

1 **BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**
2 **OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**

3 * * * * *

4
5 **In The Matter of Charges and**)
6 **Complaint Against**)
7 **DARREN SOONG, M.D.**)
8 **Respondent.**)
9 _____)

Case No. 10-8698-1

FILED

DEC - 6 2010

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 

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11 **SETTLEMENT, WAIVER AND CONSENT AGREEMENT**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 That the Board shall issue a public reprimand against Respondent; that Respondent shall
21 reimburse the Board the reasonable costs and expenses incurred in the investigation and
22 prosecution of this case, the current amount being \$2,586.55, although this amount does not include
23 the further costs to be incurred by the Board to conclude the matter; Respondent agrees to pay these
24 additional costs in addition to the aforementioned amount; Respondent agrees to pay a fine of
25 \$1,000.00. The aforementioned costs and fine shall be paid to the Nevada State Board of
26 Medical Examiners within sixty (60) days of the acceptance of this Agreement by the Board.

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

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

8 4. **Waiver of Rights.** Respondent acknowledges, covenants and agrees that he enters
9 into this Agreement knowingly, willingly, and intelligently with knowledge that he has consulted
10 with counsel prior to entering into this Agreement. In connection with this Agreement, and the
11 terms, covenants and conditions contained herein, Respondent knowingly, willingly and
12 intelligently, upon and with the advice of above identified counsel, waives all rights arising under
13 or pursuant to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the state of Nevada, NRS Chapter
14 630 and NRS Chapter 233B that may be available to Respondent or that may apply to Respondent
15 in connection with the proceeding regarding the Complaint filed herein, the defense of said
16 Complaint and the adjudication of the charges in said Complaint. Respondent further agrees that
17 the matter of the disciplinary action commenced by the filing of the complaint herein may be settled
18 and resolved in accordance with this Agreement without a hearing or any further proceeding and
19 without the right to judicial review.

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

25 5. **Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed.** Respondent acknowledges,
26 covenants and agrees that the Board's IC has a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent violated
27 the Medical Practice Act.

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

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

22 8. **Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board.** In the event the Board does not
23 approve the terms, covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, this Agreement shall be
24 null, void, and of no further force and effect except as to the following covenant and agreement
25 regarding disqualification of adjudicating Board panel members. Respondent agrees that,
26 notwithstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing contained herein and nothing
27 that occurs pursuant to efforts of the IC or its counsel to seek acceptance and adoption of this
28 Agreement by the Board shall disqualify any member of the adjudicating panel of the Board from

1 considering the charges against Respondent and participating in the disciplinary proceedings in
2 any role, including adjudication of the case, and Respondent further agrees that he shall not seek
3 to disqualify any such member absent evidence of bad faith.

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

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

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

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

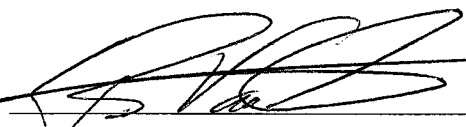
26 13. **Failure to comply with terms.** In the event the Board enters its Order approving
27 this Agreement, should Respondent fail to comply with the terms recited herein, the Board would
28 then have grounds, after notice and a hearing, to take disciplinary action against Respondent in


1 addition to that included herein for Respondent's violation of an Order of the Board in
2 accordance with NRS §630.3065(2)(a). Moreover, the failure of Respondent to reimburse the
3 Board for monies agreed to be paid as a condition of settlement may subject Respondent to civil
4 collection efforts.

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

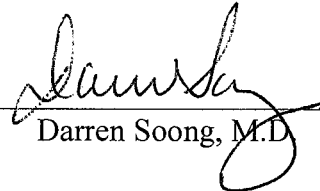
7 Dated this 4th day November of 2010.

Dated this 15th day of November, 2010.

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

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

11 Read and understood by:

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13 By: 
Darren Soong, M.D.

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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