Before the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of Nevada

In The Matter of Charges and Complaint Against BRIAN FOX, M.D., Respondent.

Case No. 07-23881-01

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and between the Investigative Committee (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (the Board), composed of Sohail U. Anjum, M.D., Chairman, and S. Daniel McBride, M.D., Member, at the time the Complaint was authorized, by and through Deputy General Counsel, Edward Cousineau, Esq., and , M.D. (Respondent), as follows:

WHEREAS, on October 16, 2007, the Board's IC filed a formal complaint in the above-referenced matter charging Respondent with engaging in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act (NRS Chapter 630), to wit: one count of malpractice, a violation of NRS 630.301(4).

WHEREAS, Respondent has received and reviewed a copy of the complaint, understands it, and has consulted with his counsel, Edward J. Lemons, Esq., concerning the nature and significance of the complaint, and Respondent fully understands his rights and defenses regarding the complaint as well as the possible sanctions that may be imposed if the Board finds and concludes that he has engaged in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act; and

WHEREAS, Respondent understands and agrees that he has certain rights under the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Nevada, as well as under the Medical Practice Act (NRS Chapter 630) and the Nevada Administrative Procedures Act (NRS Chapter 233B), including but not limited to the right to a formal hearing on the charges against him, the right to representation by counsel in the preparation and presentation of his defense, the right to confrontation and cross-examination of

witnesses against him, the right to written findings, conclusions and order regarding a final decision by the Board, and the right to judicial review of any final decision by the Board that is adverse to him; and

WHEREAS, Respondent, based upon his understanding of the relevant facts and circumstances, and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement, desires to waive all of his rights under the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of Nevada, the Medical Practice Act and the Nevada Administrative Procedures Act, including but not limited to the right to a hearing on the charges and a written findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, and he desires to settle and resolve this matter of the formal complaint against him by way of and in accordance with this Settlement, Waiver and Consent Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Respondent understands and agrees that this Agreement is entered into by and between himself and the Board's IC, and not with the Board, but that the IC will present this Agreement to the Board for consideration in open session at a regular meeting duly noticed and scheduled, and that the IC will advocate approval of this Agreement by the Board, but that the Board has the right to decide in its own discretion whether or not to approve this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Respondent understands and agrees that if the Board approves the terms, covenants and conditions of this Agreement, then the terms, covenants and conditions enumerated below shall be binding and enforceable upon him; and

WHEREAS, Respondent understands and agrees that, if the Board does not approve the terms, covenants and conditions of this Agreement, then the terms, covenants and conditions enumerated below shall not be binding and enforceable upon him except the provisions as to disqualification of adjudicating panel members in paragraph number 9, and he will be provided with an opportunity to defend himself against the charges against him at a regularly scheduled hearing in accordance with all applicable laws.

NOW THEREFORE, in order to resolve the pending complaint and charges brought against him by the Board's IC in the above captioned matter, Respondent and the IC hereby agree to the following terms, covenants and conditions:

1. <u>Jurisdiction</u>. Respondent was at all times mentioned in the complaint filed in the above-captioned matter, a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Nevada, subject to jurisdiction

of the Board to hear and adjudicate charges of violations of the Medical Practice Act (NRS 630), and to impose sanctions as provided by the Act.

- 2. Respondent is represented by counsel named herein, whom Respondent covenants and agrees is fully capable, competent, and fully advised in these circumstances, and Respondent further covenants and agrees that he enters into this Agreement knowingly, willingly and intelligently after full consultation with and upon the advice of counsel.
- 3. Waiver of Rights. In connection with this Agreement, and the terms, covenants and conditions contained herein, Respondent knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently waives all rights arising under or pursuant to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of Nevada, NRS Chapter 630 and NRS Chapter 233B that may be available to him or that may apply to him in connection with the proceedings on the complaint filed herein, the defense of said complaint, the adjudication of the charges in said complaint, and the imposition of sanctions, and Respondent further agrees that the matter of the disciplinary action commenced by complaint herein may be settled and resolved in accordance with this Agreement without a hearing or any further proceeding, and without the right to judicial review.
- 4. <u>Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed.</u> Respondent covenants and agrees that the Board's IC had a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent engaged in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the provisions of the Medical Practice Act.
- 5. Consent to Entry of Order. In order to resolve the matter of these disciplinary proceedings pending against him without any further costs and expense of providing a defense to the complaint, or to an amended complaint, Respondent hereby agrees, and does not contest, that an order may be entered herein by the Board finding that Respondent engaged in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act, to wit: one count of malpractice, a violation of NRS 630.301(4), that in treating the patient referenced in the original complaint filed by the IC, Respondent's care and treatment of the patient at issue was inconsistent with the appropriate standard of care that should have been applied based upon the circumstances, that Respondent shall be publicly reprimanded, the Respondent shall be fined in the amount of \$5,000.00, and that within one year of the acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement, Respondent shall complete twenty (20) hours of Continuing Medical Education (CME) regarding the subject of pre-natal care, which are to be approved by the IC Chairman in advance of

their accomplishment. The aforementioned CME's are to be in addition to any CME requirements that are regularly imposed upon Respondent as a condition of licensure in the State of Nevada. Further, Respondent shall reimburse the Board the reasonable costs and expenses incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this case in the current amount of \$1,749.66, plus any additional costs that may be accrued subsequent in the disposition of this matter. The aforementioned fine and costs are to be paid to the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners within sixty (60) days of the acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement by the Board. A final accounting of the additional costs will be provided to Respondent in the entry of the Board's Order relating to the matter.

- 6. Release From Liability. In execution of this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent, for himself, his executors, successors and assigns, hereby releases and forever discharges the state of Nevada, the Board, the Nevada Attorney General, and each of their members, agents and employees in their individual and representative capacities, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, that Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have, against any or all of the persons or entities named in this paragraph arising out of or by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary action, this settlement or its administration.
- 7. Procedure for Adoption of Agreement. The IC and counsel for the IC shall recommend approval and adoption of the terms, covenants and conditions contained herein by the Board in resolution of the disciplinary proceedings pending herein against Respondent pursuant to the formal complaint. In the course of seeking Board approval, adoption and/or acceptance of this Agreement, counsel for the IC may communicate directly with the Board staff and members of the panel of the Board that would adjudicate this case if it were to go to hearing. Respondent covenants and agrees that such contacts and communication may be made or conducted ex parte, without notice or opportunity to be heard on his part, and that such contacts and communications may include, but not be limited to, matters concerning this Agreement, the complaint, the allegations in the complaint, any and all evidence that may exist in support of the complaint, and any and all information of every nature whatsoever related to the complaint or the proceedings herein against Respondent.

- 8. Effect of Acceptance of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board approves, accepts and adopts the terms, covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, the Board will enter an order finding Respondent committed a violation of Nevada's Medical Practice Act, specifically NRS 630.301(4), that Respondent will be publicly reprimanded, Respondent shall be fined in the amount of \$5,000.00, and that Respondent shall, within one year of the adoption of this Agreement, enroll in and attend twenty (20) hours of CME approved by the Board regarding the subject of pre-natal care, which are to be in addition to any CME requirements which are regularly imposed upon Respondent as a condition of licensure in the State of Nevada, and ordering Respondent to pay the fine, costs, and expenses of the investigation and prosecution of this matter as provided previously herein, and dismissing the underlying complaint.
- 9. Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board does not approve, accept and adopt the terms, covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null, void, and of no further force and effect except as to the following covenant and agreement regarding disqualification of adjudicating Board panel members. Respondent agrees that, not withstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing contained herein and nothing that occurs pursuant to efforts of the IC or its counsel to seek acceptance and adoption of this Agreement by the Board shall disqualify any member of the adjudicating panel of the Board from considering the charges against Respondent and participating in the disciplinary proceedings in any role, and Respondent further agrees that he shall not seek to disqualify any such member.
- 10. <u>Binding Effect</u>. Respondent covenants and agrees that this Agreement is a binding and enforceable contract upon Respondent and the Board's IC, which contract may be enforced in a court or tribunal having jurisdiction.
- 11. <u>Forum Selection Clause</u>. Respondent covenants and agrees that in the event either party is required to seek enforcement of this Agreement in the district court, he consents to such jurisdiction, and covenants and agrees that exclusive jurisdiction shall be in the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada in and for the County of Washoe.
 - 12. Attorney's Fees and Costs. Respondent covenants and agrees that in the event an

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1	action is commenced in the district court to enforce any provision of this Agreement the prevailing party
2	shall be entitled to recover reasonable costs and attorneys' fees.
3	Dated this $\frac{\cancel{\cancel{+}}^{\cancel{+}}}{\cancel{-}}$ day of March, 2008.
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5	Edward O. Cousineau Esq. Edward J. Lemons, Esq.
6	Edward O. Cousineau, Esq. Attorney for the Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners Edward J. Eemons, Esq. Attorney for Respondent
7	Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
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9	I, Brian Fox, M.D., hereby agree to the foregoing Settlement, Consent and Waiver as to the
10	complaint in Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners Case No. 07-23881-01
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12	Dated this day of March, 2008.
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15	Brian Fox, M.D., Respondent
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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the foregoing Settlement, Waiver and Consent Agreement, Case No. 07-23881-1, is approved and accepted by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners on the 28th day of March 2008, with the final total amount of costs due of \$1,749.66 pursuant to Paragraph 5 above.

JAVAID ANWAR, President

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS