

**WV**  
William Vasilakis, PsyD  
Clinical Psychologist #5481

01/14/2025

**RE : Comprehensive Pain Management Institute, LLC (CPMI)**

Leon Margolin M.D. PhD,  
5245 E Main ST. Columbus, Ohio 43213

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to offer my strong support for Dr. Leon Margolin's practice, publications and advocacy for public safety via universal Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) for all patients prescribed opioids especially those at high risk, as well as his use of electrodiagnostic studies (NCS/EMG), autonomic studies to document organic pathology, such as neuropathic pain, in complex pain patients, procedures and other services of his program.

I am a licensed psychologist, who has certification in Addiction Medicine and has taken training in pain management counseling and evaluation. I had been a clinical director of a recovery program for Fairfield County, Ohio (please find my resume enclosed).

I have evaluated and followed up hundreds of Dr. Leon Margolin's patients (including the patient charts reviewed by the government regulators and the insurance companies ), however, I am not (and never was) an employee, colleague, or social friend of Dr. Margolin; I have never received any payment or remuneration for my expert reviews or Dr. Margolin and his practice .

Dr. Margolin and his program enhance our ability to safely manage high risk patients needing opioids medications, ultimately improving patient safety and reducing opioids mortality .This are supported by my clinical experience, independent studies and studies and publication by Dr. Margolin and his team. I fully endorse Dr. Margolin's presentations and publications (see [www.cpmiohio.com](http://www.cpmiohio.com)) based on my own clinical experience in the field of addiction and pain medicine in Ohio.

As a board-certified clinical psychologist, who has certification in addiction medicine with over 30 years of practice in OH, I have seen firsthand the value of Dr. Margolin's practice and the CPMI services in enhancing patient safety, documenting organic pathology, ensuring proper opioid prescribing, and improving outcomes (please find my resume enclosed).

Denial of such services or falsely labeling them as "unnecessary" puts the public at a significant risk. Since SBIRT helps to diagnose alcohol and drug use and aberrant drug seeking behavior, false labeling of the SBIR and other services, provided by Dr. Margolin,

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as “unnecessary” or “allowed only for patients with documented history of drug and alcohol abuse” is absurd. It is dangerous and can be responsible for hundreds of opioid deaths in Ohio. These services are supported by the evidence-based data published by NIH, SAMSHA, NIDA, Pew Institute and other agencies. In addition, these services and programs are cost effective and save limited Medicare and Medicaid resources.

Based on the review of the national academy (ABPMR) and the peer reviewed Dr. Margolin’s publication with Dr. Stroom (Director of Drug and alcohol services, Cleveland Clinic Foundation), Dr. Margolin’s program has diagnosed and referred to addiction medicine evaluation more than 3000 patients since 2011 saving several hundred lives and a very significant health care costs. In fact, Dr. Margolin was awarded the Ohio Top Doctor award for 2025 specifically for his excellence in the pain management program and the use of the SBIRT .

I think Dr. Margolin has created one of the best SBIRT programs in the state of Ohio which is medically necessary and fully compliant.

SBIRT is a critical component of responsible opioid prescribing. By screening patients for risk factors such as substance misuse, intervening early, and referring the patients for additional evaluation support, when necessary, SBIRT helps diagnose aberrant drug seeking behavior and save lives. SBIRT reduces healthcare costs, decreases substance misuse, and lessens the likelihood of overdose. This tool is particularly vital in high-risk populations regardless of documented prior history of addiction, alcohol or drug use, who are often at a greater risk of adverse outcomes from opioid treatment (like the patients in Dr. Margolin’s practice). We have to integrate the SBIRT as a universal precaution, and a standard of care required by the DOJ MATE act, SAMSHA, HHS, and other state and federal regulations.

The U.S. government, specifically the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), actively supports the use of SBIRT by providing funding for states as a mandatory, standard of care proactive approach to substance misuse prevention that saves lives.

I personally evaluated most of the patients that has NCS/EMG eletrodiagnostic testing at the CPMI/ DR. Margolin between 2012 and 2020, and I can attest to the complexity of this patients. Many of these patients who were on anticoagulation medications had significant psychopathology such as anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, PTSD that made the invasive test like needle EMG not possible and I recommended against the invasive needle testing. I also supported Dr. Margolin's practice of written consent for these procedures. To the best of my knowledge CPMI/Dr. Margolin is the only practice in Ohio that implemented I\*CARE MD Anderson excellence in patient communication protocol. I requested and received CPMI medical records on hundreds of patients. The records were provided efficiently, timely and in full compliance with HIPAA and 42 CFR part 2.

Services and methods provided by CPMI/Dr. Margolin are mandatory evidence based standard practice that offers a powerful approach to managing the challenges and the complexities of opoid pain and chronic pain treatment while effectively screening for aberrant drug seeking behavior.

In summary, the CPMI/ Dr.Margolin program that include SBIRT, office visits, electrodiagnostic and autonomic studies, procedures, patient education, psychological assessments and interventions collectively provide a framework for comprehensive risk management of patients on opioids medications that saves patient lives.

I offer this letter of support freely and without compensation, drawing upon my background and 30 years of experience of addiction and pain medicine in the state of Ohio. I laud Dr. Margolin commitment to research and public advocacy. Dr. Margolin used his own personal funds for research and free patient and public educational videos.

I am confident that Dr. Margolin's approach and research will enhance patient care and set a high standard for effective patient screening safe, responsible opioid prescribing, reducing opioids mortality and saving limited healthcare resources.

Warm regards,

*William Vasilakis, Psy.D.*  
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## **William H. Vasilakis, Psy.D.**

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Lancaster, OH 43130  
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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Hocking Valley Community Hospital**

Logan Ohio

Work with geriatric population, counsel veterans and perform Gastric Bypass evaluation, pain management evaluations. Current

#### **Apex Counseling**

Ph: 614-751-1090

General counseling, psychological testing, forensic evaluations and custody evaluations, Pain management (Spinal Stimulator Evaluations), Work with LHI (Logistics Health Institution) evaluating candidates for military service. Current

#### **Integrity Psychological Counseling, Inc**

2005-2012

42 Hill Road South Pickerington, Oh 43137

Private Practice specializing in forensic evaluation, dual diagnosis, addictions, counseling, competency evaluations, psychological evaluations, Impaneled with Tricare for referrals with current service personal and veterans PTSD diagnosis and counseling with veterans of WWII, Vietnam, Desert Storm  
Legal work for Fairfield County Court System.  
Bariatric & Gastric Bypass Evaluation, Spinal Stimulator Exams

#### **Senior Life Consultants**

2006-2011

6465 Reflections Drive, Suite 110  
Dublin, OH 43017

Nursing Home evaluations, counseling geriatric population, consultation with physicians competency evaluations

#### **Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility**

2006 - 2007

640 Island Road Circleville OH 43113

Clinical Experience: Psychology Supervisor.

Responsible for program development, scheduling, supervision of staff and caseloads, overall clinical management of institution, responsible for QI implementation and testing, and supervision of units.

#### **River Valley Counseling**

2001 - 2005

131 N. Ewing Street, Lancaster, OH 43130

Clinical Experience: Adult and adolescent individual and family psychotherapy, specialize in dual diagnoses; bariatric evaluations, spinal stimulator evaluations and evaluations for rehab, assessments for work injuries. BWC evaluations

#### **Fairfield Medical Center**

2001 -2012

401 North Ewing Street, Lancaster, OH 43130

Affiliate Staff Psychologist: Consultations, evaluations, therapy and triage of patients admitted to the Behavioral Health Unit.

**Drug & Alcohol Recovery Center of Fairfield County**

2000 -2001

1856 Cedar Hill Road, Lancaster, 01143130

Clinical Experience: Clinical Director: Responsible for program development, supervision of staff caseloads, crisis work, responsible for Q.I. implementation, and overall clinical management of agency.

**Maryville Academy City of Youth**

1996 - 1999

1150 North River Road, Des Plaines, Illinois 60016

Clinical Experience: Caseload involved assignment to two diagnostic group homes with youth and adolescents ages 7 years to 18 years. Tasks included psychological testing, individual therapy, develop group therapy for both group homes, court appearances on behalf of the youth, and staff training, and recommended alternate and additional placement and crisis intervention.  
Doctoral Internship Jan. 1995 to Jan. 1996

**Alexian Brothers Medical Center-Niehoff Mental Health Unit**

995 Beisner Road, Elk Grove, Illinois 60007

Supervisor John Noto, PH.D.

Clinical Experience: Psychological testing, psychological reports, individual assessments, diagnosis, in-patient admissions, case management, supervision of practicum students, led groups for substance abuse and dual-diagnosis.

**Samaritan House-Outpatient Adolescent Addictions**

1994 - 1994

999A Leichester Road, Elk Grove, Illinois 60007

Supervisor: John Noto, Ph.D.

Clinical experience: Led adolescent addiction therapy groups, parent education groups, psychological testing, led multi-family educational groups, drug screens.

**Alexian Brothers Medical Center-Addictions Treatment Center.**

1993 - 1993

800 Beisterfield Road, Elk Grove, Illinois 60007

Supervisor Joan Stiech, RN CSADC

Clinical Experience: Coed psychotherapy groups, individual therapy, drug screens, intake und admissions, lecturer in addiction lectures series.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

**CHICAGO SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**

2009- 2009

Degree Conferred: Certificate of Forensic Psychology

**ADLER SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**

65 East Wacker, Chicago, Illinois 60601

Degree Conferred: Doctor of Psychology, (Psy.D.) Clinical Psychology

1991 - 1996

Certification : Substance Abuse Counseling

#### **NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

5500 North Louis, Chicago, Illinois 60625

Degree Conferred: M.A. Community & Family Counseling

Sep. 1984 to Oct. 1986

Degree Conferred: M.A. History

Jan. 1981 to Dec. 1983

#### **NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

5500 North Louis, Chicago, Illinois 60625

Degree Conferred: B.A. Psychology.

Sep. 1977 to Jun. 1980

#### **HARPER COLLEGE**

1200 W. Algonquin Rd., Palatine, Illinois, 60067

Degree Conferred: A.A. Liberal Arts

Jan. 1975 to Aug. 1977

#### **LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS**

State of Ohio #5481

Certificate: Forensic Psychology

Certificate Substance Abuse Counseling

(Alder School of Professional Psychology)

Apr. 1994 to Dec. 1994

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

-Psychological Needs of the Substance Dependent Patient

-Pain Management Team, Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, OH

-Identifying Drug Abusers and Pain Management Technique in Patients

-With a History of Drug Abuse, Pain Management Physicians, Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, OH

-Peer Pressure and Anger Management; Thomas Ewing Junior High School, Lancaster, Ohio

-"Catch Me If You Can—Obsessive Compulsive Disorder", and

-"Stress and Anxiety Disorder in the Adult Population" 12th Annual

-Early Childhood Conference, Ohio University, Lancaster Campus,

Sponsored By the Children's Committee,

a subcommittee of Fairfield County Family,

Adult and Children First Counsel

-"Competency Evaluation: presented to the Ohio State Bar Association, Lancaster, OH

-"Childhood Depression", interview for Medical Minute presented by WLOH Radio, Lancaster, OH

-"Signs and Symptoms of Childhood Depression: written for Lancaster Eagle Gazette through Fairfield Medical Center.

-Interview, Fairfield Focus, WLOH Radio, Lancaster, OH

-"Out of the Box" Workshop, presented with Dr. Miller and Dr. Wing

Ohio University Inn, Athens. OH

- "Emotional and Psychological Health: How to Support Employees",  
Women's Division, Lancaster Chamber of Commerce, Presented at  
Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, OH.

Book Written under Pseudonym T.L. Shull: Do They Have a Pill for That?  
Publisher I Universe Press, March 2019.