

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

3 * * * * *

4
5 Case No. 17-42879-1

6 **In the Matter of Charges and**
7 **Complaint Against**
8 **Usha Kiran Nuthi, M.D.,**
9 **Respondent.**

FILED

SEP 11 2017

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 

10
11 **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

12 The Investigative Committee (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
13 (Board), by and through Robert Kilroy, Esq., General Counsel for the Board and attorney for the
14 IC, and Usha Kiran Nuthi, M.D. (Respondent), a licensed medical doctor in Nevada, represented
15 by Edward Lemons, Esq., of Lemons, Grundy & Eisenberg, Attorneys at Law, hereby enter into
16 this Settlement Agreement (Agreement) based on the following:¹

17 **A. Background**

18 1. Respondent is a physician licensed by the Board, pursuant to Chapter 630 of the
19 Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Chapter 630 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC)
20 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act), to practice medicine in Nevada since October 20, 2014
21 (License No. 15593).

22 2. On February 28, 2017, in the aforementioned Case No. 17-42879-1, the IC filed a
23 formal Complaint (Complaint) alleging that Respondent violated the Medical Practice Act.
24 Specifically, this Complaint alleges one (1) violation of NRS 630.301(3) and one (1) violation of

25 ¹ All agreements and admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter
26 and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and
27 Respondent. Therefore, Respondent's agreements and admissions are not intended or made for
28 any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government regulatory agency
proceeding, state or federal civil or criminal proceeding, any state or federal court proceeding, or
any credentialing or privileges matter.

1 NRS 630.306(1)(k). Respondent was properly served with a copy of this Complaint, has reviewed
2 and understands this Complaint, and has had the opportunity to consult with competent counsel
3 concerning the nature and significance of this Complaint.

4 3. Respondent is hereby advised of her rights regarding this administrative matter and her
5 opportunity to defend against the allegations in the Complaint. Specifically, Respondent has certain
6 rights in this administrative matter as set out by the United States Constitution, the Nevada
7 Constitution, the Medical Practice Act and the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act (APA), which is
8 contained in NRS Chapter 233B. These rights include the right to a formal hearing on the allegations
9 in the Complaint, the right to representation by counsel at her own expense in the preparation and
10 presentation of her defense, the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses and evidence against
11 him, the right to written findings of fact, conclusions of law and order reflecting the final decision of
12 the Board, and the right to judicial review of the Board's Order, if the decision is adverse to him.

13 4. Respondent understands that, under the Board's charge to protect the public by
14 regulating the practice of medicine, the Board may take disciplinary action against Respondent's
15 license, including license probation, license suspension, license revocation and imposition of
16 administrative fines, as well as any other reasonable requirement or limitation, if the Board
17 concludes that Respondent violated one or more provisions of the Medical Practice Act.

18 5. Respondent understands and agrees that this Agreement, by and between
19 Respondent and the IC, is not with the Board, and that the IC will present this Agreement to the
20 Board for consideration in open session at a duly noticed and scheduled meeting. Respondent
21 understands that the IC shall advocate for the Board's approval of this Agreement, but that the
22 Board has the right to decide in its own discretion whether or not to approve this Agreement.
23 Respondent further understands and agrees that if the Board approves this Agreement, then the
24 terms and conditions enumerated below shall be binding and enforceable upon him and the Board.

25 **B. Terms & Conditions**

26 **NOW, THEREFORE**, in order to resolve the matters addressed herein, i.e., the matters
27 with regard to the Complaint, Respondent and the IC hereby agree to the following terms and
28 conditions:

1 **1. Jurisdiction.** Respondent is, and at all times relevant to the Complaint has been, a
2 physician licensed to practice medicine in Nevada subject to the jurisdiction of the Board as set
3 forth in the Medical Practice Act.

4 **2. Representation by Counsel/Knowing, Willing and Intelligent Agreement.**
5 Respondent acknowledges she is represented by counsel licensed in the State of Nevada and
6 wishes to resolve the matters addressed herein with such counsel. Respondent agrees that if
7 representation in this matter materially changes prior to entering into this Agreement and for the
8 duration of this Agreement, that counsel for the IC will be timely notified of the material change.
9 Respondent agrees that she knowingly, willingly and intelligently enters into this Agreement after
10 consultation with said legal counsel.

11 **3. Waiver of Rights.** In connection with this Agreement and the associated terms
12 and conditions, Respondent knowingly, willingly and intelligently waives all rights in connection
13 with this administrative matter. Respondent hereby knowingly, willingly and intelligently waives
14 all rights arising under the United States Constitution, the Nevada Constitution, the Medical
15 Practice Act, the APA and any other legal rights that may be available to her or that may apply to
16 her in connection with the administrative proceedings resulting from the Complaint filed in this
17 matter, including defense of the Complaint, adjudication of the allegations set forth in the
18 Complaint, and imposition of any disciplinary actions or sanctions ordered by the Board.
19 Respondent agrees to settle and resolve the allegations of the Complaint as set out by this
20 Agreement, without a hearing or any further proceedings and without the right to judicial review.

21 **4. Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed.** Respondent acknowledges
22 that the IC believes it has a reasonable basis to allege that Respondent engaged in conduct that is
23 grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act. The IC acknowledges Respondent is
24 not admitting that the IC's claims/counts as alleged in the Complaint have merit and Respondent
25 is agreeing to resolve this matter to avoid the costs of hearing and potential subsequent litigation.
26 Respondent asserts if this matter were to proceed to hearing, she has evidence, witnesses, expert
27 witness(es) and defenses to the counts/claims alleged in the Complaint, but for the purpose of
28 resolving the matter and for no other purpose, Respondent waives the presentation of evidence,

1 witnesses, expert witnesses and defenses in order to effectuate this Agreement. The IC and the
2 Respondent acknowledge and represent that this agreement is entirely reciprocal in nature and not
3 intended to serve as any new or additional discipline against Respondent.

4 **5. Consent to Entry of Order.** In order to resolve this Complaint pending against
5 Respondent without incurring any further costs or the expense associated with a hearing, Respondent
6 hereby agrees that the Board may issue an order finding that Respondent engaged in conduct that
7 is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act. Accordingly, the following terms
8 and conditions are hereby agreed upon:

9 a. Respondent admits to one (1) violation of NRS 630.301(3), regarding the
10 Alabama Board of Examiners' Medical disciplinary action relating to prescribing without a
11 valid Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate.

12 b. Respondent shall pay the costs and expenses incurred in the investigation
13 and prosecution of the above-referenced matter within thirty (30) days of the Board's
14 acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement, the current amount being \$625.00
15 not including any costs that may be necessary to finalize this Agreement.

16 c. This Agreement shall be reported to the appropriate entities and parties as
17 required by law, including, but not limited to, the National Practitioner Data Bank
18 (NPDB). The report to the NPDB shall note that this is entirely a reciprocal action by the
19 Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners for an action taken in another state and is not
20 based upon any act or omission in the State of Nevada.

21 d. Respondent shall receive a Public Letter of Reprimand, to include language
22 regarding the Alabama Board of Examiners' Medical disciplinary action relating to
23 prescribing without a valid Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate, and not related to
24 any of Respondent's activities related to the practice of medicine in Nevada.

25 e. Respondent will be assessed a \$500 fine, payable within thirty (30) days of
26 the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement.

27 f. The IC will dismiss Count II with prejudice.

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1 **6. Release From Liability.** In execution of this Agreement, Respondent understands
2 and agrees that the State of Nevada, the Board, and each of its members, staff, counsel,
3 investigators, experts, peer reviewers, committees, panels, hearing officers, consultants and agents
4 are immune from civil liability for any decision or action taken in good faith in response to
5 information acquired by the Board. NRS 630.364(2)(a). Respondent agrees to release the State of
6 Nevada, the Board and each of its members, staff, counsel, investigators, experts, peer reviewers,
7 committees, panels, hearing officers, consultants and agents from any and all manner of actions,
8 causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and
9 unknown, in law or equity, that Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have, against
10 any or all of the persons, government agencies or entities named in this paragraph arising out of,
11 or by reason of, this investigation, this Agreement or the administration of the case referenced
12 herein.

13 **7. Procedure for Adoption of Agreement.** The IC and counsel for the IC shall
14 recommend approval and adoption of the terms and conditions of this Agreement by the Board in
15 resolution of this Complaint. In the course of seeking Board acceptance, approval and adoption of
16 this Agreement, counsel for the IC may communicate directly with the Board staff and the
17 adjudicating members of the Board.

18 Respondent acknowledges that such contacts and communications may be made or
19 conducted ex parte, without notice or opportunity to be heard on her part until the public Board
20 meeting where this Agreement is discussed, and that such contacts and communications may
21 include, but not be limited to, matters concerning this Agreement, the Complaint and any and all
22 information of every nature whatsoever related to this matter. The IC and its counsel agree that
23 Respondent may appear at the Board meeting where this Agreement is discussed and, if requested,
24 respond to any questions that may be addressed to the IC or the IC's counsel.

25 **8. Effect of Acceptance of Agreement by Board.** In the event the Board accepts,
26 approves and adopts this Agreement, the Board shall issue a final order, making this Agreement
27 an order of the Board.

28 **9. Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board.** In the event the Board does not

1 accept, approve and adopt this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null, void and of no force and
2 effect except as to the following agreement regarding adjudications: (1) Respondent agrees that,
3 notwithstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing contained in this Agreement
4 and nothing that occurs pursuant to efforts of the IC to seek the Board's acceptance of this
5 Agreement shall disqualify any member of the adjudicating panel of the Board from considering
6 this Complaint and from participating in disciplinary proceedings against Respondent, including
7 adjudication of this case; and (2) Respondent further agrees that she shall not seek to disqualify
8 any such member absent evidence of bad faith.

9 **10. Binding Effect.** If approved by the Board, Respondent understands that this
10 Agreement is a binding and enforceable contract upon Respondent and the Board.

11 **11. Forum Selection Clause.** The parties agree that in the event either party is
12 required to seek enforcement of this Agreement in a Nevada state district court, the parties consent
13 to such jurisdiction and agree that exclusive jurisdiction shall be in the Second Judicial District
14 Court, State of Nevada, Washoe County.

15 **12. Attorneys' Fees and Costs.** The parties agree that in the event an action is
16 commenced in district court to enforce any provision of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall
17 be entitled to recover reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

18 **13. Failure to Comply with Terms.** Should Respondent fail to comply with any term
19 or condition of this Agreement once the Agreement has been accepted, approved and adopted by
20 the Board, the IC shall be authorized to immediately suspend Respondent's license to practice
21 medicine in Nevada pending an Order To Show Cause Hearing, which will be duly noticed.
22 Failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement, including failure to pay any fines, costs,
23 expenses or fees owed to the Board, is a failure to comply with an order of the Board, which may
24 result in additional disciplinary action being taken against Respondent. NRS 630.3065(2)(a).
25 Further, Respondent's failure to remit payment to the Board for monies agreed to be paid as a
26 condition of this Agreement may subject Respondent to civil collection efforts.

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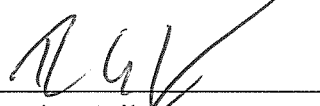
28 SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

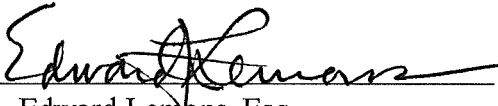
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
1105 Terminal Way #301
Reno, Nevada 89502
(775) 688-2559

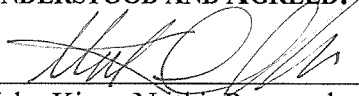
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Dated this 21 day of July, 2017.

By: 
Robert Kilroy, Esq.
General Counsel and Attorney for the Investigative Committee

By: 
Edward Lemons, Esq.
Attorney for the Respondent

UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED:

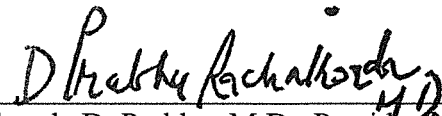

Usha Kiran Nuthi, Respondent

Dated this 21st day of July, 2017.

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the foregoing Settlement Agreement is approved and accepted by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners on the 8th day of September 2017, with the final total amount of costs due of \$625.00.



Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D., President
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS