

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

3 * * * * *

4 **FILED**

5 **NOV 14 2012**

6 **NEVADA STATE BOARD OF**
7 **MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

8 By: _____

9 **In the Matter of an Investigation of**)
10)
11 **THOMAS JOE SANDERS, M.D.,**)
12)
13 **License No. 5393**)
14)

15 **ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

16 Prior to the preparation of this Order of Summary Suspension, the
17 Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) staff presented evidence and information to an
18 Investigative Committee of the Board, composed of Benjamin J. Rodriguez, M.D., Chairman,
19 Beverly A. Neyland, M.D., Member, and Donna A. Ruthe, Member, regarding
20 Thomas Joe Sanders, M.D. (Dr. Sanders). Upon review of the evidence and information presented
21 by Board staff, the Investigative Committee hereby **IMMEDIATELY SUSPENDS** Dr. Sanders'
22 license to practice medicine in the state of Nevada pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS)
23 630.326(1), based upon the following preliminary findings:

24 1. Dr. Sanders is a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state of Nevada and
25 was originally licensed on July 2, 1986. Dr. Sanders practices medicine in the Reno area and his
26 primary specialty is listed with the Board as emergency medicine.

27 2. Upon information and belief, on or about October 21, 2012, Dr. Sanders' Drug
28 Enforcement Administration (DEA) Certificate of Registration AS1561023 was suspended by the
United States Department of Justice, DEA.

Further investigation by Board staff discovered that Dr. Sanders was diverting
controlled substances for his own use and potentially dispensing controlled substances to others in
violation of state and federal law as recently as this summer, June 2012.

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4. Additionally, Board staff discovered that Dr. Sanders' controlled substances registration number in Nevada is no longer efficacious as of November 6, 2012.

As a result of the foregoing, the Investigative Committee reasonably determines and believes that due to Dr. Sanders' loss of his DEA Certificate of Registration, diversion of controlled substances for personal use and potentially dispensing controlled substances to others in violation of state and federal law that the health, safety and welfare of the public is at imminent risk of harm and that a summary suspension of Dr. Sanders' license to practice medicine is necessary to remove said risk of imminent harm to the health, safety and welfare of the public.


Accordingly, pursuant to NRS 630.326(1):

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the license to practice medicine in the state of Nevada of Thomas Joe Sanders, M.D. (License No. 5393) is **HEREBY SUSPENDED** until further order of the Investigative Committee or Board; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a hearing be set within forty-five (45) days of this Order, pursuant to NRS 630.326(2), to determine whether this suspension may continue, unless the parties mutually agree to a different or divergent time frame.

DATED this 14th day of November, 2012.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 
Benjamin J. Rodriguez, M.D.
Chairman, Investigative Committee