

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICINE

IN RE: ARTHUR M. SLEEPER, M.D.
License No.: 0101-051567

ORDER

In accordance with Sections 54.1-2400(10), 2.2-4019 and 2.2-4021 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was held with Arthur M. Sleeper, M.D., on November 2, 2006, in Roanoke, Virginia. Members of the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") serving on the Special Conference Committee ("Committee") were: Brent R. Lambert, M.D., Chairman; Valerie Lowe Hoffman, D.C.; and Malcolm L. Cothran, Jr., M.D. Dr. Sleeper appeared and was represented by legal counsel, William L. Kirby, III, Esquire. Virginia Scher, Adjudication Specialist, was present as a representative for the Administrative Proceedings Division of the Department of Health Professions. The purpose of the informal conference was to inquire into allegations that Dr. Sleeper may have violated certain laws governing the practice of medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as set forth in a Notice of Informal Conference dated September 1, 2006.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Now, having properly considered the evidence and statements presented, the Committee makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

1. Arthur M. Sleeper, M.D., was issued license number 0101-051567 to practice medicine in Virginia on September 1, 1994. Said license will expire on September 30, 2008, unless renewed or acted upon.

2. Dr. Sleeper violated Section 54.1-2915.A(16) [formerly 54.1-2914.A(11)], 54.1-2915.A(18) [formerly 54.1-2914.A(13)] and 54.1-2915A(19) [formerly 54.1-2914.A(14)] of the Code and 18 VAC 85-20-100.A(2) of the Board Regulations, in that, from approximately December 2003 until January 2005, he engaged in a personal, romantic relationship with Patient A concurrent with and by virtue of the practitioner/patient relationship.

3. From February 2005 to November 2005, Dr. Sleeper worked in psychotherapy with a clinical psychologist to address issues relevant to the development of the relationship with Patient A.

4. The clinical psychologist appeared and stated to the Committee that Dr. Sleeper had adequately processed the episode with Patient A, and stated he was confident that no further boundary problems would occur.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby ORDERED that Arthur M. Sleeper, M.D., be issued a REPRIMAND. Further, Dr. Sleeper's license shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Within twelve (12) months of entry of this Order, Dr. Sleeper shall complete a Board approved course in the subject of professional boundaries, consisting of at least twenty (20) CME hours. This course shall be face-to-face (i.e., no home study, journal or Internet courses) and must be approved by the Executive Director of the Board in advance of registration.

2. Within twelve (12) months of entry of this Order, Dr. Sleeper shall complete a Board approved course in the subject of professional ethics, consisting of at least ten (10) CME

hours. This course shall be face-to-face (i.e., no home study, journal or Internet courses) and must be approved by the Executive Director of the Board in advance of registration.

3. Within twenty-one (21) days of completion of the courses required by Terms #1 and #2 of this Order, Dr. Sleeper shall submit written verification of completion satisfactory to the Board.

4. CME hours required by Terms #1 and #2 of this Order shall not be used toward licensure renewal requirements.

5. Upon receipt of the reports required by the terms of this Order, the Committee authorizes the Executive Director of the Board to review the reports and to terminate the terms and conditions on Dr. Sleeper's license, or to schedule Dr. Sleeper to appear before a Special Conference Committee of the Board for the purpose of determining whether terms or conditions shall be modified or imposed.

6. Dr. Sleeper shall maintain a course of conduct in his practice of medicine commensurate with the requirements of Title 54.1, Chapter 29 of the Code and all laws of the Commonwealth.

7. Dr. Sleeper shall cooperate with the Virginia Board of Medicine and the Department of Health Professions to verify that he is in compliance with this Order.

8. Dr. Sleeper shall notify the Executive Director of the Board, by certified mail, of any change of address within ten days of such occurrence.

9. Dr. Sleeper shall notify the Board immediately, in writing, should he intend to change the location of his practice.

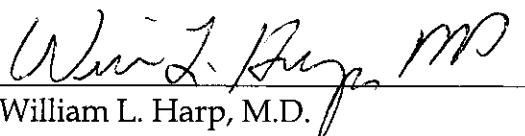
Violation of this Order may constitute grounds for suspension or revocation of Dr. Sleeper's license. In the event that Dr. Sleeper violates this Order, an administrative proceeding may be convened to determine whether his license shall be revoked.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400.2(F) of the Code, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Dr. Sleeper may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on December 11, 2006, notify William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director, Board of Medicine, 6603 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23230, in writing that he desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order shall be vacated.

Therefore, this Order shall become final on December 11, 2006, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

FOR THE BOARD



William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

ENTERED: 11/6/06