

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

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4  
5 **In the Matter of Charges and Complaint**  
6 **Against**  
7 **VICTOR RONALD BRUCE, M.D.,**  
8 **Respondent.**

Case No. 20-12252-1

**FILED**

**AUG 13 2020**

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF  
MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

10 **COMPLAINT**

11 The Investigative Committee (IC)<sup>1</sup> of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners  
12 (Board), by and through Aaron Bart Fricke, Esq., Senior Deputy General Counsel and attorney for  
13 the IC, having a reasonable basis to believe that Victor Ronald Bruce, M.D. (Respondent), violated  
14 the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code  
15 (NAC) Chapter 630 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act), hereby issues its Complaint, stating the  
16 IC's charges and allegations as follows:

17 1. Since September 7, 2017, the period that is relevant to the conduct pertinent to this  
18 Complaint, Respondent has been a licensed medical doctor holding an "Active-Restricted" license  
19 to practice medicine in the State of Nevada (License No. 18273).

20 2. Bernard Kofi Addo-Quaye, M.D. (Addo-Quaye) was at all times relative to this  
21 Complaint a licensed medical doctor holding an active license to practice medicine in the State of  
22 Nevada (License No. 9413). Addo-Quaye was originally licensed by the Board on June 13, 2000.

23 3. On October 23, 2014, in the matter of *United States of America v. Victor Bruce,*  
24 *MD*, United States District Court, District of Nevada, Case No. 2:13-cr-0041-APG-CWH, the  
25 Court entered its Judgment in a Criminal Case, adjudging Respondent guilty of violating 21 USC

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28 <sup>1</sup>The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, at the time this formal Complaint was authorized for filing, was composed of Board members Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D., Chairman, Victor M. Muro, M.D., and Ms. April Mastroluca.

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL**

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners  
9600 Gateway Drive  
Reno, Nevada 89521  
(775) 688-2559

1 §§ 846, 841(a)(1) and (b)(1)(C), conspiracy to distribute oxycodone, and sentencing him to forty-  
2 six (46) months of imprisonment, among other sanctions.

3 4. On December 31, 2014, the Board revoked Respondent’s former license to practice  
4 medicine (License No. 8652) pursuant to a Settlement Agreement and Order entered by the Board  
5 on December 8, 2014.

6 5. Following Respondent’s release from incarceration, Respondent submitted to the  
7 Board an application for licensure and preceptor plan. After an appearance by Respondent and  
8 Addo-Quaye before the Board at a public meeting on September 7, 2018, and good case  
9 appearing, the Board issued Respondent an “Active-Restricted” license to practice medicine for  
10 the express purpose of permitting him to participate in a preceptorship with Addo-Quaye, whereby  
11 Addo-Quaye was to supervise the medical activities of Respondent and report to the Board  
12 regarding Respondent’s competence to practice medicine. The Board ordered Respondent to  
13 complete a one-year preceptorship with Addo-Quaye, and explicitly restricted Respondent from  
14 prescribing controlled substances for a minimum of twenty-four (24) months or until his probation  
15 period lapses, whichever is greater, and subject to prior approval of the Board.

16 6. Addo-Quaye held, at all times relative to this Complaint, a controlled substance  
17 registration, Certificate of Registration No. CS10103, issued by the Nevada State Board of  
18 Pharmacy (Pharmacy Board).

19 7. Respondent, at all times relative to this Complaint, did not hold a controlled  
20 substance registration, or any other kind of license to prescribe controlled substances or dangerous  
21 drugs, issued by the Pharmacy Board.

22 8. Addo-Quaye, at all times relative to this Complaint, was the proprietor of “Bernard  
23 Addo-Quaye, MD PC,” dba “TruCare Medical Center” (“TruCare”). TruCare is located at 2290  
24 McDaniel Street, Suite 2A, North Las Vegas, Nevada.

25 9. Respondent was engaged as a contractor or otherwise employed by TruCare from  
26 September 2018 to present.

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COUNT I

**NRS 630.306(1)(c) (Unlawful Prescribing of Controlled Substances and Dangerous Drugs)**

10. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

11. Pursuant to NRS 630.306(1)(c), prescribing any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS to another except as authorized by law is grounds for initiating disciplinary action or denying licensure.

12. Pursuant to NRS 639.235(1), no person other than a practitioner holding a license to practice his or her profession in this State may prescribe or write a prescription.

13. A prescription for a controlled substance may be issued only for a legitimate medical purpose and in the usual course of professional practice by an individual practitioner who holds a DEA registration and is authorized to prescribe controlled substances by the jurisdiction in which he is licensed to practice his profession. 21 CFR § 1306.03(a)(1); NRS 453.381(1).

14. It is a crime to falsify a prescription for a controlled substance. 21 U.S.C. § 841(a); 21 U.S.C. § 842(a); NRS 453.331(1)(c), (d), (f), (h) and (i).

15. It is a crime to falsely represent oneself as a practitioner entitled to write prescriptions in this state. 21 U.S.C. § 841(a); 21 U.S.C. § 842(a); NRS 639.281(1); NRS 639.2813(1).

16. It is a crime to conspire to violate the Controlled Substances Act. 21 U.S.C. § 846; NRS 453.401(1)(a).

17. Performing or in any way being a party to any fraudulent or deceitful practice or transaction constitutes unprofessional conduct or conduct contrary to the public interest pursuant to NAC 639.945(1)(h).

18. Pursuant to NRS 639.23507, a practitioner shall, before issuing an initial prescription for a controlled substance listed in schedule II, III or IV or an opioid that is a controlled substance listed in schedule V and at least once every 90 days thereafter for the duration of the course of treatment using the controlled substance, obtain a patient utilization report regarding the patient from the computerized program established by the Pharmacy Board

1 and the Investigation Division of the Department of Public Safety pursuant to NRS 453.162  
2 (hereinafter, the "NPMP"). The practitioner shall:

3 (a) Review the patient utilization report; and

4 (b) Determine whether the patient has been issued another prescription for the  
5 same controlled substance that provides for ongoing treatment using the controlled  
6 substance.

7 19. Addo-Quaye was out of the country from September 1, 2019, to  
8 September 20, 2019, when Respondent treated multiple patients at TruCare, and provided  
9 prescriptions to patients for controlled substances including, without limitation, Focalin and  
10 Androgel, and dangerous drugs including, without limitation, Citalopram, Cyanocobalamin, and  
11 Fluticasone Propionate, using Addo-Quaye's registration with the Pharmacy Board, and without  
12 supervision by or consultation with Addo-Quaye and, with respect to the controlled substances  
13 prescribed, without querying the NPMP, without reviewing the NPMP patient utilization report  
14 and determining whether the patient had been issued another prescription for the same controlled  
15 substance.

16 20. As the proprietor of TruCare and as the preceptor of Respondent, Addo-Quaye  
17 permitted Respondent to access, store, possess, administer, furnish and prescribe controlled  
18 substances and dangerous drugs under Addo-Quaye's name and Pharmacy Board credentials,  
19 permitted Respondent to falsely represent himself as a practitioner entitled to write controlled  
20 substance prescriptions in this state, permitted Respondent to falsify prescriptions for controlled  
21 substances, conspired with Respondent to violate the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, and was  
22 a party to fraudulent and deceitful practices and transactions.

23 21. As a contractor or employee of TruCare and as the preceptee of Addo-Quaye,  
24 Respondent did access, store, possess, administer, furnish and prescribe controlled substances and  
25 dangerous drugs under Addo-Quaye's name and Pharmacy Board credentials, did falsely represent  
26 himself as a practitioner entitled to write controlled substance prescriptions in this state, did falsify  
27 prescriptions for controlled substances, did conspire with Addo-Quaye to violate the Uniform  
28 Controlled Substances Act, and was a party to fraudulent and deceitful practices and transactions.

1 22. Respondent unlawfully prescribed controlled substances including, without  
2 limitation, Focalin and Androgel, and dangerous drugs including, without limitation, Citalopram,  
3 Cyanocobalamin and Fluticasone Propionate, to multiple patients from September 1, 2019, to  
4 September 20, 2019, by misappropriating Addo-Quaye's blank prescription pads,  
5 misappropriating Addo-Quaye's log-on information to e-scribing systems, and/or by  
6 misappropriating Addo-Quaye's secondary authenticator for e-scribing controlled substances and  
7 dangerous medications, when Addo-Quaye was not present at TruCare, and when Addo-Quaye  
8 was not physically located within the United States of America.

9 23. By, without limitation, the conduct described herein, Respondent unlawfully  
10 prescribed controlled substances and dangerous drugs to others in violation of federal and state  
11 laws, including, but not limited to, each of those cited in paragraphs 11-18 above, and any one  
12 such violation is independent grounds for initiating disciplinary action pursuant to  
13 NRS 630.306(1)(c).

14 24. By reason of the foregoing, Addo-Quaye is subject to discipline by the Board as  
15 provided in NRS 630.352.

## 16 COUNT II

### 17 **NRS 630.306(1)(b)(1) (Deceptive Conduct)**

18 25. All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference  
19 as though fully set forth herein.

20 26. Pursuant to 630.306(1)(b)(1), engaging in any conduct which is intended to  
21 deceive is grounds for initiating disciplinary action or denying licensure.

22 27. By, without limitation, the conduct described herein, Respondent engaged in  
23 conduct intended to deceive the Board and the Pharmacy Board, among other authorities and  
24 parties.

25 28. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as  
26 provided in NRS 630.352.

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**COUNT III**

**NRS 630.301(9) (Disreputable Conduct)**

29. All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

30. Pursuant to NRS 630.301(9), conduct that brings the medical profession into disrepute is grounds for initiating disciplinary action or denying licensure.

31. By, without limitation, the conduct described herein, Respondent engaged in conduct that brings the medical profession into disrepute.

32. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

**COUNT IV**

**NRS 630.3062(1)(a) (Failure to Maintain Accurate and Complete Medical Records)**

33. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

34. NRS 630.3062(1)(a) provides that the failure to maintain accurate and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient is grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.

35. By, without limitation, the conduct described herein, Respondent failed to maintain accurate and complete medical records regarding the treatment of patients from September 1, 2019, to September 20, 2019, the prescription of controlled substances and dangerous drugs to patients during this period, and Respondent's supervision by and consultation with Addo-Quaye regarding patients and prescribing during this period.

36. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

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**WHEREFORE**, the IC prays:

1. That the Board give Respondent notice of the charges herein against him and give him notice that he may file an answer to the Complaint herein as set forth in NRS 630.339(2) within twenty (20) days of service of the Complaint;
2. That the Board set a time and place for a formal hearing after holding an Early Case Conference pursuant to NRS 630.339(3);
3. That the Board determine what sanctions to impose if it finds and concludes that there has been a violation or violations of the Medical Practice Act committed by Respondent;
4. That the Board make, issue and serve on Respondent its findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, in writing, to include sanctions to be imposed; and
5. That the Board take such other and further action as may be just and proper in these premises.

DATED this 13 day of August, 2020.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 

Aaron Bart Fricke, Esq., Senior Deputy General Counsel  
Attorney for the Investigative Committee

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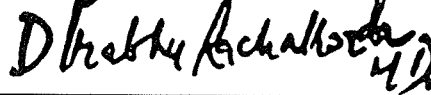
**VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEVADA        )  
                                  : ss.  
COUNTY OF CLARK     )

Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D., having been duly sworn, hereby deposes and states under penalty of perjury that he is the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners that authorized the Complaint against the Respondent herein; that he has read the foregoing Complaint; and that based upon information discovered in the course of the investigation into a complaint against Respondent, he believes that the allegations and charges in the foregoing Complaint against Respondent are true, accurate and correct.

DATED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



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Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D., Chairman

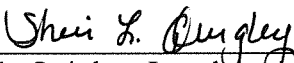


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I am employed by Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners and that on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020, I served a filed copy of the formal COMPLAINT, via USPS e-certified, return receipt mail to the following:

Victor Ronald Bruce, M.D.  
c/o John A. Hunt, Esq.  
Clark Hill PLC  
3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 500  
Las Vegas, NV 89169

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

  
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Sheri L. Quigley, Legal Assistant