

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

3 * * * * *

4
5 **In the Matter of Charges and**
6 **Complaint Against:**
7 **JEFFREY LOREN JOHNSON, M.D.,**
8 **Respondent.**
9

Case No. 21-10772-1

FILED

OCT - 7 2021

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS
By: _____

10 **COMPLAINT**

11 The Investigative Committee¹ (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
12 (Board), by and through Robert G. Kilroy, Esq., General Counsel and attorney for the IC, having a
13 reasonable basis to believe that Jeffrey Loren Johnson, M.D. (Respondent) violated the provisions of
14 Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630
15 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act), hereby issues its Complaint, stating the IC's charges and
16 allegations as follows:

17 1. Respondent was at all times relative to this Complaint a Medical Doctor holding an
18 active license to practice medicine in the State of Nevada (License No. 7412). Respondent was
19 originally licensed by the Board on April 27, 1995.

20 2. On August 31, 2009, Patient A² had a brain MRI without contrast to rule out a
21 possible brain tumor as ordered by Dr. Halthore, who treated Patient A after presenting to St. Rose
22 Dominican Hospital with complaints of nausea, headache, and vomiting.

23 3. On September 3, 2009, Respondent, acting as the diagnostic radiologist from
24 Dr. Halthore's referral consultation, read Patient A's brain MRI and noted "MRI of the brain
25

26 ¹ The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, at the time this formal
27 Complaint was authorized for filing, was composed of Board members Rachakonda Prabhu, M.D., Ms. Sandy Peltyn,
and Victor M. Muro, M.D.

28 ² Patient A's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect his privacy, but is disclosed in the Patient
Designation served upon Respondent along with a copy of this Complaint.

1 without contrast is within normal limits.” Respondent’s medical record of this MRI does not
2 mention the imaging sequences and does not indicate there was a 2 x 2 cm mass in the posterior
3 Foss abutting the fourth ventricle which could be seen on the axial T2 Flair and the axial T2 FSE
4 images. A lesion on Patient A’s brain is indicated on the MRI images. This MRI scan and
5 reading was Respondent’s only interaction with Patient A.

6 4. Respondent’s report (medical record) for Patient A includes the following:

7 FINDINGS: There is no hydrocephalus. No evidence of intracranial mass. No
8 morphologic abnormality of the brain is seen. There is no evidence for previous
9 hemorrhage. Flow-void is noted in the internal carotid and basilar arteries. No other
10 signal abnormality is seen;

11 IMPRESSION: MRI of the brain without contrast is within normal limits.

12 5. On July 28, 2013, Patient A presents to the University Medical Center Emergency
13 Room (UMC) for progressively worsening symptoms of headaches in the morning, dizziness after
14 sitting up, and vomiting. A subsequent MRI brain scan with and without contrast showed a large
15 tumor with obstructive hydrocephalus in the exact location as it did within the Respondent’s MRI
16 scan reading. Patient A at UMC had tumor resected.

17 **COUNT I**

18 **NRS 630.301(4) (Malpractice)**

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

21 7. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a physician is grounds for initiating
22 disciplinary action against a licensee.

23 8. NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as the failure of a physician, in treating a patient,
24 to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances.

25 9. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent failed
26 to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances when
27 he provided medical services to Patient A based upon his failure to identify the mass on the
28 September 3, 2009 MRI, and his failure to order a follow-up MRI brain scan with contrast.

///

1 Patient A's declining medical condition giving Respondent additional important data so he could
2 properly read the MRI with contrast for an assessment of a possible brain tumor.

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

5 **WHEREFORE**, the Investigative Committee prays:

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

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

11 3. That the Board determine what sanctions to impose if it determines there has been
12 a violation or violations of the Medical Practice Act committed by Respondent;

13 4. That the Board award fees and costs associated with the investigation and
14 prosecution of this matter as provided in NRS 622.400;

15 5. That the Board make, issue and serve on Respondent its findings of fact,
16 conclusions of law and order, in writing, that includes the sanctions imposed; and

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

19 DATED this 7th day of October, 2021.

20 INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
21 NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

22 By: RLCK
23 ROBERT G. KILROY, J.D.
24 Senior Deputy General Counsel
25 9600 Gateway Drive
26 Reno, NV 89521
27 Tel: (775) 688-2559
28 Email: rkilroy@medboard.nv.gov
Attorney for the Investigative Committee

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

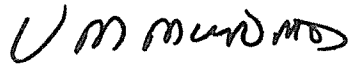
VERIFICATION

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 7th day of October, 2021.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 
Victor M. Muro, M.D.
Chairman of the Investigative Committee