

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

3 * * * * *

4
5 **In the Matter of Charges and Complaint**
6 **Against**
7 **JOHANNA SHOOP KOCH, M.D.,**
8 **Respondent.**

Case No. 21-9748-1

FILED

JUN - 7 2021

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By: 

9
10 **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

11 The Investigative Committee (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
12 (Board), by and through Donald K. White, Esq., Deputy General Counsel for the Board and
13 attorney for the IC, and Johanna Shoop Koch, M.D. (Respondent), a licensed physician in Nevada,
14 assisted by her attorney, Edward J. Lemons, Esq., of the law firm of
15 Lemons, Grundy & Eisenberg, hereby enter into this Settlement Agreement (Agreement) based on
16 the following:¹

17 **A. Background**

18 1. Respondent is a medical doctor currently licensed in active status by the Board
19 pursuant to Chapter 630 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Chapter 630 of the Nevada
20 Administrative Code (NAC) (collectively, the Medical Practice Act). Her license was initially issued
21 on July 29, 1987 (License No. 5548).

22 2. On February 25, 2021, in Case No. 21-9748-1, the IC filed a formal Complaint
23 (Complaint) charging Respondent with one count of violating the Medical Practice Act. Specifically,
24 the Complaint alleges Count I (NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2)) – violation of the standards of practice
25 established by regulation of the Board (NAC 630.230(1)(l) – administering or using or allowing any
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27 ¹ All agreements and admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter and any
28 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.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

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1 person under his or her supervision, direction or control to administer or use, a single-use medical
2 device for more than one procedure, for more than one patient, or in a manner inconsistent with the
3 manufacturer's instructions or directions.

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

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

9 5. Respondent is hereby advised of her rights regarding this administrative matter, and of
10 her opportunity to defend against the allegations in the Complaint. Specifically, Respondent has
11 certain rights in this administrative matter as set out by the United States Constitution, the Nevada
12 Constitution, the Medical Practice Act, the Nevada Open Meeting Law (OML), which is contained in
13 NRS Chapter 241, and the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act (APA), which is contained in
14 NRS Chapters 233B and 622A. These rights include the right to a formal hearing on the allegations in
15 the Complaint, the right to representation by counsel, at her own expense, in the preparation and
16 presentation of her defense, the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses and evidence against
17 her, the right to written findings of fact, conclusions of law and order reflecting the final decision of
18 the Board, and the right to judicial review of the Board's order, if the decision is adverse to her.

19 6. Respondent understands that, under the Board's charge to protect the public by
20 regulating the practice of medicine, the Board may take disciplinary action against Respondent's
21 license, including license probation, license suspension, license revocation and imposition of
22 administrative fines, as well as any other reasonable requirement or limitation, if the Board
23 concludes that Respondent violated one or more provisions of the Medical Practice Act.

24 7. Respondent understands and agrees that this Agreement, by and between
25 Respondent and the IC, is not with the Board, and that the IC will present this Agreement to the
26 Board for consideration in open session at a duly noticed and scheduled meeting. Respondent
27 understands that the IC shall advocate for the Board's approval of this Agreement, but that the
28 Board has the right to decide in its own discretion whether or not to approve this Agreement.

1 8. Respondent further understands and agrees that if the Board approves this
2 Agreement, then the terms and conditions enumerated below shall be binding and enforceable
3 upon her and the Board.

4 **B. Terms & Conditions**

5 **NOW, THEREFORE**, in order to resolve the matters addressed herein, i.e., the matters
6 with regard to the Complaint, Respondent and the IC hereby agree to the following terms and
7 conditions:

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

11 2. **Representation by Counsel/Knowing, Willing and Intelligent Agreement.**
12 Respondent acknowledges she is represented by counsel, and wishes to resolve the matters
13 addressed herein with said counsel. Respondent agrees that if representation by counsel in this
14 matter materially changes prior to entering into this Agreement and for the duration of this
15 Agreement, that counsel for the IC will be timely notified of the material change. Respondent
16 agrees that she knowingly, willingly and intelligently enters into this Agreement after deciding to
17 have a full consultation with and upon the advice of legal counsel.

18 3. **Waiver of Rights.** In connection with this Agreement, and the associated terms
19 and conditions, Respondent knowingly, willingly and intelligently waives all rights in connection
20 with this administrative matter. Respondent hereby knowingly, willingly and intelligently waives
21 all rights arising under the United States Constitution, the Nevada Constitution, the Medical
22 Practice Act, the OML, the APA, and any other legal rights that may be available to her or that
23 may apply to her in connection with the administrative proceedings resulting from the Complaint
24 filed in this matter, including defense of the Complaint, adjudication of the allegations set forth in
25 the Complaint, and imposition of any disciplinary actions or sanctions ordered by the Board.
26 Respondent agrees to settle and resolve the allegations of the Complaint as set out by this
27 Agreement, without a hearing or any further proceedings and without the right to judicial review.

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1 **4. Acknowledgement of Reasonable Basis to Proceed.** As of the time of entering
2 into this Settlement Agreement, the allegations of the Complaint remain unproven. Respondent
3 acknowledges that the IC believes it has a reasonable basis to allege that Respondent engaged in
4 conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act. The IC acknowledges
5 Respondent is not admitting that the IC's claims/counts as alleged in the Complaint have merit
6 and Respondent is agreeing to resolve this matter to avoid the costs of hearing and potential
7 subsequent litigation. Respondent asserts if this matter were to proceed to hearing, he has
8 evidence, witnesses, expert witness(es) and defenses to the counts/claims alleged in the
9 Complaint, but for the purposes of resolving the matter and for no other purpose, Respondent
10 waives the presentation of evidence, witnesses, expert witnesses, and defenses in order to
11 effectuate this Agreement.

12 **5. Consent to Entry of Order.** In order to resolve the Complaint pending against
13 Respondent, Respondent hereby agrees that the Board may issue an order finding that Respondent
14 engaged in conduct that is grounds for discipline pursuant to the Medical Practice Act. Accordingly,
15 the following terms and conditions are hereby agreed upon:

16 a. Respondent admits to the sole count contained in the Complaint, a violation
17 of (NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2)) – violation of the standards of practice established by regulation of the
18 Board.

19 b. Respondent shall pay the costs and expenses incurred in the investigation
20 and prosecution of this matter within sixty (60) days of the Board's acceptance, adoption and
21 approval of this Agreement, the current amount being \$3557.91, not including any costs that may
22 be necessary to finalize this Agreement.

23 c. Respondent shall receive a Public Letter of Reprimand.

24 d. This Agreement shall be reported to the appropriate entities and parties as
25 required by law, including, but not limited to, the National Practitioner Data Bank.

26 **6. Release From Liability.** In execution of this Agreement, Respondent understands
27 and agrees that the State of Nevada, the Board, and each of its members, staff, counsel,
28 investigators, experts, peer reviewers, committees, panels, hearing officers, consultants and agents

1 are immune from civil liability for any decision or action taken in good faith in response to
2 information acquired by the Board. NRS 630.364(2)(a). Respondent agrees to release the State of
3 Nevada, the Board, and each of its members, staff, counsel, investigators, experts, peer reviewers,
4 committees, panels, hearing officers, consultants and agents from any and all manner of actions,
5 causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and
6 unknown, in law or equity, that Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have, against
7 any or all of the persons, government agencies or entities named in this paragraph arising out of,
8 or by reason of, this investigation, this Agreement or the administration of the case referenced
9 herein.

10 7. **Procedure for Adoption of Agreement.** The IC and counsel for the IC shall
11 recommend approval and adoption of the terms and conditions of this Agreement by the Board in
12 resolution of the Complaint. In the course of seeking Board acceptance, approval and adoption of
13 this Agreement, counsel for the IC may communicate directly with the Board staff and the
14 adjudicating members of the Board.

15 Respondent acknowledges that such contacts and communications may be made or
16 conducted ex-parte, without notice or opportunity to be heard on her part until the public Board
17 meeting where this Agreement is discussed, and that such contacts and communications may
18 include, but may not be limited to, matters concerning this Agreement, the Complaint and any and
19 all information of every nature whatsoever related to this matter. The IC and its counsel agree that
20 Respondent and/or Counsel for the Respondent may appear at the Board meeting where this
21 Agreement is discussed and, if requested, respond to any questions that may be addressed to the
22 IC or the IC's counsel.

23 8. **Effect of Acceptance of Agreement by Board.** In the event the Board accepts,
24 approves and adopts this Agreement, the Board shall issue a final order, making this Agreement
25 an Order of the Board, and, pending full compliance with the terms herein, the case shall be closed
26 and all remaining claims arising out of the Complaint shall be dismissed with prejudice.

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1 9. Effect of Rejection of Agreement by Board. In the event the Board does not
2 accept, approve and adopt this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null, void and of no force and
3 effect except as to the following agreement regarding adjudications: (1) Respondent agrees that,
4 notwithstanding rejection of this Agreement by the Board, nothing contained in this Agreement
5 and nothing that occurs pursuant to efforts of the IC to seek the Board's acceptance of this
6 Agreement shall disqualify any member of the adjudicating panel of the Board from considering
7 the Complaint and from participating in disciplinary proceedings against Respondent, including
8 adjudication of this case; and (2) Respondent further agrees that he shall not seek to disqualify any
9 such member absent evidence of bad faith.

10 10. Binding Effect. If approved by the Board, Respondent understands that this
11 Agreement is a binding and enforceable contract upon Respondent and the Board.

12 11. Forum Selection Clause. The parties agree that in the event either party is
13 required to seek enforcement of this Agreement in district court, the parties consent to such
14 jurisdiction and agree that exclusive jurisdiction shall be in the Second Judicial District Court,
15 State of Nevada, Washoe County.

16 12. Attorneys' Fees and Costs. The parties agree that in the event an action is
17 commenced in district court to enforce any provision of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall
18 be entitled to recover reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

19 13. Failure to Comply With Terms. Should Respondent fail to comply with any term
20 or condition of this Agreement once the Agreement has been accepted, approved and adopted by
21 the Board, the IC shall be authorized to immediately suspend Respondent's license to practice
22 medicine in Nevada, if any, pending an Order To Show Cause Hearing, which will be duly
23 noticed. Failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement, including failure to pay any fines,
24 costs, expenses or fees owed to the Board, is a failure to comply with an order of the Board, which
25 may result in additional disciplinary action being taken against Respondent. NRS 630.3065(2)(a).

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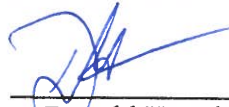
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1 Further, Respondent's failure to remit payment to the Board for monies agreed to be paid as a
2 condition of this Agreement may subject Respondent to any civil and administrative collection
3 efforts available.

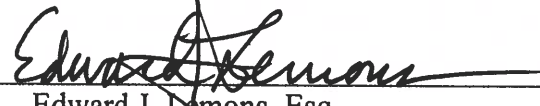
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5 DATED this 29th day of ~~March~~ ^{April}, 2021.

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7 INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
8 NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS


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10 By: 
11 Donald K. White, Esq., Deputy General Counsel
12 Attorney for the Investigative Committee

13 DATED this 12th day of ~~March~~ ^{April}, 2021.

14 LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG

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16 By: 
17 Edward J. Lemons, Esq.
18 Attorneys for Respondent

19 DATED this 20th day of ~~March~~ ^{April}, 2021.

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21 
22 Johanna Shoop Koch, M.D.
23 Respondent

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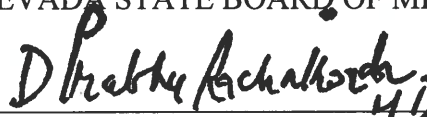
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ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the foregoing Settlement Agreement (Case No. 21-9748-1) was approved and accepted by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners on the 4th day of June, 2021, with the final total amount of costs due of three thousand five hundred fifty-seven dollars and ninety-one cents (\$3,557.91).

DATED this 4th day of June, 2021.

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 
RACHAKONDA D. PRABHU, M.D.
President