



**Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners
Regular Board Meeting**

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Iris Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 by Dr. Samantha McLerran, Board Vice President.

Board members present: Samantha McLerran, MD, Vice President
Michael Bittel, Consumer Member, Secretary
John Hale, MD
Todd Tillmanns, MD
Deborah Christiansen, MD
Bethany Lawrence, MD
Ricky Shelton, Consumer Member
Keith Anderson, MD
Randall Pearson, MD
James Diaz-Barriga, Consumer Member

Board member(s) absent: Stephen Loyd, MD, President
Damon Petty, MD

Staff present: Francine Baca-Chavez, JD, Office of General Counsel
Michael Varnell, JD, Office of General Counsel
Kavita Vankenini, MD, Medical Consultant
Stacy Tarr, BME Executive Director
Brandi Allocco, Administrative Director
Samantha Green, Board Administrator
Rachel LaMascus, Board Administrator

I. DISCUSS, CONSIDER, AND TAKE ACTION REGARDING MASON V. TNBME – SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Ms. Francine Baca Chavez summarized the terms of settlement in the case of Harold Mason versus the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Keith Anderson motioned to accept the agreement as written. Dr. John Hale seconds the motion and the motion passes.

II. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

Medical Doctor Applicant Interview(s):

Nicole Balmer, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Deborah Christiansen motions to grant Dr. Balmer a full and unrestricted license. Mr. Michael Bittel seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

Kyle Maxwell, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Christiansen motions to grant Dr. Maxwell a full and unrestricted license. Dr. Todd Tillmanns seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

Medical X-Ray Operator Applicant Interview(s):

Queen Bolden, MDXL – appeared virtually before the Board without legal representation. Ms. Bolden is an applicant for an initial limited x-ray operator license. She completed a radiologic technology program at the University of Louisiana – Monroe Campus, however it is not a Board approved program for the limited x-ray operator license. Ms. Bolden has submitted a petition for declaratory order for the Board’s consideration. Dr. Christiansen motions to table the application for a period of up to six (6) months to allow Ms. Bolden to participate in the declaratory hearing process and to grant the petition for declaratory order hearing. Dr. Keith Anderson seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Medical Doctor Applicant Interview(s) (continued):

Odette Abou Ghanem, MD – appeared virtually before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Abou Ghanem is an International Medical School graduate who has not completed US ACGME accredited training. Dr. Abou Ghanem has submitted a petition for declaratory order for the Board to consider. Dr. Christiansen motions to table the application for a period of up to six (6) months to allow Dr. Abou Ghanem to participate in the declaratory hearing process and to grant the petition for declaratory order hearing. Dr. Randall Pearson seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Ahmed Kabeil, MD – appeared before the Board with his legal representatives, Mr. James C. Bradshaw, III. Dr. Kabeil is an International Medical School graduate who has completed 2 years of US ACGME accredited training, of the 3 years required. Dr. Kabeil has submitted a petition for declaratory order for the Board to consider. Dr. Colleen Hastings, Program Director for University of Tennessee at Memphis Nephrology program, spoke on behalf of Dr. Kabeil. Dr. Christiansen motions to table the application for a period of up to six (6) months to allow Dr. Kabeil to participate in the declaratory hearing process and to grant the petition for declaratory order hearing. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Balbir Kumar, MD – appeared virtually before the Board with his legal representatives, Ms. Kimberly Silvus and Ms. Katie Koss. Dr. Ibarra is an International Medical School graduate who has not completed US ACGME accredited training and has not passed USMLE Step 3. Dr. Kumar has submitted a petition for declaratory order for the Board to consider. Dr. Christiansen motions to table the application for a period of up to six (6) months to allow Dr. Kumar to participate in the declaratory hearing process and to grant the petition for declaratory order hearing. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Mariam Arif, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Arif is applicant for initial licensure who did not complete all three steps of USMLE within 10 years. Dr. Arif explains the extenuating circumstances which led to her inability to complete all three steps within 10 years, including difficulty in securing a visa to sit for the exam. Dr. Christiansen motions to waive the requirement considering the extenuating circumstances and grant a full and unrestricted license. Dr. John Hale seconds the motion and the motion passes.

James McKinley, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. McKinley is an applicant for licensure reinstatement who has been out of clinical practice since January 2020. Dr. McKinley holds an active license in several states and is board certified in Family Medicine. Dr. McKinley has been practicing utilization management since 2020. Dr. Anderson motions to table the application for six (6) months to allow Dr. McKinley to work on his Alabama license to gather 80 hours of experience either as a hospitalist or in a clinical practice over a period of three (3) months. At the end of the 80 hours, Dr. McKinley shall submit a letter from Dr. McKinley’s employer or medical director or redacted case logs to the Board’s Medical Consultant for review. Dr. Hale seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Clarice Mullinax, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Mullinax is an applicant for licensure reinstatement who has been out of clinical practice since 2016. Dr. Mullinax does not have any active licenses in other states, however she is Board certified and is participating in maintenance of certification. Dr. Christiansen motions to table the application for eight (8) months to allow Dr. Mullinax to obtain a preceptor and create a preceptorship plan. The preceptor shall be board certified in the specialty Dr. Mullinax plans to practice. The preceptorship plan and preceptor shall be approved by the Board’s Medical Consultant along with Dr. Hale. Once the preceptorship plan has been approved a limited license shall be issued for a duration of six months to allow Dr. Mullinax to participate in the preceptorship plan. The plan should include indirect and direct supervision for a total of 240 hours. Upon completion a letter shall be submitted to the Board’s medical consultant along with Dr. Hale for review, after which Dr. Mullinax can apply for a conversion of the limited license to a full and unrestricted license. Mr. Bittel seconds the motion and the motion passes.

After the vote, the Board discussed the possibility of having a checklist made for issuance of a limited license so it’s easier for them to work down the list to ensure all aspects are included in the motion. The Board’s administrative staff will work on creating one.

Lars Wallin III, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Wallin is a board-certified Urologist, participating in maintenance of certification. He completed his training in 2018 and has been out of clinical practice since November 2022. Dr. Anderson motions to table the application for one year to allow Dr. Wallin to obtain a preceptor and craft a preceptorship plan. The preceptor shall be board certified in Urology. The preceptorship plan and preceptor’s CV shall be submitted to the Board’s medical consultant along with Dr. Tillmanns for approval. Upon approval of the preceptorship plan and preceptor, a limited license shall be issued for a duration of 8 months to allow Dr. Wallin to participate in a preceptorship plan for a duration of 6 months with both direct and indirect supervision. Upon completion of the preceptorship plan, a letter will be submitted by the preceptor to the Board’s medical consultant and Dr. Tillmanns for approval. Once approved, Dr. Wallin can apply for conversion of the limited license into a full and unrestricted license. Dr. Pearson seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Courtney Zola, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Zola is an initial licensure applicant who plans to practice infectious disease medicine. She has been out of clinical practice since 2019. Dr. Zola’s board certification has lapsed. Dr. Christiansen motions to table the application for a period of up to eight (8) months to allow Dr. Zola to obtain a preceptor and craft a preceptorship plan. The preceptor shall be board certified in the specialty Dr. Zola intends to practice. The preceptorship plan and preceptor’s CV shall be submitted to the Board’s medical consultant along with Dr. Bethany Lawrence for approval. Upon approval of the preceptorship plan and preceptor, a limited license shall be issued for a duration of 8 months to allow Dr. Zola to participate in a preceptorship plan for a duration of 6 months with both direct and indirect supervision. The direct supervision may be conducted by HIPAA compliant means. During this time Dr. Zola shall also work on recertifying through the American Board of Internal Medicine. Upon completion of the preceptorship plan, a letter will be submitted by the

preceptor to the Board’s medical consultant and Dr. Lawrence for approval. Once approved, Dr. Zola can apply for conversion of the limited license into a full and unrestricted license. Dr. Anderson seconds the motion and the motion passes.

III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Grayson Carter, legislative liaison for the Tennessee Department of Health, summarized a few of the legislative bills that were passed this session and have been signed into law. Public Chapter 45 as enacted, enacts the “Individualized Investigational Treatment Act.” This outlines a patient’s right to seek treatment with an individualized investigational treatment and that a healthcare provider is protected against disciplinary action taken by the licensing board based solely on the provider’s recommendation regarding access or treatment with an individualized investigational treatment. The Board sought clarification on what types of investigational treatments were covered under this public chapter. Public Chapter 390 adds to the list of persons a healthcare provider can get informed consent from before vaccinating a minor to include biological, legal, adoptive parent, potential adoptive parent or individual granted medical decision-making authority over a child under state law. Dr. McLerran asks if this includes the Department of Children Services for those children in DCS custody. Mr. Bittel requests clarification on the age range of the definition of child.

IV. CONSIDER AND APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Hale motions to accept the consent agenda. Dr. Anderson seconds the motion, and it passes. The Consent Agenda contained the following:

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
 - a. May 20 & 21, 2025, Board of Medical Examiners
 - b. July 16, 2025, Declaratory Order Panel
 - c. July 17, 2025, Declaratory Order Panel
2. Ratification of new licenses, reinstatement and renewals of the following professions:
 - a. Medical Doctors, MD X-Ray Operators, Genetic Counselors, Surgical Assistants
3. Departmental Reports
 - a. Office of Investigations
 - b. Administrative Office
 - c. Office of General Counsel
4. Agreed Citations
 - a. [Christopher Somogyi, MD*](#)
 - b. [Kelley Walker, MD*](#)
 - c. [Stephen Dexter, MD*](#)
5. Ratification of Committee Actions

The Board recessed for lunch.

V. CONDUCT NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discuss, consider, and take action as needed regarding Rules for Anesthesiologist Assistants, HB979/SB764: Ms. Baca-Chavez and Dr. Pearson have been drafting emergency rules for the Board’s consideration as the bill takes effect January 1, 2026. Revisions have been made with consideration of comments made by the Tennessee Society of Anesthesiologists, the Anesthesiology Partners, the Tennessee Academy of Anesthesiology Assistants, and from a representative from the MNA government relations. Ms. Baca-Chavez presented a summary of the drafted rules. Dr. Pearson

summarized the scope of practice of an Anesthesiology Assistant. A rule making hearing will be held at a later date for the permanent rules. Mr. Bittel motions to approve the rules as proposed. Dr. Christiansen seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and passed unanimously.

- b. Discuss, consider, take action as needed regarding Military Innovative Readiness Training Program Update in Tennessee – Ms. Baca-Chavez presented this initiative by the U.S. Armed Services providing Dental, Medical, Veterinary, and Vision care to citizens in Bledsoe County, TN. This initiative is taking place from July 9, 2025, through July 23, 2025, as a part of Operation Healthy Tennessee. This was presented as informational, and the Board does not need to take any action.

VI. UPDATES FROM TASKFORCES & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- a. **Development Committee Meeting Update (Dr. McLerran and Mr. Bittel) –**
 - i. The committee met this morning, July 22, 2025.
 - ii. Discuss and take action as needed regarding approval of meeting minutes – May 20, 2025, BME Development Committee: Dr. Hale motions to approve the minutes. Dr. McLerran seconds the motion, and the motion passes.
 - iii. Discuss and take action as needed regarding advisory opinion –
 - 1. Denise Josey, MD: Dr. Josey asks for guidance regarding in-person site requirements when there is not a physical location to visit because the patient care would all be done in the patient’s homes. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the advisory opinion response as drafted. Dr. McLerran seconds the motion and the motion passes.
 - 2. Randal Hartline, MD: Dr. Hartline inquired about the Board’s opinion regarding prescribing over the phone to a new patient with whom there was no previous doctor/patient relationship. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the advisory opinion response as drafted. Dr. McLerran seconds the motion and the motion passes.
- b. **Office Based Surgery Committee Meeting Update (Dr. Hale and Dr. Tillmanns)**
 - i. The Office-Based Surgery Committee met May 21, 2025:
 - ii. Dr. Hale requests approval of the May 21, 2025 Office Based Surgery Meeting Minutes. Mr. Bittel motions to approve the minutes. Dr. Christiansen seconds the motion and the motion passes. All other items on the office-based surgery committee’s agenda will be discussed at the next meeting scheduled for July 23, 2025.

Next Development Committee Agenda

- a. Discuss and take action as needed regarding IV Hydration
- b. Discuss and take action as needed regarding High Prescribers policy
- c. Discuss and take action as needed regarding re-entry plan checklist
- d. Mr. Diaz-Barriga requests looking at the specialties that have a critical shortage in the state for determination of approving declaratory orders. Ms. Baca-Chavez states that the burden is on the petitioner to support their case for declaratory orders. Dr. Tillmanns points out metrics which would be of better use than just the specialty. This will be considered for the next development committee meeting.

VII. DISCUSS CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION REGARDING AN AGREEMENT TO SUBMIT TO AN ORDER FOR AN EVALUATION

Regan Cothron presented the Order to the Board and represented the State in the matter. Pursuant to T.C.A. § 63-6-214(C), Dr. Scariano agrees to submit to undergo an evaluation by three (3) practicing physicians included a psychiatrist where a question of a mental condition is involved. The Board of Medical Examiners will pay for the evaluation. Dr. Scariano will have an independent medical practitioner present during the examination. The three physicians that will conduct the examination are Dr. Reid Finlayson, Dr. Majid Alsayed, and Dr. Michael Levin. Dr. Ciaran Considine, a neuropsychologist, will also conduct any testing that is required. Dr. Hale motions to approve the Order for evaluation. Dr. Christiansen seconds the motion and the motion passes.

VIII. DISCIPLINARY ORDERS

Consent Order(s)

[Pamela Bryant, AMDX*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on her behalf. Ms. Regan Cothron represented the State. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the order. Dr. Hale seconds, and the motion passes.

[Riley Christoffer, AMDX*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on her behalf. Ms. Regan Cothron represented the State. Dr. Hale motions to approve the order. Mr. Diaz-Barriga seconds, and the motion passes.

Iwan Nyotowidjojo, MD – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on his behalf. Ms. Regan Cothron represented the State. Respondent was licensed on January 6, 2023, which has a current expiration date of October 31, 2025. On August 23, 2024, the California Medical Board (“California Board”) entered an Interim Order Imposing License Restrictions on Respondent’s California medical license. The Interim Order prohibited Respondent from self-prescribing any controlled substances, any dangerous drugs, and any drugs requiring a prescription. The Order further prohibits Respondent from prescribing Ambien/Zolpidem to anyone. The California Order also requires Respondent to engage the services of a worksite monitor. The worksite monitor must provide the California Board with a monthly report. The California Order also requires the Respondent to undergo a psychiatric evaluation and follow all recommendations. The California Order also requires the Respondent to undergo random biological fluid tests. On December 13, 2024, the Texas Medical Board entered a Waiver Order. The Waiver Order prohibits Respondent from prescribing dispensing, administering or authorizing controlled substances or dangerous drugs to himself. The Waiver Order also prohibits Respondent from using his Texas License to diagnose, treat or prescribe the controlled substance, Ambien/Zolpidem until he appears before the Board to petition for permission to resume such practice. The Texas Waiver Order requires the Respondent to comply with all terms and conditions of the order of the Medical Board of California and to document such compliance to the Texas Board. The facts stipulated are grounds for discipline. This order shall reprimand Respondent’s medical license. Respondent shall not prescribe, dispense, administer or authorize controlled substances or dangerous drugs with addictive potential or potential for abuse to himself. Respondent shall not use his Tennessee license to diagnose, treat or prescribe the controlled substance Ambien/Zolpidem to any patients in Tennessee until such time as Respondent petitions the Board to lift this restriction. In the event Respondent petitions the Board to have this restriction lifted, he shall provide evidence and information which indicates to the Board that Respondent is physically, mentally and otherwise competent to safely resume prescribing Ambien/Zolpidem. The Board shall retain sole authority to grant or deny any petition to terminate this restriction and shall further retain sole discretion to determine any prerequisites to said termination. This restriction shall constitute an encumbrance on Respondent’s medical license. Respondent shall comply with all terms, conditions and requirements of the Order entered on August 23, 2024, by the Medical Board of California, and shall provide documentation of such compliance to the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners. Respondent will submit quarterly reports to the disciplinary

coordinator regarding his compliance with the California Board Order. The first compliance report will be due 3 months after the effective date of this order. Respondent will sign an authorization for the Board to obtain documentation of compliance with the California Board. Respondent shall pay the actual and reasonable costs of the case not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). Mr. Bittel motions to approve the order. Mr. Diaz-Barriga seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Mr. Shelton – No, Dr. Anderson – No, Dr. Hale – No, Dr. Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – No, Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Dr. McLerran – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Lawrence – No. The motion fails due to the tied vote.

[Leah Clifton, AMDX*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on her behalf. Ms. Paetria Morgan represented the State. Mr. Diaz-Barriga motions to approve the order. Dr. Pearson seconds, and the motion passes.

[Labrina Frantom, AMDX*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on her behalf. Ms. Paetria Morgan represented the State. Dr. Hale motions to approve the order. Mr. Diaz-Barriga seconds the motion, and the motion passes.

[Kenneth Wiley, MD*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did his legal representative, Mr. Kevin S. Wiley, Sr., Esq., appear on his behalf. Ms. Paetria Morgan represented the State. Dr. Hale motions to approve the order. Dr. Tillmanns seconds, and the motion passes with Mr. Bittel opposed.

IX. VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT(S) NOT TO PRACTICE

[Paul Haidak, MD*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did his legal representative, Mr. W. Justin Adams, Esq., appear on his behalf. Mr. Gerard Dolan represented the State. Dr. Hale motions to approve the order. Dr. Christiansen seconds the motion, and it passes.

X. PETITION TO LIFT RESTRICTION

Richard Rolen, MD – appeared before the Board along with his legal representative, Mr. Bo Murphy. Mr. Gerard Dolan represented the State. The petition requests the Board lift the restriction on prescribing Carisoprodol on Dr. Rolen’s medical license. Opening remarks were made by both Mr. Murphy and Mr. Dolan. Mr. Murphy states the restriction on prescribing carisoprodol has hindered Dr. Rolen from participating in the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee managed care plan. It is the position of the Office of General Counsel that the restriction should not be lifted at this time. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the petition to lift the restriction. Dr. Anderson seconds the motion, and it passes.

XI. ORDERS OF COMPLIANCE

Dinia Cruz, MD – Dr. Cruz was unable to attend this meeting and will appear at a later meeting.

Robert Ferland, MD – appeared before the Board without his legal representative, Mr. Sam Helmbrecht. Ms. Francine Baca-Chavez presented the Order of Compliance. The petition requests the Board lift the probation on Dr. Ferland’s medical license. A CSMD audit was run on Dr. Ferland’s license prior to his appearance and there were prescriptions attributed to his license listed. Dr. Ferland attests that these prescriptions were not written by him, and he will conduct further research on the matter. Dr. Pearson motions to table the petition for two (2) months to allow Dr. Ferland to research how the prescriptions were attributed to him. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion, and it passes.

Hugh Smith, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Ms. Francine Baca-Chavez presented the Order of Compliance. The petition requests the Board lift the probation on Dr. Smith’s medical license. It is the position of the Disciplinary Coordinator and the Office of General Counsel that he is compliant with the terms of his previous order. Dr. Barron spoke on behalf of Dr. Smith. Dr. Christiansen motions to accept the order of compliance. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion, and it passes.

XII. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

The Board recessed at 3:08 pm CT.



**Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners
Regular Board Meeting**

Day Two of the Regular Meeting of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Panels of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners were called to order at 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. respectively in the Iris and Poplar Rooms, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243.

Board members present: Samantha McLerran, MD, Vice President
Michael Bittel, Consumer Member, Secretary
Keith Anderson, MD
Todd Tillmanns, MD
James Diaz-Barriga, Consumer Member
Bethany Lawrence, MD

Staff present: Francine Baca-Chavez, JD, Office of General Counsel
Michael Varnell, JD, Office of General Counsel
Kavita Vankenini, MD, Medical Consultant
Stacy Tarr, BME Executive Director
Brandi Allocco, Administrative Director
Samantha Green, Board Administrator
Rachel LaMascus, Board Administrator

Contested Case – Iris Room

[Naomi Paschall*](#) v. State of Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners

Iris Room

Administrative Law Judge: Richard Murrell

Panelists: Todd Tillmanns, MD, Keith Anderson, MD, and James Diaz-Barriga, Consumer Member

Counsel for State: Justin Harleman, Senior Associate General Counsel

Counsel for Respondent: Sam Helmbrecht, Esq.

The Respondent appeared before a panel of the Board along with her representative, Mr. Sam Helmbrecht, Esq. A panel of the Board, chaired by Dr. Tillmanns, heard from both parties prior to deliberation. After discussion and questions, the panel motioned and seconded, which was followed by the approval of the Final Order.

Declaratory Order Hearing – Poplar Room

Gul Karagoz, MD v. State of Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners

Iris Room**Administrative Law Judge: Elizabeth D. Cambron****Panelists: Samantha McLerran, MD, Michael Bittel, Consumer Member, and Bethany Lawrence, MD****Counsel for State: Francine Baca-Chavez, Deputy General Counsel****Counsel for Petitioner: James C. Bradshaw III**

A panel of the Board, chaired by Dr. McLerran, heard the position of the Petitioner and the State and reviewed any evidence presented. After discussion and consideration, the panel motioned and seconded, which was followed by an approval of the following Final Order with all findings of fact and conclusions of law considered and agreed upon.

The Petitioner, Gul Karagoz, attended Ataturk University, College of Medicine in Erzurum, Turkey and obtained her medical degree in June 2000. From 2000 to 2001, Dr. Karagoz completed a postgraduate internship at Ataturk University, College of Medicine in Erzurum, Turkey. From 2001 to 2005, Dr. Karagoz completed a postgraduate residency at Dr. Lutfi Kirdar Karal Training Hospital in the Department of Infectious Diseases at Istanbul, Turkey. From 2005 to 2006, Dr. Karagoz was employed as an attending physician providing patient care to include evaluation and treatment in outpatient and inpatient settings at Tuzla State Hospital in Istanbul, Turkey. From 2006 to 2010, Dr. Karagoz was employed as an attending physician providing patient care to include evaluation and treatment in outpatient and inpatient settings along with administrative tasks related with the lab control committee at Palandoken State Hospital in Erzurum Turkey. From 2010 to 2013, Dr. Karagoz was employed as an attending physician providing patient care to include evaluation and treatment in outpatient and inpatient settings along with administrative tasks related with the lab control committee at Umraniye Training and Research Hospital in Istanbul, Turkey. From 2013 to 2018, Dr. Karagoz was employed as an assistant professor providing patient care to include evaluation and treatment in outpatient and inpatient settings along with teaching residents and performing administrative tasks related with the lab control committee at Umraniye Training and Research Hospital in Istanbul, Turkey. From November of 2021 through June of 2022, Dr. Karagoz was research fellow at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in the Department of Infectious Diseases in Nashville, Tennessee. From July of 2022 through June of 2024, Dr. Karagoz completed an ACGME accredited clinical fellowship in infectious disease at the University of Illinois in the Department of Infectious Diseases in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Karagoz was placed on probation during the fellowship in Chicago due to concerns regarding performance in the areas of medical knowledge, efficiency/workflow, communication, and patient care. Dr. Karagoz successfully completed remediation. From July of 2024 through June of 2025, Dr. Karagoz completed a non-ACGME accredited LGBTQ+ Health Care fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Public Health in Nashville, Tennessee. Dr. Karagoz has taken and passed all steps of the USMLE on the first attempt. In March 2021, Dr. Karagoz completed her ECFMG Certification. Dr. Karagoz holds no other state medical licenses. Dr. Karagoz applied for a New Jersey medical license to assist during the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to a temporary pathway for international medical graduates that allowed for licensure without training in the United States. Her application was denied due to incomplete documentation because she could not produce a medical license from Turkey since there is no separate licensing process post medical degree in Turkey as the medical diploma serves as the authorization to practice medicine in Turkey. Dr. Karagoz has not completed 3 years of ACGME training in the United States. Dr. Karagoz's training as presented meets or exceeds the three (3) year ACGME requirements. The petition for Declaratory Order, for this Petitioner, and the relief requested therein was approved.

This concludes the Board of Medical Examiners Day 2 meeting.