

IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE

THE LICENSE OF

WILLIAM NOEL HAWKINS, M.D.

TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

AGREED ORDER

On the 17 day of October, 2025, came on to be heard before the Texas Medical Board (the Board), duly in session, the matter of the license of William Hawkins, MD (Respondent).

On August 5, 2025, Respondent appeared by videoconference, with counsel at an Informal Show Compliance Proceeding and Settlement Conference in response to a letter of invitation from the staff of the Board. The Board's representatives were Luann R. Morgan, a member of the Board, and Ivan Rovner, M.D., a member of a District Review Committee (Panel). Respondent was represented by Maggie Layrisson. Kerby Blanchard, J.D. represented Board Staff and drafted this Order.

BOARD CHARGES

Board Staff charged that Respondent did not meet the standard of care in treatment of one patient, as well as her unborn child. Respondent failed to appropriately treat the patient's fever and pain and therefore the patient was inappropriately discharged. This delay in care ultimately resulted in the death of both the patient and her unborn child due to complications of pregnancy.

BOARD HISTORY

Respondent has previously been the subject of disciplinary action by the Board.

On December 4, 2015, the Board and Respondent, entered into an Agreed Order requiring Respondent to have his practice monitored by another physician for 12 consecutive monitoring cycles; and within one year complete at least 16 hours of in-person CME, divided as follows: four hours in providing proper informed consent and eight hours in obstetrics and/or gynecology. The

Board found Respondent failed to meet the standard of care for three patients. Specifically, Respondent failed to diagnose and treat one patient for appendicitis, failed to perform a tubal ligation procedure as discussed with a patient, failed to diagnose a patient's syphilis infection and failed to document prenatal testing orders and results for the patient. Respondent's treatment for the three patients resulted in the patient's failing malpractice claims against Respondent. Additionally, Respondent settled three other claims for \$50,000 or more in the last five years.

On March 4, 2016, the Board entered a Nunc pro Tunc Order regarding Respondent's December 2015 Order, correcting ordering paragraph No. 2 of the Order. The Order is changed from eight hours to twelve hours of CME in obstetrics and/or gynecology. All other provisions of the Order remain in full force.

Upon the recommendation of the Board's representatives and with the consent of Respondent, the Board makes the following Findings and Conclusions of Law and enters this Agreed Order.

FINDINGS

The Board finds the following:

1. General Findings:
 - a. Respondent received all notice required by law. All jurisdictional requirements have been satisfied. Respondent waives any defect in notice and any further right to notice or hearing under the Medical Practice Act, Title 3, Subtitle B, Texas Occupations Code (the Act) or the Rules of the Board.
 - b. Respondent currently holds Texas Medical License No. J4850. Respondent was originally issued this license to practice medicine in Texas on November 20, 1993. Respondent is not licensed to practice in any other state.
 - c. Respondent is primarily engaged in the practice of obstetrics & gynecology. Respondent is board certified by the American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology, a member of the American Board of Medical Specialties.

2. Specific Panel Findings:
 - a. Respondent did not recognize the patient's immediate need for hospitalization and further evaluation.
 - b. Respondent inappropriately discharged the patient even though she continued to have pain and a 103 degree fever despite the administration of medications.
 - c. When the patient was discharged the infant had fetal tachycardia.
 - d. Respondent did not acknowledge the patient's positive screening for SIRS/Sepsis.
 - e. Patient visited the emergency department one more time after being discharged by Respondent and patient and fetus ultimately passed away due to complications of pregnancy and delay of adequate care.

3. Mitigating Factors: In determining the appropriate sanctions in this matter, the Panel considered the following mitigating factors: Respondent has cooperated in the investigation of the allegations related to this Agreed Order. Respondent neither admits nor denies the information given above. To avoid further investigation, hearings, and the expense and inconvenience of litigation, Respondent agrees to the entry of this Agreed Order and to comply with its terms and conditions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above Findings, the Board concludes that:

1. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent pursuant to the Act.
2. Section 164.001 of the Act authorizes the Board to impose a range of disciplinary actions against a person for violation of the Act or a Board rule.
3. Section 164.002(a) of the Act authorizes the Board to resolve and make a disposition of this matter through an Agreed Order.
4. Section 164.051(a)(6) of the Act authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action against Respondent based on Respondent's failure to practice medicine in an acceptable professional manner consistent with public health and welfare as defined by Board Rules: 190.8(1)(A), failure to treat a patient according to the generally accepted standard of care;

190.8(1)(C), failure to use proper diligence in one's professional practice; and 190.8(1)(D), failure to safeguard against potential complications.

ORDER

Based on the above Findings and Conclusions of Law, the Board ORDERS that Respondent shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Within 1 year from the date of entry of this Order, Respondent shall enroll and successfully complete at least eight (8) hours of continuing medical education (CME) approved for Category I credits by the American Medical Association or the American Osteopathic Association, divided as follows: four (4) hours on the topic of risk management, and four (4) hours on the topic of identifying and managing infection during pregnancy; each approved in writing in advance by the Executive Director or a designee. To obtain approval for the course, Respondent shall submit in writing to the Compliance Department information on the course, to include at least a reasonably detailed description of the course content and faculty, as well as the course location and dates of instruction. Respondent shall submit documentation of attendance and successful completion of this requirement to the Compliance Department on or before the expiration of the time limit set forth for completion of the course. The CME requirements set forth in this paragraph shall be in addition to all other CME required for licensure maintenance.

2. At all times while Respondent is under the terms of this Order, Respondent shall give a copy of this Order to all hospitals, nursing homes, treatment facilities, and other health care entities in Texas where Respondent has privileges, has pending an application for privileges, applies for privileges, or otherwise practices. Within 30 days of being first contacted by the Compliance Division of the Board following entry of this Order, Respondent shall provide to the Compliance Division of the Board documentation, including proof of delivery, that the Order was delivered to all such facilities.

3. The time period of this Order shall be extended for any period of time that: (a) Respondent subsequently practices exclusively outside the State of Texas; (b) the licensee's license is cancelled for nonpayment of licensure fees; (c) this Order is stayed or enjoined by Court Order; or (d) for any period of time longer than 60 consecutive days that Respondent does not actively practice medicine and such cessation in practice is NOT due to a suspension of Respondent's license. Respondent shall immediately notify the Board in writing in the event that

Respondent leaves Texas to practice elsewhere or ceases active practice for more than 60 consecutive days. Upon Respondent's return to active practice or return to Texas, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing. Upon return to Texas or active practice, Respondent shall be required to comply with the terms of this Order for the period of time remaining on the Order. Respondent shall pay all fees for reinstatement or renewal of a license covering the period of extension or tolling. Tolling shall be in accordance with Board Rules.

4. Respondent shall comply with all the provisions of the Act and other statutes regulating the Respondent's practice.

5. Respondent shall fully cooperate with the Board and the Board staff, including Board attorneys, investigators, compliance officers, consultants, and other employees or agents of the Board in any way involved in investigation, review, or monitoring associated with Respondent's compliance with this Order. Failure to fully cooperate shall constitute a violation of this order and a basis for disciplinary action against Respondent pursuant to the Act.

6. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing of any change of Respondent's practice or mailing address within 10 days of the address change. Respondent shall also provide an email address to the Board and inform the Board with 10 days of any change to the email address. This information shall be submitted to the Registrations Department and the Compliance Department of the Board. Failure to provide such information in a timely manner shall constitute a basis for disciplinary action by the Board against Respondent pursuant to the Act. Respondent agrees that 10 days' notice of a Probationer Show Compliance Proceeding to address any allegation of non-compliance with this Agreed Order is adequate and reasonable notice prior to the initiation of formal disciplinary action. Respondent agrees that any proceeding related to this Order may be held in person, by teleconference, or by videoconference at the discretion of the Board.

7. Any violation of the terms, conditions, or requirements of this Order by Respondent shall constitute unprofessional conduct likely to deceive or defraud the public, or to injure the public, and shall constitute a basis for disciplinary action by the Board against Respondent pursuant to the Act.

8. Respondent shall be permitted to supervise and delegate prescriptive authority to physician assistants and advanced practice nurses and to supervise surgical assistants.

9. This Order shall automatically terminate upon Respondent's submission of sufficient evidence to the Compliance Division of the Board that Respondent successfully completed the requirements ordered in Ordering Paragraph Nos. 1 and 2.

RESPONDENT WAIVES ANY FURTHER HEARINGS OR APPEALS TO THE BOARD OR TO ANY COURT IN REGARD TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREED ORDER. RESPONDENT AGREES THAT THIS IS A FINAL ORDER.

THIS ORDER IS A PUBLIC RECORD.

(SIGNATURE PAGES FOLLOW)

I, WILLIAM NOEL HAWKINS, M.D., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREED ORDER. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY. I UNDERSTAND THIS AGREED ORDER CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND, VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE.

DATED: September 18, 2025.

William Noel Hawkins
WILLIAM NOEL HAWKINS, M.D.
Respondent

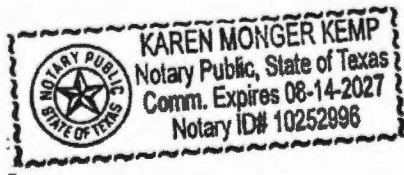
STATE OF Texas
COUNTY OF Jefferson

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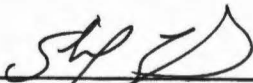
SWORN TO AND ACKNOWLEDGED BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary Public, on this 18 day of Sept., 2025.

Karen Monger Kemp
Signature of Notary Public

(Notary Seal)



SIGNED AND ENTERED by the presiding officer of the Texas Medical Board on this 17th
day of October, 2025.



Sherif Z. Zafran, M.D., President
Texas Medical Board