## BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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)	Case No. 14-11582-1
)	FILED
)	FEB 1 3 2014
) )	NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS By:
	) ) ) ) )

## **COMPLAINT**

The Investigative Committee (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board), composed of Beverly A. Neyland, M.D., Mrs. Sue Lowden and Bashir Chowdhry, M.D., by and through Edward O. Cousineau, Esq., Deputy Executive Director for the Board and counsel for the IC, having a reasonable basis to believe that John A. Anson, M.D., hereinafter referred to as "Respondent," has violated the provisions of the Medical Practice Act, Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630, hereby issues its formal Complaint, stating the IC's charges and allegations, as follows:

- 1. Respondent is licensed in active status to practice medicine in the state of Nevada, and at all times alleged herein was so licensed by the Board, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 630 of the NRS.
- 2. Patient A was a ten (10)-year-old female at the time of the events at issue. Her true identity is not disclosed herein to protect her privacy, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation served on Respondent along with a copy of this Complaint.

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- 3. On September 13, 2010, Patient A, who was suffering from spina bifida and Chiari malformation, underwent decompression surgery, which was performed by Respondent.
- 4. A post-surgical CT scan of Patient A revealed a significant area of low density at the upper most spinal cord, C1-C2 level, which essentially crossed the entire area of the spinal cord, suggesting a severe infarct. As a result, Patient A was found to be quadriplegic, with lower cranial nerve dysfunction and ventilator dependency. Patient A's circumstance's did not improve, and ultimately life support was removed, and she passed away on October 17, 2010.
- 5. It is now alleged by the IC that Respondent failed to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used in similar circumstances in his treatment of Patient A when he transected the spinal cord of Patient A during the Chiari decompression surgical procedure.
- 6. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice, defined as the failure to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used in similar circumstances, is grounds for initiating disciplinary action.
- 7. Based upon the foregoing, Respondent committed malpractice in the course of providing care and treatment to Patient A and is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

## WHEREFORE, the Investigative Committee 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 the sanctions it will impose if it finds Respondent violated the Medical Practice Act;
- 4. That the Board make, issue and serve on Respondent, in writing, its findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, which shall include the sanctions imposed; and

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# OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 1105 Terminal Way #301 Reno, Nevada 89502 (775) 688-2559

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5. That the Board take such other and further action as may be just and proper in these premises.

By:

Edward O. Cousineau, Esq.
Attorney for the Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

## **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEVADA	, )	
	: SS.	
COUNTY OF CLARK	)	

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

Dated this 13 day of February, 2014.

Beverly A. Neyland, M.D.

(775) 688-2559

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I am employed by Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners and that on 13th day of February 2014; I served a filed copy of COMPLAINT & PATIENT DESIGNATION, via USPS e-certified mail to the following:

> Keith A. Weaver, Esq. Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith LLP 6385 S. Rainbow Blvd., Ste. 600 Las Vegas, NV 89118

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014.

Angelia L. Donohoe Legal Assistant