

FILED

September 28, 1990

ROBERT J. DEL TUFO
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: Jeri L. Warhaftig
Deputy Attorney General
Division of Law, Room 316
1100 Raymond Boulevard
Newark, New Jersey 07102
Tel. (201) 648-4739

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
DOCKET NO.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

DOUGLAS KROHN, M.D.
LICENSE NO. 48383

TO PRACTICE MEDICINE & SURGERY
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners upon receipt of allegations that Respondent had engaged in sexually inappropriate conduct in the course of his practice of medicine and his interactions with other medical professionals. All of the alleged incidents took place during Respondent's tenure, from 1986-1989, at Your Doctor's Care (YDC) in Hillsboro where he practiced general medicine.

Several female patients alleged that Respondent made inappropriate sexual comments during the course of his physical examination of them. It was also alleged that he was inappropriately insistent regarding the need for pelvic exams.

Two female patients alleged that Respondent made intentionally inappropriate physical contact with them in the course of an examination. It was alleged by a salesperson of medical equipment that Respondent made repeated comments of a sexual nature and in one day placed repeated telephone calls to her residence. During those calls he allegedly asked her to "talk dirty."

A nurse employed at YDC alleged that respondent made sexually inappropriate comments to her. Respondent admits that on one occasion he uttered a sexually inappropriate comment.

It is Respondent's testimony, both in a sworn affidavit and in his testimony before a committee of the Board, that he apologized for his comment both, at the time it was made and in a subsequent discussion with the nurse and YDC's office manager. With the exception of the admission set forth above, Respondent denies all of the allegations recited herein. It is Respondent's contention that these allegations arose during a discordant division of the YDC partnership and that they were submitted to the Board to stymie his attempts to build a private practice.

The Board has reviewed Respondent's lengthy affidavit and his sworn testimony before a committee of the Board. Respondent has voluntarily submitted, and the Board has also reviewed the reports of an independent psychiatrist and psychologist addressing his fitness to practice medicine.

It appearing that Respondent has voluntarily chosen to pursue psychological counseling, and it further appearing that the chapter in Respondent's career that gave rise to the within allegations is closed, and the Board having determined that respondent's continued practice of medicine does not present a danger to the public, and for good cause shown,

IT IS therefore on this 24 day of Sept., 1990,

ORDERED:

1. Respondent is hereby reprimanded for professional misconduct in the making of sexually inappropriate comments to patients and to female professional colleague.

2. Respondent shall have a female attendant present in the room at all times when any female patient is examined and shall require that the female attendant shall initial or sign the patient chart next to the appropriate patient visit to verify that the attendant had been present for the entire examination. He shall maintain a roster of female attendants which shall show the dates of employment of each attendant, and shall require each attendant to affix her signature and initials next to her name on the roster. Respondent retains the right to apply to the Board any time after two years from the effective date of this Order for the lifting of this restriction.

3. Respondent shall pay civil penalties in the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) in accordance with the installment schedule in paragraph 5 below.

4. Respondent shall pay investigative costs in the

amount of two thousand five hundred thirty nine dollars (\$2,539).
In accordance with the installment schedule in paragraph 5 below.

5. Respondent shall pay the entire balance of \$5,039 within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order or in accordance with the following schedule, calculated at an annual rate of 8% interest:

October 1, 1990	<u>\$1,780.45</u>
February 1, 1991	<u>\$1,780.45</u>
June 1, 1991	<u>\$1,780.45</u>

6. On the event that any payment pursuant to paragraph 5 is received by the Board of Medical Examiners after the 10th day of the month in which it is due and owing, the Board will not accept Respondent's payment unless it is accompanied by a late fee in the amount of 10% of the past due payment.

7. Respondent shall continue with psychological counseling until such time as his psychologist determines it is no longer necessary. By letter, dated within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order and copied to the Board, Respondent shall authorize and cause his treating psychologist to issue a written report to the Board in the event of Respondent's unilateral discontinuation of therapy or the psychologist's determination that treatment is no longer necessary. At the completion of treatment Respondent shall ensure that a final report of his treating psychologist is forwarded to the Board.

8. Respondent is cautioned to act in a professional manner when discussing subjects of a sexual nature with his

patients and directed to discuss any necessary physical contact with patients at the time such contact occurs.

STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: Michael B. Grossman D.O.
Michael B. Grossman, D.O.
President

I have read and understood the terms of the within Order and agree to be bound by them.

Douglas Krohn, M.D.
Douglas Krohn, M.D.

This Order is consented to as to form and entry.

Evan Steinberg, Esq.
Evan Steinberg, Esq.