BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: JOSEPH ALBERT ALDRICH, DO

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §25-15-201, of the Administrative Procedures Act, and Ark. Code Ann. §17-95-410 of the Medical Practices Act, the Arkansas State Medical Board issues the following Order and Notice of Hearing charging Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, with alleged violations of the Medical Practices Act, more specifically:

1. A.C.A. § 17-95-409(a)(2)(p), that is, violating a Regulation of the Board, more specifically Regulation 2.4, that is, prescribing an excessive amount of controlled substances for his patients, and

2. Regulation 2.6, that is, prescribing Schedule medication for pain not associated with malignancy or terminal illness for more than 6 months, and without keeping proper records and monitoring the condition of his patients to justify the ongoing prescribing of said medication; and

The allegations upon which the above charges are based are as follows:

I.

Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO is a licensed physician in the State of Arkansas under the provisions of the Medical Practices Act.

II.

Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, prescribed an excessive amount of controlled substances for a patient identified as KF, and also failed to keep proper records for monitoring the condition of the patient, all as required by Regulation 2.4 and 2.6 of the Board.
WHEREFORE, IT IS CONSIDERED, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED by the Arkansas State Medical Board that a hearing should be conducted to determine whether Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, has violated the Medical Practices Act as alleged hereinabove; and if it is found that he has, in fact, violated the Medical Practices Act, then the Board should determine whether the license of Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, to practice medicine in the State of Arkansas, should be revoked or suspended, or whether other sanctions should be given as punishment pursuant to the authority granted to the Board in A.C.A. §17-95-410 and §25-15-217 of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Said hearing will be conducted at 1:00 o’clock p.m. on the 7 day of February, 2013, at a meeting of the Arkansas State Medical Board at 1401 W. Capitol Ave., Suite 340, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO is hereby advised that he may be represented by counsel at the hearing and that he will be given the opportunity to examine all of the evidence offered to the Board, cross-examine witnesses, and offer evidence and witnesses in his own behalf.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD

Trent P. Pierce, M.D., Chairman

Date

Approved as to Form:

Kevin M. O’Dwyer
Attorney for the Arkansas State Medical Board
BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: JOSEPH ALBERT ALDRICH, DO

ORDER

On this 8th day of February, 2013, comes on for hearing the matter of Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO. The Arkansas State Medical Board appeared, together by a quorum of its membership, together with its attorney, William H. Trice, III. Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, appeared together with his attorney, Rebecca Hattabaugh. From the pleadings, evidence introduced and testimony of the witnesses, the Board finds that:

I.

Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Arkansas pursuant to the provisions of the Medical Practices Act.

II.

Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, has admitted that he excessively prescribed Schedule medication for an employee identified as KF, but failed to keep medical records to justify the ongoing prescribing.

Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, has further acknowledged that he violated Regulation 2.4 by prescribing an excessive amount of controlled substances he prescribed for said patient, and Regulation 2.6 in that he prescribed said medication for pain not associated with malignancy or terminal illness for more than 6 months, and without keeping proper records and monitoring the condition of his patient to justify the ongoing prescribing.

WHEREFORE, it is CONSIDERED, ORDERED and ADJUDGED that:

1. Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, has violated the Medical Practices Act, more specifically Ark. Code Ann. §17-95-409(a)(2)(P), that is he violated Regulations of the Board, more
specifically, Regulation 2.4 in that he prescribed an excessive amount of controlled substances; and Regulation 2.6 in that he prescribed said Schedule medication for pain not associated with malignancy or terminal illness for more than 6 months, and without keeping proper records and monitoring the condition of his patients to justify the ongoing prescribing.

2. As a result of the above violations of the Medical Practices Act, the Arkansas State Medical Board issues a REPRIMAND to Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO.

3. As a further result of the above violations of the Medical Practices Act, Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, is ordered to reimburse the Board $835.00 for the costs of the investigation and hearing within one year from the date of this Order.

4. As a further result of the above violations of the Medical Practices Act, Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, will pay to the Board a fine of $500.00 per Regulation for a total of $1,000 within one year from the date of this Order.

5. As a further result of the above violations of the Medical Practices Act, Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, will attend and complete two Continuing Education Courses, one in Boundaries and one in Prescribing at Vanderbilt University, all to be done within six months from the date of this Order.

6. As a further result of the above violations of the Medical Practices Act, Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, will submit to an evaluation and hair sample testing for substance abuse with said evaluation to be conducted by the Arkansas Medical Foundation and reported back to this Board.

7. As a further result of the above violations of the Medical Practices Act, Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, will appear at such meetings of the Board as required to show compliance with
the terms of this Order, with the first appearance being six months from the date of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD

[Signature]
Joseph M. Beck, M.D., Chairman

2/19/13
Date

Approved as to Form:

[Signature]
William H. Trice, III
Attorney for the Arkansas State Medical Board
BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD
IN THE MATTER OF: JOSEPH ALBERT ALDRICH, DO

EMERGENCY ORDER OF SUSPENSION AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to ACA §25-15-201, and ACA §25-15-211, both of the Administrative Procedure Act, and ACA §17-95-410 of the Medical Practices Act, the Arkansas State Medical Board issues the following Emergency Order of Suspension and Notice of Hearing, charging Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, with alleged violations of the Medical Practices Act, more specifically, ACA §17-95-409(a)(2)(q), that is, violating a previous Order of the Board, more specifically, the Order of February 19, 2013.

The allegations upon which the above charges are based are as follows:

I.

Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO is a licensed physician in the State of Arkansas under the provisions of the Medical Practices Act.

II.

On February 19, 2013, the Arkansas State Medical Board entered an Order finding that Joseph A. Aldrich, DO, had violated the Medical Practices Act and the Rules and Regulations of the Board and issued him a Reprimand. As a result of the violation the Board ordered that Joseph A. Aldrich, DO, submit to substance abuse evaluation with the Arkansas Medical Foundation, and he entered into a five year contract with the Foundation.

III.

On March 24, 2017, the Arkansas Medical Foundation reported to the Board that Joseph A. Aldrich, DO, had tested positive for alcohol.
IV.

Pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, ACA § 25-15-211(c), and upon an affirmative vote of the majority of the Arkansas State Medical Board, the Board finds that the acts of Joseph A. Aldrich, DO, more specifically not complying with his Contract for Monitoring and Rehabilitation with the Arkansas Medical Foundation, presents a danger to the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Arkansas; and therefore the license to practice medicine in the State of Arkansas of Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, is suspended on an emergency basis, pending a disciplinary hearing in this matter or further Orders of the Board.

WHEREFORE, IT IS CONSIDERED, ORDERED, AND ADJUDGED by the Arkansas State Medical Board that the license to practice medicine in the State of Arkansas of Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, is suspended on an emergency basis pending a disciplinary hearing in this matter or further Orders of the Board.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by the Arkansas State Medical Board that a hearing should be conducted to determine whether Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, has violated the Medical Practices Act, and the Rules and Regulations of the Board. If it is found that he has, in fact, violated the Medical Practices Act, and/ the previous Orders of the Board, then the Board should determine whether the license of Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, to practice medicine in the State of Arkansas should be revoked or suspended, or whether other sanctions should be given as punishment, pursuant to the authority granted to the Board in ACA §17-95-410. Said hearing will be conducted at 9:30 o’clock on the ___ day of ___ , 2017, at the offices of the Arkansas State Medical Board, Suite 340, 1401 W. Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, is hereby advised that he may be represented by counsel at the hearing, and that he will be given the opportunity to examine all of the evidence offered to the Board, cross-examine witnesses, and offer evidence and witnesses in his own behalf.
Joseph Albert Aldrich, DO, is further advised that any additional records and/or exhibits that he as a Respondent wishes to present to the Board at his hearing MUST be supplied to the Board no later than 20 days prior to the hearing date. Failure to do so can result in the Board refusal to allow the information or documentation to be presented by the Respondent.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD

STEVEN CATHEY, M.D., Chairman

Approved as to Form:

Kevin M. O'Dwyer
Attorney for the Arkansas State Medical Board