

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

3 * * * * *

4 **In The Matter of Charges and**) **Case No. 11-29622-1**
5 **Complaint Against**) **FILED**
6 **DAMON SACCO, M.D.,**) **SEP 12 2011**
7 **Respondent.**) **NEVADA STATE BOARD OF**
8 **By: _____** **MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

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10 **SETTLEMENT, WAIVER AND CONSENT AGREEMENT**

11 **THIS AGREEMENT** is entered into by and between the Investigative Committee (IC) of
12 the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (the Board) composed at the time filing of the
13 Complaint of Charles N. Held, M.D, Theodore Berndt, M.D. and Ms. Valerie Clark, BSN, RHU,
14 LUTCF, by and through counsel, Lyn E. Beggs, Esq., and Damon Sacco, M.D. (Respondent), as
15 follows:

16 **WHEREAS**, on July 12, 2011, the Board's IC filed a First Amended Complaint in the
17 above referenced matter charging Respondent with engaging in conduct that is grounds for
18 discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act (NRS Chapter 630 and NAC Chapter 630) to wit:
19 one count of disciplinary action having been taken on a license to practice medicine by another
20 state, a violation of NRS 630.301(3); and

21 **WHEREAS**, Respondent has received and reviewed a copy of the First Amended
22 Complaint, understands the nature and significance of the First Amended Complaint and is fully
23 advised concerning his rights and defenses to the Complaint as well as the possible sanctions that
24 may be imposed if the Board finds and concludes that he has engaged in conduct that is grounds
25 for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act and after due consideration concedes that he
26 was disciplined by the Colorado Medical Board as alleged in count I of the First Amended
27 Complaint; and

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1 **WHEREAS**, Respondent understands and agrees that this Agreement is entered into by
2 and between himself and the Board's Investigative Committee, and not with the Board, but that the
3 Investigative Committee will present this Agreement to the Board for consideration in open
4 session at a Board meeting, appropriately noticed, and that the Investigative Committee shall
5 advocate approval of this Agreement by the Board, but that the Board has the right to decide in its
6 own discretion whether or not to approve this Agreement; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Respondent and the Investigative Committee each understand and agree that
8 if the Board approves the terms, covenants and conditions of this Agreement, then the terms,
9 covenants and conditions enumerated below shall be binding and enforceable upon Respondent
10 and the Board's Investigative Committee; and

11 **NOW THEREFORE**, in order to resolve the above-captioned case and charges brought
12 against Respondent by the Board's Investigative Committee in said matter, Respondent and the
13 Investigative Committee hereby agree to the following terms, covenants and conditions:

14 1. **Consent to Entry of Order.** In order to resolve the matter of these disciplinary
15 proceedings pending against him without any further costs and expense of providing a defense to
16 the Complaint or to any amended complaints, Respondent hereby agrees that an order may be
17 entered herein by the Board finding that Respondent engaged in conduct that is grounds for
18 discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act to wit: one count of disciplinary action having been
19 taken on a license to practice medicine by another state as set forth in count I of the First Amended
20 Complaint, a violation of NRS 630.301(3); and ordering that Respondent be ordered to reimburse
21 the Board the reasonable costs and expenses incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this
22 case, the current amount being \$465.55, not including any costs that may be necessary to finalize
23 this Agreement. The costs and fines shall be paid to the Nevada State Board of Medical
24 Examiners within ninety (90) days of the acceptance of this Agreement by the Board;

25 2. **Jurisdiction.** Respondent was at all times mentioned in the Complaint filed in the
26 above-captioned matter was, a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state of Nevada
27 subject to the jurisdiction of the Board to hear and adjudicate charges of violations of the
28 Medical Practice Act (NRS 630), and to impose sanctions as provided by the Act.

1 3. **Representation by Counsel.** Respondent acknowledges that he is not represented
2 by counsel and wishes to proceed towards resolution of this matter as set forth in this Agreement
3 without counsel. Respondent understands and acknowledges that he may retain and consult
4 counsel prior to entering into this Agreement and agrees that if counsel is retained for
5 representation in this matter prior to entering into this Agreement, that counsel for the Investigative
6 Committee will be informed of such prior to Respondent executing this Agreement.

7 4. **Waiver of Rights.** Respondent covenants and agrees that he enters into this
8 Agreement knowingly, willingly, and intelligently with knowledge that he may consult with
9 counsel prior to entering into this Agreement. In connection with this Agreement, and the terms,
10 covenants and conditions contained herein, Respondent knowingly, willingly and intelligently,
11 waives all rights arising under or pursuant to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the
12 state of Nevada, NRS Chapter 630 and NRS Chapter 233B that may be available to Respondent or
13 that may apply to Respondent in connection with the proceeding regarding the Complaint filed
14 herein, the defense of said Complaint and the adjudication of the charges in said Complaint, and
15 Respondent further agrees that the matter of the disciplinary action commenced by the filing of the
16 complaint herein may be settled and resolved in accordance with this Agreement without a hearing
17 or any further proceeding, and without the right to judicial review. In the event this Agreement is
18 not approved by the Board, this Agreement shall have no force and effect and Respondent shall
19 have all rights arising under or pursuant to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the
20 State of Nevada, NRS Chapter 630 and NRS Chapter 233B that may be available to Respondent or
21 that may apply to Respondent in connection with the proceeding on the complaint filed herein.

22 5. **Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed.** Respondent covenants and
23 agrees that the Board's Investigative Committee has a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent
24 violated one or more provisions of the Medical Practice Act.

25 6. **Procedure for Adoption of Agreement.** It is expressly understood that this
26 Agreement will only become effective if the Board approves the recommendation of the
27 Investigative Committee for acceptance. The Investigative Committee and counsel for the
28 Investigative Committee shall recommend approval of the terms, covenants and conditions

1 contained herein by the Board in resolution of the disciplinary proceedings pending herein
2 against Respondent pursuant to the Complaint. In the course of seeking Board approval of this
3 Agreement, counsel for the Investigative Committee may communicate directly with the Board
4 staff and members of the panel of the Board who would adjudicate this case if it were to go to
5 hearing. Respondent covenants and agrees that such contacts and communication may be made
6 or conducted ex parte, without notice or opportunity to be heard on his part or on the part of his
7 counsel, if any, until the public Board meeting where this Agreement is discussed, and that such
8 contacts and communications may include, but not be limited to, matters concerning this
9 Agreement, the Complaint and the allegations therein, any and all evidence that may exist in
10 support of the Complaint, and any and all information of every nature whatsoever related to the
11 complaint against Respondent. The Investigative Committee and its counsel agree that
12 Respondent and her counsel, if any, may appear at the Board meeting where this Agreement is
13 discussed in order to respond to any and all questions that may be addressed to the Investigative
14 Committee or its counsel at such meeting.

15 7. **Effect of Acceptance of Agreement by Board.** In the event the Board approves
16 the terms, covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, counsel for the Investigative
17 Committee will cause to be entered herein the Board's Order approving this Settlement, Waiver
18 and Consent Agreement, ordering full compliance with the terms herein and ordering that this
19 case be closed, subject to the provisions in Paragraph 1.

20 8. **Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board.** In the event the Board does not
21 approve the terms, covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, this Agreement shall be
22 null, void, and of no further force and effect except as to the following covenant and agreement
23 regarding disqualification of adjudicating Board panel members. Respondent agrees that,
24 notwithstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing contained herein and nothing
25 that occurs pursuant to efforts of the Investigative Committee or its counsel to seek acceptance
26 and adoption of this Agreement by the Board shall disqualify any member of the adjudicating
27 panel of the Board from considering the charges against Respondent and participating in the

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1 disciplinary proceedings in any role, including adjudication of the case, and Respondent further
2 agrees that she shall not seek to disqualify any such member absent evidence of bad faith.

3 9. **Release From Liability.** In execution of this Agreement, the Respondent, for
4 himself, her executors, successors and assigns, hereby releases and forever discharges the state
5 of Nevada, the Board, the Nevada Attorney General, and each of their members, agents and
6 employees in their representative capacities, and in their individual capacities absent evidence of
7 bad faith, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments,
8 executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, that
9 Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have, against any or all of the persons or
10 entities named in this paragraph arising out of or by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary
11 action, this settlement or its administration, in connection with the complaint. The Investigative
12 Committee hereby agrees to accept this Agreement in full settlement of all claims related to the
13 complaint, with the understanding that the final decision rests with the Board.

14 10. **Binding Effect.** Respondent covenants and agrees that this Agreement is a
15 binding and enforceable contract upon Respondent and the Board's Investigative Committee,
16 which contract may be enforced in a court or tribunal having jurisdiction.

17 11. **Forum Selection Clause.** Respondent covenants and agrees that in the event
18 either party is required to seek enforcement of this Agreement in the district court, she consents
19 to such jurisdiction, and covenants and agrees that exclusive jurisdiction shall be in the Second
20 Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada in and for the County of Washoe.

21 12. **Attorneys' Fees and Costs.** Respondent covenants and agrees that in the event
22 an action is commenced in the district court to enforce any provision of this Agreement, the
23 prevailing party shall be entitled to recover reasonable costs and attorneys' fees.

24 13. **Failure to comply with terms.** In the event the Board enters its Order approving
25 this Agreement, should Respondent fail to comply with the terms recited herein, the Board
26 would then have grounds, after notice and a hearing, to take disciplinary action against
27 Respondent in addition to that included herein for the subject's violation of an Order of the
28 Board in accordance with NRS 630.3065(2)(a). Moreover, the failure of Respondent to

1 reimburse the Board for monies agreed to be paid as a condition of settlement, may subject
2 Respondent to civil collection efforts.

3 Dated this 25 day July of 2011.

Dated this 19 day of JULY, 2011.

4 By Lyn E. Beggs
5 Lyn E. Beggs, Esq.
6 Attorney for the Investigative Committee

By: Damon Sacco, MD
Damon Sacco, M.D.
Respondent

7 Subscribed and sworn to before me
8 This ___ day of _____ 2011.

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11 _____
Notary Public

12 State of California County of
13 MARIN
14 Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed)
15 before me on this 19th day of JULY, 2011, by
DAMON SACCO, MD
16 proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence
to be the person(s) who appeared before me.
17 Signature Diiane L. Fegley, Notary
(Seal)



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1 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the foregoing Settlement, Waiver and Consent Agreement is
2 approved and accepted by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners on the 9th day of
3 September 2011, with the final total amount of costs due of \$465.55.

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6 Benjamin J. Rodriguez, M.D., President
7 NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
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