



Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
and Athletic Trainers Board

Athletic Trainers Section
April 30, 2021
12:15 PM

Virtual meeting held via Microsoft Teams

Members Present

Trevor Bates, Chair
Benjamin Burkam MD, Secretary
Hollie Kozak
Gary Lake
Jeff Sczpanski

Legal Counsel

Emily Pelfrey, AAG
Lindsay Miller, AAG
JT Wakley, AAG

Call to Order

Trevor Bates, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:18 PM.

Roll call by Director Anthony:

Trevor Bates,
Ben Burkam
Hollie Kozak
Gary Lake
Jeff Sczpanski

Goldman Hearing

Good afternoon. My name is Trevor Bates, Chairperson of the Athletic Trainer's Section of the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board. Let the record show that this proceeding was called to order at 12:19 PM on April 30, 2021, in an online board meeting held on Microsoft Teams.

Members of the Board present for the proceeding are:

Trevor Bates
Ben Burkam
Hollie Kozak
Gary Lake
Jeff Sczpanski

It will be noted for the record that a majority of the members of the Board are present.

There will be one adjudication proceeding today. The proceeding is in the matter of **Lauren Goforth, case #AT-20-045A**.

This proceeding shall be an affidavit-based adjudication relative to the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed to the respondent in the aforementioned case and believed to have been properly served according to the Administrative Procedures Act (Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code).

As the respondent declined to have a hearing in the case, this proceeding will be held before the Board pursuant to *Goldman v. State Medical Board of Ohio*. The individual named does not have the ability to present written or oral testimony today but may be present to hear the proceeding and outcome.

You have already received a sworn affidavit from the Board's Enforcement Division Supervisor, and the accompanying exhibits for the Goldman Proceeding in your Board packet. The affidavit contains the evidence and testimony upon which you will deliberate. Please take a few moments to review the evidence and testimony.

In lieu of a stenographic record being made, let the minutes reflect that the original sworn affidavit and exhibits shall be kept as the official record of the proceeding in the aforementioned matter in the Board office.

I will now recognize Assistant Attorney General, Emily Pelphey, for the purpose of providing a brief synopsis of the case. Ms. Pelphey, you may present your case.

Ms. Pelphey asked Jeffery Duvall, Enforcement Division Supervisor to provide testimony for this case.

Having heard Mr. Duvall's testimony, may I now have a motion to admit the facts and exhibits outlined in the sworn affidavit in the aforementioned case into evidence.

Motion made by Jeff Sczpanski, second by Gary Lake. Motion passed. Hollie Kozak abstained.

I remind the Board that Pursuant to Section 4755.64(A) of the Ohio Revised Code, you may dismiss the charges against Lauren Goforth if you find they are not supported by reliable, probative, and substantial evidence, or if you find the charges are supported by a preponderance of the evidence – or 51% that it more likely happened than not, you may impose the following on Lauren Goforth license:

- Limit
- Suspend
- Revoke
- Reprimand
- Fine
- Place on probation
- Require corrective action courses

There were no questions concerning the range of possible actions available to the Board.

There being no further evidence to come before the Board, this proceeding is now closed at 12:39 PM.

The procedural and jurisdictional matters having been satisfied, we will now continue with the proceeding by deliberation on the sworn affidavit and exhibits.

At this time, is there a motion to recess the meeting in order to go into private session for the purpose of quasi-judicial deliberation on **Lauren Goforth, case #AT-20-045A** and to reconvene the meeting after deliberations are complete.

Motion made by Jeff Sczpanski, second by Gary Lake. Motion passed.

Roll call:

Trevor Bates
Ben Burkam
Hollie Kozak
Gary Lake
Jeff Sczpanski

Meeting is recessed at 12:41 PM to enter private session for the purpose of quasi-judicial deliberation. Executive Director Missy Anthony, Lindsay Miller and JT Wakley were requested to attend the private session. Hollie Kozak has abstained herself from attending the session.

The Section came out of private session and reconvened the Board meeting at 1:13 PM.

Chair Trevor Bates asked for a motion and the Section's decision regarding findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order of the Section.

Findings of Fact:

- 1) Ms. Goforth was employed by Reid Hospital while working as an athletic trainer at Preble Shawnee High School between the months of September 2015 and October 2015.
- 2) Patient 1 was a minor patient of Ms. Goforth during the months of September 2015 and October 2015 as well as Summer 2015.
- 3) Beginning Summer of 2015 Ms. Goforth did enter into an inappropriate sexual relationship with minor patient 1.
- 4) Ms. Goforth intended to deceive the OTPTAT investigator in her written affidavit.

Jeff Sczpanski made a motion to accept the findings of fact. Gary Lake seconded the motion. Motion passed. Hollie Kozak abstained

Conclusions of Law:

- 1) Ms. Goforth was properly served with a Notice of Opportunity of Hearing pursuant to R.C. 119.07.
- 2) R.C. 119.07 required Ms. Goforth to request a hearing within 30 days of the mailing of the Notice of Opportunity of Hearing in which Ms. Goforth did not respond.
- 3) The OTPTAT Board had jurisdiction to conduct a hearing in this matter pursuant to Goldman v. State Medical Board of Ohio.
- 4) Ms. Goforth entered into a sexual relationship with a patient/minor/student during the course of her practice as an athletic trainer and violated Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code as set forth in the Notice of Opportunity of Hearing in Count 1, 2 and 3.
- 5) Ms. Goforth deceived the investigator of the OTPTAT Board and violated Ohio Revised Code section 4755.64(F)(6).

Jeff Sczpanski made a motion to accept the conclusions of law. Gary Lake seconded the motion. Motion passed. Hollie Kozak abstained.

Order of the Section:

The order of the section is to revoke the license of Lauren Goforth.

Jeff Sczpanski made a motion, second by Gary Lake to accept the order of the section. Motion passed. Hollie Kozak abstained.

The Executive Director is hereby instructed to prepare an adjudication order to carry out the mandates of this Board and serve the order on **Lauren Goforth, case # AT-20-045A** in the manner prescribed by law.

This concludes the matter of **Lauren Goforth, case number AT-20-045A**.

Correspondence

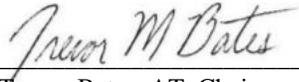
Discussion regarding suturing.

Adjournment

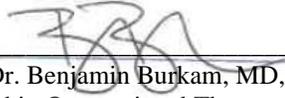
Motion to adjourn meeting by Hollie Kozak, second by Gary Lake. There being no further business and no objections, Trevor Bates adjourned the meeting at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Hills



Trevor Bates, AT, Chair
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
and Athletic Trainers Board, AT Section



Dr. Benjamin Burkam, MD, Secretary
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
and Athletic Trainers Board, AT Section



Missy Anthony, Executive Director
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy
and Athletic Trainers Board