



## **Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners Declaratory Order Hearing Board Meeting**

**Monday, September 8, 2025**

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The declaratory order hearing meeting of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. virtually via Microsoft Teams by the Honorable Rachel Waterhouse, Administrative Law Judge for the Department of Health

### **Declaratory Order Hearing – Microsoft Teams**

**Ahmed Kabeil, MD v. State of Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners  
Microsoft Teams**

**Administrative Law Judge: Rachel Waterhouse**

**Panelists: Michael Bittel, Consumer Member, Keith Anderson, MD, and James Diaz-Barriga,  
Consumer Member**

**Counsel for State: Michael Varnell, Deputy General Counsel**

**Counsel for Petitioner: James C. Bradshaw, III**

A panel of the Board, chaired by Mr. Michael Bittel, 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.

Dr. Kabeil successfully completed medical school at Cairo University in Cairo, Egypt, and was licensed to practice medicine in Egypt. After graduating from medical school, Dr. Kabeil completed his residency in the internal medicine and cardiology residency program in Giza, Egypt from 2017 until 2021. In 2017, Dr. Kabeil worked at the Egyptian Ministry of Health in Obour City, Egypt in primary health care services. Additionally, Dr. Kabeil worked in the cardiology department of Shorouk Hospital in Giza, Egypt from 2022 to 2023. Dr. Kabeil successfully completed post-graduate training as a Research Fellow with the Department of Cardiac Regeneration at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas in 2022. Dr. Kabeil successfully completed a two (2) year fellowship in Nephrology at the University of Tennessee in Memphis from 2023 until 2025. Dr. Kabeil has been offered a full-time position as an Assistant Professor in the Nephrology Department at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis conditioned on his obtaining a full unrestricted medical license allowing him to practice in the state of Tennessee. There is a critical need in Memphis and surrounding areas for physicians specializing in nephrology with the skills and training possessed by Dr. Kabeil. Dr. Kabeil has a provisional employment opportunity with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center Department of Nephrology that will partially address this need. Dr. Kabeil will be unable to fill the offered position unless and until he is issued an unrestricted license to practice medicine in the State of Tennessee. Dr. Kabeil has not completed a three-year ACGME-accredited residency in the United States as required by T.C.A. § 63-6-207(a)(2) and Rule 0880-02-.04(5). The combined training and experience Dr. Kabeil has acquired during his medical training in Egypt as well as his post-graduate education and

training in the United States, first as a Research Fellow with the Department of Cardiac Regeneration at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, and then successfully completing a two (2) year fellowship in Nephrology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, have provided him with a distinct combination of medical techniques and skills needed to help UTHSC address the critical need in Memphis and the surrounding area for physicians with practicing in his specialty. Dr. Kabeil'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.

#### **Declaratory Order Hearing – Microsoft Teams**

##### **Odette Abou Ghanem, MD v. State of Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners**

###### **Microsoft Teams**

**Administrative Law Judge: Rachel Waterhouse**

**Panelists: Michael Bittel, Consumer Member, Keith Anderson, MD, and James Diaz-Barriga, Consumer Member**

**Counsel for State: Michael Varnell, Deputy General Counsel**

**Counsel for Petitioner: Petitioner was not represented**

A panel of the Board, chaired by Mr. Michael Bittel, 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, Odette Abou Ghanem, graduated medical school with a Doctor of Medicine from American University of Beirut in Beirut, Lebanon in 2014. Beginning 2014, Petitioner completed seven years of postgraduate training in plastic and reconstructive surgery at the department of surgery and division of plastic and reconstructive surgery at American University in Beirut, Lebanon. Petitioner completed a post graduate fellowship with the department of plastic and reconstructive surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in adult and pediatric craniofacial surgery from 2022-2023. Petitioner completed a post graduate fellowship with the department of plastic and reconstructive surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in breast and body contouring surgery from 2023-2024. Petitioner is currently in the process of completing a post-graduate fellowship training with the department of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in reconstructive microsurgery. Petitioner currently has an active medical license in the State of Maryland. Petitioner has passed United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Steps 1, 2 and 3. Petitioner has not completed a three-year ACGME-accredited residency in the United States as required by T.C.A. § 63-6-207(a)(2) and Rule 0880-02-.04(5). There is a significant need for a medical doctor with Petitioner's qualifications in Tennessee. The petition for Declaratory Order, for this Petitioner, and the relief requested therein was approved.

#### **Declaratory Order Hearing – Microsoft Teams**

##### **Queen Bolden, MDXL v. State of Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners**

###### **Microsoft Teams**

**Administrative Law Judge: Rachel Waterhouse**

**Panelists: Michael Bittel, Consumer Member, Keith Anderson, MD, and James Diaz-Barriga, Consumer Member**

**Counsel for State: Michael Varnell, Deputy General Counsel**

**Counsel for Petitioner: Petitioner was not represented**

A panel of the Board, chaired by Mr. Michael Bittel, 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, Queen Bolden, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology from the University of Louisiana at Monroe in 2023. This included the completion of 1,100 clinical hours. Petitioner completed the Radiology Education Online course in the areas of chest, spine, and extremities. Petitioner achieved a passing score on all 5 sections of the ARRT limited scope examination in October of 2024. Petitioner did not complete the coursework required in Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0880-05-.05(2). There is a significant need for a Limited X-Ray Operator with Petitioner's qualifications in Tennessee. The petition for Declaratory Order, for this Petitioner, and the relief requested therein was approved.

**This concludes the first panel of Declaratory Order Hearings.**

The second declaratory order hearing meeting of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners was called to order at 3:30 p.m. virtually via Microsoft Teams by the Honorable Rachel Waterhouse, Administrative Law Judge for the Department of Health

**Declaratory Order Hearing – Microsoft Teams**

**Balbir Kumar, MD v. State of Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners**

**Microsoft Teams**

**Administrative Law Judge: Rachel Waterhouse**

**Panelists: Keith Anderson, MD, Randall Pearson, MD, and Deborah Christiansen, MD**

**Counsel for State: Michael Varnell, Deputy General Counsel**

**Counsel for Petitioner: Kimberly Silvus**

A panel of the Board, chaired by Dr. Keith Anderson, 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, Balbir Kumar, M.B.B.S., M.D., FIPC, completed a six-year medical degree program at the Government Medical College Jammu in Jammu and Kashmir, India, and graduated in 2006 with a Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery (M.B.B.S.). Government Medical College Jammu is recognized by the Medical Board of California and is listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools. From July 2012 to June 2015, Dr. Kumar completed postgraduate training at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh, India, graduating in 2015 with an MD of Anesthesia. From January 2016 to April 2018, Dr. Kumar completed a senior residency at PGIMER. From July 2018 to June 2019, Dr. Kumar completed a second senior residency at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi, India. AIIMS is recognized by the Medical Board of California and is listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools. From July 2019 to November 2019, Dr. Kumar was a Consultant Anesthesiologist at Venkateshwar Hospital in Dwarka, New Delhi, India. From December 2019 to June 2023, Dr. Kumar worked as an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology, and from July 2023 to the present as an Associate Professor of Anesthesiology in the Division of Onco-Anesthesia and Palliative Medicine at the National Cancer Institute at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi, India. Dr. Kumar has passed the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Steps 1 and 2. The Petitioner has made significant academic contributions to the field, having published over 35 peer-reviewed articles in renowned medical journals and given multiple lectures to national

audiences in India. The Petitioner was awarded an international travel grant to present his scientific studies at the 2018 World Pain Congress, hosted by the International Association for the Study of Pain. Between 2006 and 2012, Dr. Kumar held various medical officer roles, gaining experience providing care for a wide range of patients. The Petitioner has obtained his ECFMG Certification. The Petitioner received post-graduate training at the two highest ranked medical institutions in India. The Petitioner has been practicing anesthesiology at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) since December 2019. The NCI at AIIMS is a state-of-the-art medical center and considered an equivalent to facilities like MD Anderson and Memorial Sloan Kettering in the United States. 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 5.5 years of medical school, six and one-half years of postgraduate training in anesthesia and has been working as an anesthesiologist for six 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) or complete Step 3 of the USMLE pursuant to Rules 0880-02-.04(4) and 0880-02-.4(10), his education, training, experience, and skillset meet or exceed any competency requirement for physicians in the State of Tennessee. Specifically, his six and one-half years of post-graduate training 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 second panel of Declaratory Order Hearings.**