BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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In The Matter of Charges and

Complaint Against

DARREN SOONG, M.D.

Respondent.

Case No. 10-8698-1

FILED

DEC - 6 2010

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

BY:

SETTLEMENT, WAIVER AND CONSENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and between the Investigative Committee (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (the Board) composed of Benjamin J. Rodriguez, M.D., Van V. Heffner and Beverly Neyland, M.D., by and through undersigned counsel, Bradley O. Van Ry, Esq., and Darren Soong, M.D., (Respondent) as follows:

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2010, the Board’s IC filed a Complaint in the above referenced matter charging Respondent with engaging in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act (NRS Chapter 630 and NAC Chapter 630) to wit: one count of committing malpractice, a violation of NRS §630.301(4) and NAC §630.040; and;

WHEREAS, Respondent does admit to a violation of NRS §630.301(4) by failing to ascertain and report the positive pregnancy test at the time of the surgery and failing to ascertain and report the positive pregnancy test after the surgery, and;

WHEREAS, Respondent has received and reviewed a copy of the Complaint, understands it, and has been afforded the opportunity to consult with competent counsel, concerning the nature and significance of the Complaint and Respondent is fully advised concerning his rights and defenses to the Complaint as well as the possible sanctions that may be imposed if the Board finds and concludes that he has engaged in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical
Practice Act and after due consideration and consultation with his counsel, concedes that his conduct violated NRS §630.301.(4) of the Medical Practice Act as set forth above; and

WHEREAS, Respondent understands and agrees that this Agreement is entered into by and between himself and the Board’s IC, and not with the Board, but that the IC will present this Agreement to the Board for consideration in open session at a Board meeting, appropriately noticed, and that the IC shall advocate approval of this Agreement by the Board, but that the Board has the right to decide in its own discretion whether or not to approve this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Respondent and the IC each understand and agree that if the Board approves the terms, covenants and conditions of this Agreement, then the terms, covenants and conditions enumerated below shall be binding and enforceable upon Respondent and the Board’s IC; and

NOW THEREFORE, in order to resolve the above-captioned case and charge(s) brought against Respondent by the Board’s Investigative Committee in said matter, Respondent and the IC hereby agree to the following terms, covenants and conditions:

1. **Consent to Entry of Order.** In order to resolve the matter of these disciplinary proceedings pending against him without any further costs and expense of providing a defense to the Complaint or to any amended complaints, Respondent hereby agrees that an order may be entered herein by the Board finding that Respondent engaged in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act to wit: one count of committing malpractice, a violation of NRS §630.301(4) and NAC §630.040;

That the Board shall issue a public reprimand against Respondent; that Respondent shall reimburse the Board the reasonable costs and expenses incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this case, the current amount being $2,586.55, although this amount does not include the further costs to be incurred by the Board to conclude the matter; Respondent agrees to pay these additional costs in addition to the aforementioned amount; Respondent agrees to pay a fine of $1,000.00. The aforementioned costs and fine shall be paid to the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners within sixty (60) days of the acceptance of this Agreement by the Board.

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2. **Jurisdiction.** Respondent was, at all times mentioned in the Complaint filed in the above-captioned matter, a physician licensed in the state of Nevada subject to the jurisdiction of the Board to hear and adjudicate charges of violations of the Medical Practice Act (NRS 630 & NAC 630), and to impose sanctions as provided by the Act.

3. **Representation by Counsel.** Respondent is represented by L. Kris Rath, Esq., in this matter. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that he enters into this agreement knowingly, willingly and intelligently after full consultation with counsel.

4. **Waiver of Rights.** Respondent acknowledges, covenants and agrees that he enters into this Agreement knowingly, willingly, and intelligently with knowledge that he has consulted with counsel prior to entering into this Agreement. In connection with this Agreement, and the terms, covenants and conditions contained herein, Respondent knowingly, willingly and intelligently, upon and with the advice of above identified counsel, waives all rights arising under or pursuant to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the state of Nevada, NRS Chapter 630 and NRS Chapter 233B that may be available to Respondent or that may apply to Respondent in connection with the proceeding regarding the Complaint filed herein, the defense of said Complaint and the adjudication of the charges in said Complaint. Respondent further agrees that the matter of the disciplinary action commenced by the filing of the complaint herein may be settled and resolved in accordance with this Agreement without a hearing or any further proceeding and without the right to judicial review.

In the event this Agreement is not approved by the Board, this Agreement shall have no force and effect and Respondent shall have all rights arising under or pursuant to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the state of Nevada, NRS Chapter 630 and NRS Chapter 233B that may be available to Respondent or that may apply to Respondent in connection with the related proceeding filed herein.

5. **Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed.** Respondent acknowledges, covenants and agrees that the Board’s IC has a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent violated the Medical Practice Act.
6. **Procedure for Adoption of Agreement.** It is expressly understood that this Agreement will only become effective if the Board approves the recommendation of the IC for acceptance. The IC, and counsel for the IC, shall recommend approval of the terms, covenants and conditions contained herein by the Board in resolution of the disciplinary proceedings pending herein against Respondent pursuant to the complaint. In the course of seeking Board approval of this Agreement, counsel for the IC may communicate directly with the Board staff and members of the panel of the Board who would adjudicate this case if it were to go to hearing. Respondent acknowledges, covenants and agrees that such contacts and communication may be made or conducted ex parte, without notice or opportunity to be heard on his part or on the part of his counsel, until the public Board meeting where this Agreement is discussed, and that such contacts and communications may include, but not be limited to, matters concerning this Agreement, the Complaint and the allegations therein, any and all evidence that may exist in support of the Complaint, and any and all information of every nature whatsoever related to the complaint against Respondent. The IC and its counsel agree that Respondent and his counsel may appear at the Board meeting where this Agreement is discussed in order to respond to any and all questions that may be addressed to the IC or its counsel at such meeting.

7. **Effect of Acceptance of Agreement by Board.** In the event the Board approves the terms, covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, counsel for the IC will cause to be entered herein the Board’s Order approving this Settlement, Waiver and Consent Agreement, ordering full compliance with the terms herein and ordering that this case be closed, subject to the provisions in Paragraph 1.

8. **Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board.** In the event the Board does not approve the terms, covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null, void, and of no further force and effect except as to the following covenant and agreement regarding disqualification of adjudicating Board panel members. Respondent agrees that, notwithstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing contained herein and nothing that occurs pursuant to efforts of the IC or its counsel to seek acceptance and adoption of this Agreement by the Board shall disqualify any member of the adjudicating panel of the Board from
considering the charges against Respondent and participating in the disciplinary proceedings in
any role, including adjudication of the case, and Respondent further agrees that he shall not seek
to disqualify any such member absent evidence of bad faith.

9. **Release From Liability.** In execution of this Agreement, the Respondent, for
himself, his executors, successors and assigns, hereby releases and forever discharges the state of
Nevada, the Board, the Nevada Attorney General, and each of their members, agents and
employees in their representative capacities, and in their individual capacities absent evidence of
bad faith, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments,
executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, that
Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have, against any or all of the persons or
entities named in this paragraph arising out of or by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary
action, this settlement or its administration, in connection with the complaint. The IC hereby
agrees to accept this Agreement in full settlement of all claims related to the complaint, with the
understanding that the final decision rests with the Board.

10. **Binding Effect.** Respondent acknowledges, covenants and agrees that this
Agreement is a binding and enforceable contract upon Respondent and the Board’s IC, which
contract may be enforced in any court of law or tribunal having jurisdiction.

11. **Forum Selection Clause.** Respondent acknowledges, covenants and agrees that
in the event either party is required to seek enforcement of this Agreement in the district court, he
consents to such jurisdiction, and further acknowledges, covenants and agrees that exclusive
jurisdiction shall be in the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada in and for the
County of Washoe.

12. **Attorneys’ Fees and Costs.** Respondent acknowledges, covenants and agrees that
in the event an action is commenced in the district court to enforce any provision of this
Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover reasonable costs and attorneys’ fees.

13. **Failure to comply with terms.** In the event the Board enters its Order approving
this Agreement, should Respondent fail to comply with the terms recited herein, the Board would
then have grounds, after notice and a hearing, to take disciplinary action against Respondent in
addition to that included herein for Respondent’s violation of an Order of the Board in accordance with NRS §630.3065(2)(a). Moreover, the failure of Respondent to reimburse the Board for monies agreed to be paid as a condition of settlement may subject Respondent to civil collection efforts.

Furthermore, any failure to pay any fine, fee, or cost ordered herein will also result in such legal action as determined to be necessary to collect the unpaid fine, fee, or cost.

Dated this 6/14th day of November, 2010. Dated this 11/1st day of November, 2010.

By: ........................................
  Bradley O. Van Ry, Esq.
  Attorney for the Investigative Committee

By: ........................................
  L. Kris Rath, Esq.
  Attorney for Respondent

Read and understood by:

By: ........................................
  Darren Soong, M.D.
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the foregoing Settlement, Waiver and Consent Agreement is approved and accepted by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners on the 3rd day of December 2010, with the final total amount of costs due of $2,586.55.

Charles N. Held, M.D., President
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS