seeking to revoke or otherwise discipline the license to practice medicine in Alabama of the Respondent, Russell Wayne Stevens, M.D. A hearing was held on July 22, 2015. Dr. Stevens was present, together with his attorney, Troy Thomas Schwant, Esq. William F. Addison, Esq. represented the Board of Medical Examiners.

Based upon evidence presented, including the testimony of Dr. Stevens, the Medical Licensure Commission makes the following findings of fact:

1. The Board of Medical Examiners opened an investigation of Dr. Stevens in late 2012 as a result of complaints it had received. A second investigation was opened on October 8, 2013, based upon a written complaint filed by a family member of one of Dr. Stevens’ patients.

2. On June 17, 2014, Dr. Stevens was interviewed by the Credentials Committee of the Board of Medical Examiners. Based upon observations by the members of the Credentials Committee, by a Board investigator, and upon a review of records, the Board of
Medical Examiners became concerned about Dr. Stevens’ mental and physical fitness to practice medicine.

3. On June 18, 2014, the Board of Medical Examiners entered an Order, pursuant to Ala. Code §34-24-360(19)(b), requiring Dr. Stevens to submit to a comprehensive neurocognitive examination and a complete physical examination with Acumen Assessments, LLC, in Lawrence, Kansas.

4. Dr. Stevens submitted to the examinations on July 7-10, 2014, and a preliminary report was issued by Acumen on July 11, 2014. In the report certain cognitive deficits were noted, and it was indicated that “Dr. Stevens is not cleared to return to work.” Additional testing and imaging was recommended, and Dr. Stevens submitted to such testing on September 8, 2014.

5. On October 13, 2014, Acumen issued its completed evaluation report. In such report Acumen offered the following diagnoses:

   A. Alcohol Use Disorder, In Remission
   B. Opioid Use Disorder, in Partial Remission
   C. Personality Disorder with Dependent, Histrionic, Avoidant and Compulsive Traits
   D. Unspecified Depressive Disorder
   E. Unspecified Anxiety Disorder

6. The Acumen report concluded that “in the absence of close oversight and supervision, Dr. Stevens’ judgment is vulnerable to become derailed by the influences and the interpersonal pressure of his patients.” The report further concluded that if Dr. Stevens
is allowed to practice medicine in the future it should be conducted under close supervision.

7. Among the recommendations made by Acumen are the following:

   A. Dr. Stevens should enter into a monitoring contract with the Alabama Physicians Health Program (APHP). The monitoring contract should include monitoring of controlled substances taken for pain by an APHP approved physician with a high level of accountability and oversight. Further, the contract should require Dr. Stevens to submit to verification via urine, blood, and/or hair testing, and/or polygraph testing at frequencies desired by APHP.

   B. Dr. Stevens should acquire a board approved psychiatrist to prescribe his antidepressants.

   C. Dr. Stevens should not return to any solo practice setting or any practice that does not have a board approved monitoring physician when he is on duty.

   D. Dr. Stevens should attend a Board approved prescribing practices workshop.

8. On December 10, 2014, Dr. Stevens entered into a Voluntary Restriction on his Certificate of Qualification to practice medicine, wherein he agreed to do, or to refrain from doing, specific things recommended by Acumen.

9. As of the date of the filing of the Administrative Complaint in this case, March 25, 2015, Dr. Stevens had failed to abide by the Agreement in the following ways:

   A. Dr. Stevens had not entered into a monitoring contract with the Alabama Physicians Health Program.

   B. Dr. Stevens had not submitted to urine, blood, and/or hair testing.
C. Dr. Stevens had not obtained a board approved psychiatrist for the prescribing of antidepressants.

D. Dr. Stevens had not attended a board approved prescribing workshop.

10. As of the date of the hearing of this matter, July 22, 2015, Dr. Stevens had still not obtained a board approved psychiatrist or attended a board approved prescribing workshop.

Based upon the foregoing findings of fact, the Medical Licensure Commission makes the following conclusion of law:

1. Dr. Stevens has committed unprofessional conduct as defined in Ala. Code § 34-24-360 or in the Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Commission, a violation of Ala. Code §34-34-360(2).

2. Dr. Stevens is unable to practice medicine or osteopathy with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, inebriation, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, alcohol, chemicals, or any other substance, or as a result of any mental or physical condition, a violation of Ala. Code §34-24-360(19)a.

Based upon the foregoing findings of facts and conclusions of law, it is the ORDER of the Medical Licensure Commission that:

1. The license to practice medicine in Alabama of the Respondent, Russell Wayne Stevens, M.D. is hereby SUSPENDED, effective immediately.

2. The Medical Licensure Commission will consider lifting the suspension of Dr. Stevens’ license after he has accomplished the following:
A. Dr. Stevens shall submit to a re-evaluation by Acumen Assessments in order to assess his current fitness to practice. He shall sign appropriate waivers which will allow Acumen to make a full written report of such evaluation to the Medical Licensure Commission.

B. Dr. Stevens shall attend a prescribing workshop to be pre-approved by the Medical Licensure Commission.

C. Dr. Stevens shall acquire a psychiatrist, who shall be pre-approved by the Medical Licensure Commission. Such psychiatrist shall be the only person approved to prescribe antidepressants for Dr. Stevens and such psychiatrist shall agree to provide quarterly reports to the Medical Licensure Commission.

D. Dr. Stevens shall acquire a single physician, who shall be pre-approved by the Medical Licensure Commission. Such physician shall be experienced in pain management and substance abuse, and shall be the only person authorized to prescribe controlled substances and/or pain medication for Dr. Stevens. Such physician shall agree to provide written reports to the Commission upon request.

E. Dr. Stevens shall sign appropriate waivers and shall specifically request all physicians to make written reports to the Medical Licensure Commission.

F. Dr. Stevens shall maintain, for an indefinite period, a monitoring contract with the Alabama Physicians Health Program (APHP).

3. The Medical Licensure Commission reserves the right to place additional terms and conditions on Dr. Stevens' license to practice medicine in the event that it should decide
to lift the suspension.

4. An administrative fine in the amount of $10,000.00 is assessed against Dr. Stevens and is due and payable within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

5. It is the further Order of the Medical Licensure Commission that the Board of Medical Examiners shall submit a bill of its administrative costs, which shall include supporting documents, pursuant to Medical Licensure Commission Administrative Code 545-X-3-.08(12)(c) within fifteen (15) days of this Order. If no objection is made to such administrative costs within fifteen (15) days of the filing of such cost bill, such costs shall be due and payable by Dr. Stevens within thirty (30) days of the filing of such cost bill.

ENTERED this 31st day of July, 2015.

James E. West, M.D.
JAMES E. WEST, M.D., Chairman
Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS,

Complainant,

v.

RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M.D.

Respondent.

BEFORE THE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMMISSION OF ALABAMA

CASE NO. 15-005

ORDER SETTING HEARING

The Medical Licensure Commission has received the verified Administrative Complaint of the State Board of Medical Examiners filed in this cause. The Commission has determined that this matter is due to be set down for hearing under the provisions of §34-24-361, Code of Alabama 1975.

Accordingly, it is the Order of the Commission that this matter be set for hearing before the Commission on the 5TH day of May, 2015 at 9:30 o'clock in the a.m. at the offices of the Medical Licensure Commission, 848 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama. The Respondent, RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M.D. is directed to respond to the allegations of the verified Complaint in the manner prescribed in Rule 545-X-3-.03 of the Rules and Regulations of the Medical Licensure Commission. Such answer shall be filed within 20 days of service of a copy of the Administrative Complaint and the Order Setting Hearing.

This hearing shall be conducted in accordance with §34-24-361(e), Code of Alabama 1975 and Chapter 3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Medical Licensure Commission concerning hearings in contested cases. The Respondent is entitled to be present at the hearing.
and to be represented by counsel, is entitled to cross examine witnesses presented by the Complainant, and is entitled to present testimony and other evidence touching on the allegations contained in the Complaint.

Wayne P. Turner, Esq., is hereby appointed to act as legal counsel for the Commission under the authority of Rule 545-X-3-.08 of the Rules and Regulations of the Medical Licensure Commission.

It is the further order of the Commission that a copy of the verified Complaint of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners and a copy of this Order Setting Hearing is forthwith served upon the said RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M.D., by personally delivering the same to him if he can be found within the State of Alabama or by overnight courier, signature required, to his last known address if he cannot be found within the State of Alabama. The Commission further directs that personal service of process shall be made by Bob Steelman, who is designated as the duly authorized agent of the Medical Licensure Commission.

The Complainant and Respondent are directed to comply strictly with the Commission’s Standing Order and Scheduling Order, which are attached hereto.

It is further ordered that the parties and their attorneys immediately check their calendars for scheduling conflicts. No requests for continuances based upon schedule conflicts of attorneys or parties will be considered unless such request is made forty-five (45) days prior to the scheduled hearing date.

ORDERED at Montgomery, Alabama, this 25th day of March, 2015.

[Signature]
James E. West, M.D., Chairman
Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama
STATE OF ALABAMA
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

VOLUNTARY RESTRICTION ON
CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION TO PRACTICE MEDICINE

The undersigned, RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M. D., does hereby voluntarily request
and consent that the following restrictions be placed upon his certificate of qualification and
license to practice medicine in Alabama, license number MD.26655, in connection with my
recent relapse and treatment for chemical dependency.

These restrictions are voluntarily entered upon by me in connection with my recent
forensic fitness to practice evaluation dated Oct. 13, 2014. I understand and agree that these
voluntary restrictions shall continue in full force and effect until they are modified, amended or
terminated by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners (Board) at my written request.

RESTRICTIONS

1. I agree to enter into a monitoring contract with the Alabama Physician Health
Program (APHP) for a term deemed appropriate by APHP. I further agree that any controlled
substances to control pain or discomfort associated with my medical problems will need to be
monitored by an APHP approved physician.

2. I agree to submit to urine, blood and/or hair testing at such frequency and on such
terms as deemed appropriate by APHP.

3. I agree to obtain a Board-approved psychiatrist, who shall be the only prescribing
physician for any antidepressants which he/she deems appropriate. I agree to the utilization of
Conner's Continuous Performance Test II, TOVA, or such other assessment instrument deemed appropriate by my psychiatrist.

4. I agree not to return to solo practice or any practice that does not have a Board-approved monitoring physician on duty when I am on duty. I further agree to monthly chart reviews by my monitoring physician and to practice medical procedures, processes and treatments for which I have received formal education, training and supervision.

5. I agree that if I practice addiction medicine, it will be within the context of a Board-approved day, residential or inpatient treatment center and not within the context of a family practice setting.

6. I agree to attend a Board-approved prescribing workshop.

7. I agree not to practice pain management.

8. I agree not to prescribe narcotics and Suboxone.

9. I agree to abstain from any and all mood-altering drugs and chemicals unless prescribed by my physician and approved by APHP.

10. I agree not to treat myself or prescribe medication for myself or my immediate family members.

11. I agree to notify the Board of any change of address or telephone number.

**PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION**

I understand that failure or refusal to satisfy any of the terms and conditions of paragraphs 1 through 11 above shall constitute a violation of this Voluntary Restriction.

Any violation of this Voluntary Restriction, if established after notice and hearing as provided by the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act and the Rules and Regulations of the
Medical Licensure Commission, shall constitute grounds for the suspension, restriction or
revocation of the named physician's license to practice medicine in Alabama or the imposition of

DISCLOSURE NOTICE

This Voluntary Restriction constitutes a public record of the Alabama Board of Medical
Examiners and will be reported by the Board to the Federal National Practitioner Data Bank
(NPDB), the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB) and the Federation of State
Medical Boards disciplinary data bank. This voluntary restriction may be released by the Alabama
State Board of Medical Examiners to any person or entity requesting information concerning the
licensure status in Alabama of the physician named herein.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have read the foregoing Voluntary Restriction on my certificate of
qualification to practice medicine in Alabama, that I understand the terms and conditions thereof,
and that the same are entered into by me, voluntarily, this 10th day of December, 2014.

RUSSELL WAYNE STEVENS, M. D.

[Signature]

Witness