

IN THE MATTER OF
FARRAH ARSENIA AGUSTIN-BUNCH

BEFORE THE
TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

On the 9th day of September, 2022, this matter was heard before the Texas Medical Board (Board). Farrah Arsenia Agustin-Bunch, (Respondent), after receiving proper notice, did not appear but her counsel, Igor Brusil, did appear via videoconference. The Board Panel was represented by Sharon J. Barnes, and James S. Distefano, D.O., members of the Board (Panel). Preston Tom represented Board staff.

After hearing the evidence presented by Board staff, the Panel makes the following Findings and Conclusions of Law and directs the Executive Director of the Board to execute this Cease and Desist Order pursuant to authority granted to him by the Board.

FINDINGS

The Board finds that:

1. Respondent received all notice required by law and all jurisdictional requirements have been satisfied.
2. Respondent is not licensed to practice medicine in Texas.
3. Respondent has resided in Texas since 2020 and has availed herself to the laws of Texas.
4. Respondent operates www.doctorfarrah.com as well as a number of social media sites identifying herself as “Doctor Farrah”, “Dr. Farrah”, or “Dr. Farrah Agustin-Bunch, M.D.” Regarding Respondent’s website, there are a number of articles published in which she offers medical advice and services to diagnose and treat ailments and diseases. Respondent also sells various supplements such as Boston C concentrate, Pixie Dust/Magnesium Citrate, and Mega-Dose Vitamin C – Ascorbic Acid to treat these ailments and diseases. On her social media sites, Respondent advertises herself as a doctor and made posts speaking as a physician on medical issues and asserts that based on her medical knowledge, her supplements should be used to treat ailments such as cancer, diabetes, and heart diseases.

5. Respondent did not properly designate the authority or college that gave rise for Respondent to use the title of “doctor.”

6. Respondent received a warning letter from the Food and Drug Administration notifying her that her products are misbranded and cannot be advertised as a treatment for certain diseases.

7. Respondent has cooperated in the investigation of the allegations related to this Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on these Findings, the Board concludes as follows:

1. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent pursuant to the Medical Practice Act, Title 3, Subtitle B, TEX. OCC. CODE ANN. §§151.001 *ET SEQ.* (VERNON SUPP. 2019).

2. Section 151.002 of the Medical Practice Act, TEX. OCC. CODE, Title 3 Subtitle B, §§151.001 *et seq.* (Vernon Supp. 2021) (Act) provides that a person engages in the practice of medicine when the person diagnoses, treats or offers to treat a mental or physical disease or disorder or a physical deformity or injury by any system or method, or attempts to effect cures of those conditions, when the person publicly professes to be a physician or surgeon or directly or indirectly charges money or other compensation for those services.

3. Section 155.001 of the Medical Practice Act provides that a person may not practice medicine in this state unless the person holds a license issued under the subtitle.

4. Section 165.159 of the Medical Practice Act provides that a person commits an offense if the person practices medicine without complying with the registration requirement imposed by the Act.

5. Section 165.052 of the Act authorizes the Board to issue a cease and desist order prohibiting a person from engaging in any activity in violation of the Medical Practice Act or Board rules after notice and an opportunity for hearing.

6. 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 187 sets forth the Board’s procedural rules for all Board proceedings; Subchapter I, Chapter 187, sets forth the Board’s rules regarding cease and desist proceedings.

7. Sections 165.101 and 165.103 of the Medical Practice Act provide that any violation of this Order constitutes grounds for imposing a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation, and for recovery of the reasonable expenses of litigation, by action of the Attorney General, and each day a violation continues constitutes a separate violation.

ORDER

Based on the Findings and Conclusions of Law the Board ORDERS that:

1. Respondent is prohibited from acting as, or holding herself out to be, a licensed physician in the State of Texas.

2. Respondent shall cease and desist any unlicensed practice of medicine in the State of Texas from and after the date of entry of this Order.

3. Any violation of this Order constitutes grounds for imposing an administrative penalty of up to \$5,000 for each violation, and/or each day of a continuing violation, of the Medical Practice Act.

THIS ORDER IS A PUBLIC RECORD.

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the Executive Director of the Board on this 12th day of
September 2022.



Stephen Brint Carlton, J.D.
Executive Director
Texas Medical Board