

**APPROVED**  
**VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE**  
**FORMAL HEARING MINUTES OCTOBER 19, 2023**

*Department of Health Professions*  
*Perimeter Center*  
*9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201*  
*Henrico, VA*

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**CALL TO ORDER:** A panel of the Board was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** J. Randolph Clements, D.P.M., Chair, President  
Hazem Elariny, M.D.  
William Hutchens, M.D.  
L. Blanton Marchese  
Jacob Miller, D.O.  
Joel Silverman, M.D.  
Ryan Williams, M.D.

**BOARD COUNSEL:** M. Brent Saunders, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**STAFF PRESENT:** William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director of the Board  
Tamika Hines, Case Manager, Discipline

**COURT REPORTER:** Mona Brooks, Veteran Reporters

**PARTIES ON BEHALF OF COMMONWEALTH:** Tracy Robinson, Adjudication Specialist

**COMMONWEALTH WITNESSES:** Tosha Fischetti, Senior Investigator, DHP

**RESPONDENT WITNESSES:** Dr. George Gates

**MATTER SCHEDULED:** **William Blake Perkins Taggart, M.D.**  
**License No.: 0101-254832      Case No.: 174765, 231495**

**DISCUSSION:** Dr. Taggart appeared before the Board in person in accordance with the Board's Notice of Formal Hearing dated September 18, 2023. Dr. Taggart was represented by Michael L. Goodman, Esquire.

The Board received evidence and sworn testimony from witnesses called by the parties and from Dr. Taggart regarding the allegations in the Notice.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Upon a motion by Mr. Marchese, and duly seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board 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. Taggart. Additionally, he moved that Mr. Saunders, Dr. Harp and Ms. Hines attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board 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 Board re-convened in open session and announced its decision.

**DECISION:**

Upon a motion by Dr. Silverman, and duly seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board made certain findings of fact and conclusions of law and voted to reinstate Dr. Taggart's license to certain terms and conditions.

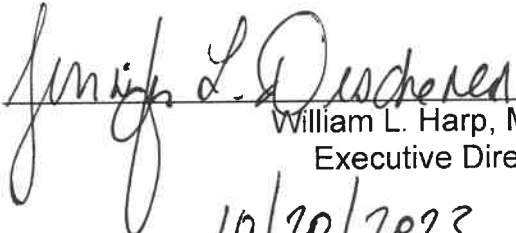
**VOTE:**

The vote was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Board adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

*The decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions, and decisions of this formal hearing panel.*

  
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William L. Harp, M.D.  
Executive Director  
10/20/2023  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**CALL TO ORDER:** A panel of the Board was called to order at 11:17 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Apel, M.D., Chair  
David Archer, M.D.  
Manjit Dhillon, M.D.  
Madge Ellis, M.D.  
Oliver Kim, J.D.  
Pradeep Pradhan, M.D.  
Jennifer Rathmann, D.C.

**BOARD COUNSEL:** James Rutkowski, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jennifer L. Deschenes, Deputy Executive Director, Discipline  
Jennie F. Wood, Case Manager, Discipline

**COURT REPORTER:** Juan Ortega, Ortega International Reporting

**PARTIES ON BEHALF OF COMMONWEALTH:** Anne Joseph, Adjudication Consultant

**COMMONWEALTH WITNESSES:** Sarah Rogers, Regional Manager, DHP

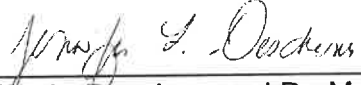
**MATTER SCHEDULED:** **Mohamad Moutaz Almawaldi, M.D.**  
**License No.: 0101-263819** **Case No.: 229769**

**DISCUSSION:** Dr. Almawaldi appeared before the Board in person in accordance with the Board's Notice of Formal Hearing dated September 1, 2023. Dr. Almawaldi was not represented by counsel.

The Board received evidence and sworn testimony from witnesses called by the parties and from Dr. Almawaldi regarding the allegations in the Notice.

- CLOSED SESSION:** Upon a motion by Dr. Rathmann, and duly seconded by Dr. Ellis, the Board 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. Almawaldi. Additionally, she moved that Mr. Rutkowski, Ms. Deschenes and Ms. Wood attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board 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 Board re-convened in open session and announced its decision.
- DECISION:** Upon a motion by Dr. Ellis, and duly seconded by Dr. Dhillon, the Board made certain findings of fact and conclusions of law and voted to reinstate Dr. Almawaldi's license with a reprimand and required boundary continuing education.
- VOTE:** The vote was 6-1 with Dr. Apel voting no.
- ADJOURNMENT:** The Board adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

*The decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions, and decisions of this formal hearing panel.*

  
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Jennifer L. Deschenes, J.D., M.S.  
Deputy Executive Director

12/6/2023

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Date