

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF**
2 **PODIATRY EXAMINERS**

3 IN THE MATTER OF:

4 **HUGH HALL, DPM,**

5 **Holder of License No. POD-000640**

6 For the Practice of Podiatry

7 In the State of Arizona.

Case No.: 22-22-C

**ORDER FOR CONTINUING
EDUCATION**

(NON-DISCIPLINARY)

8 At its meeting on April 12, 2023, the Arizona State Board of Podiatry Examiners (Board)
9 voted to issue Hugh Hall, DPM (Respondent), a non-disciplinary Continuing Education (CE)
10 Order (Order) to address issues raised in the complaint and the Board's subsequent investigation.
11 Dr. Hall appeared personally and on his own behalf. The Board, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-
12 852.01(C)(3), determined that while the conduct was not of sufficient seriousness to merit direct
13 action, Respondent would benefit from completing a prescribed number of hours of CE in a
14 specific practice area or areas for purposes of providing him with the necessary understanding of
15 current developments, skills, procedures or treatment.

16 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

17 1. The Board is the duly constituted agency for licensing and regulating the practice
18 of podiatry in the State of Arizona and has jurisdiction over Respondent as a licensee of the Board
19 and the subject matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-801, *et seq.*

20 2. Respondent is the holder of License Number POD-000640 which enables him to
21 practice podiatry in the State of Arizona.

22 3. At the Board's April 12, 2023, meeting it voted to issue this Order for Continuing
23 Education. The Board found that the Respondent's record keeping and bill coding did not comply
24 with minimum standards. The Board's concerns are noted in paragraphs four (4) through sixteen
25 (16).

26 4. Respondent did not document in the patient chart his reasoning as to why the patient
 needed surgery.

1 5. Respondent did not record the findings of the pre-operative imaging in the patient
2 chart.

3 6. Respondent failed to document any pain appreciated by the patient nor did he note
4 any swelling or bruising to the left foot despite the diagnosis of a Lisfranc fracture-dislocation.

5 7. Respondent did not document the surgical procedure to be performed in the
6 patient's chart. There were inconsistencies of the actual surgical date in the patient's chart.

7 8. Respondent did not retain a copy of the Informed Consent form signed by the
8 patient.

9 9. Respondent failed to document that the patient was pregnant.

10 10. Respondent did not document if the patient was appropriately shielded while being
11 x-rayed.

12 11. Respondent did not document whether the patient had a 5TH metatarsal fracture.

13 12. Respondent failed to record post-operative care in the patient's chart.

14 13. Respondent did not document a physical exam or x-ray findings at the patient's
15 September 13, October 4, or December 13, 2022, visits.

16 14. Respondent did not clearly document whether patient attended physical therapy.

17 15. Respondent did not timely review and sign the medical records.

18 16. Respondent utilized CPT 28615 for a fracture dislocation. CPT 28485 is a more
19 appropriate CPT.

20 17. Given the poor quality of the Respondent's records, the Board opined that another
21 health care provider would find it difficult to follow Respondent's care of the patient.

22 18. Based on the investigative record and the discussion with the Respondent, including
23 the issues noted above, the Board found that the Respondent would benefit from Continuing
24 Education in the area of medical documentation and coding.

25 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

26 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter and over Respondent
pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-801 *et seq.*

2. The Board has the authority to issue a non-disciplinary Order for Continuing Education pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-852.01(C)(3), if it believes the Respondent would benefit from completing a prescribed number of hours of CE in a specific practice area for purposes of providing him with the necessary understanding of current developments, skills, procedures or treatment.

ORDER

1. **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that within **six months** from the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall complete a minimum of **SIX (6)** total hours of Board pre-approved CE. Respondent shall complete **THREE (3)** hours of CE in each of the following areas: documentation/record keeping and coding. The CE hours shall be in addition to the hours required for the annual renewal of his podiatry license.

2. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent shall, within **six months** of the effective date of this Order, provide Board staff with proof of attendance in satisfaction of this requirement.

3. Respondent shall within **SIXTY (60)** days of the effective date of this order submit his request for CE to the Board for pre-approval.

4. Respondent's failure to timely comply with the Order may subject him to future disciplinary action by the Board. A.R.S. § 32-854.01(21).

5. The effective date of the Order is the date it is signed by the Board President.

RIGHT TO APPEAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.03(B), you may request a formal hearing by notifying the Board in writing within thirty-five (35) days from date of this Order. If you request a formal hearing, you also have the right to request an informal settlement conference by filing a written request with the Board, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.06, no later than twenty (20) days before the scheduled hearing. The conference will be held within fifteen (15) days after receipt of your request. Please note that you waive any right

1 to object to the participation of the Board's representative in the final administrative decision of
2 the matter if it is not settled at the conference.

3 DATED THIS 17TH DAY OF APRIL, 2023,

4 ARIZONA BOARD OF PODIATRY EXAMINERS

5
6 By: Barbara A. Campbell, D.P.M.
7 Barbara A. Campbell, D.P.M., Board President

8 Original of the foregoing was e-filed
9 this 17th day of April, 2023 with the:

10 Arizona State Board of Podiatry Examiners
11 1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3004
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

12 Copies of the foregoing sent by Electronic,
13 Certified and Regular mail
this 17th day of April, 2023, to:

14 Hugh Hall, DPM
15 Address of Record
Respondent

16 Copy of the foregoing sent via Electronic mail
17 this 17th day of April, 2023, to:

18 Jeanne Galvin, Esq.
19 Assistant Attorney General
20 2005 N. Central Avenue, SGD/LES
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
Attorney for the Board