### 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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JONATHAN RICHARD SORELLE, M.D.,

Respondent.

Case No. 23-33332-1

FILED

MAY 2 6 2023

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF** MEDICAL EXAMINEBS

### **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 Jonathan Richard Sorelle, 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 active license to practice medicine in the State of Nevada (License No. 12562). Respondent was originally licensed by the Board on December 12, 2007.
  - 2. Patient  $A^2$  was a sixty-three (63) year-old male at the time of the events at issue.
- On October 31, 2019, Patient A presented to the Respondent for medical treatment 3. following a fall he sustained on October 4, 2019.
- 4. Diagnostic imaging taken on October 21, 2019 demonstrated Patient A suffered scapholunate dissociation and had osteoarthritis of the right wrist.

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<sup>1</sup> 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 Bret W. Frey, M.D. and Col. Eric D. Wade (USAF) Ret. 28

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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- 5. Respondent erroneously diagnosed Patient A with right carpal tunnel syndrome, right SLIO tear, and an avulsion fracture of the lunate.
- 6. Respondent recommended revision surgery and scheduled Patient A for open reduction internal fixation of the lunate on November 12, 2019.
- 7. On November 5, 2019, a preoperative MRI confirmed Patient A had stage 3 scapholunate advanced collapse pattern arthritis, which requires a scaphoidectomy and midcarpal fusion to correct.
- 8. On November 11, 2019, Respondent reviewed the November 5, 2019, MRI and changed the planned surgery which had been discussed with the patient to the appropriate procedure but failed to obtain new informed consent prior Patient A presenting for surgery on November 12, 2019.
- 9. On November 12, 2019, Patient A presented for surgery. Only after the administration of anesthesia was Patient A informed of the change in the surgical plan, and therefore was not properly given informed consent prior to surgery being performed.

### COUNT I

### NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice

- 10. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 11. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a Physician is grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.
- 12. NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as "the failure of a physician, in treating a patient, to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances."
- 13. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent failed to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances when rendering medical services to Patient A as demonstrated by the initial misdiagnosis of the patient's chronic arthritis and scapholunate dissociation. Moreover, Respondent failed to obtain proper informed consent before the patient received sedation prior to performing surgery.

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

### **COUNT II**

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

- 15. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 16. 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.
- 17. Respondent failed to maintain proper medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of Patient A, by failing to correctly obtain informed consent of the patient prior to performing surgery.
- 18. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as 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

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# OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 9600 Gateway Drive Reno, Nevada 89521

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

DATED this 26 day of May, 2023.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

IAÑ 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 **26** day of May, 2023.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

RET W. FRYY, 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 26th 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:

JONATHAN RICHARD SORELLE, M.D. 9080 West Post Road, Suite #200 Las Vegas, NV 89148

Tracking No.:\_\_\_\_

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DATED this 2023.

.,, 2025.

**MERCEDES FUENTES** 

Legal Assistant

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners