# 9600 Gateway Drive 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:** 

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JASON HOWARD LASRY, M.D.,

Respondent.

Case No. 23-29251-1

MAR - 8 2023

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF** MEDICAL EXAMINERS

### **COMPLAINT**

The Investigative Committee<sup>1</sup> (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board), by and through William P. Shogren, Deputy General Counsel and attorney for the IC, having a reasonable basis to believe that Jason Howard Lasry, 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:

- Respondent was at all times relative to this Complaint a medical doctor holding an 1. active license to practice medicine in the State of Nevada (License No. 10970). Respondent was originally licensed by the Board on June 7, 2004.
  - Patient  $A^2$  was a three (3) year-old female at the time of the events at issue. 2.
- On May 9, 2020, Patient A presented to Respondent for medical care at Humboldt 3. General Hospital in Winnemucca, Nevada, after being bitten by a snake on her left knee earlier in the day.
- Upon arrival at Humboldt General Hospital, Patient A had an elevated heart rate, indicating tachycardia. Patient A also had progressive swelling of her left leg, where two (2)

<sup>&</sup>lt;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., Carl N. Williams, Jr., 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.

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puncture marks were observed on her left knee and had muscle weakness in her left leg, including the inability to move the affected leg on her own.

- Patient A's stay at Humboldt General Hospital totaled close to three (3) hours. 5. During this time, Patient A's heart rate measured from 149 beats per minute to 154 beats per minute, indicating continued tachycardia.
- Respondent documented Patient A's vital signs but did not document Patient A's 6. blood pressure measurements. Respondent's notes during Patient's A presentation did not discuss a recognition of Patient A's continued tachycardia.
- Respondent spoke with the hospitalist at Humboldt General Hospital, who 7. expressed preference to have Patient A transferred to another facility with a higher level of care.
- Respondent then spoke with a physician at Renown Regional Medical Center 8. (Renown) in Reno, Nevada. It was then arranged to have Patient A transferred from Humboldt General Hospital to Renown. Initially, it was decided to transport Patient A via helicopter, but then the decision was made to transport Patient A via ground ambulance.
- Respondent did not document that he spoke with any other physicians regarding 9. Patient A's snake bite.
- During Patient A's entire time at Humboldt General Hospital on May 9, 2020, 10. Respondent elected not to provide an antivenom injection to Patient A, although the appropriate antivenom was available at Humboldt General Hospital on the day of Patient A's arrival.
- The first documented blood pressure measurement on May 9, 2020, was taken by 11. Emergency Medical Services prior to Patient A's departure from Humboldt General Hospital. Patient A's blood pressure reading was 59/40, indicating low blood pressure (hypotension).
- Prior to transferring Patient A by ambulance, Respondent failed to administer the 12. appropriate antivenom, despite clear evidence of Patient A's critical life signs and uncompensated shock.
- Despite clear evidence of Patient A's medical instability, Respondent transferred 13. Patient A from Humboldt General Hospital to Renown via ground ambulance, whereupon Patient A expired on May 13, 2020, as a result of the snake bite.

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### COUNT I

### NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice

- All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by 14. reference as though fully set forth herein.
- NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a physician is grounds for initiating 15. disciplinary action against a licensee.
- NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as "the failure of a physician, in treating a 16. 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 17. to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances when rendering medical services to Patient A, by failing to recognize hypotension and tachycardia in a patient who had been bitten by a snake, and by failing to treat her diminishing condition, failure of which led to Patient A's expiration.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as 18. provided in NRS 630.352.

### **COUNT II**

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

- All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by 19. reference as though fully set forth herein.
- Violation of a standard of practice adopted by the Board is grounds for disciplinary 20. action pursuant to NRS 630.306(1)(b)(2).
- 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 22. condition on May 9, 2020 and Respondent should have consulted with a medical toxicologist to

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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 Patient A with regard to the need for antivenom and other therapies.

By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Nevada State 23. Board of Medical Examiners as provided in NRS 630.352.

### **COUNT III**

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

- All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by 24. reference as though fully set forth herein.
- NRS 630.3062(1)(a) provides that the "failure to maintain timely, legible, accurate 25. 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 complete and proper medical records relating to the 26. diagnosis, treatment and care of Patient A, by failing to document his actions when he treated Patient A, whose medical records were not timely, legible, accurate, and complete. Respondent's medical records were not accurate and complete by failing, on May 9, 2020, to note a recognition of Patient A's elevated heart rate (tachycardia), or a recognition of Patient A's continued tachycardia, despite treatment with IV fluids, or a recognition of Patient A's low blood pressure (hypotension).
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as 27. provided in NRS 630.352.

### WHEREFORE, the Investigative Committee prays:

- That the Board give Respondent notice of the charges herein against him and give 1. 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;
- That the Board set a time and place for a formal hearing after holding an Early 2. Case Conference pursuant to NRS 630.339(3);

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- 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 8th day of March, 2023.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

WILLIAM P. SHOGREN

Deputy General Counsel 9600 Gateway Drive

Reno, NV 89521

Tel: (775) 688-2559

Email: <u>shogrenw@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 March, 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 March, 2023, I served a file-stamped copy of the foregoing **COMPLAINT** and **PATIENT DESIGNATION**, with accompanying required fingerprinting materials via U.S. Certified Mail, to the following parties:

JASON HOWARD LASRY, M.D.

216 Piazza Del Verano

Las Vegas, NV 89138 Tracking No.: 917

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DATED this \_\_\_\_\_day of March, 2023.

MERCEDES FUENTES

Legal Assistant

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners