DRAFT UNAPPROVED

VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES

March 17, 2016	Department of Health Professions Perimeter Center 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite #300	Henrico, Virginia

CALL TO ORDER: A Special Conference Committee of the Board was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Lori Conklin, M.D., Chair
Kenneth Walker, M.D.
Svinder Toor, M.D.

STAFF PRESENT:
Jennifer L. Deschenes, Deputy Executive Director, Discipline
Jennie F. Wood, Discipline Case Manager
LaTonya Hucks, Adjudication Specialist

MATTER: **Christopher Highfill, M.D.** **License No.: 0101-227061**
Case No.: 163517

DISCUSSION: Dr. Highfill appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of the Board dated December 10, 2015. Dr. Highfill was represented by Meredith Brebner, Esquire.

The Committee fully discussed the allegations in the Notice with Dr. Highfill.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon a motion by Dr. Walker, and duly seconded by Dr. Toor, the Committee voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Dr. Highfill. Additionally, he moved that Ms. Deschenes and Ms. Wood attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations.

RECONVENE: Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code, the Committee re-convened in open session and announced its decision.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Dr. Walker, and duly seconded by Dr. Toor, the Committee made certain findings of fact and conclusions of law and voted to issue Dr. Highfill a reprimand.

VOTE: The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: The Committee adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

As provided by law this decision shall become a Final Order thirty (30) days after service of such Order on Dr. Highfill, unless a written request to the Board for a formal hearing on the allegations made against him is received from Dr. Highfill, within such time. If service of the Order is made by mail three (3) additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the decision of the Special Conference Committee shall be vacated.

Lori Conklin, M.D., Chair	William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director
Date	Date

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SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES

March 17, 2016	Department of Health Professions Perimeter Center 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite #300	Henrico, Virginia

CALL TO ORDER: A Special Conference Committee of the Board was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Kenneth Walker, M.D., Chair
Lori Conklin, M.D.
Svinder Toor, M.D.

STAFF PRESENT:
Jennifer L. Deschenes, Deputy Executive Director, Discipline
Jennie F. Wood, Discipline Case Manager
Julia Bennett, Adjudication Specialist

MATTER: **Abraham Asmamaw, M.D.** **License No.: 0101-223994**
Case No.: 158628

DISCUSSION: Dr. Asmamaw appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of the Board dated February 5, 2016. Dr. Asmamaw was represented by Margaret Hardy, Esquire.

The Committee fully discussed the allegations in the Notice with Dr. Asmamaw.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon a motion by Dr. Toor, and duly seconded by Dr. Conklin, the Committee voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Dr. Asmamaw. Additionally, he moved that Ms. Deschenes and Ms. Wood attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations.

RECONVENE: Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code, the Committee re-convened in open session and announced its decision.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Dr. Conklin, and duly seconded by Dr. Toor, the Committee made certain findings of fact and conclusions of law and voted to issue Dr. Asmamaw a reprimand and place his license on certain terms and conditions with prescribing restrictions.

VOTE: The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: The Committee adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

As provided by law this decision shall become a Final Order thirty (30) days after service of such Order on Dr. Asmamaw, unless a written request to the Board for a formal hearing on the allegations made against him is received from Dr. Asmamaw, within such time. If service of the Order is made by mail three (3) additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the decision of the Special Conference Committee shall be vacated.

Kenneth Walker, M.D., Chair	William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director
Date	Date