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BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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) Case No. 14-30193-1) FILED
DEC - 8 2014
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS By:

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is hereby entered into by and between the Investigative Committee (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board), composed of Theodore B. Berndt, M.D., Valerie J. Clark, BSN, RHU, LUTCF, and Michael J. Fischer, M.D., in the above-captioned matter, by and through Erin L. Albright, Esq., Board General Counsel and attorney for the IC, and Andrew S. Martin, M.D. (Respondent), by and through his counsel, John H. Cotton, Esq., as follows:

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2014, the Board's IC filed an Order of Summary Suspension pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) section 630.326 in the above-captioned matter after reviewing evidence and information which demonstrated that on or about September 20, 2014, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department executed a search warrant on Respondent's personal residence, which resulted in the following illicit drugs being confiscated: cocaine, hallucinogenic mushrooms and methylenedioxymethamphetamine. Pursuant to the Order of Summary Suspension, Respondent underwent an alcohol and drug evaluation performed by Peter Mansky, M.D. Based on the evaluation, Respondent enrolled in in-patient treatment at the Betty Ford Center in California. On or about November 7, 2014, Respondent was discharged from the Betty Ford Center with the recommendation that he enroll in a medical professionals monitoring program, enroll in intensive outpatient treatment, abstain from mood altering/addictive substances,

attend daily 12-step meetings for (90) days with a minimum of three (3) meetings a week thereafter, select and actively work with a 12-step sponsor, attend caduceus meetings, participate in International Doctors in Alcoholics Anonymous and active participation in Respondent's Betty Ford Center Continuing Care program; and

WHEREAS, Respondent received a copy of the Order of Summary Suspension, reviewed it, understands it, and consulted with competent, above-identified counsel concerning the nature and significance of the Order of Summary Suspension. Respondent is fully advised concerning his rights and defenses to the Order of Summary Suspension; and

WHEREAS, Respondent understands and agrees that had the IC filed a complaint alleging any violation of the Nevada Medical Practice Act (MPA), i.e., NRS Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630, he would have certain rights under the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the state of Nevada, as well as under the MPA and the Nevada Administrative Procedures Act (NRS Chapter 233B), including, but not limited to, the right to a formal hearing on the allegations against him, the right to representation by counsel in the preparation and presentation of his defense, the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him, the right to written findings, conclusions and an 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 understands and agrees that this Settlement Agreement (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 meeting duly noticed and scheduled. Respondent understands 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 him.

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NOW THEREFORE, in order to resolve this matter and all charges, if any, alleged by the Board's IC in the above-captioned matter, Respondent and the IC hereby agree¹ to the following terms, covenants and conditions:

1. <u>Jurisdiction</u>. Respondent is, and at all times mentioned in the Order of Summary Suspension 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 MPA, and to impose sanctions as provided by the MPA.

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

Respondent is represented by above-identified counsel herein, whom Respondent covenants and agrees is fully capable, competent and fully advised in these circumstances, and Respondent further covenants and agrees that he knowingly, willingly, and intelligently enters into this Agreement after full consultation with and upon advice of above-identified counsel.

3. Waiver of Rights. In connection with this Agreement, and the terms, covenants and conditions contained herein, Respondent knowingly, willingly and intelligently, with the advice of above-identified counsel, waives all rights in connection with this Agreement, and the terms, covenants and conditions contained herein, and with 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, the MPA, NRS Chapter 233B, and any other statutory rights that may be available to him or that may apply to him in connection with the proceedings on the Order of Summary Suspension filed herein, the defense of said Order of Summary Suspension, and the adjudication of the allegations in said Order of Summary Suspension.

Respondent agrees that the matter of the Order of Summary Suspension herein may be settled and resolved in accordance with this Agreement without a hearing or any further proceedings, and without the right to judicial review.

¹ All agreements and 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 agreements and 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 proceeding, or any other state or federal court proceeding, or any credentialing or privileges matter.

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- 4. Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed. Respondent covenants and agrees that the Board's IC has a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent engaged in one or more instances of conduct that may be grounds for discipline pursuant to the provisions of the MPA.
- Suspension currently in place against him without incurring any further costs and expense of providing a defense to the Order of Summary Suspension,: Respondent agrees to allow his license to practice medicine in the state of Nevada to be suspended, with said suspension stayed and Respondent placed on probation for a period of twenty-four (24) months from the date of the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement, with an obligation to comply with the following terms and conditions:
 - a. The summary suspension of Respondent's license to practice medicine in the state of Nevada shall be lifted on December 5, 2014 and Respondent's licensure status shall be reinstated to the appropriate licensing status;
 - b. Respondent shall enroll in a medical professionals' monitoring program and intensive outpatient treatment program within fourteen (14) days of the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement;
 - c. Within fourteen (14) days of his enrollment in a medical professionals' monitoring program and an intensive outpatient treatment program, Respondent shall execute a HIPAA compliant release in favor of the Board to allow the medical professionals monitoring program and the intensive outpatient treatment program to directly provide the Board's Compliance Officer with status reports regarding Respondent's program;
 - d. Respondent shall remain in compliance with all terms of his participation contracts with the medical professionals' monitoring program and the intensive outpatient program during the term his probation;

- e. Respondent shall complete in full any participation contract entered into with a medical professionals' monitoring program and an intensive outpatient treatment program;
- f. Respondent shall submit to random hair and urine screens at his own expense when requested by an employee of the Board. Any test that is positive for alcohol, controlled substances or dangerous drugs, other than prescribed by a treating physician or dentist, shall be considered a violation of this Agreement. Failure to comply with any such request shall be deemed to be an automatic positive test;
- g. Should Respondent be prescribed any controlled substances or dangerous drugs as defined in NRS 453.3615, by a treating physician or dentist, Respondent shall provide documentation from the treating physician or dentist to the Board's Compliance Officer with seventy-two (72) hours of the prescription or within ninety-six (96) hours should the prescription be provided on a weekend;
- h. Respondent shall inform any and all employers of the terms of this Agreement during the term of his probation;
- i. Respondent shall complete forty (40) hours of community service related to the practice of medicine, preferably within the school system or a community clinic, within six (6) months of the date of acceptance of this Agreement by the Board. Respondent shall submit a plan outlining his intended community service and shall submit said plan for approval to the Compliance Officer within thirty (30) days of the date of acceptance of this agreement;
- j. Respondent shall provide to the Board's Compliance Officer the best method to contact him and shall maintain a current address and phone number with the Compliance Officer;
- k. Respondent shall not violate any laws or regulations of the state of Nevada during the period of his probation and Respondent shall remain in compliance with all federal laws pertaining to the practice of medicine and the prescribing, administering or dispensing of any dangerous drug or controlled substance during the term of his probation;

- l. Respondent shall abstain from any and all mood altering/addictive substances during the term of his probation, with the exception of mood altering/addictive substances prescribed by a treating physician or dentist;
- m. For ninety (90) days after the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement, Respondent shall attend daily 12-step meetings. After ninety (90) days, Respondent shall attend a minimum of three (3) meetings per week. On the fifth day of every month, Respondent shall submit proof of his prior month's attendance at 12-step meetings directly to the Board's Compliance Officer;
- n. Within fourteen (14) days of the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement, Respondent shall select and actively work with a 12-step sponsor to support his endeavors at sobriety;
- o. Respondent shall attend a Caduceus meeting at least two (2) times per month. On the fifth day of every month, Respondent shall submit proof of his prior month's attendance at the Caduceus meetings directly to the Board's Compliance Officer;
- p. Within fourteen (14) days of the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement, Respondent shall join and participate in International Doctors in Alcoholics Anonymous;
- q. Respondent shall comply with the terms of his continuing care program outlined by the Betty Ford Center. Within fourteen (14) days of the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement, Respondent shall provide the Board's Compliance Officer with a copy of his continuing care program outlined by the Betty Ford Center;
- r. Respondent shall be solely responsible for any costs and fees associated with his compliance with all terms and conditions of this Agreement;
- s. Pursuant to NRS 622.400, Respondent shall reimburse to the Board the sum of One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Seven and 10/100 Dollars (\$1,457.19), 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 Board within

twelve (12) months of the Board's acceptance, adoption and approval of this Agreement; and

- t. If the IC finds that Respondent has violated any terms or conditions of this Agreement, it may immediately summarily suspend Respondent's license to practice medicine in Nevada and shall set a date for a hearing to be held within forty-five (45) days to determine whether the summary suspension of Respondent's license to practice medicine in the state of Nevada shall remain in effect.
- Release From Liability. In execution of this 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 representative capacities, and in their individual 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 Agreement 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 Order of Summary Suspension currently in effect 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 the adjudicating members of the Board.

Respondent acknowledges that such contacts and communication may be made or conducted ex parte, without notice or opportunity to be heard on his part or on the part of his 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 Order of Summary Suspension, and any and all information of every nature whatsoever related to the Order of Summary Suspension or the proceedings herein against Respondent. The IC and its counsel agree that Respondent and/or his counsel may appear at the Board meeting where this

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

- 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, counsel for the IC will cause the Board's order accepting, adopting and approving this Agreement to be entered herein, ordering full compliance with the terms herein and ordering that this case be closed, subject to the provisions in Paragraph 5.
- 9. Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board does not accept, approve 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, notwithstanding 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, if any, against Respondent and participating in the disciplinary proceedings in any role, including adjudication of the case. Respondent further agrees that he shall not seek to disqualify any such member absent evidence of bad faith.
- 10. <u>Binding Effect</u>. If this Agreement is approved by the Board, 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. <u>Attorneys' Fees and Costs</u>. Respondent covenants and agrees that in the event an action is commenced in the district court to enforce any provision of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

13. <u>Failure to Comply With Terms</u>. Failure to comply with the terms recited herein may result in disciplinary action being initiated against Respondent for a violation of an order of the Board in accordance with NRS 630.3065(2)(a). Moreover, the failure of Respondent to reimburse the Board for monies agreed to be paid as a condition of settlement may subject Respondent to civil collection efforts.

Dated this day of December, 2014.

By: Classific Albright Rea

Attorney for the Investigative Committee

Dated this 25-14 day of November, 2014.

John H. Cotton, Esq.
Attorney for Respondent

UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED:
Dated this day of Nov, 2014.

Andrew S. Martin, M.D., Respondent

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the foregoing Settlement Agreement is approved and accepted by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners on the 5th day of December 2014, with the final total amount of costs due of \$1,457.19.

Michael J. Fischer, M.D., President

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS