THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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Respondent.

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27 28 In the Matter of Charges and Complaint Against QUINTON KEITH THOMAS, M.D., Case No. 21-20969-1

FILED

MAR - 4 2021

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
By:

COMPLAINT

The Investigative Committee¹ (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) hereby issues this formal Complaint (Complaint) against Quinton Keith Thomas, M.D. (Respondent), a licensed physician in Nevada. After investigating this matter, the IC has a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent has violated provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act). The IC alleges the following facts:

I. Respondent's Licensure Status

1. Respondent is currently licensed in active status (License No. 10037), and has been licensed by the Board since November 30, 2001. Respondent is a family practitioner. At all times alleged herein, Respondent was licensed in an active status by the Board pursuant to the provisions of the Medical Practice Act.

II. Statement of Nevada Law Applicable to "Medical Spas" and "Medical Directors"

Part A – Delegating Practitioners, Medical Assistants, and the Unlicensed Practice of Medicine

2. Pursuant to NRS 630.400(1)(d), it is unlawful for any person to practice medicine without being licensed by the Board under NRS Chapter 630, or by another medical professional

¹ The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, at the time the filing of this Complaint was approved, was composed of Board members Wayne Hardwick, M.D., Chairman, Mr. M. Neil Duxbury and Aury Nagy, M.D.

licensing board pursuant to chapters 631 to 637, inclusive, 639 or 640 of the NRS.

- 3. Pursuant to NRS 630.020, the "practice of medicine" means either (1) to diagnose, treat, correct, prevent or prescribe for any human disease, ailment, injury, infirmity, deformity or other condition, physical or mental, by any means or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the performance of an autopsy, or (2) to apply principles or techniques of medical science in the diagnosis or the prevention of any such conditions, or (3) to perform any of the acts described in subsections (1) and (2) by using equipment that transfers information concerning the medical condition of the patient electronically, telephonically or by fiber optics. including, without limitation, through telehealth, from within or outside this State or the United States, or (4) to offer, undertake, attempt to do or hold oneself out as able to do any of the acts described in subsections (1) and (2).
- 4. Pursuant to NRS 630.305(1)(e), a Nevada physician or physician assistant (practitioner) may not aid, assist, employ or advise, directly or indirectly, any unlicensed person to engage in the practice of medicine contrary to the provisions of the Medical Practice Act, and doing so is grounds for initiating disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- 5. Pursuant to the Medical Practice Act, the only means by which a practitioner may lawfully aid, assist, employ or advise, directly or indirectly, an unlicensed person to engage in the practice of medicine is by delegating specific tasks to an adequately supervised and trained "medical assistant." Pursuant to NRS 630.0129, a "medical assistant" means a person who (a) performs clinical tasks under the supervision of a physician or physician assistant, and (b) does not hold a license, certificate or registration issued by a professional licensing or regulatory board in this State to perform such clinical tasks; and the term does not include a person who performs only administrative, clerical, executive or other nonclinical tasks.
- 6. Pursuant to NRS 630.306(1)(r), a practitioner must supervise adequately a medical assistant, and failing to do so is grounds for initiating disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- 7. Pursuant to NAC 630.830, a delegating practitioner is professionally responsible for the safety and performance of each task which is delegated to a medical assistant. Pursuant to NAC 630.810(1), a delegating practitioner may not delegate tasks to a medical assistant unless: (a)

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the delegating practitioner knows that the medical assistant possesses the knowledge, skill and training to perform the task safely and properly; (b) the medical assistant is not required to be certified or licensed to perform that task; (c) the medical assistant is employed by the delegating practitioner or the medical assistant and the delegating practitioner are employed by the same employer; and (d) the employer of the medical assistance has complied with the requirements of subsection 2 as they relate to the task.

- Pursuant to NAC 630.820, a delegating practitioner may not supervise remotely a 8. medical assistant, except in a specific case of emergency in a rural area.²
- Except as otherwise provided in NAC 630.820, pursuant to NAC 630.810, if a 9. medical assistant is delegated a task which involves an "invasive procedure," the delegating practitioner must be immediately available to exercise oversight in person while the medical assistant performs the task.
- The term "medical director" is not recognized or defined under any Nevada law or 10. regulation pertaining to the professional conduct and responsibility of licensed medical professionals, and no law authorizes so-called "medical directors" to violate or circumvent the aforementioned statutes and regulations of the Medical Practice Act.
- Accordingly, pursuant to NRS 630.400(1)(d), 630.305(1)(e), and 630.0129, and 11. NAC 630.800-840:
 - a. If a practitioner, whether by serving as a so-called "medical director" or by some other relationship or circumstance, aids, assists, employs or advises, directly or indirectly, any unlicensed person to engage in the practice of medicine, then the practitioner may lawfully do so only by delegating tasks to an adequately supervised, competent and properly trained medical assistant.

² Remote supervision of a medical assistant is prohibited unless: (a) the patient is located in a rural area; (b) the delegating practitioner is physically located a significant distance from the location where the task is to be performed; (c) the delegating practitioner determines that the exigent needs of the patient require immediate attention; (d) the patient and the delegating practitioner previously established a practitioner-patient relationship; and (e) the delegating practitioner is immediately available by telephone or other means of instant communication during the performance of the task by the medical assistant. As used in NAC 630.820, "rural area" means any area in this State other than Carson City or the City of Elko, Henderson, Reno, Sparks, Las Vegas or North Las Vegas.

³ The Medical Practice Act does not define "invasive procedure," however, NAC 449.9733, pertaining to Medical Facilities, defines "invasive procedure" as "a medical procedure involving entry into the human body by puncture or incision or by insertion of an instrument."

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b. If a practitioner, whether by serving as a so-called "medical director" or by some other relationship or circumstance, aids, assists, employs or advises, directly or indirectly, any unlicensed person to engage in the practice of medicine, and if the practitioner has not done so by delegating specific tasks to an adequately supervised, competent and properly trained medical assistant, then: (1) that unlicensed person has violated NRS 630.400(1)(d), by practicing medicine without a license; and (2) that practitioner has violated NRS 630.305(1)(e), and is subject to discipline for aiding and assisting the unlicensed practice of medicine.

- c. If a practitioner delegates a medical task to a medical assistant, whether by serving as a so-called "medical director" or by some other relationship or circumstance, then the practitioner remains professionally responsible for the safety and performance of each task, and remains professionally responsible for ensuring that the proper employment relationships exist, that the medical assistant is properly knowledgeable, trained and skilled, that the medical assistant is adequately supervised, that the practitioner is nearby to supervise the specific medical tasks delegated, and, if it is an invasive medical task, then he or she must be immediately available to exercise oversight in person while the medical assistant performs the task.
- d. If a practitioner delegates a medical task to a medical assistant, whether by serving as a so-called "medical director" or by some other relationship or circumstance, and if the practitioner fails to adequately supervise that medical assistant as required under the circumstances, then that physician or physician assistant has violated NRS 630.306(1)(r), and is subject to discipline for failing to adequately supervise a medical assistant.

Part B - Cosmetologists, "Medical Spas" and "Medical Aestheticians," and the **Unlicensed Practice of Medicine**

Pursuant to NRS 644A.030 a licensed "cosmetologist" is not authorized by such 12. license to practice medicine in any way. Rather, a licensed cosmetologist is authorized to perform

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only non-medical, cosmetological services, such as cleansing, stimulating or massaging the scalp or cleansing or beautifying the hair by the use of cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, tonics, lotions or creams, cutting, trimming or shaping the hair, removing hair by the use of depilatories, waxing, tweezing or sugaring, except for the permanent removal of hair with needles, manicuring nails, massaging the skin, giving facials, and other miscellaneous non-medical, cosmetological services.

- Pursuant to NAC 644.A.790 a cosmetologist is further explicitly prohibited from 13. performing "invasive procedures," which mean, for the purposes of professional licensing of cosmetologists, "an act that affects the structure or function of the skin other than the uppermost layers of the skin," and which, for the sake of regulating the practice of cosmetologists, includes, without limitation, (a) the application of electricity for the sole purpose of contracting a muscle, (b) the application of a topical lotion, cream or other substance which affects anything other than the uppermost layers of the skin, (c) the penetration of the skin by needles, and (d) the abrasion of the skin below the uppermost layers of the skin.
- There is no such license as "medical aesthetician" authorized by any Nevada law or issued by any Nevada sanctioned professional licensing body. The term "medical aesthetician" is not recognized or defined under any Nevada law or regulation pertaining to the professional conduct and responsibility of licensed medical professionals, and no law authorizes cosmetologists to violate or circumvent the aforementioned statutes and regulations of the Nevada Medical Practice Act by referring to themselves as "medical aestheticians."
- Accordingly, a Nevada licensed cosmetologist may not practice medicine in any 15. way, or perform invasive medical procedures or medical services of any kind, except as a "medical assistant" to a Nevada licensed medical professional, i.e., either as the medical assistant of a Nevada licensed physician or physician assistant pursuant to NRS 630.0129, et. seq., and NAC 630.800-830, as described above, or similarly as another type of professional "assistant," "hygienist," "technician," or other such designation, who is delegated tasks by and under the direct supervision of another medical professional who is duly licensed pursuant to chapters 631 to 637, inclusive, 639 or 640 of NRS.

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16. If a cosmetologist or so-called "medical aesthetician" practices or purports to practice medicine in any way, unless he or she acts as a medical assistant and is delegated tasks and is properly supervised by a professional medical practitioner, then he or she is violating NRS 630.400(1)(d) by practicing medicine without a license.

Part C - Nevada Pharmacy Laws Regarding Dangerous Drugs and Hypodermic **Devices**

- NRS 630.306(1)(b)(3) provides that engaging in conduct that violates a regulation 17. adopted by the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy (Pharmacy Board) is grounds for initiating disciplinary action.
- 18. Pursuant to NRS 454.201, a "dangerous drug" is any drug, other than a controlled substance, unsafe for self-medication or unsupervised use, and includes, the following: (1) any drug which has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for general distribution and bears the legend: 'Rx Only'; (2) procaine hydrochloride with preservatives and stabilizers (Gerovital H3) in injectable doses and amygdaline (laetrile) which have been licensed by the State Board of Health for manufacture in this State but have not been approved as drugs by the Food and Drug Administration; or (3) any drug which, pursuant to the Board's regulations, may be sold only by prescription because the Board has found those drugs to be dangerous to public health or safety.
- 19. Pursuant to NRS 454.316 and NRS 454.321, it is unlawful to possess, dispense or furnish a dangerous drug except when furnished to the person by a pharmacist pursuant to a legal prescription or by a practitioner.
- Pursuant to NRS 454.009, a "hypodermic" device is "any syringe, needle, 20. instrument, device or implement intended or capable of being adapted for the purpose of administering drugs by subcutaneous, intramuscular or intravenous injection."
- 21. Pursuant to NRS 454.510, it is unlawful for any person to have in his or her possession or under his or her control any hypodermic device (that is restricted by federal law to sale by or on the order of a physician), unless the person has acquired possession of such device in accordance with the provisions of NRS 454.480 to 454.530, inclusive, that is, by sale from a

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licensed pharmacist, on the prescription of a physician or other practitioner, which prescription is filled as required by NRS 639.236, and may be refilled as authorized by the prescriber.

- 22. Accordingly, pursuant to NRS 454.009, 454.201, 454.316, 454.321 and 454.510, a Nevada licensed cosmetologist is not permitted by Nevada law to possess, control, access, prescribe, administer, and/or dispense dangerous drugs or hypodermic devices, except as a medical assistant under the direct supervision of a Nevada licensed physician, physician assistant, or other licensed medical professional, and then only if otherwise permitted and in compliance with laws of regulating pharmacies and pharmaceuticals.
- 23. NAC 639.742(1) provides that a practitioner who wishes to dispense controlled substances or dangerous drugs must apply to the Pharmacy Board for a certificate of registration to dispense controlled substances or dangerous drugs. A practitioner must submit a separate application for each site of practice, including, without limitation, a tele-pharmacy, remote site or satellite consultation site, from which the practitioner wishes to dispense controlled substances or dangerous drugs.
- NAC 639.742(2) provides that if a facility from which the practitioner intends to 24. dispense dangerous drugs or controlled substances is not wholly owned and operated by the practitioner, the owner or owners of the facility must also submit an application to the Pharmacy Board for a license to do so.
- 25. NAC 639.742(3) provides, in pertinent part, that a dispensing practitioner and, if applicable, the owner or owners of the facility, shall ensure that:
 - (a) All drugs are ordered by the dispensing practitioner;
 - (b) All drugs are received and accounted for by the dispensing practitioner;
 - (c) All drugs are stored in a secure, locked room or cabinet to which the dispensing practitioner has the only key or lock combination;
 - (d) All drugs are dispensed in accordance with NAC 639.745⁴

⁴ NAC 639.745 Duties of certain practitioners concerning dispensing of controlled substances and dangerous drugs. (NRS 639.070, 639.0727)

^{1.} Each practitioner who is registered with the Board to dispense controlled substances and dangerous drugs, including, without limitation, a dispensing practitioner, and who dispenses such products for use by the practitioner's patients outside his or her presence shall:

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- (e) No prescription is dispensed to a patient unless the dispensing practitioner is onsite at the facility;
- (f) All drugs are dispensed only to the patient personally at the facility;
- (g) The price of each drug dispensed to a patient is separately itemized on any bill or statement provided to the patient.
- (h) All drugs are dispensed only for medically necessary purposes and according to prevailing standards of care for practitioners practicing in the specialty claimed or practiced by the dispensing practitioner; and
- (i) The certificate for each dispensing technician employed at the facility is displayed in the room or cabinet in which drugs are stored.
- (a) Keep complete, accurate and readily retrievable records of each controlled substance and dangerous drug purchased and dispensed. The record for each such product dispensed to a patient must include:
 - (1) The name of the patient and, if not readily available from the practitioner's records, the patient's address;
 - (2) The name, strength and quantity of the prescribed controlled substance or dangerous drug;
 - (3) The directions for use;
 - (4) The date the prescription was issued; and
 - (5) A unique identifying number.
- (b) Maintain a separate file for the records concerning the purchase of each controlled substance listed in schedule II and a separate file for the records concerning the dispensing of each controlled substance listed in schedule II. Each prescription for a controlled substance or dangerous drug must be maintained in a separate file pursuant to the requirements set forth in NAC 453.480.
- (c) Keep all controlled substances and dangerous drugs in a locked storage area. Access to the storage area must be restricted to the persons described in NRS 453.375.
- (d) Ensure that each package or container, in which a controlled substance is dispensed, except samples in the manufacturer's packages, is clearly labeled pursuant to the requirements set forth in NRS 639.2801.
- (e) Ensure that the package or container in which a controlled substance or dangerous drug is dispensed complies with all state and federal packaging requirements.
 - (f) Be deemed to be a pharmacy as that term is used in NAC 639.926 and shall comply with that section.
- 2. A practitioner may dispense dangerous drugs or controlled substances only after the patient has been informed by the practitioner that the patient may request a written prescription and have it filled at another location of the patient's choosing.
- 3. A record regarding the dispensing of a controlled substance or dangerous drug made and kept pursuant to this section must be maintained on paper or in a computer. If the record is:
 - (a) Maintained on paper, the record must:
 - (1) Include all the information required to be on the prescription pursuant to NRS 639.2353 and NAC 453.440;
- (2) Set forth on the front of the prescription a certification initialed and dated by the patient that the patient has been informed by the practitioner in accordance with subsection 2 and that the patient has agreed to have the practitioner dispense the controlled substance or dangerous drug; and
- (3) Be serially numbered and kept in numerical order in a single file for all dispensing practitioners, including, without limitation, physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses, practicing at the same location.
 - (b) Maintained in a computer, the record must:
 - (1) Include all the information required to be on the prescription pursuant to NRS 639.2353 and NAC 453.440;
- (2) Contain a certification, either in the computer or a separate paper document, initialed and dated by the patient that the patient has been informed by the practitioner in accordance with subsection 2 and that the patient has agreed to have the practitioner dispense the controlled substance or dangerous drug; and
 - (3) Be searchable for any item required by paragraph (a) of subsection 1 to be included in the record.

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- NAC 639.742(4)(a)-(b) provides, in part, that with regard to the filling and 26. dispensing of a prescription at a facility, only the dispensing practitioner or a dispensing technician may enter the room or cabinet in which drugs are stored, or remove drugs from stock.
- 27. NAC 639.945(1) provides, in pertinent part, that the following acts or practices by a holder of any license, certificate or registration issued by the Pharmacy Board or any employee of any business holding any such license, certificate or registration are declared to be, specifically but not by way of limitation, unprofessional conduct and conduct contrary to the public interest:
 - (a) Manufacturing, compounding, selling, dispensing or permitting to be manufactured, compounded, sold or dispensed substandard drugs or preparations.
 - (b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 639.2583 to 639.2808, inclusive, for substitutions of generic drugs, dispensing or causing to be dispensed a different drug or brand of drug in place of the drug or brand of drug ordered or prescribed, unless the express permission of the orderer or prescriber is obtained and, in the case of a written prescription, unless the following information is recorded on the prescription by the person obtaining permission:
 - (1) The date on which the permission was granted;
 - (2) The name of the practitioner granting the permission;
 - (3) The name of the person obtaining the permission;
 - (4) The name of the drug dispensed; and
 - (5) The name of the manufacturer or distributor of the drug.
 - (c) Using secret formulas.
 - (d) Except as otherwise provided by subsection 2 of NRS 639.2396, failing strictly to follow the instructions of the person writing, making or ordering a prescription or chart order as to its filling or refilling, the content of the label of the prescription or giving a copy of the prescription or chart order to any person except as permitted by law.
 - (e) Failing to confer with the person writing, making or ordering a prescription or chart order if there is an error or omission in it which should be questioned.

(f) Operating a pharmacy at	a	location	other	than	the	location	at	which	the
pharmacy is licensed to operate									

- (g) Supplying or diverting drugs, biologicals, medicines, substances or devices which are legally sold in pharmacies or by wholesalers, so that unqualified persons can circumvent any law pertaining to the legal sale of such articles.
- (h) Performing or in any way being a party to any fraudulent or deceitful practice or transaction.
- (i) Performing any of his or her duties as the holder of a license, certificate or registration issued by the Board, or as the owner of a business or an entity licensed by the Board, in an incompetent, unskillful or negligent manner.
- (j) Aiding or abetting a person not licensed to practice pharmacy in the State of Nevada.
- (k) Performing any act, task or operation for which licensure, certification or registration is required without the required license, certificate or registration.
- (l) Violating any term or condition of a subpoena or order issued by the Board or the staff of the Board.
- (m) Failing to provide any document, data or information that is required to be made and maintained pursuant to chapters 453, 454, 585 and 639 of NRS and chapters 453, 454, 585 and 639 of NAC to a member of the Board or a member of the staff of the Board upon his or her request.
- (n) Dispensing a drug as a dispensing practitioner to a patient with whom the dispensing practitioner does not have a bona fide therapeutic relationship.
- (o) Prescribing a drug as a prescribing practitioner to a patient with whom the prescribing practitioner does not have a bona fide therapeutic relationship.
- 28. NAC 639.945(2) provides that the owner of any business or facility licensed, certified or registered by the Pharmacy Board is responsible for the acts of all personnel in his or her employ.

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- 29. NAC 639.945(3) provides that, for purposes of applying Pharmacy Board regulations, a bona fide therapeutic relationship between the patient and practitioner shall be deemed to exist if the patient was examined in person, electronically, telephonically or by fiber optics, by the practitioner within the 6 months immediately preceding the date the practitioner dispenses or prescribes a drug to the patient and, as a result of the examination, the practitioner diagnosed a condition for which a given drug therapy is prescribed.
- Accordingly, any physician or physician assistant who whether by serving as a 30. so-called "medical director" of, or by furnishing dangerous drugs or hypodermic devices to, or by some other relationship or circumstance with any "medical spa" wherein dangerous drugs or hypodermic devices are possessed, controlled, accessed, prescribed, administered, and/or dispensed - engages in conduct that violates any regulation adopted by the Pharmacy Board, including but not limited to NAC 639.742(1)-(3), (4)(a)-(b), or 639.945(1)-(3), has violated the Nevada Medical Practice Act and is subject to discipline by the Board.

Respondent's Medical Directorship of VIP Faces/TWEC

- At all relevant times alleged herein, Respondent, individually, and through his company, Triangle Family Medicine, and, Sandra Bledsoe (Bledsoe), through VIP Faces, Inc. & Transitions Weight Loss and Empowerment Center (VIPTWEC), were partners in business.
- 32. On November 26, 2014, Respondent entered into an Agreement to Sublease Space and Physician Supervision (NRS 630) (Lease Agreement) whereby Respondent leased office space to VIPTWEC. Pursuant to this Lease Agreement, Respondent, in his capacity as a physician, agrees to supervise Sandra Bledsoe (Owner of VIPTWEC) as a medical assistant in accordance with NRS Chapter 630. Respondent subleased adjacent office space to VIPTWEC and these offices were adjacent to each other.
- On December 29, 2014, this partnership relationship was formalized and 33. documented via a Partnership Agreement (Agreement), executed on January 2, 2015. The stated purpose of this Agreement was to have the Respondent be the Medical Director (NRS 630) of VIPTWEC and implement and supervise the following: 1) coordinate/oversee clinical services provided by other clinical professionals as they relate to patient care, including nurse practitioner,

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- 34. Bledsoe acted as Manager, Medi-Spa Injector and Medical Assistant for VIPTWEC.
- On or about February 25, 2015, Patient A⁵, a 46 year-old female, presented to 35. Bledsoe for Botox treatments for her forehead and wrinkles lateral to her eyes. These treatments were not ordered by Respondent.
- 36. On or about March 3, 2015, Patient A's right eyelid became very droopy; she experienced blurry vision and eyelid obstruction of her right eye. Patient A presented to a Renown Urgent Care center, located in Sparks, NV, and her treating physician requested copies of the VIPTWEC medical records of Botox to confirm the amount and location of Botox injected into Patient A's face. Patient A was not able to provide her medical records from VIPTWEC.
- 37. On or about March 13, 2015, Patient A presented to Bledsoe at VIPTWEC, requesting a copy of her medical records, specifically regarding the treatments rendered by Bledsoe. No medical records have ever been provided to date. Bledsoe, without Patient A's consent, proceeded to inject her with another Botox injection.
- 38. On or about March 14, 2015, Respondent informed Patient A that he would find her medical records.
- On or about March 16, 2015, Patient A presented to VIPTWEC. Respondent did 39. not provide the aforementioned medical records as promised or as required by the Medical Practice Act.

⁵ Patient A's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect her privacy, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation served upon Respondent along with a copy of this Complaint.

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- 40. VIPTWEC routinely dispensed phentermine and administered Vitamin B-12 injections without Respondent's medical supervision and without medical justification.
- 41. VIPTWEC, through its principal Bledsoe, held itself out to the public as a "medical spa" "specializing" in medical procedures, products and treatments, including "Medical Weightloss," and "Botox," as well as other non-medical aesthetic and cosmetological services.
 - 42. Respondent was not a manager, agent, officer or employee of VIPTWEC.
- 43. Respondent had no ownership or member interest in VIPTWEC, but he had a contractual authority, pursuant to the Agreement, and a statutory duty to manage the medicalrelated affairs of VIPTWEC in compliance with the Medical Practice Act.
- Neither Bledsoe nor any of VIPTWEC's employees or other independent 44. contractors was employed by Respondent during the time Respondent served as Medical Director of VIPTWEC.
- 45. At all times relevant to the facts alleged herein, neither Bledsoe, nor any other member, manager, employee or independent contractor of VIPTWEC, was licensed by any Nevada professional licensing board pursuant to chapters 630 to 637, inclusive, 639 or 640 of NRS to practice medicine in the State of Nevada.
- No person in any way affiliated with or employed by VIPTWEC held a medical 46. license issued by the Board during the time Respondent served as Medical Director, other than Respondent himself.
 - 47. Bledsoe was NOT at all relevant times a Nevada licensed "Cosmetologist."
- 48. The only times Respondent was personally present at VIPTWEC's location during his time as Medical Director were the instances when he appeared referring a patient to VIPTWEC to receive Bledsoe's treatments and/or during Patient A's care.
- VIPTWEC's medical records show no indication that Respondent supervised, 49. contacted or consulted Bledsoe, or anyone else at VIPTWEC, in person or by any other means during Respondent's service as Medical Director.
- 50. VIPTWEC did not maintain medical records during Respondent's supervision as Medical Director.

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- 51. Respondent has been licensed in active status (License No. PD00501) by the Pharmacy Board since January 20, 2015, to dispense prescription drugs at the following location: 1475 Terminal Way, Suite A1, Reno, Nevada 89502.
- 52. Respondent, personally or at his direction to any medical assistant associated with VIPTWEC, procured prescription-strength Botox and Restylane; the aforementioned drugs and hypodermic devices are available only by prescription and are dangerous drugs as defined by NRS 454.201.
- 53. Respondent, personally or at his direction to any medical assistant, delivered these dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices to VIPTWEC employees at VIPTWEC's office location and left them in their sole possession, custody and control and beyond the supervision or restraint of Respondent.
- 54. Respondent did not apply to the Pharmacy Board for a certificate of registration to dispense controlled substances or dangerous drugs at VIPTWEC's location.
- During Respondent's service as Medical Director to VIPTWEC, Bledsoe and/or 55. VIPTWEC's employees or agents provided medical treatment and/or prescriptions, and/or administered dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices and/or dispensed dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices, to at least all of VIPTWEC's patients.
 - Bledsoe's conduct set forth above constitutes the practice of medicine in Nevada. 56.
- 57. VIPTWEC's medical records contain no entries for patient history, notes, examination findings, tests performed, procedures performed, dangerous drugs dispensed, administered or prescribed, or therapeutic procedures performed by Respondent.
- 58. Respondent's medical office manager ordered Botox, B-12 and other dangerous drugs for delivery at Respondent's medical practice and for use by VIPTWEC.
- 59. Upon information and belief, Respondent's medical office manager delivered the orders for Botox, B-12, and other dangerous drugs to VIPTWEC at Respondent's direction.
- 60. All of the dangerous drugs listed, while in the custody and control of VIPTWEC and its employees or agents, were not stored in a secure, locked room or cabinet to which the dispensing practitioner had the only key or lock combination.

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- 61. Upon information and belief, Bledsoe and/or other employees of VIPTWEC had unrestricted access to these dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices.
 - 62. Botox is introduced hypodermically, that is, subcutaneously.
- 63. Bledsoe and/or VIPTWEC, and its employees and agents, possessed, controlled, stored, prescribed and/or dispensed all the aforementioned dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices without a dispensing license or a controlled substance license as required by the Pharmacy Board.
- Respondent was not present when Bledsoe and/or VIPTWEC, and its employees 64. and agents, possessed, controlled, stored, prescribed and/or dispensed the aforementioned dangerous drugs.
- 65. Respondent neither received nor accounted for the dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices administered and dispensed by VIPTWEC, nor did he ensure that such drugs and hypodermic devices were stored in a secure, locked room or cabinet to which he had the only key or lock combination. The dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices were not dispensed in accordance with NAC 639.745. Respondent did not have a bona fide therapeutic relationship with any of the VIPTWEC patients at issue, nor did he write a prescription for any drugs to any of these patients, nor was he on-site at the facility or otherwise immediately available when they were prescribed or otherwise administered or dispensed. Respondent personally dispensed none of the drugs dispensed at VIPTWEC's facility, and did not assure that they were dispensed only for medically necessary purposes and according to prevailing standards of care, nor did he assure that a certificate for each dispensing technician employed at the facility was displayed in the room or cabinet in which drugs were stored.
- Respondent supplied dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices so that unqualified 66. persons could circumvent laws pertaining to the legal sale of such articles, and allowed others to dispense and prescribe dangerous drugs to those whom he did not have a bona fide therapeutic relationship.
- 67. Respondent failed to ensure that he had the required ownership or employment relationship with respect to VIPTWEC, and failed to ensure that he had the legal and practical

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control of VIPTWEC's operations sufficient to effectively control the conduct of its employees and agents in performance of all medical activities as his medical assistants or otherwise, in order to prevent misconduct and ensure that his medical assistants possessed the knowledge, skill and training to perform their tasks safely and properly.

COUNT I

NRS 630.306(1)(r): Failure to Adequately Supervise

- 68. All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.
- 69. NRS 630.306(1)(r) provides that a failure to supervise adequately a medical assistant pursuant to the regulations of the Board is an act that constitutes grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.
- 70. By the conduct described herein, Respondent failed to supervise adequately, or supervise in any way, Bledsoe, and all other employees or contractors of VIPTWEC in their performance of medical tasks during his time as Medical Director.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 71. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

COUNT II

NRS 630.305(1)(e): Aiding Practice by Unlicensed Person

- 72. All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.
- 73. NRS 630.305(1)(e) provides that the aiding, assisting, employing or advising, directly or indirectly, any unlicensed person to engage in the practice of medicine contrary to the provisions of NRS Chapter 630 or the regulations of the Board is an act, among others, that constitutes grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.
- 74. By the conduct described herein, to the extent that Respondent either did not delegate medical tasks to Bledsoe, and VIPTWEC's agents and employees as medical assistants, or to the extent that their actions were not authorized by Respondent, Respondent nonetheless aided, assisted and advised these unlicensed persons, both directly and indirectly, in their

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engaging in the practice of medicine contrary to the provisions of NRS Chapter 630 and/or the regulations of the Board.

75. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

COUNT III

NRS 630.3062(1)(a): Failure to Maintain Proper Medical Records

- 76. All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.
- 77. NRS 630.3062(1)(a) provides that the failure to maintain timely, legible, accurate and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient is an act, among others, that constitutes grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.
- 78. Pursuant to NAC 630.830, as delegating practitioner, Respondent is professionally responsible for the safety and performance of each task which is delegated to a medical assistant.
- 79. Respondent and his medical assistants failed to maintain timely, legible, accurate and complete medical records by failing to include patient histories, clinical notes, examination findings, tests performed, procedures performed, dangerous drugs and hypodermic devices used, administered or prescribed, or therapeutic procedures performed that can be attributed to Respondent, among other omissions.
- 80. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

COUNT IV

NRS 630.306(1)(b)(3): Engaging in Conduct That Violated Pharmacy Board Regulations

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 81. forth herein.
- 82. NRS 630.306(1)(b)(3) provides that engaging in conduct that violates a regulation adopted by the Pharmacy Board is grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.

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- 83. By the conduct described herein, Respondent engaged in conduct that violates regulations adopted by the Pharmacy Board, specifically including, but not limited to, NAC 639.742(1)-(3), (4)(a)-(b), 639.945(1)-(3).
- 84. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

WHEREFORE, the Investigative Committee prays:

- 1. That the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 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 Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners set a time and place for a formal hearing after holding an Early Case Conference pursuant to NRS 630.339(3);
- 3. That the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners determine the sanctions it will impose if it finds Respondent violated the Medical Practice Act;
- 4. That the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners make, issue and serve upon the Respondent, in writing, its findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, which shall include the sanctions imposed; and
- 5. That the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners take such other and further action as may be just and proper in these premises.

DATED this _____ day of March, 2021.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

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

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEVADA)
COUNTY OF WASHOE	: ss.

Mr. M. Neil Duxbury, 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 the allegations and charges in the foregoing Complaint against Respondent are true, accurate and correct.

Dated this 3rd day of March, 2021.

M. NEIL TOMBURY

M. Neil Duxbury

Chairman, Investigative Committee Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners