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BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of
RICHARD A. MELDE, M.D.
Holder of License No. 7685
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine
In the State of Arizona.

Case No. MD-16-1547A

**ORDER FOR LETTER OF
REPRIMAND AND PROBATION;
AND CONSENT TO THE SAME**

Richard A. Melde, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Order for a Letter of Reprimand and Probation; admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona Medical Board ("Board"); and consents to the entry of this Order by the Board.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
2. Respondent is the holder of license number 7685 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
3. The Board initiated case number MD-16-1547A after receiving a complaint regarding Respondent's care and treatment of a 30 year-old female patient ("MW") alleging inappropriate prescribing of controlled substances.
4. On June 7, 2016, MW was first seen by Respondent. During this visit, Respondent prescribed MW alprazolam #60 with two refills and no follow-up noted in the chart.
5. On August 29, 2016, MW was seen for follow-up. Respondent increased MW's dose of alprazolam to #90 with three refills.
6. On September 14, 2016, MW was seen by Respondent and he prescribed alprazolam #90 with two refills.

1 regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or
2 any other state or federal court.

3 6. Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof)
4 to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the consent to the entry of
5 the Order. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any
6 modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved
7 by the parties.

8 7. This Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal
9 disciplinary action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data
10 Bank and on the Board's web site as a disciplinary action.

11 8. If any part of the Order is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the
12 remainder of the Order in its entirety shall remain in force and effect.

13 9. If the Board does not adopt this Order, Respondent will not assert as a
14 defense that the Board's consideration of the Order constitutes bias, prejudice,
15 prejudgment or other similar defense.

16 10. Any violation of this Order constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result
17 in disciplinary action. A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(r) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation,
18 consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive
19 director under this chapter.") and 32-1451.

20 11. Respondent acknowledges that, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2501(16), he
21 cannot act as a supervising physician for a physician assistant while his license is on
22 probation.

23 12. *Respondent has read and understands the conditions of probation.*

24 
25 RICHARD A. MELDE, M.D.

DATED: 12/12/17

1 EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed
2 this 1st day of February, 2018 to:

3 Melissa Ho
4 Polsinelli PC
5 Cityscape One East Washington St, Suite 1200
6 Phoenix, AZ 85004
7 Attorney for Respondent

8 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed 8
9 this 1st day of February, 2018 with:

10 Arizona Medical Board
11 ~~9645 E. Doubletree Ranch Road~~ 1740 W. Adams St 4000
12 ~~Scottsdale, AZ 85258~~ Phoenix, AZ 85007

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Mary Bobey
Board staff