

APPROVED

VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE FORMAL HEARING MINUTES

May 19, 2017 Department of Health Professions Henrico, Virginia
Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite #300

CALL TO ORDER: A panel of the Board was called to order at 10:34 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin O'Connor, M.D., Chair
Syed Ali, M.D.
Jasmine Gore
Svinder Toor, M.D.
Alvin Edwards, Ph.D.
Jane Hickey, J.D.
Isaac Koziol, M.D.

BOARD COUNSEL: Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General

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

COURT REPORTER: Juan Ortega, Crane Snead & Associates, Inc.

PARTIES ON BEHALF OF COMMONWEALTH: James Schliessmann, Sr. Assistant Attorney General
Shevaun Roukous, Adjudication Specialist

COMMONWEALTH WITNESSES: Deborah DiFalco
Pamela Kincheloe
Patient C (by phone)
Patient A (by phone)

RESPONDENT WITNESSES: Jagjiwan Merchia, Ph.D.

MATTER SCHEDULED: Pankaj Merchia, M.D. License No.: 0101-244136
Case Nos.: 129059, 130940, 139137

DISCUSSION: Dr. Merchia appeared before the Board in person in accordance with the Board's Notice of Formal Hearing dated May 14, 2015. Dr. Merchia was represented by Kevin Jaros, Esquire.

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

CLOSED SESSION:

Upon a motion by Dr. Ali, and duly seconded by Dr. Edwards, 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. Merchia. Additionally, he moved that Ms. Barrett, 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. Edwards, and duly seconded by Dr. Koziol, the Board made certain findings of fact and conclusions of law and voted to issue Dr. Merchia a reprimand and subject his license to certain terms and conditions.

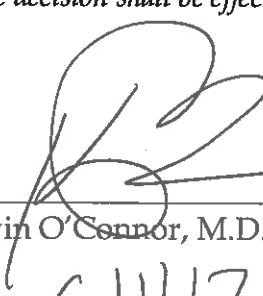
VOTE:

The vote was 6-1 with Dr. Toor voting no.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board adjourned at 5:45 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.



Kevin O'Connor, M.D., Chair

Date

6/11/17



William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director

Date

6/7/17