BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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27 28 In the Matter of Charges and Case No. 15-31252-1 FILED **Complaint Against** JUN - 8 2015 ARNOLD W. KLEIN, M.D., NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS Respondent.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The Investigative Committee¹ (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) and Arnold W. Klein, M.D. (Respondent), a licensed physician in Nevada hereby enter into this Settlement Agreement (Agreement) based on the following:²

A. Background

- 1. Respondent is a physician licensed by the Board to practice medicine in Nevada since June 10, 2006 (license no. 11881).
- 2. On June13, 2014, the IC filed the formal Complaint (Complaint) in this matter charging Respondent with violations of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630 (collectively Medical Practice Act). Specifically, the Complaint alleges one count of obtaining, maintaining or renewing or attempting to obtain, maintain or renew a license to practice medicine by bribery, fraud or misrepresentation or by any false,

¹ In this matter, the Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners is composed of Theodore B. Berndt, M.D., IC Chairman, Valerie J. Clark, BSN, RHU, LUTCF, IC Member, and Michael J. Fischer, M.D., IC Member.

² 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, Respondent's agreements and admissions 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, any state or federal court proceeding, or any credentialing or privileges matter.

3. Respondent was properly served with a copy of the Complaint, and has reviewed the Complaint, understands the Complaint, and has had the opportunity to consult with competent counsel concerning the nature and significance of the Complaint.

- 4. Respondent is hereby advised of his rights regarding this administrative matter, and of his opportunity to defend against the allegations in the Complaint. Specifically, Respondent has certain rights in this administrative matter as set out by the United States Constitution, the Nevada Constitution, the Medical Practice Act, and the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (NRS Chapter 233B). These rights include the right to a formal hearing on the allegations in the Complaint, the right to representation by counsel, at his own expense, in the preparation and presentation of his defense, the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses and evidence against him, the right to written findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order reflecting the final decision of the Board, and the right to judicial review of the Board's order, if the decision is adverse to him.
- 5. Respondent understands that, under the Board's charge to protect consumers by regulating the practice of medicine, the Board may take disciplinary action against Respondent's license, including license probation, license suspension, license revocation, and imposition of administrative fines, as well as any other reasonable requirement or limitation, if the Board concludes that Respondent violated one or more provisions of the Medical Practice Act.
- 6. Respondent understands and agrees that this Agreement, by and between Respondent and the IC, is not with the Board, and 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 for the Board's approval of this Agreement, but that the Board has the right to decide in its own discretion whether or not to approve this Agreement. Respondent further understands and agrees that if the Board approves this Agreement, then the terms and conditions enumerated below shall be binding and enforceable upon him and the Board.

B. Terms & Conditions

NOW, THEREFORE, in order to resolve this matter, Respondent and the IC hereby agree to the following terms and conditions:

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1. **Jurisdiction**. Respondent is and, at all times relevant to the Complaint, has been a physician licensed to practice medicine in Nevada subject to the jurisdiction of the Board as set out in the Medical Practice Act.

- 2. Representation by Counsel/Knowing, Willing, and Intelligent Agreement. Respondent understands that he may retain and consult counsel prior to entering into this Agreement at his own expense. Respondent acknowledges that he is not represented by counsel and wishes to proceed towards a resolution of this matter, as set forth in this Agreement, without counsel. Respondent agrees that if representation by counsel in this matter materially changes prior to entering into this Agreement and pending the duration of this Agreement, that counsel for the IC will be timely notified of the material change. Respondent agrees that he knowingly, willingly and intelligently enters into this Agreement.
- 3. Waiver of Rights. In connection with this Agreement, and the associated terms and conditions, Respondent knowingly, willingly, and intelligently waives all rights in connection with this administrative matter. Respondent hereby knowingly, willingly, and intelligently waives all rights arising under the United States Constitution, the Nevada Constitution, the Medical Practice Act, the APA, and any other legal rights that may be available to him or that may apply to him in connection with the administrative proceedings resulting from the Complaint filed in this matter, including defense of the Complaint, adjudication of the allegations set forth in the Complaint, and imposition of any disciplinary actions or sanctions ordered by the Board. Respondent agrees to settle and resolve the allegations of the Complaint as set out by this Agreement without a hearing or any further proceedings, and without the right to judicial review.
- 4. Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed. Respondent agrees that the IC has a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent engaged in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act.
- Consent to Entry of Order. In order to resolve the Complaint pending against 5. Respondent without incurring any further costs or the expense associated with a hearing, Respondent hereby agrees that the Board may issue an order finding that Respondent engaged in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act, to wit: one count of obtaining,

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27 28 maintaining or renewing or attempting to obtain, maintain or renew a license to practice medicine by bribery, fraud or misrepresentation or by any false, misleading, inaccurate or incomplete statement in violation of NRS 630.304(1). Accordingly, Respondent hereby agrees that:

- Respondent shall be fined One Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00) a. with payment due within thirty (30) days of the Board's final order;
 - b. The Board shall issue a public reprimand;
- Respondent shall pay the Board Six Hundred Thirty Four Dollars and c. 48/100 (\$634.48), the fees and costs incurred as part of the Board's investigative, administrative, and disciplinary proceedings against Respondent, as authorized by NRS 622.400, within thirty (30) days of the Board's final order in this matter; and
 - d. The terms of this Agreement shall be reported as required by law.
- 6. Release From Liability. In execution of this Agreement, Respondent understands and agrees that the state of Nevada, the Board, and each of its members, staff, counsel, investigators, experts, peer reviewers, committees, panels, hearing officers, consultants, and agents are immune from civil liability for any decision or action taken in good faith in response to information acquired by the Board. NRS 630.364(2). Respondent agrees to release the state of Nevada, the Board, and each of its members, staff, counsel, investigators, experts, peer reviewers, committees, panels, hearing officers, consultants, and agents 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, government agencies, or entities named in this paragraph arising out of, or by reason of, this investigation, this Agreement, or the administration of this case.
- 7. Procedure for Adoption of Agreement. The IC and counsel for the IC shall recommend approval and adoption of the terms and conditions of this Agreement by the Board in resolution of the Complaint pending against Respondent. In the course of seeking Board acceptance, approval, and adoption 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 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 Complaint, and any and all information of every nature whatsoever related to this matter. The IC and its counsel agree that Respondent 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 the IC's counsel.

- 8. <u>Effect of Acceptance of Agreement by Board</u>. In the event the Board accepts, approves, and adopts this Agreement, the Board shall issue a final order, making this Agreement an order of the Board.
- 9. Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board does not accept, approve, and adopt this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null, void, and of no force and effect except as to the following agreement regarding adjudications: (1) Respondent agrees that, notwithstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing contained in this Agreement and nothing that occurs pursuant to efforts of the IC to seek the Board's acceptance of this Agreement shall disqualify any member of the adjudicating panel of the Board from considering the allegations in the Complaint and from participating in disciplinary proceedings against Respondent, including adjudication of the case; and (2) Respondent further agrees that he shall not seek to disqualify any such member absent evidence of bad faith.
- 10. <u>Binding Effect</u>. If approved by the Board, Respondent understands that this Agreement is a binding and enforceable contract upon Respondent and the Board.
- 11. <u>Forum Selection Clause</u>. Respondent agrees that in the event either party is required to seek enforcement of this Agreement in district court, Respondent consents to such jurisdiction, and agrees that exclusive jurisdiction shall be in the Second Judicial District Court, State of Nevada, Washoe County.
- 12. <u>Attorneys' Fees and Costs</u>. Respondent agrees that in the event an action is commenced in district court to enforce any provision of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.
 - 13. Failure to Comply with Terms. Should Respondent fail to comply with any term

1	or condition of this Agreement once the Agreement has been accepted, approved, and adopted I		
2	the Board, the IC shall be authorized to immediate	ly suspend Respondent's license to practic	
3	medicine in Nevada pending an order to show cause hearing, which will be duly noticed. Failure		
4	to comply with the terms of this Agreement, including	g failure to pay any fines, costs, expenses, o	
5	fees owed to the Board, is a failure to comply with	an order of the Board, which may result in	
6	additional disciplinary action being taken against F	Respondent. NRS 630.3065(2)(a). Further	
77	Respondent's failure to remit payment to the Board for	or monies agreed to be paid as a condition o	
8	this Agreement may subject Respondent to civil colle	ction efforts.	
9	Dated this 11 day of May 2015	Pated this day of, 2015.	
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12	By: Cris. L. Little 25, 250	dy:Arnold W. Klein, M.D.	
13	Attorney for the Investigative Committee	Respondent	
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15	S	TATE OF CALIFORNIA) :ss.	
16		COUNTY OF)	
17	S	UBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me	
18	Ţ	hisday of, 2015.	
19		SEE ATTHEHED	
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A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.			
State of California County of Riverside			
Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this			
Notary Public - California Riverside Gounty My Comm. Expires Nov 2, 2016			
(Seal) Signature Authority			

Before the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of Nevada, Sellement Agreement

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 June 2015, with the final total amount of costs due of \$634.48. Michael Fischer, M.D., President NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS