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FILED

February 6, 2012

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By: Kathy Stroh Mendoza
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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DIVISION OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
DOCKET NO. BDS 4073-11

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :
:
HECTOR L. CASTILLO, M.D. :
License No. 25MA04148100 :
:
TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY: :
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was most recently opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") on the filing of a Notice of Motion for Summary Decision on January 11, 2011 by the then Attorney General Paula T. Dow, Kathy Stroh Mendoza, Deputy Attorney General appearing, seeking summary decision on an Administrative Complaint filed October 29, 2010.

Count I of the Complaint charged Dr. Castillo ("Respondent") with failure to fully comply with the terms of three Consent Orders entered into with the Board, successively filed on May 26, 2000, May 23, 2002, and March 18, 2008.

Count II of the Complaint alleged that Dr. Castillo wrote prescriptions without a valid CDS certificate, as required by

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

N.J.A.C. 13:35-7.2 during the years 2006 - 2009. It was alleged that Dr. Castillo's CDS certificate expired on October 31, 2003 and was not reinstated until January 7, 2010, information Dr. Castillo misrepresented on his Drug Enforcement Administration renewals in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), (e) and (h).

Count III alleged that on December 2, 2009, Dr. Castillo wrote out a prescription for Ultracet in the name of Ms. M.D., although the patient actually consulting with him was Mr. J.D., conduct violative of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), (c) and (e).

Count IV alleged that Dr. Castillo responded untruthfully on his 2009 New Jersey medical license renewal application when he answered "no" in response to a question about actions taken against his license by other licensing authorities. Dr. Castillo's New York license to practice medicine had been revoked effective April 2, 2009 on the basis of prior New Jersey Consent Orders. Count IV alleged a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h) and (g).

Count V alleged that Dr. Castillo's medical records were illegible and incomplete, in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.5 and consequently did not meet the standard of care, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Respondent's Answer was filed on December 8, 2010. On March 9, 2011, parties argued the Summary Decision Motion and on July 12, 2011 the Board granted summary decision as to Count I and Count II, limiting the latter to violations of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Summary Decision was denied as to the entirety of Counts III, IV and V of the Administrative Complaint.

The Complaint and Answer were transferred as a contested case to the Office of Administrative Law and assigned to The Hon. Margaret M. Monaco, ALJ, who scheduled hearing dates for January 18 - 20, 23 - 24, 2012.

Inasmuch as the State and Dr. Castillo now desire to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings, and Respondent Castillo, denying any intentional wrongdoing but agreeing not to contest the other allegations of Counts III - V and agreeing to the below listed terms, and the Board finding the provisions of the within Order sufficiently protective of public health, safety and welfare, and for good cause shown,

IT IS ON THIS 6th DAY OF Feb 2012

ORDERED AND AGREED THAT

1. The license of Respondent Hector L. Castillo, M.D. is hereby suspended for a period of four years, commencing February 19, 2012, of which fifteen (15) months will be served as active suspension, to be followed by thirty-three (33) months to be served as a period of probation.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, Dr. Castillo will not be eligible for reinstatement unless and until he complies with the following:

- a. During the period of active suspension, Dr. Castillo will undergo a neurocognitive evaluation, to be approved in

advance by the Board and to be paid for by Respondent. Respondent will have a copy of this evaluation sent to the Board.

- b. During the period of active suspension, Dr. Castillo will submit to a focused practice evaluation to be conducted by Colorado Personalized Education for Physicians (CPEP) to be paid for by Respondent. Upon receipt of CPEP's assessment, a copy of which Respondent will have sent to the Board, Respondent will comply with all the recommendations issuing therefrom provided that such recommendations do not require him to hold a license to practice medicine and surgery, in which case Respondent will follow such recommendation during the period of probation.
- c. Dr. Castillo will pay a civil penalty of \$20,000 payable prior to resumption of active practice. Payment of said penalty shall be submitted by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey and forwarded to the Board of Medical Examiners c/o William V. Roeder, Executive Director, State Board of Medical Examiners, 140 East Front Street, P.O. Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183.
- d. Dr. Castillo will pay costs, to include investigative costs, expert fees, costs of appearance before the Board and attorney's fees totaling \$34,471.53. Payment is to commence June 1, 2013, and shall extend over the period of an additional twelve (12) months. The initial installment shall be \$4,471.53; each of the following twelve installments shall be \$2,500. No interest will be due or owing. Payment of said costs shall be submitted by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey and forwarded to the Board of Medical Examiners c/o William V. Roeder, Executive Director, State Board of Medical Examiners, 140 East Front Street, P.O. Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183.
- e. Failure to remit the payment required in Paragraph 2(d) of this Order will result in the filing of a Certification of Debt.

3. Respondent Castillo, M.D. shall fully comply with the Directives for Disciplined Licensees, a copy of which is attached

as Exhibit A and is made a part of this Order.

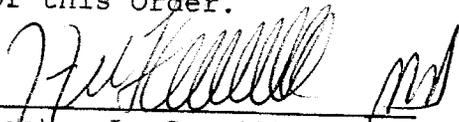
4. The Board reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action upon receipt of any reliable information indicating that Respondent has violated any terms of this Order.

5. The Board shall retain jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Order. This Order shall be considered a full and final resolution of the charges set forth in the Administrative Complaint filed October 29, 2010.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

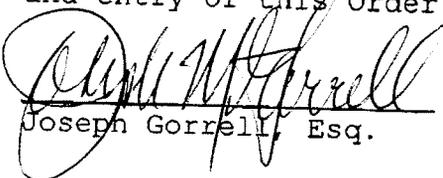
By: 
Paul T. Jordan, M.D.
President

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


Hector L. Castillo, M.D.

Dated: 1/26/12

We hereby consent to the form and entry of this Order.


Joseph Gorrell, Esq.

Dated: 1/26/12

**DIRECTIVES APPLICABLE TO ANY MEDICAL BOARD LICENSEE
WHO IS DISCIPLINED OR WHOSE SURRENDER OF LICENSURE
HAS BEEN ACCEPTED**

APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON MAY 10, 2000

All licensees who are the subject of a disciplinary order of the Board are required to provide the information required on the Addendum to these Directives. The information provided will be maintained separately and will not be part of the public document filed with the Board. Failure to provide the information required may result in further disciplinary action for failing to cooperate with the Board, as required by N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1 et seq. Paragraphs 1 through 4 below shall apply when a license is suspended or revoked or permanently surrendered, with or without prejudice. Paragraph 5 applies to licensees who are the subject of an order which, while permitting continued practice, contains a probation or monitoring requirement.

1. Document Return and Agency Notification

The licensee shall promptly forward to the Board office at Post Office Box 183, 140 East Front Street, 2nd floor, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183, the original license, current biennial registration and, if applicable, the original CDS registration. In addition, if the licensee holds a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) registration, he or she shall promptly advise the DEA of the licensure action. (With respect to suspensions of a finite term, at the conclusion of the term, the licensee may contact the Board office for the return of the documents previously surrendered to the Board. In addition, at the conclusion of the term, the licensee should contact the DEA to advise of the resumption of practice and to ascertain the impact of that change upon his/her DEA registration.)

2. Practice Cessation

The licensee shall cease and desist from engaging in the practice of medicine in this State. This prohibition not only bars a licensee from rendering professional services, but also from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application, or representing him/herself as being eligible to practice. (Although the licensee need not affirmatively advise patients or others of the revocation, suspension or surrender, the licensee must truthfully disclose his/her licensure status in response to inquiry.) The disciplined licensee is also prohibited from occupying, sharing or using office space in which another licensee provides health care services. The disciplined licensee may contract for, accept payment from another licensee for or rent at fair market value office premises and/or equipment. In no case may the disciplined licensee authorize, allow or condone the use of his/her provider number by any health care practice or any other licensee or health care provider. (In situations where the licensee has been suspended for less than one year, the licensee may accept payment from another professional who is using his/her office during the period that the licensee is suspended, for the payment of salaries for office staff employed at the time of the Board action.)

A licensee whose license has been revoked, suspended for one (1) year or more or permanently surrendered must remove signs and take affirmative action to stop advertisements by which his/her eligibility to practice is represented. The licensee must also take steps to remove his/her name from professional listings, telephone directories, professional stationery, or billings. If the licensee's name is utilized in a group practice title, it shall be deleted. Prescription pads bearing the licensee's name shall be destroyed. A destruction report form obtained from the Office of Drug Control (973-504-6558) must be filed. If no other licensee is providing services at the location, all medications must be removed and returned to the manufacturer, if possible, destroyed or safeguarded. (In situations where a license has been suspended for less than one year, prescription pads and medications need not be destroyed but must be secured in a locked place for safekeeping.)

3. Practice Income Prohibitions/Divestiture of Equity Interest in Professional Service Corporations and Limited Liability Companies

A licensee shall not charge, receive or share in any fee for professional services rendered by him/herself or others while barred from engaging in the professional practice. The licensee may be compensated for the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf prior to the effective date of the Board action.

A licensee who is a shareholder in a professional service corporation organized to engage in the professional practice, whose license is revoked, surrendered or suspended for a term of one (1) year or more shall be deemed to be disqualified from the practice within the meaning of the Professional Service Corporation Act. (N.J.S.A. 14A:17-11). A disqualified licensee shall divest him/herself of all financial interest in the professional service corporation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 14A:17-13(c). A licensee who is a member of a limited liability company organized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 42:1-44, shall divest him/herself of all financial interest. Such divestiture shall occur within 90 days following the the entry of the Order rendering the licensee disqualified to participate in the applicable form of ownership. Upon divestiture, a licensee shall forward to the Board a copy of documentation forwarded to the Secretary of State, Commercial Reporting Division, demonstrating that the interest has been terminated. If the licensee is the sole shareholder in a professional service corporation, the corporation must be dissolved within 90 days of the licensee's disqualification.

4. Medical Records

If, as a result of the Board's action, a practice is closed or transferred to another location, the licensee shall ensure that during the three (3) month period following the effective date of the disciplinary order, a message will be delivered to patients calling the former office premises, advising where records may be obtained. The message should inform patients of the names and telephone numbers of the licensee (or his/her attorney) assuming custody of the records. The same information shall also be disseminated by means of a notice to be published at least once per month for three (3) months in a newspaper of

general circulation in the geographic vicinity in which the practice was conducted. At the end of the three month period, the licensee shall file with the Board the name and telephone number of the contact person who will have access to medical records of former patients. Any change in that individual or his/her telephone number shall be promptly reported to the Board. When a patient or his/her representative requests a copy of his/her medical record or asks that record be forwarded to another health care provider, the licensee shall promptly provide the record without charge to the patient.

5. Probation/Monitoring Conditions

With respect to any licensee who is the subject of any Order imposing a probation or monitoring requirement or a stay of an active suspension, in whole or in part, which is conditioned upon compliance with a probation or monitoring requirement, the licensee shall fully cooperate with the Board and its designated representatives, including the Enforcement Bureau of the Division of Consumer Affairs, in ongoing monitoring of the licensee's status and practice. Such monitoring shall be at the expense of the disciplined practitioner.

(a) Monitoring of practice conditions may include, but is not limited to, inspection of the professional premises and equipment, and inspection and copying of patient records (confidentiality of patient identity shall be protected by the Board) to verify compliance with the Board Order and accepted standards of practice.

(b) Monitoring of status conditions for an impaired practitioner may include, but is not limited to, practitioner cooperation in providing releases permitting unrestricted access to records and other information to the extent permitted by law from any treatment facility, other treating practitioner, support group or other individual/facility involved in the education, treatment, monitoring or oversight of the practitioner, or maintained by a rehabilitation program for impaired practitioners. If bodily substance monitoring has been ordered, the practitioner shall fully cooperate by responding to a demand for breath, blood, urine or other sample in a timely manner and providing the designated sample.

**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.