

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	BEFORE THE TENNESSEE
	)	BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
DONALD M. DENMARK, M.D.	)	
PETITIONER	)	
	)	
FRANKLIN, TN	)	DOCKET NO.: 17.18-131731A
	)	
PETITION FOR DECLARATORY	)	
ORDER	)	

RECEIVED  
2015 JUN 19 PM 3:42  
SECRETARY OF STATE

NOTICE OF HEARING

Comes now the Department of Health, Division of Health Related Boards, by and through counsel and gives notice that a Petition for Declaratory Order filed on behalf of Donald M. Denmark, M.D. (and attached hereto as Exhibit A) was granted by the Board from May to June 16, 2015 and referred for a contested case hearing, which shall be heard on July 22, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the Board may take this matter up. This case shall determine whether Dr. Denmark ("Petitioner") qualifies for the issuance of his Tennessee medical license.

PREPARED BY:

Andrea Huddleston, BPR # 016155  
Office of General Counsel  
Deputy General Counsel  
665 Mainstream Drive  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243  
(615) 741-1611

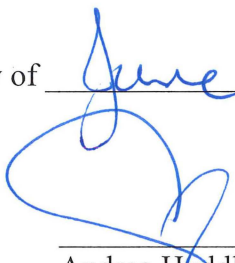
6-19-15  
DATE

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of this document has been served upon Donald M. Denmark, M.D. by and through his attorney by delivering same in the United States certified mail number **7014 3490 0000 6657 7906** and United States mail with sufficient postage thereon to reach its destination.

Josh A. McCreary  
Cope, Hudson, Reed & McCreary, PLLC  
16 Public Square North  
P O Box 884  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

This 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2015.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrea Huddleston  
Deputy General Counsel

A. L. TODD, JR. (1904-1975)

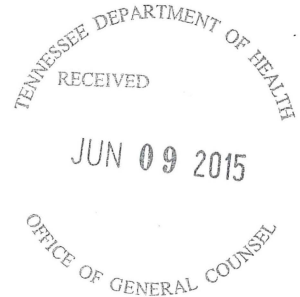
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June 8, 2015



**VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL**

Ms. Andrea Huddleston  
Chief Deputy – General Counsel  
State of Tennessee – Dept. of Health  
Office of General Counsel  
665 Main Stream Drive, 2nd Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243

Re: Petition for Declaratory Order/Dr. Donald Denmark

Dear Ms. Huddleston:

As I believe you were advised through email from Dr. Denmark, our office has assisted him with completion of a Petition for Declaratory Order before the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners. We have sent the original to the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners for filing at the address noted on your May 21, 2015 letter. I am enclosing a copy with this letter for your review.

In short, Dr. Denmark's request for a Tennessee Medical license was deferred on the basis that he had not completed one year of residency training as required by T.C.A. §63-6-207(a)(1)(C). Dr. Denmark has extensive medical experience as detailed in the Petition. He has held an unrestricted license to practice medicine in the states of California and Arizona. His experiences meet or exceed any residency requirement contained in the Tennessee Code or associated rules.

Please let us know how/when this Petition will be considered and whether Dr. Denmark's presence will be required.



Thank you for your assistance throughout this process. Please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,



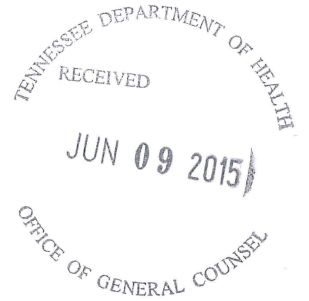
Josh A. McCreary

JAM/sh

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Donald Denmark

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY ORDER BEFORE  
THE TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



1. **NAME OF PETITIONER:**

Donald M. Denmark, MD, FAAFP, FCFP, MMM, CPE

2. **ADDRESS OF PETITIONER:**

**Home:** 217 Acadia Ave., Franklin, TN 37064

**Work:** St. Thomas Rutherford Hospital, 1700 Medical Center Parkway, Murfreesboro, TN 37129

**Phone**

**Numbers:** (Work) 615-396-4107; (Home) 615-905-8790, (Cell) 520-349-1893

3. **ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER:**

Josh A. McCreary (TN. BPR No. 19498)

Cope, Hudson, Reed & McCreary, PLLC

16 Public Square North

Murfreesboro, TN 37130

(615) 893-5522

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4. **AGENCY RULE, ORDER, OR STATUTORY PROVISION ON WHICH DECLARATORY ORDER IS SOUGHT:**

The relevant statutes and rules are: Tenn. Code Ann. §63-6-209(b); Tenn. Code Ann. §63-6-207 (a)(1)(C); and Tennessee Rule 0880-02-.03(3).

The Petitioner is requesting a waiver from the requirements of T.C.A. §63-6-207(a)(1)(C) and Tennessee Rule 0880-02-.03(3) based on the Board's authority in T.C.A. §63-6-209(b).

5. **STATEMENT OF THE FACTS OF THE CONTROVERSY AND DESCRIPTION OF HOW THIS RULE, ORDER OR STATUTE AFFECTS OR SHOULD AFFECT THE PETITIONER:**

Dr. Donald Denmark MD, FAAFP, FCFP, MMM, CPE has worked with Ascension Health for several years and was recently relocated from Tucson, AZ (Carondelet Health Network) to work with St Thomas Health (an Ascension Health Ministry serving the Middle Tennessee region) in Middle Tennessee. Utilizing his background and experiences, Dr. Denmark will be working with St. Thomas Health to address medical staff affairs/governance, quality and patient safety issues, organizational/operational structure, and the development and design of a Clinically Integrated System of Care using evidence based medicine, clinical care models, and best practices to improve the health and clinical outcomes for the people served in Middle Tennessee.

Per the request of his employer, St Thomas Health, Dr. Denmark applied for a Tennessee Medical License. The issuance of the license has been deferred on the basis that he has not completed one (1) year of residency training in the United States in accordance

with Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-6-207(a)(1)(C) and Rule 0880-02-.03(3). He is filing this Petition seeking a license pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §63-6-209(b), which states, in part, that the Board has the authority to issue licenses “as it deems appropriate after reviewing the qualifications of the applicants.” Dr. Denmark has extensive training and experience in clinical trials, teaching, and administrative leadership, as outlined below. He has also held unrestricted medical licenses in more than one State. These experiences meet or exceed any residency requirement.

Dr. Denmark completed his undergraduate (B. Med. Sc. 1969 -1973) and graduate (MD 1971 - 1975) degrees at the University of Alberta (Canada) and his post-graduate training at the University of Western Ontario (1975 – 1977). He passed his LMCC in 1975 and CCFP in 1977. He held an unrestricted medical license in the province of Ontario from 1976 to 1994.

Dr. Denmark was initially recruited to the United States from Ontario, Canada in 1993 by Integris Health in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He went to Oklahoma on a research and teaching visa to help Integris Health design a community based family practice residency program with the goal of educating and equipping physicians to practice in rural community settings. Integris Health sought Dr. Denmark’s extensive experience in clinical trials, primary care research, and rural community based primary care practices. Dr. Denmark’s extensive experiences in these areas were desired assets for the vision and commitment that Integris Health had for the constituents of the state of Oklahoma and the communities that Integris Health served. In 1995, while living in Oklahoma, Dr. Denmark obtained a green card and is now a U.S. citizen (September, 2003).

While in Oklahoma, Dr. Denmark obtained and held an unrestricted medical license in the state of Oklahoma. He participated in a full time medical practice and as a faculty member for the Great Plains Family Practice Residency Program in Oklahoma City. In 2005, he was recognized by the residents for his contributions to the program by being voted by the graduating residents as the “Outstanding Faculty Member.” During this time, he also held numerous medical staff leadership positions and several Medical Director roles for Integris Physician Services Inc. (IPSI). Moreover, he served as Medical Director for clinical research (Lynn Health Sciences Center and IPSI Clinical Research Division) and principal investigator for clinical trials and original research.

Dr. Denmark completed his board certification with the American Academy of Family Practice (2000) while maintaining his Canadian Board Certification and is a Fellow of both the American Academy of Family Practice and the Canadian College of Family Practice. He has presented at national conferences on clinical and medical management topics, published articles on healthcare operational topics, and is a regular reviewer for article submissions to Family Practice Management (a publication of the AAFP). He also has extensive experience with Clinical Informatics and has been a regular presenter at national informatics conferences as well as being on the Cerner Physician Advisory Council and the Zynx Health Physician Advisory Council.

In 2006, Dr. Denmark relocated to Northern California to work with NorthBay Healthcare Group as a Vice President of Medical Affairs. During his time at NorthBay, he was very involved in medical staff affairs and physician governance, clinical informatics (having attained level 6 HIMSS status for NorthBay Healthcare with integrated hospital and ambulatory EMR), and CMS and TJC accreditation. While in California, Dr. Denmark obtained and held an unrestricted California medical license.

While working at NorthBay, Dr. Denmark attained his Certified Physician Executive

(CPE) degree with the American Association for Physician Leadership (formerly the American College of Physician Executives - ACPE) and his Masters of Medical Management (MMM) from the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at Tulane University. Upon graduation, he was recognized by the faculty as the Most Outstanding Student of the cohort.

In 2011, Dr. Denmark accepted the position of Chief Medical Officer for Carondelet St. Joseph's Hospital in Tucson, AZ. He was later moved into senior administration as the Chief Medical Officer for the Carondelet Health Network. In addition to performing his regular regional duties, Dr. Denmark also participated on national committees with Ascension Health that addressed clinical informatics, quality, and patient safety issues. During his time, Dr. Denmark designed and led a CMS initiative on reducing readmission that was nationally recognized for its innovation and success in reducing readmissions, improving patient clinical outcomes, and demonstrating the success of clinically integrated systems of care. He participated in several national webinars and as a coach for leaders in developing programs in the western region. While in Arizona, Dr. Denmark obtained and currently holds an unrestricted medical license in the state of Arizona.

Dr. Denmark continues to work on physician education through the Institute of Healthcare Communication as a certified facilitator for "Communicate Openly and Resolve Early" ("CORE"). CORE is a nationally recognized risk mitigation tool that addresses unanticipated outcomes and improved communication skills.

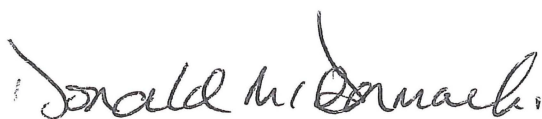
**6 DESCRIPTION OF REQUESTED RULING:**

Tennessee Code Annotated § 63-6-209(b) grants the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners expansive authority to issue and condition licenses as it deems appropriate. Dr. Denmark is currently employed and working with St. Thomas Health in the capacity of Chief Medical Officer. He seeks relief from the Board in the form of an Order that grants him a full, unrestricted license to practice medicine in the State of Tennessee and states that Dr. Denmark's postgraduate education (completion of the Family Practice Residency Program at the University of Western Ontario), academic faculty position (11 years) with the Great Plains Family Practice Residency Program and obtaining unrestricted medical licenses in Arizona and California, meets or exceeds the residency training requirements of Rule 0880-02-.03(3) and/or Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-6-207(a)(1)(C).

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF  
JUNE, 2015;

By: 

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