



The Governor's Working Group on Richard Strauss  
C/O: Director Thomas J. Stickrath, J.D.  
Ohio Department of Public Safety  
1970 W Broad St.  
Columbus, OH 43223

March 16, 2020

Director Stickrath and Members of the Governor's Working Group on Richard Strauss:

On behalf of the State Medical Board of Ohio (SMBO) members and staff, I have attached the Board's updated project plan for implementing the Working Group's suggested changes to SMBO processes and procedures. Progress continues for all identified areas for improvement or implementation. In fact, the SMBO staff continues to provide day to day feedback and helpful suggestions as we incorporate the many suggestions from the Working Group. We are very pleased to report that this historical case review has made significant progress since the last report.

With respect to the historical case review, approximately 20 external reviewers have reviewed complaints for

over 200 of the 1250 licensees that need to be reviewed. Many licensees under review have multiple complaints. Upon completion of the external review, SMBO staff conducts quality assurance. Once a reviewer has passed quality assurance, every completed review still gets a quick check to make sure that all items are accounted for in the review. SMBO staff is working on the process of what happens when a review is completed. We have created an SMBO team of investigators, enforcement attorneys and a victim advocate who will chart the next steps for all cases recommended for "reopen". In next month's report, we should have a better idea of a percentage trend of what will be reopened. Our initial reviews seem abnormally high for reopen because we prioritized the most complex cases. We are encouraged with the progress of the external reviews.



At the March 11, 2020 SMBO meeting, the sexual misconduct committee reviewed the package of proposed legislation responsive to the Working Group's suggested changes. Input and further suggestions were provided by board members. SMBO staff will work to address the board comments and then reach out to interested parties for additional input. After final review and approval from the board, SMBO staff will engage in a legislative strategy. SMBO staff anticipates different stakeholder concerns with key pieces of the legislative package. We will work to address those concerns while ensuring that we remain focused on the intent of the changes.

An open invitation stands for all Working Group members wishing to attend our monthly sexual misconduct subcommittee meetings. As of today, our next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. on the 3rd floor in the Rhodes Tower, 30 East Broad Street, 43215. We will let you know if the time for the meeting changes.

We remain grateful for the partnership of the Working Group as we continue our critical mission to ensure the health and safety of the patients of Ohio.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MS', is positioned above the typed name.

Michael Schottenstein, M.D.  
President, State Medical Board of Ohio