

FILED

June 13, 2008

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF

IGWEBUIKE ONYEKABA, M.D.
License No. MA61767

TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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: Administrative Action
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: CONSENT ORDER
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THIS MATTER was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") upon receipt of information that on or about June 29, 2007, the Georgia Composite State Board of Medical Examiners ("Composite Board") entered a "Public Consent Order" executed by the Respondent, Igwebuike Onyekaba, M.D. on June 21, 2007.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

More specifically, the Composite Board determined that Respondent's care of patient G.N. departed from, and failed to conform to, the minimum standard of acceptable and prevailing medical practice. As a result, Respondent was reprimanded. Further, Respondent was required to obtain 30 hours of continuing medical education in the area of emergency medicine, as well as pay a fine of \$5,000.00 and administrative fees of \$100.00

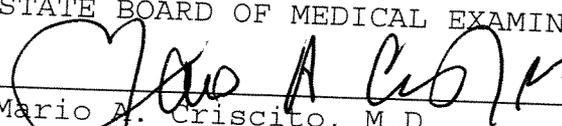
The Board has determined that Respondent's acts giving rise to the Public Consent Order entered by the Georgia Composite State Board of Medical Examiners constitute professional misconduct and provide a basis for disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

IT NOW APPEARING that the parties wish to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings; and that the Respondent hereby waives any right to a hearing in this matter; and the Board finding the within Order adequately protects the public's health, safety and welfare; and for good cause shown;

IT IS ON THIS 11 day of June, 2008, **ORDERED AND AGREED THAT** Respondent shall be, and hereby is, reprimanded for violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:


Mario A. Criscito, M.D.
Board President

I have read and I understand
this Consent Order and agree to be
bound by its terms. I further
hereby consent to the entry of
this Consent Order.

Igwebuike Onyekaba
IGWEBUIKE ONYEKABA, M.D.

Sworn before me this
4th of April 2008.

Gail A Doddski

GAIL A. DODSKI
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01DO6008668
Qualified in Cayuga County
Commission Expires 06/15/20 10

BEFORE THE COMPOSITE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
STATE OF GEORGIA

Composite State Board
of Medical Examiners

IN THE MATTER OF:

IGWEBUIKE ONYEKABA, M.D.
License No. 39650

RESPONDENT.

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JUN 29 2007

DOCKET NO. 20080008

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners ("the Board") and Igwebuike Onyekaba, M.D. (the "Respondent"), the following disposition of the matter is entered pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 50-13-13(a)(4).

FINDINGS OF FACT

1

Respondent is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Georgia and the State of Alabama and was licensed as such at all times relevant to the matters stated herein.

2

On or about December 1, 2002, patient G.N. presented to the emergency room of the Monroe County Hospital in Monroeville, Alabama with complaints of chest pain, nausea and numbness to lower lip. The medical records indicate that Respondent was the attending physician in the emergency room and that he examined patient G.N., that he ordered an EKG, CPK and cardiac enzyme test and that the results of the tests did not indicate any significant abnormalities. The medical records indicate that Respondent and the nursing staff were aware that patient G.N. had been diagnosed with an aortic aneurysm in October of 2002 with unspecified site and was scheduled to have surgery in January of 2003. The medical records indicate that Respondent diagnosed patient G.N. with chest pain and possible costochondritis, ordered a GI cocktail, and discharged patient G.N. with instructions to return if symptoms worsened. Patient G.N. died later that day.

3.

A Board approved peer reviewer reviewed the treatment of patient G.N. and concluded that the treatment of patient G.N. departed from and failed to conform to the minimum standard of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in the following ways:

The minimum standard of care for treating a patient who presents with pain and history of an aortic aneurysm is to order a CT scan to evaluate any change in the aneurysm. If the CT scan shows any changes in the aneurysm, the patient should then have an immediate evaluation by a cardiovascular surgeon. Respondent failed to order a CT scan to evaluate any changes in patient G.N.'s aneurysm.

4.

The Respondent waives any further findings of fact with respect to the above-styled matter.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Respondent's prior conduct and/or condition constitute sufficient grounds to impose sanctions on Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Georgia under O.C.G.A. Chs. 1 and 34, T. 43, as amended. Respondent hereby waives any further conclusions of law with respect to the above-styled matter.

ORDER

The Composite State Board of Medical Examiners, having considered the particular facts and circumstances of this case, hereby orders, and Respondent hereby agrees, to the following terms:

1.

Respondent shall obtain thirty (30) hours of continuing medical education ("CME") in the area of emergency medicine, including cardiovascular problems, in addition to the CME required of all Georgia physicians. Respondent shall complete said additional thirty hours within one year from

the docketing of this order. Prior to obtaining the CME, Respondent shall submit the title of the course(s) he plans to attend and information concerning the course(s) to the Board. Within one year from the docketing of this consent order, Respondent shall submit proof of completion of said additional thirty hours to the Board.

2.

Respondent shall submit to the Board a fine of \$5,000.00, to be paid in full by cashier's check or money order made payable to the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners within 30 days of the effective date of this Consent Order. Failure to pay the entire amount by the 30th day shall be considered a violation of this Order and shall result in further sanctioning of Respondent's license, including revocation, upon substantiation thereof.

3.

In addition to the fine required in paragraph 3 of this Consent Order, Respondent shall pay administrative fees in the amount of \$100.00 as reimbursement to the Board of expenses incurred in the investigation of this matter, which expenses do not include time spent by the investigative division of the Board. Said fees shall be payable by certified check or money order to the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Consent Order. Failure to pay the entire amount by the 30th day shall be considered a violation of this Consent Order and shall result in further sanctioning of Respondent's license, including revocation, upon substantiation.

4.

This Consent Order and dissemination thereof shall be considered a PUBLIC REPRIMAND of Respondent by the Board.

5.

Respondent also understands that pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 34A, the contents of this order shall be placed on Respondent Physician Profile. Furthermore, by executing this Consent Order, Respondent hereby agrees to permit the Board to update the Physician's Profile reflecting this Consent Order.

6.

The Respondent acknowledges that Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands its contents. Respondent understands that the Respondent has the right to a hearing in this matter and freely, knowingly and voluntarily waives that right by entering into this Consent Order. Respondent understands and agrees that a representative of the Department of Law may be present during the Board's consideration of this Consent Order and that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order. Respondent further understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved and docketed by the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners. **Respondent understands that this Consent Order, once approved and docketed, shall constitute a public record, evidencing disciplinary action by the Board.** However, if this Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding, or prejudice the right of the Board to adjudicate this matter. Respondent hereby consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

Approved, this 29th day of June, 2007.

COMPOSITE STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

(BOARD SEAL)

BY:

Joseph C. Finley, Sr.

JOSEPH C. FINLEY, SR., M.D.

President Wm. A. Woolery D.O., Ph.D., CMD, FACCFP

ATTEST:

Lasharn Hughes

LASHARN HUGHES
Executive Director

CONSENTED TO:

Igwebuike Onyekaba

IGWEBUIKE ONYEKABA, M.D.
Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed
before me this 25th day
of June, 2007.

Carolyn A. Westerman (Hopper)

NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires:

~~Carolyn A. Westerman~~

~~Notary Public State of New York~~

~~No. 4990181~~

~~Qualified in Otsego County~~

~~Commission Expires 12-30-09~~

**NOTICE OF REPORTING PRACTICES OF BOARD
REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3(3), all orders of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners are available for public inspection. Should any inquiry be made concerning the status of a licensee, the inquirer will be informed of the existence of the order and a copy will be provided if requested. All evidentiary hearings, proceedings on motions or other applications which are conducted as public hearings and the record, including the transcript and documents marked in evidence, are available for public inspection, upon request.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Subtitle A 60.8, the Board is obligated to report to the National Practitioners Data Bank any action relating to a physician which is based on reasons relating to professional competence or professional conduct:

- (1) Which revokes or suspends (or otherwise restricts) a license,
- (2) Which censures, reprimands or places on probation,
- (3) Under which a license is surrendered.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Section 61.7, the Board is obligated to report to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection (HIP) Data Bank, any formal or official actions, such as revocation or suspension of a license (and the length of any such suspension), reprimand, censure or probation or any other loss of license or the right to apply for, or renew, a license of the provider, supplier, or practitioner, whether by operation of law, voluntary surrender, non-renewability, or otherwise, or any other negative action or finding by such Federal or State agency that is publicly available information.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-19.13, if the Board refuses to issue, suspends, revokes or otherwise places conditions on a license or permit, it is obligated to notify each licensed health care facility and health maintenance organization with which a licensee is affiliated and every other board licensee in this state with whom he or she is directly associated in private medical practice.

In accordance with an agreement with the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, a list of all disciplinary orders are provided to that organization on a monthly basis.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear on the public agenda for the next monthly Board meeting and is forwarded to those members of the public requesting a copy. In addition, the same summary will appear in the minutes of that Board meeting, which are also made available to those requesting a copy.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear in a Monthly Disciplinary Action Listing which is made available to those members of the public requesting a copy.

On a periodic basis the Board disseminates to its licensees a newsletter which includes a brief description of all of the orders entered by the Board.

From time to time, the Press Office of the Division of Consumer Affairs may issue releases including the summaries of the content of public orders.

Nothing herein is intended in any way to limit the Board, the Division or the Attorney General from disclosing any public document.