



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

Monday, November 17, 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. Stephen Loyd, Board President.

Board members present:	Stephen Loyd, MD, President Michael Bittel, Consumer Member, Secretary Damon Petty, MD Deborah Christiansen, MD Bethany Lawrence, MD Randall Pearson, MD Todd Tillmanns, MD James Diaz-Barriga, Consumer Member
Board member(s) absent:	Samantha McLerran, MD, Vice President John Hale, MD Keith Anderson, MD Ricky Shelton, Consumer Member
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

I. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

Medical Doctor Applicant Interview(s):

Paul Pietro, MD – Dr. Pietro was granted a full and unrestricted license during the Board’s executive session.

Chad Nicholson, MD – Dr. Nicholson was granted a full and unrestricted license during the Board’s executive session.

Angela Gucwa, MD – Dr. Gucwa was granted a limited license to participate in a reentry plan during the Board’s executive session.

Robert Gooding, MD – appeared virtually before the Board with his legal representation, Ms. Kimberly Silvus. Dr. Gooding is an International Medical School graduate applying for an administrative license who has not completed a three-year US ACGME accredited training program. The licensure requirements for an administrative license mirror the requirements for a full and unrestricted license. Dr. Gooding has submitted a petition for declaratory order for the Board’s consideration. Dr. Deborah Christiansen motions to table the application for a period of up to six (6) months to allow Dr. Gooding to participate in the declaratory hearing process and to grant the petition for declaratory order hearing. Dr. Gooding will be allowed to appear virtually for the declaratory order hearing as he is applying for an administrative license. Mr. James Diaz-Barriga seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Mr. Michael Bittel – Aye, Dr. Stephen Loyd – Aye, Dr. Todd Tillmanns – Aye, Dr. Bethany Lawrence – Aye, Dr. Randall Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes.

Robert Shahverdyan, MD – appeared virtually before the Board with his legal representation, Ms. Kimberly Silvus. Dr. Shahverdyan is an International Medical School graduate who has not completed US ACGME accredited training, has not taken any steps of the USMLE exam, and is not ECFMG certified. Dr. Shahverdyan 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 Dr. Shahverdyan to participate in the declaratory hearing process and to grant the petition for declaratory order hearing. Dr. Shahverdyan shall appear in person for his declaratory order hearing. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Aye, Dr. Lawrence – Aye, Dr. Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes.

Pratit Pokharel, MD – appeared virtually before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Pokharel is an International Medical School graduate who has not completed three years of US ACGME accredited training and is not board certified. Dr. Pokharel 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 Dr. Pokharel to participate in the declaratory hearing process and to grant the petition for declaratory order hearing. Dr. Pokharel shall appear in person for his declaratory order hearing. Dr. Pearson seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Dr. Damon Petty – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Aye, Dr. Lawrence – Aye, Dr. Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes.

Dr. Petty joined the meeting during the last applicant interview.

Caitlin Black, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Black is an applicant for initial licensure who completed thirty-three months of surgical residency at University of Tennessee prior to being terminated from her program in 2024. Dr. Black has since transferred into the Family Medicine residency program and is in good standing within the program. Dr. Gregg Mitchell, Program Chair for the University of Tennessee Family Medicine Residency Program, appeared in support of Dr. Black. Dr. Black explained the events which led to her termination from the surgical residency program. Dr. Christiansen motions to grant Dr. Black a full and unrestricted license. Dr. Petty seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Dr. Petty – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Aye, Dr. Lawrence – Abstained, Dr. Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes with Dr. Lawrence abstained.

Catherine Lewis, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Lewis previously appeared at the September 2025 Board of Medical Examiners meeting. Dr. Lewis is an applicant for

initial licensure who has board action and loss of privileges at two hospitals. Dr. Lewis reports the loss of privileges at one hospital was related to the number of surgical complications on cases she was assigned to compared to other surgeons in the practice. The Board voted to table the application for eight (8) months to allow Dr. Lewis to obtain a surgical CPEP evaluation or an equivalent approved by the Board's Medical Consultant and to follow any recommendations. Dr. Lewis is appearing to request the Board grant a restricted license to allow Dr. Lewis to practice a non-surgical specialty. Dr. Christiansen motions to grant a license restricted to non-surgical critical care medicine. Dr. Loyd seconds the motion. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Dr. Petty – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Aye, Dr. Lawrence – Aye, Dr. Pearson – Abstained, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes with Dr. Pearson abstained. After the vote, Ms. Francine Baca-Chavez notes that the restriction will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Vincent Lombardi, MD – appeared virtually before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Lombardi is an applicant for initial licensure who has reciprocal board action in multiple states stemming from two (2) board actions out of Indiana (IN) and Colorado (CO). Dr. Lombardi addressed the IN Medical Board action related to self-prescribing. Dr. Lombardi asserts he has learned from this and has not prescribed anything since. Dr. Pearson motions to grant Dr. Lombardi a full and unrestricted license. Dr. Christiansen seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Petty – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Nay, Dr. Lawrence – Aye, Dr. Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes with Dr. Tillmanns opposed.

Stacey Roussell, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Roussell is an applicant for initial licensure who has recent board action in KY stemming from improper prescribing. Dr. Roussell explained the events that led to the board action. Dr. Christiansen motions to grant Dr. Roussell a full and unrestricted license. Mr. Diaz-Barriga seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Nay, Dr. Petty – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Nay, Dr. Lawrence – Abstained, Dr. Pearson – Abstained, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes.

Gale Blakely, MD – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Dr. Blakely is an applicant for initial licensure who has been out of clinical practice since 2013. Dr. Blakely practices utilization management and contends that as a managed care reviewer she practices medicine daily. The Board offered Dr. Blakely the option to withdraw her application for full licensure or to accept an administrative license, which would allow her to practice in an administrative capacity as she does currently. Dr. Christiansen motions to grant Dr. Blakely an administrative license. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Dr. Petty – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Aye, Dr. Lawrence – Aye, Dr. Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes.

X-Ray Operator Applicant Interview(s):

Breanna Hall, MDXL – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Ms. Hall is an applicant for limited X-ray licensure with the modalities of chest, extremities, skull and sinus, and spine. Ms. Hall is applying via reciprocity; however, she was grandfathered in for Nevada licensure, so the Board does not have rules to compare. Ms. Hall completed a training program, which transcripts were obtained from. The transcript does not include a breakdown of course hours, so it could not be used to determine qualification for reciprocity. Based on Ms. Hall's work history and physician attestation, Dr. Christiansen motions to approve a limited license in all modalities applied for. Dr. Petty seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Dr. Petty – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Aye, Dr. Lawrence – Aye, Dr. Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes.

Esther Duverge, MDXL – appeared before the Board without legal representation. Ms. Duverge is an applicant for limited X-ray licensure with the modalities of chest, extremities, skull and sinus, and spine. Ms. Duverge is applying via reciprocity with her Florida license. The Florida rules are similar to Tennessee for Chest and Extremities, but Florida does not test for skull and spine as Tennessee does. Based on Ms. Duverge’s experience and physician attestation, Dr. Christiansen motions to approve a limited license in all modalities applied for. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Dr. Christiansen – Aye, Mr. Bittel – Aye, Dr. Loyd – Aye, Dr. Petty – Aye, Dr. Tillmanns – Aye, Dr. Lawrence – Aye, Dr. Pearson – Aye, Mr. Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes.

The Board recessed for lunch.

II. UPDATES FROM TASKFORCES & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a. **Development Committee (Dr. Loyd and Mr. Bittel)**

- i. The Development Committee met this morning November 17, 2025:
- ii. Discuss, consider, and take action as needed regarding amendment to X-Ray rules regarding remote contrast supervision: Jim Schmidt, lobbyist for the Tennessee Radiological Society, and Dr. Wes Angel, President of the Tennessee Radiological Society, appeared before the Board. The Development Committee voted in favor of the amendments as proposed. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the amendments as proposed. Mr. Diaz-Barriga seconds the motion and the motion passes. This matter will move to the rulemaking process.
- iii. Discuss, consider, and take action as needed regarding High Prescriber policy: The Development Committee voted in favor of the removal of the mentoring requirement from the High Prescriber policy. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the amendments to the High Prescriber policy as proposed. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion, and it passes.

III. CONDUCT NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discuss, consider, and take action as needed regarding TMF Update – Grant evaluation: Dr. Michael Baron, Medical Director for the Tennessee Medical Foundation, presented an update on the research TMF is conducting regarding outcome studies. One of the studies was a survey study of active participants. These are participants who currently attend Caduceus meetings. They were asked about which of the services TMF provides are perceived as helpful now compared to before they signed a contract with TMF. The advocacy of the TMF mattered the most to the participants, followed closely by the Caduceus meetings. The participants also rated having connections and accountability as valuable. The least valuable rating was seeing a therapist. The second study conducted was an outcome study of those participants who completed a monitoring agreement with TMF. Dr. Baron additionally presented an update on TMF’s services, outreach, and funding. The Tennessee Medical Association has decreased their gift to TMF by 20% as their membership has declined in recent years. Ms. Tarr reached out to the fiscal department to determine if the Board had the funding available to increase the grant for TMF to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000). Mr. Bittel questions if the Board could afford to raise the grant to five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000) to be closer to the inflation rate. Mr. Bittel motions to raise the TMF grant to five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000) per year through 2029. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously with Dr. Loyd abstained.
- b. Discuss, consider, and take action as needed regarding approve board member and staff to attend 2026 FSMB Annual Meeting in Baltimore April 30th – May 2nd: Ms. Tarr went

over the scholarship positions the Board would be voting for: Voting Delegate, Senior Staff, and Member Medical Board's Discretion. The voting delegate is typically the Board's chair; however, the Board can appoint any of the members to act as the voting delegate. The senior staff member can be the Board's attorney, medical consultant, or director. Ms. Tarr will be attending on behalf of the Board of Osteopathic Examination. The member medical board's discretion can either be an additional board member or staff member. Mr. Bittel motions to appoint Dr. Loyd as the voting delegate. Dr. Pearson seconds the motion and it passes with Dr. Loyd abstained. Dr. Loyd motions to appoint Dr. Lawrence as the member medical board's discretion. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion, and the motion passes. Dr. Loyd motions to request additional funding for two additional board members or members of staff to attend the meeting. Dr. Lawrence seconds the motion and the motion passes.

- c. Discuss, consider, and take action as needed regarding prescribing consultants and consideration for approving outside consultants: Ms. Tracy Alcock, Deputy Counsel for the Overprescribing team, presented the CVs for three consultants for the Board's consideration. These consultants are outside physicians who help to review complaints on overprescribing. Two of the consultants, Dr. Anuj Aryal and Dr. William Clay Jackson, were previously approved by the board for two years. Mr. Bittel motions to approve the names as presented: Robert Shearer, MD, Anuj Aryal, MD, and William Clay Jackson, MD. Dr. Christiansen seconds the motion, and the motion passes.
- d. Discuss, consider, and take action as needed regarding new BME case consultants: Ms. Baca-Chavez presented these consultants. They would be used as needed to review complaints not related to inappropriate prescribing or overprescribing. The CVs for these consultants were presented to the Board. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the consultants: James Broome, MD, Jason Susong, MD, Steven Blount, MD, and Adam Caputo, MD. Mr. Bittel seconds the motion, and the motion passes.

IV. CONSIDER AND APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Diaz-Barriga seconds the motion, and it passes. The Consent Agenda contained the following:

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
 - a. September 23 & 24, 2025, Board of Medical Examiners
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. Brett Thorstad, MD (#25159)
5. Ratification of Committee Actions

V. PETITION(S) FOR ORDER OF MODIFICATION

Allen Tate, PA – did not appear before the Board nor did his legal representative, Mr. Sam Helmbrecht, Esq., appear on his behalf. Mr. Gerard Dolan represented the State. Mr. Tate appeared before the Board of Physician Assistants on October 17, 2025 pursuant to a Petition for Modification and Compliance filed by the Respondent. The Board of Physician Assistants voted to accept the Order of Modification and

Compliance. The matter comes before the Board of Medical Examiners to ratify as it relates to improper prescribing. By law all matters pertaining to improper prescribing by a physician assistant must be heard before both the Board of Physician Assistants and the Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Christiansen motions to grant the petition for order of modification. Mr. Bittel seconds the motion, and it passes.

VI. ORDERS OF COMPLIANCE (CONTINUED)

Dinia Cruz, MD – appeared before the Board with her legal representative, Ms. Flannigan. Ms. Francine Baca-Chavez presented the Order of Compliance. The petition requests the Board lift the probation on Dr. Cruz’s medical license. Dr. Cruz’s license shall remain permanently restricted from prescribing opioids, she shall not be allowed to supervise or collaborate with any advanced practitioner nurse or physician assistant for the practice of prescribing opioids, and she shall continue to be prohibited from acting as a medical director for a pain management clinic. It is the position of the Disciplinary Coordinator and the Office of General Counsel that she is compliant with the terms of her previous order. Dr. Christiansen motions to accept the order of compliance to lift the probation on Dr. Cruz’s license. All other restrictions, as listed in the order, shall remain. Dr. Pearson seconds the motion, and the motion passes.

Stephen Watson, MD – appeared before the Board without a legal representative. Ms. Francine Baca-Chavez presented the Order of Compliance. The petition requests the Board lift the probation on Dr. Watson’s medical license. A CSMD audit was run on Dr. Watson’s license prior to his appearance and there are prescriptions attributed to his license listed. Dr. Watson attests that these prescriptions were not written by him, and if given the opportunity he will further investigate the matter. Dr. Christiansen motions to table the application for four (4) months to allow Dr. Watson to review the CSMD and investigate where the prescriptions came from. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion and the motion passes.

Thomas Klinner, MD – appeared before the Board with his legal representative, Mr. J. Scott McDearman, Esq. Ms. Francine Baca-Chavez presented the Order of Compliance. The petition requests the Board lift the suspension on Dr. Klinner’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. Christiansen motions to approve lifting the suspension on Dr. Klinner’s license. Dr. Tillmanns seconds the motion and the motion passes.

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

VII. DISCIPLINARY ORDERS

Consent Order(s)

[Timothy Ziolkowski, MD](#)* – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on his behalf. Ms. Paetria Morgan represented the State. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the order. Dr. Tillmanns seconds, and the motion passes.

[Leslie Fitzgerald, MD](#)* – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on her behalf. Ms. Paetria Morgan represented the State. Dr. Loyd recused. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the order. Dr. Pearson seconds, and the motion passes with Dr. Loyd recused.

Ricky Lee Jackson, MD – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on his behalf. Ms. Paetria Morgan represented the State. Dr. Jackson sent a response letter along with signing the consent order. The Board read the letter prior to discussion and deliberation. Respondent was licensed on March 15, 2022, with a license expiration date of July 31, 2027. On June 26, 2025, the Washington

Medical Commission entered an order essentially restricting the Respondent from collaborating with physician assistants, requiring the Respondent to take coursework in ethics and medical record keeping, requiring the Respondent to participate in clinical monitoring, and requiring the Respondent to pay a fifteen thousand dollar (\$15,000) fine. The Washington discipline stemmed from the Respondent routinely prescribing medications that lack clinical efficacy, Respondent's failure to properly supervise a P.A., and Respondent's failure to create patient notes that met the standard of care for eleven (11) patients. The facts stipulated are grounds for discipline. This order shall place Respondent's license on probation, and the license shall remain on probation until Respondent complies with requirements in the Washington order, and his Washington license is restored to unencumbered status with no restriction. During the probation period, Respondent shall not serve as a supervising or collaborating physician to any students, trainees, advanced practice providers, or pharmacists. Respondent shall pay all actual and reasonable costs of the case not to exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000). Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the order. Dr. Lawrence seconds the motion. A robust discussion was held regarding the Washington Order and response letter from the Respondent. A roll call vote was taken by Ms. Tarr. Christiansen – Aye, Loyd – No, Bittel – No, Petty – No, Tillmanns – No, Lawrence – Aye, Pearson – No, Diaz-Barriga – No. The motion fails. Dr. Petty motions to reject the order. Dr. Loyd seconds the motion. A roll call vote was taken by Ms. Tarr. Christiansen – No, Loyd – Aye, Bittel – Aye, Petty – Aye, Tillmanns – No, Lawrence – No, Pearson – Aye, Diaz-Barriga – No. The motion fails. Dr. Christiansen motions to table the matter until next meeting to allow for full review of the Washington State Medical Board Order. Dr. Pearson seconds the motion. A roll call vote was taken by Ms. Tarr. Christiansen – Aye, Loyd – Aye, Bittel – Aye, Petty – Aye, Tillmanns – Aye, Lawrence – Aye, Pearson – Aye, Diaz-Barriga – Aye. The motion passes unanimously.

[David Chunn, MD*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on his behalf. Ms. Paetria Morgan represented the State. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the order. Mr. Bittel seconds, and the motion passes.

[Stephen Mark Pickstone, MD*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did a legal representative appear on his behalf. Ms. Lynleigh Noel represented the State. Dr. Christiansen motions to approve the order. Mr. Diaz-Barriga seconds, and the motion passes.

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

[Ashley Beeler, 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. Tillmanns seconds, and the motion passes.

[Jack Scariano, MD*](#) – did not appear before the Board nor did his legal representatives, Mr. David M Eldrige and Ms. Loretta Cravens, appear on his behalf. Ms. Regan Cothron represented the State. Dr. Christiansen recused. Mr. Diaz-Barriga motions to approve the order. Dr. Pearson seconds, and the motion passes with Dr. Christiansen recused.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

The Board adjourned at 3:31 pm CT.



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

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

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

A panel of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Iris Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243.

Board members present: Deborah Christiansen, MD
Michael Bittel, Consumer Member
Bethany Lawrence, MD

Staff present: Michael Varnell, JD, Office of General Counsel

Declaratory Order Hearing – Iris Room

Sergei Peregoudov, MD v. State of Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners

Iris Room

Administrative Law Judge: Steve R. Darnell

Panelists: Deborah Christiansen, MD, Bethany Lawrence, MD, and Michael Bittel, Consumer Member

Counsel for State: Michael Varnell, Associate General Counsel

Counsel for Respondent: Kimberly Silvus

A panel of the Board, chaired by Dr. Deborah Christiansen, 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, Sergei Peregoudov, MD, completed a six-year medical degree program at the Chelyabinsk Medical Institute (NKA South-Ural State Medical University) in Chelyabinsk, Russia, and graduated in 1988. Chelabinsk Medical Institute (NKA South-Ural State Medical University) is recognized by the Medical Board of California and is listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools. In 1989, Dr. Peregoudov completed a one-year internship at City Emergency Hospital in Chelyabinsk, Russia. From July 1993 to July 1994, Dr. Peregoudov completed anesthesia residency training at University of Witwatersrand in Boksburg, South Africa. From July 1994 to March 1997, Dr. Peregoudov completed additional anesthesia residency training at University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. From July 2000 to June 2001, Dr. Peregoudov completed additional anesthesia residency training at University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia. From June 2001 to June 2004, Dr. Peregoudov completed additional anesthesia residency training at Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada. Dr. Peregoudov was admitted as a Fellow in the Division of Medicine to The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and awarded a

Specialist Certificate in Anesthesia from The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 2004. From August 2004 to October 2021, Dr. Peregoudov worked as an anesthesiologist at Bluewater Health in Sarnia, Canada. From June 2022 to the present, Dr. Peregoudov has worked as an anesthesiologist within the William Osler Health System in Toronto, Canada. Dr. Peregoudov has passed United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Steps 1, 2, and 3. Dr. Peregoudov has ECFMG certification. To obtain ECFMG certification, ECFMG had to verify the authenticity of Dr. Peregoudov's medical credentials directly with the medical school. Dr. Peregoudov is Board certified in Anesthesiology by the American Board of Physician Specialties. The Petitioner's medical school courses at Chelyabinsk Medical Institute (NKA South Ural State Medical University), were completed by in-person attendance only, and each academic year included more than 32-weeks of relevant medical instruction. Thus, although the university in Russia has not been responsive to attempts to contact it, Dr. Peregoudov's medical education satisfies the requirement set forth in Rule 0880-02-.04(3) and the Board's Foreign Medical School policy. The Petitioner has been offered a position at Vanderbilt University Medical Center as an anesthesiologist in the Multi-Specialty Anesthesiology Division. He has accepted this role contingent on the approval of his license to practice medicine in Tennessee. Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee, has an immediate need for qualified anesthesiologists, including those specializing in complex, multi-specialty, anesthesiology, and will continue to have this need for the foreseeable future. The Petitioner will bring his invaluable skillset to Vanderbilt to make a positive impact on patients in the State of Tennessee. The Petitioner completed six years of medical school, eight and one-half years of postgraduate training in anesthesia, and has been working as an anesthesiologist for 26.5 years. Although the Petitioner did not complete a three-year ACGME-accredited residency in the United States pursuant to Rule 0880-02-.04(5) and Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-6-207(a)(2)(F), his education, training, experience, and skillset meet or exceed any competency requirement for physicians in the State of Tennessee. Specifically, his eight and one-half years of post-graduate training, four of which were completed in Canada, meet or exceed the training he would have received in a three-year ACGME accredited residency in the United States. Given the Petitioner's skillset and the need for his exceptional expertise in anesthesiology, the citizens of the State of Tennessee would benefit by him having a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine. 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.