

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

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4 In the Matter of Charges and
5 Complaint Against
6 LIBBY KRISTAL, M.D.,
7 Respondent.

Case No. 19-40909-1

FILED

SEP - 6 2019

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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10 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

11 The Investigative Committee (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
12 (Board), by and through Robert Kilroy, Esq., Board General Counsel and attorney for the IC, and
13 Libby Kristal, M.D. (Respondent), a licensed physician in Nevada, hereby enter into this
14 Settlement Agreement (Agreement) based on the following:¹

15 **A. Background**

16 1. Respondent is a physician licensed by the Board, pursuant to Chapter 630 of the
17 Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Chapter 630 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC)
18 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act), to practice medicine in Nevada since October 23, 2013
19 (License No. 15023). On March 28, 2019, in Case No. 19-40909-1, the IC filed a formal Complaint
20 (Complaint) alleging that Respondent violated the Medical Practice Act. Specifically, this Complaint
21 alleged one (1) violation of NRS 630.301(4) (malpractice) and one (1) violation of
22 NRS 630.3062(1)(a) (failure to maintain complete medical records). By reason of the foregoing,
23 Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

24 2. Respondent was properly served with a copy of this Complaint, has reviewed and
25

26 ¹ All agreements and admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter
27 and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and
28 Respondent. Therefore, Respondent's agreements and admissions are not intended or made for
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 understands this Complaint, and has had the opportunity to consult with competent counsel
2 concerning the nature and significance of this Complaint.

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

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

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

24 **B. Terms & Conditions**

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

28 1. Jurisdiction. Respondent is, and at all times relevant to the Complaint has been, a

1 physician licensed to practice medicine in Nevada subject to the jurisdiction of the Board as set
2 forth in the Medical Practice Act.

3 2. Representation by Counsel/Knowing, Willing and Intelligent Agreement.

4 Respondent understands that he may retain and consult counsel prior to entering into this
5 Agreement at her own expense. Respondent acknowledges she is represented by counsel,
6 and wishes to resolve the matters addressed herein with said counsel. Respondent agrees that if
7 representation by counsel in this matter materially changes prior to entering into this Agreement
8 and for the duration of this Agreement, that counsel for the IC will be timely notified of the
9 material change. Respondent agrees that she knowingly, willingly and intelligently enters into this
10 Agreement after deciding to have a full consultation with and upon the advice of said legal
11 counsel.

12 3. Waiver of Rights. In connection with this Agreement, and the associated terms and

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

22 4. Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed. Respondent acknowledges

23 that the IC believes it has a reasonable basis to allege that Respondent engaged in conduct that is
24 grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act. The Board acknowledges Respondent
25 is not admitting that the IC's claims/counts as alleged in the Complaint have merit and
26 Respondent is agreeing to resolve this matter to avoid the costs of hearing and potential
27 subsequent litigation. Respondent asserts that if this matter were to proceed to hearing, she has
28 evidence, witnesses, expert witnesses and defenses to the counts/claims alleged in the Complaint,

1 but for the purposes of resolving the matter and for no other purpose, Respondent waives the
2 presentation of evidence, witnesses, expert witnesses, and defenses in order to effectuate this
3 Agreement

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 Count I, one allegation of violating NRS 630.301(4)
10 (malpractice), and to Count II, one allegation of violating NRS 630.3062(1)(a) (medical records).

11 b. Respondent will pay the costs and expenses incurred in the investigation and
12 prosecution of the above-referenced matter upon the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of
13 this Agreement, the current amount being \$2,257.35, not including any costs that may be
14 necessary to finalize this Agreement. Based on Respondent's current financial circumstances,
15 Respondent will make payments of \$225.75 per month, due on the first day of the month
16 beginning on October 1, 2019 through July 1, 2020, until satisfied in full.

17 c. This Agreement shall be reported to the appropriate entities and parties as required
18 by law, including, but not limited to, the National Practitioner Data Bank.

19 d. Respondent shall receive a Public Letter of Reprimand.

20 6. Release From Liability. In execution of this Agreement, Respondent understands
21 and agrees that the State of Nevada, the Board, and each of its members, staff, counsel,
22 investigators, experts, peer reviewers, committees, panels, hearing officers, consultants and agents
23 are immune from civil liability for any decision or action taken in good faith in response to
24 information acquired by the Board. NRS 630.364(2)(a). Respondent agrees to release the State of
25 Nevada, the Board, and each of its members, staff, counsel, investigators, experts, peer reviewers,
26 committees, panels, hearing officers, consultants and agents from any and all manner of actions,
27 causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and
28 unknown, in law or equity, that Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have, against

1 any or all of the persons, government agencies or entities named in this paragraph arising out of,
2 or by reason of, this investigation, this Agreement or the administration of the case referenced.

3 7. Procedure for Adoption of Agreement. The IC and counsel for the IC shall
4 recommend approval and adoption of the terms and conditions of this Agreement by the Board in
5 resolution of the Complaint. In the course of seeking Board acceptance, approval and adoption of
6 this Agreement, counsel for the IC may communicate directly with the Board staff and the
7 adjudicating members of the Board.

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

15 8. Effect of Acceptance of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board accepts,
16 approves and adopts this Agreement, the Board shall issue a final order, making this Agreement
17 an order of the Board.

18 9. Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board does not
19 accept, approve and adopt this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null, void and of no force and
20 effect except as to the following agreement regarding adjudications: (1) Respondent agrees that,
21 notwithstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing contained in this Agreement
22 and nothing that occurs pursuant to efforts of the IC to seek the Board's acceptance of this
23 Agreement shall disqualify any member of the adjudicating panel of the Board from considering
24 this Complaint and from participating in disciplinary proceedings against Respondent, including
25 adjudication of this case; and (2) Respondent further agrees that he shall not seek to disqualify any
26 such member absent evidence of bad faith.

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

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

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

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

17 Dated this 22 day of AUGUST, 2019.

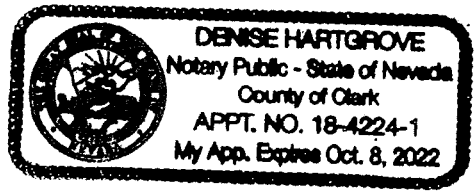
18 By: [Signature]
19 Robert G. Kilroy, Esq.
20 Attorney for the Investigative Committee

21 **UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED:**
22 [Signature]
23 **Libby Kristal, M.D., Respondent**

24 Dated this 17 day of August, 2019.

25 **SUBSCRIBED and SWORN** to before me
26 this 17 day of August, ~~2018~~ 2019

27 [Signature]
28 NOTARY PUBLIC



OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
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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 6th day of September, 2019, with the final total amount of costs due of \$2,257.35.



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