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

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In the Matter of Charges and

Case No. 17-28540-2

Complaint Against

Angela Lorenzo, PA,

Respondent.

FILED

NOV 3 0 2017

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_

# FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

The Investigative Committee<sup>1</sup> (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) hereby issues this First Amended Complaint (Complaint) against Angela Lorenzo, PA (Respondent), a licensed physician assistant 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, the Medical Practice Act). The IC alleges the following facts:

- 1. Respondent's license (License No. PA816) was suspended pursuant to the IC's Order of Summary Suspension filed September 28, 2017 (Suspension Order), which Suspension Order is incorporated herein by this reference. Respondent has been licensed by the Board pursuant to the provisions of the Medical Practice Act since December 9, 2003.
- 2. Pursuant to NAC 630.375(2), a physician assistant shall not perform medical services without supervision from a supervising physician licensed and approved by the Board.
- 3. Pursuant to NRS 630.306(1)(b)(1), a physician assistant may not engage in any conduct which is intended to deceive.
- 4. Pursuant to NRS 630.3065(2)(a), a licensee shall not knowingly or willfully fail to comply with a subpoena or order of the Board.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, at the time the filing of this Complaint was approved, was composed of Wayne Hardwick, M.D., Mr. M. Neil Duxbury, and Aury Nagy, M.D.

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- Pursuant to NRS 630.020, the "practice of medicine" means either (1) to 5. diagnose, treat, correct, prevent or prescribe for any human disease, ailment, injury, infirmity, deformity or other condition, physical or mental, by any means or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the performance of an autopsy, or (2) to apply principles or techniques of medical science in the diagnosis or the prevention of any such conditions, or (3) to offer, undertake, attempt to do or hold oneself out as able to do any of the acts described in (1) and (2).
- Pursuant to NRS 630.311(1), the IC must review each complaint made against a 6. licensee and conduct an investigation to determine if there is a reasonable basis for the complaint. The IC may issue orders to aid its investigation, including, but not limited to, compelling a licensee to appear before the IC.
- On September 5, 2017, the Board was notified in writing by Respondent's previous 7. supervising physician that such required supervision was terminated on July 1, 2017, and that Respondent was therefore not currently supervised by a physician licensed and approved by the Board.
- On September 6, 2017, the Board's Chief of Investigations, Pamela Castagnola, 8. personally presented to Respondent's medical office, Modern Medical & Wellness, located at 911 N. Buffalo Drive, Suite 113, Las Vegas, NV 89128-8397, where Respondent was actively performing medical services. Ms. Castagnola personally notified Respondent that she had no supervising physician, and that she was prohibited, pursuant to NAC 630.375(2), from performing medical services until there was a supervising physician for her practice that was licensed and approved by the Board. At that time, Ms. Castagnola served Respondent with a written Order to produce all records of her supervision for the previous twenty-four (24) months pertaining to the program of supervision maintained by her supervising physician (First Order for Records).
- To date, Respondent has failed to respond in any way to the First Order for 9. Records.
- Also on September 6, 2017, Respondent informed Ms. Castagnola, verbally and in 10. writing via letter dated the same day, that Respondent would cease practicing and comply with the IC's First Order for Records.

- Also on September 6, 2017, pursuant to a separate investigation of Respondent's alleged conduct related to BME Investigative Case No. 17-17442, the IC issued an Order to Produce Health Care Records for the patient at issue from January 1, 2010, through September 6, 2017 (Second Order for Records). Respondent was ordered to respond to the Second Order for Records within 21 days of service. The Second Order for Records was sent, along with an Allegation Letter and Custodian of Records Affidavit, to Respondent via regular U.S.P.S. first-class mail on September 6, 2017, to her office on record with the Board: 911 N. Buffalo Drive, Suite 113, Las Vegas, NV 89128-8397.
- 12. Respondent did not respond to the Second Order for Records within 21 days as ordered. Accordingly, on September 29, 2017, the Second Order for Records was sent again, along with the original Allegation Letter and Custodian of Records Affidavit, to Respondent via U.S.P.S. first-class mail to her office on record with the Board: 911 N. Buffalo Drive, Suite 113, Las Vegas, NV 89128-8397.
- 13. Respondent again did not respond to the Second Order for Records. Accordingly, on October 13, 2017, the Second Order for Records was sent a third time, along with the original Allegation Letter and Custodian of Records Affidavit, this time to Respondent via U.S.P.S. certified mail. The certified mailing was confirmed delivered to and signed for by the Respondent on October 24, 2017.
- 14. To date, Respondent has failed to respond in any way to the Second Order for Records.
- 15. Meanwhile, on September 11, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient A for Phentermine, a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.540. Patient A's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect her privacy as a purported patient of Respondent, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation served upon Respondent, along with a copy of this Complaint (Patient Designation).
- 16. On September 26, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient B for Phentermine, a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.540. Patient B's true

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identity is not disclosed herein to protect her privacy as a purported patient of Respondent, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation.

- On September 27, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient C for 17. testosterone pellets and a "trocarkit" pellet insertion kit. Testosterone is a Schedule III controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.530. Patient C's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect his privacy as a purported patient of Respondent, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation. Testosterone pellets must be inserted beneath the skin to be effective; implantation of testosterone pellets is an invasive medical procedure<sup>2</sup> taking several minutes, wherein the skin of the upper hip or buttocks is cleaned, then injected with a local anesthetic; a small incision is made and testosterone pellets are placed under the skin with an instrument called a trocar. Typically, 10 to 12 pellets are implanted during the procedure. Respondent's handwritten prescription for the testosterone pellets notes that they are for "Office Use."
- On information and belief, Respondent implanted the aforementioned testosterone 18. pellets into Patient C.
- On September 28, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient D for Adderall, 19. a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.520. Patient D's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect his privacy as a purported patient of Respondent, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation.
- On October 4, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient E for Phentermine, 20. a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.540. Patient E's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect her privacy as a purported patient of Respondent, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation.
- On October 5, 2017, Respondent was personally served the Suspension Order by 21. Board Investigators Donald Andreas and Kim Friedman.
- On October 10, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient F for 22. Testosterone Cypionate, a Schedule III controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.530. Patient

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pursuant to NAC 449.9733, an "invasive procedure" is a medical procedure involving entry into the human body by puncture or incision or by insertion of an instrument.

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F's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect his privacy as a purported patient of Respondent, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation.

- The prescribing of controlled substances to Patients A through F as described 23. herein, constitute the practice of medicine as defined in NRS 630.020.
- On information and belief, Respondent's actions described herein above were 24. knowing and willful.
- Respondent is practicing medicine, including, but not limited to, prescribing of 25. controlled substances, (1) without supervision, in violation of NAC 630.375(2), (2) in direct contradiction to her prior written statement to the Board on September 6, 2017, in violation of NRS 630.306(1(b)(1), and (3) in patent violation of the Board's Suspension Order, in direct violation of NRS 630.3065(2)(a). Also, Respondent, after being personally served with the IC's lawful First Order for Records, is also knowingly and willfully failing to comply with said Order, in violation of NRS 630.3065(2)(a). Respondent is also knowingly and willfully failing to comply with the IC's lawful Second Order for Records, this time after two regular mailings and a certified delivery of said Order, again in violation of NRS 630.3065(2)(a).

# Count I

# NRS 630.306(1)(b)(1): Deceptive Conduct

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 26. forth herein.
- NRS 630.306(1)(b)(1) provides that engaging in any conduct which is intended to 27. deceive is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Respondent engaged in conduct intended to deceive when she informed the Board 28. in writing on September 6, 2017, that she would cease practicing medicine until obtaining proper supervision from an approved physician, and then proceeded to perform medical services without supervision as described herein.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 29. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

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# **Count II**

# NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2): Violation of Standards of Practice

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 30. forth herein.
- NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) provides that engaging in any conduct which the Board has 31. determined is a violation of the standards of practice established by regulation of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Pursuant to NAC 630.375(2), a physician assistant shall not perform medical 32. services without supervision from a supervising physician licensed and approved by the Board.
- 33. Respondent performed medical services without supervision when, on September 11, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient A for Phentermine, a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.540.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 34. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

# Count III

# NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2): Violation of Standards of Practice

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 35. forth herein.
- NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) provides that engaging in any conduct which the Board has 36. determined is a violation of the standards of practice established by regulation of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Pursuant to NAC 630.375(2), a physician assistant shall not perform medical 37. services without supervision from a supervising physician licensed and approved by the Board.
- 38. Respondent performed medical services without supervision when, on September 26, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient B for Phentermine, a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.540.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 39. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

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# Count IV

# NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2): Violation of Standards of Practice

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 40. forth herein.
- NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) provides that engaging in any conduct which the Board has 41. determined is a violation of the standards of practice established by regulation of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Pursuant to NAC 630.375(2), a physician assistant shall not perform medical 42. services without supervision from a supervising physician licensed and approved by the Board.
- Respondent performed medical services without supervision when, on September 43. 27, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient C for Testosterone Pellets and a "trocarkit" pellet insertion kit, and/or when Respondent implanted the aforementioned Testosterone Pellets into Patient C.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 44. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

# Count V

# NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2): Violation of Standards of Practice

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 45. forth herein.
- NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) provides that engaging in any conduct which the Board has 46. determined is a violation of the standards of practice established by regulation of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Pursuant to NAC 630.375(2), a physician assistant shall not perform medical 47. services without supervision from a supervising physician licensed and approved by the Board.
- Respondent performed medical services without supervision when, on September 48. 28, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient D for Adderall, a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.520.

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By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 49. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

## Count VI

# NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2): Violations of Standards of Practice

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 50. forth herein.
- NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) provides that engaging in any conduct which the Board has 51. determined is a violation of the standards of practice established by regulation of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Pursuant to NAC 630.375(2), a physician assistant shall not perform medical 52. services without supervision from a supervising physician licensed and approved by the Board.
- Respondent performed medical services without supervision when, on October 4, 53. 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient E for Phentermine, a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.540.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 54. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

# Count VII

# NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2): Violations of Standards of Practice

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 55. forth herein.
- NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) provides that engaging in any conduct which the Board has 56. determined is a violation of the standards of practice established by regulation of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Pursuant to NAC 630.375(2), a physician assistant shall not perform medical 57. services without supervision from a supervising physician licensed and approved by the Board.
- Respondent performed medical services without supervision when, on October 10, 58. 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient F for Testosterone Cypionate, a Schedule III controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.530.

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By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 59. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

### Count VIII

# NRS 630.3065(2)(a): Knowing and Willful Failure to Comply With Board Order

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 60. forth herein.
- NRS 630.3065(2)(a) provides that knowingly or willfully failing to comply with 61. regulation, subpoena or order of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Respondent knowingly and willingly failed to comply with the IC's Suspension 62. Order when, on October 10, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription to Patient F for Testosterone Cypionate, a Schedule III controlled substance pursuant to NAC 453.530.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 63. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

# Count IX

# NRS 630.3065(2)(a): Knowing and Willful Failure to Comply with Board Order

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 64. forth herein.
- NRS 630.3065(2)(a) provides that knowingly or willfully failing to comply with 65. regulation, subpoena or order of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.
- Respondent knowingly and willingly failed to comply with the IC's First Order for 66. Records, after being personally served with said Order.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 67. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

# Count X

# NRS 630.3065(2)(a): Knowing and Willful Failure to Comply with Board Order

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 68. forth herein.
  - NRS 630.3065(2)(a) provides that knowingly or willfully failing to comply with 69.

regulation, subpoena or order of the Board is grounds for disciplinary action or denying licensure.

- 70. Respondent knowingly and willingly failed to comply with the IC's Second Order for Records, after two regular mailings and a certified delivery of said Order.
- 71. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

# WHEREFORE, the Investigative Committee prays:

- 1. That the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners give Respondent notice of the charges herein against her and give her notice that she 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 Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners set a time and place for a formal hearing after holding an Early Case Conference pursuant to NRS 630.339(3);
- 3. That the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners determine the sanctions it will impose if it finds Respondent violated the Medical Practice Act;
- 4. That the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners make, issue and serve upon the Respondent, in writing, its findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, in writing which shall include the sanctions imposed; and
- 5. That the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners take such other and further action as may be just and proper in these premises.

DATED this 30 day of November, 2017.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

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

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

# VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEVADA	)	SS
COUNTY OF WASHOE	)	

Wayne Hardwick, 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 First Amended Complaint against the Respondent herein; that he has read the foregoing First Amended 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 First Amended Complaint against Respondent are true, accurate and correct.

Dated this 324 day of November, 2017.

Wayne Hardwick, M.D.