

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

3 * * * * *

4
5 **In the Matter of Charges and Complaint**

Case No. 22-33039-1

6 **Against:**

7 **EDWARD SOLLESA VICTORIA, M.D.,**

8 **Respondent.**

FILED

AUG 26 2022

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By: 

9
10 **COMPLAINT**

11 The Investigative Committee¹ (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
12 (Board), by and through Ian J. Cumings, J.D., Senior Deputy General Counsel and attorney for the
13 IC, having a reasonable basis to believe that Edward Sollesa Victoria, M.D. (Respondent) violated
14 the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code
15 (NAC) Chapter 630 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act), hereby issues its Complaint, stating
16 the IC's charges and 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. 12452). Respondent was
19 originally licensed by the Board on September 4, 2007.

20 **PATIENT A**

21 2. Patient A² was a 55-year-old male at the time of the events at issue.

22 3. On October 23, 2018, Respondent wrote a prescription for 4 mg of morphine (a
23 controlled substance considered a dangerous drug) in an intravenous solution to Patient A.
24 Respondent failed to document in Patient A's medical record the reasoning nor the method for

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27 ¹ The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, at the time this formal
28 Complaint was authorized for filing, was composed of Board members Bret W. Frey, M.D., Chowdhury Ahsan, M.D.,
and Col. Eric D. Wade, USAF (Ret.).

² Patient A's 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 administering this dangerous drug. Respondent further failed to document Patient A's vital signs
2 and failed to counsel Patient A on the risks of the controlled substance.

3 4. On January 7, 2019, Patient A presented to Respondent with complaints of lumbar
4 pain radiating to the buttocks. Respondent prescribed Patient A Tramadol (a controlled substance
5 and considered a dangerous drug) 50 mg 90 count for thirty (30) days. There was no medical
6 justification or rationale documented in Patient A's medical record for the prescription.
7 Respondent further failed to document Patient A's complaints within the medical record and failed
8 to document any vital signs. Respondent, again, failed to counsel Patient A on the risks of the
9 controlled substance and included an invalid copy of a blank pain management contract in Patient
10 A's medical chart without a Patient A's signature, a date, and or witness attestation.

11 5. On February 20, 2019, Patient A presented to Respondent with complaints of
12 lumbar pain radiating to the buttocks. Respondent again failed to document Patient A's
13 complaints within the medical record and failed to document any vital signs. Respondent
14 discharged and prescribed additional opiates and sedatives, Tramadol, 50 mg 90 count for thirty
15 (30) days, and Clonazepam 0.5 mg 90 count for thirty (30) days, without any medical justification
16 or rationale noted in the medical record. Respondent further failed to counsel Patient A, for a
17 third time, on the risks of the controlled substances.

18 6. On May 22, 2019, Patient A presented to Respondent for back pain; however,
19 Respondent did not document any complaints of pain within the review of symptoms section of
20 the medical record. Patient A's vital signs were also not documented. Respondent discharged and
21 prescribed opiates and sedatives, Tramadol and Alprazolam, without any medical justification or
22 rationale for these prescriptions in the record. Patient A's history of present illness (HPI) notes
23 were duplicative and highly templated from the January 7, 2019, and February 20, 2019, visits.
24 Respondent again failed to counsel Patient A on the risks of the controlled substances.

25 7. On July 2, 2019, Respondent noted in Patient A's medical record with the
26 following complaints: schizophrenia, anxiety disorder, abdominal pain, dizziness for which patient
27 takes meclizine, and patient has continuous falls and can only ambulate with crutches. Patient A's
28 vital signs were again, not documented. In the patient history section of the medical record,

1 Respondent documented Patient A has recurrent abdominal pain and requested a referral to a
2 gastroenterologist. Additionally, Respondent documented that Patient A reported anxiety, but also
3 documented Patient A had no depression, no insomnia, no stress, and no loss of interest.
4 Respondent diagnosed Patient A with abdominal pain, epigastric pain, an ingrown toenail,
5 dizziness and giddiness, screening from malignant neoplasm, and unspecified falls. Respondent
6 prescribed opiates and sedative without medical justification or rationale. Again, Respondent did
7 not counsel Patient A on the risk of the controlled substances.

8 8. From January 2019 through July 2019, Patient A was clinically evaluated by the
9 Respondent, during which time he continuously prescribed Tramadol for lumbago with sciatica
10 and Clonazepam for Patient A's anxiety. Respondent repeatedly failed to document in Patient A's
11 medical record an adequate HPI, vitals, or a focused physical examination regarding Patient A's
12 diagnoses. Further, Respondent repeatedly failed to document in Patient A's medical record the
13 history of his conditions, response to those treatments or justifications for prescribing the
14 controlled substances, nor was Patient A counseled on the risks of those controlled substances.

15 9. From June 26, 2018, through April 28, 2020, the Nevada Prescription Monitoring
16 Program (PMP) report indicates that Respondent continuously prescribed controlled substances,
17 including Tramadol and Clonazepam. Respondent did not execute with Patient A the required
18 Medication Use Agreement. Patient A did not undergo a risk assessment or urine drug testing.

19 **COUNT I**

20 **NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice**

21 10. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by
22 reference as though fully set forth herein.

23 11. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a physician is grounds for initiating
24 disciplinary action against a licensee.

25 12. NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as "the failure of a physician, in treating a
26 patient, to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge ordinarily used under similar
27 circumstances."

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1 controlled substance. Respondent again failed to counsel Patient B on the risk of the controlled
2 substance.

3 28. On September 24, 2020, Respondent documented Patient B “presents for follow-up
4 diabetes.” There is no HPI documentation indicating a diagnosis of diabetes or a control treatment
5 plan. Respondent diagnosed Patient B with edema; however, the physical examination
6 documentation indicated “no cyanosis, edema, varicosities or palpable cord.” Further, there is no
7 documentation of Patient B’s edema.

8 29. The PMP for Patient B shows the following prescriptions were written for
9 Patient B by Respondent from February 1, 2019, through January 13, 2020. The PMP indicated
10 Patient B was prescribed Morphine Sulfate, Hydrocodone, and Fentanyl. There was no Medication
11 Use Agreement (contract), or addiction risk assessment documented within Patient B’s medical
12 records. Due to Patient B’s co-morbidities, she was at a high-risk for cardiac disease and based
13 upon the medical records, Respondent did not assess that risk. Though the notes indicate the
14 patient was seen for a follow up on her diabetes, Respondent failed properly manage her diabetic
15 condition.

16 COUNT IV

17 **NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice**

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

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

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

25 33. 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 rendering medical services to Patient B, because Respondent inappropriately prescribed controlled
28 substances and by failing to accurately assess, examine, or use other means to appropriately

1 establish a medical diagnosis. Additionally, Respondent did not engage in any appropriate
2 monitoring and assessing of the risks of the controlled substances prescribed to Patient B. Further,
3 Respondent did not demonstrate the reasonableness required for the assessment, diagnosis, and
4 treatment of Patient B's suspected neoplasm, and, because he did not exercise reasonable care
5 with Patient B's cardiac risk factors when considering her edema medical condition.

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

8 **COUNT V**

9 **NRS 630.3062(1)(a) - Failure to Maintain Proper Medical Records**

10 35. All the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by
11 reference as though fully set forth herein.

12 36. NRS 630.3062(1)(a) provides that the "failure to maintain timely, legible, accurate
13 and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient" constitute
14 grounds for initiating discipline against a licensee.

15 37. Respondent failed to maintain proper medical records relating to the diagnosis,
16 treatment, and care of Patient B by failing to correctly document his actions when he treated
17 Patient B, whose medical records were neither accurate nor and complete as aforementioned in the
18 above paragraphs.

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

21 **COUNT VI**

22 **NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) - Violation of Standards of Practice by Engaging in the Practice of**
23 **Writing Prescriptions for Controlled Substances in a Manner That Deviates**
24 **from the Model Policy**

25 39. All the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as
26 though fully set forth herein.

27 40. Violation of a standard of practice adopted by the Board is grounds for disciplinary
28 action pursuant to NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2).

1 41. The Board adopted by reference the Model Policy in NAC 630.187.

2 42. Pursuant to NAC 630.230(1)(k), a licensee shall not engage in the practice of
3 writing prescriptions for controlled substances to treat acute pain or chronic pain in a manner that
4 deviates from the standards set forth in the Model Policy.

5 43. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent wrote
6 prescriptions to Patient B for opioid analgesics Morphine Sulfate, Hydrocodone, and Fentanyl to
7 treat chronic pain in a manner that deviated from the Model Policy.

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

10 **PATIENT C**

11 45. Patient C⁴ was a 45-year-old male at the time of the events at issue.

12 46. On May 18, 2020, Respondent saw Patient C and assessed him with Generalized
13 Anxiety Disorder and Spinal Stenosis of the lumber spine. Respondent did not document
14 Patient C's vital signs, yet the HPI section indicated the "Patient is following up on chronic pain
15 and anxiety." Respondent documented that "both conditions were controlled with his present
16 medications" and the physical examination indicated a normal musculoskeletal and
17 "thoracolumbar appears normal curvature." Respondent prescribed Alprazolam 0.25 mg 120
18 quantity for thirty (30) days, and Hydrocodone, 10/325 mg 120 quantity for thirty (30) days.
19 There was no documentation of Patient C's history of conditions, his response to the treatment or
20 justification for prescribing these controlled substances. Respondent did not counsel Patient C on
21 the risks of the prescribed controlled substances.

22 47. On July 20, 2020, Respondent saw Patient C, but did not document his vital signs,
23 but did note in the HPI the same anxiety disorder and stenosis conditions. Respondent prescribed
24 Alprazolam 0.25 mg 120 quantity for thirty (30) days, and Hydrocodone, 10/325 mg 120 quantity
25 for thirty (30) days. There was no documentation of Patient C's history of conditions, response to
26 the treatment, or justification for prescribing these controlled substances. Patient C was not
27 counseled by Respondent on the risks of the prescribed controlled substances.

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⁴ Patient A's 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 48. On August 20, 2020, Respondent saw Patient C and documented the “patient is
2 following up on chronic pain and anxiety and reports that both conditions are controlled with
3 present medications.” Respondent’s HPI was the same as the July 7, 2020, encounter and no vital
4 signs were documented. Respondent, again, prescribed Alprazolam 0.25 mg 120 quantity for
5 thirty (30) days, and Hydrocodone, 10/325 mg 120 quantity for thirty (30) days. There was no
6 documentation of Patient C’s history of conditions, his response to the treatment or justification
7 for prescribing these controlled substances. Patient C was not counseled by Respondent on the
8 risks of the prescribed controlled substances.

9 49. On September 22, 2020, Respondent saw Patient C and similarly failed to
10 document and or obtain vital signs. The physical examination was the same as the previous
11 encounters. Respondent was again prescribed Alprazolam 0.25 mg 120 quantity for thirty (30)
12 days, and Hydrocodone, 10/325 mg 120 quantity for thirty (30) days. There was no documentation
13 of Patient C’s history of conditions, his response to the treatment or justification for prescribing
14 these controlled substances. Patient C was not counseled by Respondent on the risks of the
15 prescribed controlled substances.

16 50. On November 23, 2020, Respondent saw Patient C. Respondent did not document
17 Patient C’s HPI, vitals or physical examination. Respondent prescribed Alprazolam 0.25 mg 120
18 quantity for thirty (30) days, and Hydrocodone, 10/325 mg 120 quantity for thirty (30) days. There
19 was no documentation of Patient C’s history of conditions, his response to the treatment or
20 justification for prescribing these controlled substances. Patient C was not counseled by
21 Respondent on the risks of the prescribed controlled substances.

22 51. On December 28, 2020, Respondent saw Patient C. Respondent did not document
23 Patient C’s HPI, vitals or physical examination. Respondent prescribed Alprazolam 0.25 mg 120
24 quantity for thirty (30) days, and Hydrocodone, 10/325 mg 120 quantity for thirty (30) days. There
25 was no documentation of Patient C’s history of conditions, his response to the treatment or
26 justification for prescribing these controlled substances. Patient C was not counseled by
27 Respondent on the risks of the prescribed controlled substances.

1 52. From May 2020 through December 2020, Respondent repeatedly failed to
2 document a focused HPI, physical examination, and vital signs. Respondent prescribed controlled
3 substances on multiple occasions without documenting an adequate diagnosis, rationale for
4 medication or response to the prescribed controlled substances, but for the repeated “conditions
5 are controlled with his present medications.”

6 53. From May 18, 2020, through December 28, 2020, Respondent continuously
7 prescribed controlled substances for Patient C, including Hydrocodone and Alprazolam and there
8 was no Medication Use Agreement, no risk assessment or a urine drug test screening documented
9 within Patient C’s medical records.

10 **COUNT VII**

11 **NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice**

12 54. All the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by
13 reference as though fully set forth herein.

14 55. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a physician is grounds for initiating
15 disciplinary action against a licensee.

16 56. NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as “the failure of a physician, in treating a
17 patient, to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge ordinarily used under similar
18 circumstances.”

19 57. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent failed
20 to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances when
21 rendering medical services to Patient C when Respondent inappropriately prescribed controlled
22 substances by failing to accurately assess, examine, or use other means to appropriately establish a
23 medical diagnosis; because, Respondent did not engage in any appropriate monitoring and
24 assessing of the risks of the controlled substances prescribed to Patient C.

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

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COUNT VIII

NRS 630.3062(1)(a) - Failure to Maintain Proper Medical Records

59. All the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

60. NRS 630.3062(1)(a) provides that the “failure to maintain timely, legible, accurate and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient” constitute grounds for initiating discipline against a licensee.

61. Respondent failed to maintain proper medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment, and care of Patient C by failing to correctly document his actions when he treated Patient C, whose medical records were neither accurate nor and complete as aforementioned in the above paragraphs.

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

COUNT IX

NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) - Violation of Standards of Practice by Engaging in the Practice of Writing Prescriptions for Controlled Substances in a Manner That Deviates from the Model Policy

63. All the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein

64. Violation of a standard of practice adopted by the Board is grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2).

65. The Board adopted by reference the Model Policy in NAC 630.187.

66. Pursuant to NAC 630.230(1)(k), a licensee shall not engage in the practice of writing prescriptions for controlled substances to treat acute pain or chronic pain in a manner that deviates from the standards set forth in the Model Policy.

67. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent wrote prescriptions to Patient C for the opioid analgesics Hydrocodone and Alprazolam in a manner that deviated from the Model Policy.

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

3 **PATIENT D**

4 69. Patient D⁵ was a 45-year-old female at the time of the events at issue.

5 70. On June 8, 2020, Patient D was treated by Respondent who assessed her with
6 thoracic back sprain and spinal stenosis of the thoracic region. Respondent documented in
7 Patient D's HPI "patient presents today for thoracic pain not getting better, patient unable to
8 tolerate bydureon." Respondent noted that Patient D's musculoskeletal examination was normal
9 and "thoracolumbar appearance was normal curvature." Respondent prescribed Valium, 10 mg
10 120 quantity, and Norco 10/325 mg 150 quantity. There was no documentation of Patient D's
11 history of conditions, response to treatment, justification for prescribing these controlled
12 substances, or vital signs.

13 71. On November 25, 2020, Patient D presented to Respondent for her annual check-
14 up. Respondent documented Patient D's HPI "no complaints, no chest pain, and normal bowel
15 movements." No other vitals were documented. Musculoskeletal examination was normal and
16 "thoracolumbar appearance with normal curvature." Respondent's assessment included anxiety
17 and continued use of Valium as needed and opioid dependence/spinal stenosis of the thoracic
18 region. Her medication list only showed Diazepam. Respondent did not document Patient D's
19 history of conditions, her response to the treatment or justification for prescribing the controlled
20 substances.

21 72. From February 2020 to November 2020, Respondent treated Patient D twice and
22 each time failed to provide an adequate HPI, vital signs or a focused physical examination
23 regarding Patient D's diagnosis. Respondent failed to assess Patient D's May 2020 MRI, as there
24 is no documentation any review of the images. Respondent prescribed controlled substances for
25 the treatment of anxiety without documenting an adequate diagnosis, a rational for medication
26 prescribed or her response to the treatment to the controlled substances.

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⁵ Patient A's identity is not disclosed herein to protect her privacy but is disclosed in the Patient Designation served upon Respondent along with a copy of this Complaint.

1 73. From January 11, 2019, through December 28, 2020, the PMP for Patient D
2 indicated that Respondent prescribed Clonidine and Amlodipine for her hypertension and included
3 the controlled substances of Hydrocodone, Diazepam, and Pregabalin. There was no Medication
4 Use Agreement, risk assessment, or a drug urine screening documented.

5 **COUNT X**

6 **NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice**

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

9 75. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a physician is grounds for initiating
10 disciplinary action against a licensee.

11 76. NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as “the failure of a physician, in treating a
12 patient, to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge ordinarily used under similar
13 circumstances.”

14 77. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent failed
15 to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances when
16 rendering medical services to Patient D, because Respondent inappropriately prescribed controlled
17 substances by failing to accurately assess, examine, or use other means to appropriately establish a
18 medical diagnosis; because, Respondent did not engage in any appropriate monitoring and
19 assessing of the risks of the controlled substances prescribed to Patient D.

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

22 **COUNT XI**

23 **NRS 630.3062(1)(a) - Failure to Maintain Proper Medical Records**

24 79. All the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by
25 reference as though fully set forth herein.

26 80. NRS 630.3062(1)(a) provides that the “failure to maintain timely, legible, accurate
27 and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient” constitute
28 grounds for initiating discipline against a licensee.

1 81. Respondent failed to maintain proper medical records relating to the diagnosis,
2 treatment, and care of Patient D by failing to correctly document his actions when he treated
3 Patient D, whose medical records were neither accurate nor and complete as aforementioned in the
4 above paragraphs.

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

7 **COUNT XII**

8 **NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) - Violation of Standards of Practice by Engaging in the Practice of**
9 **Writing Prescriptions for Controlled Substances in a Manner That Deviates**
10 **from the Model Policy**

11 83. All the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as
12 though fully set forth herein.

13 84. Violation of a standard of practice adopted by the Board is grounds for disciplinary
14 action pursuant to NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2).

15 85. The Board adopted by reference the Model Policy in NAC 630.187.

16 86. Pursuant to NAC 630.230(1)(k), a licensee shall not engage in the practice of
17 writing prescriptions for controlled substances to treat acute pain or chronic pain in a manner that
18 deviates from the standards set forth in the Model Policy.

19 87. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent wrote
20 prescriptions to Patient D for opioid analgesics Hydrocodone, Diazepam, and Pregabalin to treat
21 chronic pain in a manner that deviated from the Model Policy.

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

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

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

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

9600 Gateway Drive

Reno, Nevada 89521

(775) 688-2559

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

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

4. That the Board award fees and costs for the investigation and prosecution of this case as outlined in NRS 622.400;

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

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

DATED this 26 day of August, 2022.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 

IAN J. CUMINGS, J.D.
Deputy General Counsel
9600 Gateway Drive
Reno, NV 89521
Tel: (775) 688-2559
Email: icumings@medboard.nv.gov
Attorney for the Investigative Committee

1 VERIFICATION

2 STATE OF NEVADA)
3) : ss.
4 COUNTY OF WASHOE)

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

11 DATED this 22nd day of August, 2022.

12 INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
13 NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

14 By: _____

15 BRETT W. FREY, M.D.

16 *Chairman of the Investigative Committee*