

revoked by Order of the Board effective December 1, 2016. Dr. Bittner submitted an application for reinstatement of his license on December 10, 2019.

2. By Order entered December 29, 2008, the Board reprimanded Dr. Bittner, required him to complete a total of 30 hours continuing medical education in the subjects of medical recordkeeping and documentation and proper prescribing of controlled substances, and required him to submit written certification that he had read, and would comply with, the Drug Control Act (Virginia Code Title 54.1, Chapter 34). This Order was based on findings that Dr. Bittner had prescribed controlled medications to a patient without proper assessment, diagnosis, and documentation, and that he had failed to maintain controlled substances in his practice in a safe and secure manner. By letter dated July 30, 2009, the Board acknowledged that Dr. Bittner had complied with the terms of this Order.

3. By Order entered October 31, 2016, the Board revoked Dr. Bittner's license, effective December 1, 2016. This Order was based on findings that despite fulfilling the requirements of the prior Order, between 2010 and 2016, Dr. Bittner engaged in an egregious pattern of prescribing controlled substances to numerous patients without conducting physical examinations, obtaining patients' prior medical records, documenting a diagnosis or adequate medical rationale, maintaining complete records, or monitoring and managing patients' use of controlled substances, despite evidence of adverse effects and of patients' substance misuse, abuse, or addiction.

4. Dr. Bittner has not practiced medicine since the revocation of his license on December 1, 2016.

5. At the hearing, Dr. Bittner testified that he knows he needs to focus on documentation of critical information, thereby making his documentation "sharper." He further stated that should he receive his license, he would not treat chronic pain or engage in pain management and will refer any patients in chronic pain to a pain management specialist. He further stated if he had a patient in acute