BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS 1 **OF THE STATE OF NEVADA** 2 * * * * * 3 4 Case No. 10-18975-1 In The Matter of Charges and) 5 FILED **Complaint Against** 6 DEC - 5 2011 7 JENNIFER SAHM, M.D. NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS 8 **Respondent.** 9 SETTLEMENT, WAIVER AND CONSENT AGREEMENT 10 11 THIS AGREEMENT is hereby entered into by and between the Investigative Committee 12 (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (the Board) composed of 13 Benjamin Rodriguez, M.D., Chairman, Beverly A. Neyland, M.D., and Donna A. Ruthe, in the 14 above-captioned matter, by and through Bradley O. Van Ry, Esq., Deputy General Counsel for the 15 Board and counsel for the IC, and Jennifer Sahm, M.D. (Respondent), as follows: 16 WHEREAS, on July 26, 2010, the Board's IC filed a formal Complaint in the above-17 referenced matter charging Respondent with engaging in conduct that is grounds for discipline 18 pursuant to the Nevada's Medical Practice Act, i.e., Chapter 630 of the Nevada Revised Statutes 19 (NRS), to wit: a violation of NRS Section 630.301(4), and NAC 630.040; and, 20 WHEREAS, Respondent has received a copy of the formal Complaint, reviewed it, 21 her counsel, consult with opportunity to had ample has and understands it, 22 Edward J. Lemons, Esq., concerning the nature and significance of the formal Complaint, and 23 Respondent is fully aware concerning her rights and defenses to the formal Complaint as well as 24 the possible sanctions that may be imposed if the Board finds and concludes that she has violated 25 one or more provisions of the Medical Practice Act; and, 26 WHEREAS, Respondent understands and agrees that this Agreement is entered into by 27 and between herself and the Board's IC, and not with the Board, but that the IC will present this 28 Agreement to the Board for consideration in open session at a meeting duly noticed and scheduled, 1

and that the IC shall 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 her; and,

6 WHEREAS, Respondent understands and agrees that if the Board does not approve the 7 terms, covenants and conditions of this Agreement, then the terms, covenants and conditions 8 enumerated below shall not be binding and enforceable upon her except the provisions as to 9 disqualification of adjudicating panel members in paragraph number 8, and she will be provided 10 with an opportunity to defend herself against the charges against her as alleged in the formal 11 Complaint at a regularly scheduled hearing in accordance with all applicable laws; and,

NOW THEREFORE, in order to resolve this matter and all charges alleged by the
Board's IC in the above-captioned matter, Respondent and the IC hereby agree to the following
terms, covenants and conditions:

Jurisdiction. Respondent is, and at all times mentioned in the formal Complaint
 filed in the above-captioned matter was, a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of
 Nevada subject to the 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.

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2. <u>Representation by Counsel/ Knowing, Willing and Intelligent Agreement.</u>

Respondent is represented by Edward J. Lemons, Esq. in this matter and has had ample
opportunity to review this agreement, the formal Complaint filed in this matter and related factual
basis with said legal counsel. Respondent further covenants and agrees that she enters into this
Agreement knowingly, willingly, and intelligently.

3. <u>Waiver of Rights</u>. In connection with this Agreement, and the terms, covenants and conditions contained herein, and the understanding that Respondent knowingly, willingly and intelligently, waives all rights arising under or pursuant to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the state of Nevada, NRS Chapter 630, NRS Chapter 233B, and any other statutory rights that may be available to her or that may apply to her in connection with the proceeding on

the formal Complaint filed herein, the defense of said formal Complaint and the adjudication of 1 the charges in said formal Complaint, and Respondent further agrees that the matter of the formal 2 Complaint herein may be settled and resolved in accordance with this Agreement without a 3 hearing or any further proceeding, and without the right to judicial review. In the event this 4 Agreement is not approved by the Board, this Agreement shall have no force and effect and shall 5 be void ab initio, and Respondent shall have all rights arising under or pursuant to the United 6 States Constitution, the Constitution of the state of Nevada, NRS Chapter 630, NRS Chapter 7 233B, and any other statutory rights that may be available to her or that may apply to her in 8 connection with the proceeding on the formal Complaint filed herein. 9

4. <u>Consent to Entry of Order</u>. Respondent is aware that the trier of fact, the Board,
 may find a factual basis in support of the formal Complaint against Respondent. Accordingly, in
 order to resolve the matter without incurring further costs and expense of providing a defense to
 the formal Complaint or to any other further amended complaint, and in exchange for the waiver
 of the Respondent's foregoing rights, Respondent has entered into this Agreement¹, and agrees:

a. The Board may find that Respondent has engaged in conduct that is grounds
for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act, to wit: a violation of Nevada Revised Statute
Section 630.301(4) and NAC 630.040 when she failed to order a repeat EKG in the face of
stuttering chest pain and/or failed to admit Patient A to the hospital for the required time frame in
order to run a second set of cardiac enzymes tests; and,

b. Pursuant to NRS §622.400, Respondent shall pay the sum of \$3,517.25, the
current amount of the costs incurred by the Board to investigate and prosecute this matter, along
with the costs to conclude the matter, if any. The costs shall be paid to the Nevada State Board of
Medical Examiners within thirty (30) days of the Board's acceptance and approval of this
Agreement; and,

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c. Respondent shall personally attend and participate in six (6) hours of CME on treatment and monitoring of acute coronary syndromes in addition to the normal CME

 ¹ All admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent 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 court proceeding, or any other state or federal court.

requirements. Respondent's attendance and participation in the ordered CME is to be
 accomplished within one (1) year of the entry of this Agreement, and Respondent is to provide
 proof of attendance and participation to the Board.

d. Respondent acknowledges that while this agreement is, and remains, a
matter of public record the parties herein agree that no report of this matter shall be filed by the
Board with the NPDB, HIPDB or any other related governmental agency.

Release From Liability. In execution of this Agreement, the Respondent, for 5. 7 herself, her executors, successors and assigns, hereby releases and forever discharges the state of 8 Nevada, the Board, the Nevada Attorney General, and each of their members, agents and 9 employees in their representative capacities, and in their individual capacities, from any and all 10 manner of actions, causes of action, suites, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands 11 whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, that Respondent ever had, now has, may have 12 or claim to have, against any or all of the persons or entities named in this paragraph arising out of 13 or by reason of this investigation, this settlement or its administration. 14

6. <u>Procedure of Adoption of Agreement</u>. 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 formal Complaint pending herein against Respondent. 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 who would
 adjudicate this case if it were to go to hearing.

Respondent acknowledges that such contacts and communication may be made or conducted ex parte, without notice or opportunity to be heard on her part or on the part of her counsel until the public Board meeting where this Agreement is discussed, and that such contacts and communications may include, but not be limited to, matters concerning this Agreement, the formal Complaint, and any and all information of every nature whatsoever related to the formal Complaint or the proceedings herein against Respondent. The IC and its counsel agree that Respondent and/or her counsel, if any, may appear at the Board meeting where this Agreement is

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discussed, and if requested, to respond to any questions that may be addressed to the IC or its 1 2 counsel.

Effect of Acceptance of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board approves, 7. accepts and adopts the terms, covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, counsel for the IC will cause to be entered herein the Board's Order accepting, adopting and approving this Settlement, Waiver and Consent Agreement, ordering full compliance with the terms herein and ordering that this case be closed. 7

Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board does not 8. 8 approve, accept and adopt the terms covenants and conditions set out in this Agreement, this 9 Agreement shall be null, void, and of no further force and effect except as to the following 10 covenant and agreement regarding disqualification of adjudicating Board panel members. 11 Respondent agrees that, notwithstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing 12 contained herein and nothing that occurs pursuant to efforts of the IC or its counsel to seek 13 acceptance and adoption of this Agreement by the Board shall disqualify any member of the 14 adjudicating panel of the Board from considering the charges against Respondent and participating 15 in the disciplinary proceeding in any role, including adjudication of the case. Respondent further 16 agrees that she shall not seek to disqualify any such member absent evidence of bad faith. 17

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Binding Effect. Providing this Agreement is approved by the Board, Respondent 9. 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. 20

Forum Selection Clause. Respondent covenants and agrees that in the event either 10. 21 party is required to seek enforcement of this Agreement in the district court, she consents to such 22 jurisdiction, and covenants and agrees that exclusive jurisdiction shall be in the Second Judicial 23 District Court of the state of Nevada in and for the county of Washoe. 24

Attorneys' Fees and Costs. Respondent covenants and agrees that in the event an 11. 25 action is commenced in the district court to enforce any provision of this Agreement, the 26 27 111 111 28

/// prevailing party shall be entitled to recover costs and reasonable attorneys' fees. Dated this 29^{-1} day of $5e_{1}$ __, 2011. Dated this 29 day Section of 2011. By: (By: mons, Esq. Edward J. Bradley O. Van Ry, Esq. Attorney for Respondent Attorney for the Investigative Committee Read and understood by: Dated this <u>2</u> 3 day of <u>August</u>, 2011. By: <u>Jennifer</u> Sahm, M.D.

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 2 nd day of December
3	2011, with the final total amount of costs due of \$3,517.25.
4	(BDI)
5	Benjamin J. Rodriguez, M.D., President
6	NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
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