BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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In the Matter of Charges and

Complaint Against

Daniel Thomas Nason, M.D.,

Respondent.

Case No. 17-12279-1

FILED

JUL 2 1 2017

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
By:

COMPLAINT

The Investigative Committee¹ (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby issues this formal Complaint (Complaint) against Daniel Thomas Nason, M.D. (hereinafter referred to as Dr. Nason or Respondent), a licensed physician in Nevada. After investigating this matter, the IC has a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent has violated provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) chapter 630 (collectively Medical Practice Act). The IC alleges the following:

- 1. Respondent is currently licensed in Nevada in active status (License No. 8637), has been so licensed by the Board since May 11, 1998, and at all times pertinent to this Complaint was engaged in the practice of medicine as a gastroenterologist.
- 2. On or about March 22, 2016, Respondent prescribed to himself for his personal use, and with no present emergency, C-Testosterone 200 mgs/gm, a schedule III controlled substance.
- 3. On or about January 28 and 29, 2017, Respondent consumed cocaine, a schedule II controlled substance, for which he had no valid prescription or legitimate medical need.
 - 4. On January 30, 2017, Respondent submitted to a urine analysis drug test at

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¹ The Investigative Committee (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) was composed of Board members Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D., Chairman, Victor M. Muro, M.D., Member, and Ms. Sandy Peltyn, Public Member.

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Concentra Medical Center at 6410 S. Virginia Street, Reno, Nevada, which test indicated a positive result for cocaine, and alprazolam, which is a potent, short-acting anxiolytic of the benzodiazepine class.

- 5. On January 30, 2017, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., at the Reno Endoscopy Center at 880 Ryland Street, Reno, Nevada, Respondent performed five (5) colonoscopies on five (5) patients before he was compelled to leave the procedure room by a colleague.
- 6. Respondent's conduct was unsafe, unprofessional and disruptive, interfered with his own patient care and that of others around him, and had an adverse impact on the quality of care rendered to his patients.

Count 1

NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2)/NAC 630.230(1)(c)

- 7. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 8. NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) provides that engaging in any conduct which the Board has determined is a violation of the standards of practice established by regulation of the Board is grounds for initiating disciplinary action.
- 9. NAC 630.230(1)(c) provides that a person licensed as a physician shall not render professional services to a patient while the physician is under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance or is in any impaired mental or physical condition.
- 10. Respondent violated the standards of professional practice when he rendered professional services to five (5) patients while under the influence of and impaired by his intake of cocaine and alprazolam.
- 11. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

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Count 2

NRS 630.306(1)(c)

- 12. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 13. NRS 630.306(1)(c) provides that administering, dispensing or prescribing any controlled substance, or any dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS, to or for himself or herself or to others except as authorized by law is grounds for initiating disciplinary action.
- 14. Respondent administered cocaine to himself, and administered and prescribed testosterone to himself, both controlled substances and/or dangerous drugs as defined in chapter 454 of NRS.
- 15. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

Count 3

NRS 630.306(1)(b)(3)/NRS 453.381(1)

- 16. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 17. NRS 630.306(1)(b)(3) provides that engaging in any conduct which is in violation of a regulation adopted by the State Board of Pharmacy is grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.
- 18. NRS 453.381(1) prohibits a physician from prescribing or administering controlled substances for other than legitimate medical purposes and in the usual course of professional practice, and prohibits prescribing, administering or dispensing a controlled substance listed in schedule II to oneself, except in cases of emergency.
- 19. Respondent violated the duly adopted regulations of the State Board of Pharmacy when he prescribed testosterone to himself outside of his usual course of professional practice, and administered cocaine, a controlled substance listed in schedule II, to himself without legitimate medical purpose and outside his usual scope of practice.

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20. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

Count 4

NRS 630.306(1)(p)/NAC 630.230(1)(c)

- 21. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 22. NRS 630.306(1)(p) provides that engaging in any act that is unsafe or unprofessional conduct in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board is grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.
- 23. NAC 630.230(1)(c) provides that a person licensed as a physician shall not render professional services to a patient while the physician is under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance or is in any impaired mental or physical condition.
- 24. Respondent engaged in unsafe and unprofessional conduct when he rendered professional services to five patients while under the influence of controlled substances and while impaired.
- 25. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

Count 5

NRS 630.306(1)(a)

- 26. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 27. NRS 630.306(1)(a) provides that the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety because of illness, a mental or physical condition or the use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics or any other substance is grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.
- 28. Respondent was and is unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety because of the use of drugs, narcotics or other substances.
- 29. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 1105 Terminal Way #301 Reno, Nevada 89502

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Count 6

NRS 630.301(6)

- 30. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 31. NRS 630.301(6) provides that disruptive behavior with physicians, hospital personnel, patients, members of the families of patients or any other persons if the behavior interferes with patient care or has an adverse impact on the quality of care rendered to a patient is grounds for initiating disciplinary action.
- 32. Respondent behaved disruptively with other physicians, hospital personnel, patients, and other persons, which behavior interfered with the care of his own patients and that of others, and adversely impacted the quality of care rendered to his own patients and that of others.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as 33. provided in NRS 630.352.

WHEREFORE, the IC prays that the Board:

- 1. Give Respondent notice of the charges set forth in this Complaint;
- 2. Give Respondent notice that Respondent may file an answer to the Complaint as set forth in NRS 630.339(2) within 20 days of service of the Complaint;
- 3. a time and place a formal hearing after holding for an Early Case Conference pursuant to NRS 630.339(3);
- 4. Determine the sanctions it will impose if it finds Respondent violated the Medical Practice Act;
- 5. Make, issue, and serve on Respondent, in writing, its findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, which shall include the sanctions, if imposed; and
 - 6. Take such other and further action as may be just and proper in this matter.

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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

Dated this

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

Robert Kilroy, Esq., General Counsel Aaron Bart Fricke, Esq., Deputy General Counsel Attorneys for the Investigative Committee

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 1105 Terminal Way #301 Reno, Nevada 89502

VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEVADA)
COUNTY OF CLARK	: ss.

Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D., hereby deposes and states under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Nevada that he is the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners that authorized the foregoing Complaint against the Respondent herein; that he has read the foregoing Complaint; and based upon information discovered during the course of the investigation into a complaint against Respondent, he believes the allegations and charges in the foregoing Complaint against Respondent are true, accurate and correct.

Dated this <u>21st</u> day of <u>July</u>, 2017.

Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D. Chairman, Investigative Committee Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 1105 Terminal Way #301 Reno, Nevada 89502

BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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Respondent.

Case No. 17-12279-1

FILED

AUG 1 0 2017

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS By:

AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am employed by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners and that on the 24th day of July, 2017, I served a file-stamped copy of the COMPLAINT and FINGERPRINT INFORMATION, via USPS e-certified return receipt mail to the following:

Thomas A. Vallas, J.D.
Bank of America Building
50 West Liberty Street, Suite 840
Reno, NV 89501

Dated this 2 day of August, 2017.

Dawn Gordillo

Legal Department, Records

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am employed by the Nevada State of Board of Medical Examiners and that on the 3rd day of August, 2017, I served a file-stamped copy of the AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE, via U.S. Mail, to the following:

> Thomas A. Vallas, J.D. Bank of America Building 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 840 Reno, NV 89501

DATED this 3rd day of August, 2017.