

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
9600 Gateway Drive
Reno, Nevada 89521
(775) 688-2559

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

* * * * *

In the Matter of Charges and Complaint
Against:
CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH FISHER, M.D.,
Respondent.

Case No. 21-29183-1

FILED
FEB 12 2021
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS
By: _____

COMPLAINT

The Investigative Committee (IC)¹ of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board), by and through Aaron Bart Fricke, Esq., Senior Deputy General Counsel and attorney for the IC, having a reasonable basis to believe that Christopher Joseph Fisher, M.D., (Respondent), violated the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630 (collectively Medical Practice Act), hereby issues its Complaint (Complaint), stating the IC's charges and allegations as follows:

1. Respondent was at all times relevant to this Complaint a licensed medical doctor holding an active license to practice medicine in the State of Nevada (License No. 11123). Respondent was originally licensed by the Board on August 30, 2004.

2. Patient A was a seventy (70) year-old male at the time of the events at issue. His name is not disclosed in this Complaint to protect his identity, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation contemporaneously served on Respondent with a copy of this Complaint.

3. Patient A was suffering from hydrocephalus when he presented to Respondent for a ventriculoperitoneal (VP) shunt placement surgery on January 8, 2013, at Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. Another practitioner performed the cranial portion of the surgery, while Respondent performed the abdominal (peritoneal) portion. During the surgery, Respondent properly used a guide wire for the placement of the VP shunt, however, Respondent

¹ The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, at the time this formal Complaint was authorized for filing, was composed of Board members Victor M. Muro, M.D., Chair, Ms. April Mastroluca, and Weldon Havins, M.D., J.D.

1 inadvertently failed to remove the wire from Patient A's chest cavity during the surgery. The wire
2 subsequently caused Patient A to suffer a right pneumothorax, and Patient A had to undergo a
3 subsequent thoracoscopic removal of the foreign body.

4 **COUNT I**

5 **NRS 630.301(4) (Malpractice)**

6 4. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by
7 reference as though fully set forth herein.

8 5. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice is grounds for disciplinary action against
9 a licensee.

10 6. NAC 630.040 defines malpractice, for the purposes of NRS Chapter 630, as the
11 failure of a physician, in treating a patient, to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge
12 ordinarily used under similar circumstances.

13 7. Respondent failed to use the reasonable care, skill and knowledge ordinarily used
14 under similar circumstances, including but not limited to the conduct described herein, when he
15 inadvertently failed to remove the guide wire from Patient A's chest cavity during surgery.

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

18 **WHEREFORE**, the IC prays:

19 1. That the Board give Respondent notice of the charges herein against him and give
20 him notice that he may file an answer to the Complaint herein as set forth in NRS 630.339(2)
21 within twenty (20) days of service of the Complaint;

22 2. That the Board set a time and place for a formal hearing after holding an
23 Early Case Conference pursuant to NRS 630.339(3);

24 3. That the Board determine what sanctions to impose if it finds and concludes that
25 there has been a violation or violations of the Medical Practice Act committed by Respondent;

26 4. That the Board make, issue and serve on Respondent its findings of fact,
27 conclusions of law and order, in writing, to include sanctions to be imposed; and

28 ///

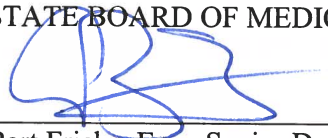
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5. That the Board take such other and further action as may be just and proper in these premises.

Dated this 12 day of FEBRUARY, 2021.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 

Aaron Bart Fricke, Esq., Senior Deputy General Counsel
Attorney for the Investigative Committee

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VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEVADA)
 : ss.
COUNTY OF CLARK)

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

DATED this 12 day of February, 2021.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



By: _____
Victor M. Muro, M.D., Chairman

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am employed by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners and that on the 12th day of February, 2020, I served a file-stamped copy of the **COMPLAINT**, via U.S. Certified Mail and electronic mail to the following:

Thomas J. Doyle, Esq.
Schuering Zimmerman & Doyle
c/o Christopher Joseph Fisher, M.D.
400 University Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825
TJD@szs.com

9171 9690 0935 0243 8326 94

DATED this 12th day of February, 2021.


Mercedes Fuentes, Legal Assistant
Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

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