# Reno, Nevada 89521 (775) 688-2559

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

\* \* \* \* \*

In the Matter of Charges and Complaint

Against:

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

FARHAD WILLIAM SANI, M.D.,

Respondent.

Case No. 23-46132-1

MAY - 8 2023

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF** 

### **COMPLAINT**

The Investigative Committee<sup>1</sup> (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board), by and through Ian J. Cumings, Deputy General Counsel and attorney for the IC, having a reasonable basis to believe that Farhad William Sani, M.D. (Respondent) violated the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act), hereby issues its Complaint, stating the IC's charges and allegations as follows:

- 1. Respondent was at all times relative to this Complaint a medical doctor holding a special purpose license to practice medicine in the State of Nevada (License No. SP401). Respondent was originally licensed by the Board on November 8, 2016. Respondent's specialty is listed as diagnostic radiology.
  - Patient A<sup>2</sup> was a sixty-five (65) year-old female at the time of the events at issue. 2.
- On September 28, 2018, Patient A underwent a contrast computed tomography 3. (CT) scan of the abdomen and pelvis following a referral by another provider due to a history of ovarian cancer.

111

26 27

28

<sup>1</sup> 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 Bret W. Frey, M.D., Chowdhury Ahsan, M.D., and Col. Eric D. Wade USAF (Ret.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Patient A's true 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

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- 4. Patient A's relevant medical history was listed on the intake sheet and patient referral.
- 5. On September 30, 2018, Respondent examined Patient A's CT scan, but failed to identify or note the existence of a conspicuous 4.4-centimeter right lateral wall soft tissue mass in his report. Additionally, Respondent failed to identify or note an irregular right cardiophrenic lymph node and three (3) small lung nodules which warranted further testing.
- 6. Patient A underwent additional diagnostic testing on July 25, 2019, which demonstrated the presence of the soft-tissue mass.
- 7. Respondent's failure to properly interpret Patient A's CT imaging resulted in the delay of diagnosis and treatment of recurrent metastatic cancer.

### COUNT I

### NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice

- 8. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 9. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a physician is grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.
- NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as "the failure of a physician, in treating a 10. patient, to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances."
- As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent failed 11. to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances when rendering medical services to Patient A by failing to identify or note the existence of a 4.4centimeter mass, irregular lymph node, and nodules present on the lung.
- 12. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

26 111

27 111

28 111

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

### **COUNT II**

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

- 13. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 14. 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.
- Respondent failed to maintain proper medical records relating to the diagnosis, 15. treatment and care of Patient A, by failing to correctly note the mass present on Patient A's CT scan.
- 16. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

### **COUNT III**

### NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2) - Violation of Standards of Practice Established by Regulation

- 17. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 18. Violation of a standard of practice adopted by the Board is grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2).
- 19. NAC 630.210 requires a physician to "seek consultation with another provider of health care in doubtful or difficult cases whenever it appears that consultation may enhance the quality of medical services."
- Respondent failed to timely seek consultation with regard to Patient A's medical 20. condition on September 30, 2018, and Respondent should have consulted with an appropriate care provider to address the doubtfulness of the diagnosis of Patient A's medical condition and such a timely consultation would have confirmed or denied such a diagnosis and may have enhanced the quality of medical care provided to the Patient with regard to the presence of conspicuous masses on the September 28, 2018 CT scan.

28 111

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

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

### WHEREFORE, the Investigative Committee prays:

- 1. That the Board give Respondent notice of the charges herein against him and give him notice that he 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 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 day of May, 2023.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

IAN J. CUMINGS
Deputy General Counsel
9600 Gateway Drive

Reno, NV 89521

Tel: (775) 688-2559

Email: <u>icumings@medboard.nv.gov</u>
Attorney for the Investigative Committee

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

### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEVADA	)
	: SS.
COUNTY OF WASHOE	)

Bret W. Frey, 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 8th day of May, 2023.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

BRET W. REY, M.D.

Chairman of the Investigative Committee

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I am employed by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners and that on the 8th day of May, 2023, I served a file-stamped copy of the foregoing **COMPLAINT** as well as file-stamped copy of the **PATIENT DESIGNATION** and required fingerprinting materials, via USPS Certified Mail, postage pre-paid, to the following parties:

FARHAD WILLIAM SANI, M.D. 11995 Singletree Lane, Ste. 500 Eden Prairie, MT 55344

Tracking No.: 9171 9690 0935 0254 7679 09

DATED this 9th

\_day of May, 2023.

MERCEDES FUENTES

Legal Assistant

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners