

Nirav R. Shah, M.D., M.P.H. Commissioner **HEALTH** 

Sue Kelly Executive Deputy Commissioner

October 22, 2012

# CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Sarah M. Dewitt, R.P.A.

REDACTED

RE:

License No. 011398

Dear Ms Dewitt:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Order No. 12-216. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect October 29, 2012.

If the penalty imposed by the Order is a fine, please write the check payable to the New York State Department of Health. Noting the BPMC Order number on your remittance will assist in proper crediting. Payments should be directed to the following address:

Bureau of Accounts Management New York State Department of Health Corning Tower, Room 2784 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Please direct any questions to: Board for Professional Medical Conduct, 90 Church Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10007-2919, telephone # 212-417-4445.

Sincerely,

**REDACTED** 

Katherine A. Hawkins, M.D., J.D. Executive Secretary Board for Professional Medical Conduct

cc: Richard A. Plukas, Esq. Fitzsimmons, Nunn & Plukas, LLP 16 E. Main Street, Suite 300 Rochester, NY 14614

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| NEW YORK STATE: | DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH         |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| STATE BOARD FOR | PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT |

BPMC No. 12-216

IN THE MATTER

CONSENT

OF

ORDER

## SARAH DEWITT, RPA

Upon the application of **SARAH DEWITT**, **RPA**, (Respondent), in the attached Consent Agreement, that is made a part of this Consent Order, it is

ORDERED, that the Consent Agreement, and its terms, are adopted and it is further

ORDERED, that this Consent Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, either by mailing of a copy of this Consent Order, either by first class mail to Respondent at the address in the attached Consent Agreement or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, or upon facsimile or email transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney, whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATED:\_\_10/19/2012

REDACTED

ARTHUR S. HENGERER, M.D. Chair
State Board for Professional
Medical Conduct

STATE OF NEW YORK: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

#### IN THE MATTER

CONSENT

OF

AGREEMENT

## SARAH DEWITT, RPA CO-12-01-0019-A

**SARAH DEWITT**, (Respondent), representing that all of the following statements are true, deposes and says:

That on or about August 8, 2006, I was authorized to practice medicine in the State of New York and issued license number 011398 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is REDACTED and I will advise the Director (Director) of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) of any change of my address within thirty (30) days, thereof.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) has charged me with one (1) Specification of professional misconduct.

A copy of the Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit A, is attached to and part of this Consent Agreement.

I do not contest the one (1) Specification, and agree to the following sanction:

Censure and Reprimand;

Respondent shall pay a \$500.00 fine, to be paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the Consent Order to the NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Accounts Management, Revenue Unit, Empire State Plaza, Corning Tower, Room 1717, Albany, NY 12237-0016.

I agree, further, that the Consent Order shall impose the following conditions:

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of New York Education Law § 6502 including, but not limited to, the requirements that a licensee shall register and continue to be registered with the New York State Education

Department (except during periods of actual suspension) and that a licensee shall pay all registration fees. Respondent shall not exercise the option provided in New York Education Law § 6502(4) to avoid registration and payment of fees. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the effective date of the Consent Order and will continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State; and

That Respondent shall cooperate fully with the OPMC in its administration and enforcement of the Consent Order and in its investigations of matters concerning Respondent. Respondent shall respond in a timely manner to all OPMC requests for written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with this Consent Agreement. Respondent shall meet with a person designated by the Director, OPMC, as directed. Respondent shall respond promptly and provide all documents and information within Respondent's control, as directed. This condition shall take effect upon the Board's issuance of the Consent Order and will continue so long as Respondent remains licensed in New York State.

I stipulate that my failure to comply with any conditions of the Consent Order shall constitute misconduct as defined by New York Education Law § 6530(29).

I agree that, if I am charged with professional misconduct in future, this Consent Agreement and the Consent Order shall be admitted into evidence in that proceeding.

I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand that if the Board does not adopt this Consent Agreement, none of its terms shall bind me or constitute an admission of any of the acts of alleged misconduct; this Consent Agreement shall not be used against me in any way and shall be kept in strict confidence; and the Board's denial shall be without prejudice to the pending disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination pursuant to New York Public Health Law.

I agree that, if the Board adopts this Consent Agreement, the Chair of the Board shall issue a Consent Order in accordance with its terms. I agree that the Consent Order shall take effect upon its issuance by the Board, either by mailing of a copy of the Consent Order by first class mail to me at the address in this Consent Agreement, or to my attorney by certified mail, or upon facsimile or email transmission to me or my attorney, whichever is first. The Consent Order, this Consent Agreement, and all attached Exhibits shall be public documents, with only patient identities, if any, redacted. As public documents, they may be posted on the Department of Health website.

I stipulate that the proposed sanction and Consent Order are authorized by New York Public Health Law §§ 230 and 230-a, and that the Board and OPMC have the requisite powers to carry out all included terms. I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement of my own free will and not under duress, compulsion or restraint. In consideration of the value to me of the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement, allowing me to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Consent Order for which I apply, administratively and/or judicially, I agree to be bound by the Consent Order, and I ask that the Board adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director, OPMC, and the Chair of the Board each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed Consent Agreement and Consent Order, based upon my application, or to decline to do so. I further understand and agree that no prior or separate written or oral communication can limit that discretion.

| AFFIRMED:      | *  |  |
|----------------|--|--|
| DATED:10/4/12  | REDACTED   |  |
|                | SARAH DEWITT, RPA<br>Respondent                    |  |
| DATED: 10/9/12 | REDACTED   |  |
|                | RICHARD A. PLUKAS, ESQ.<br>Attorney for Respondent |  |
|                |  |  |

The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Consent Agreement and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: OCTOBER 122012

REDACTED

JOEL E. ABELOVE
Associate Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: Oct 17, 2012

REDACTED

KEITH W. SERVIS

Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

STATE OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER

NOTICE OF

OF

REFERRAL

SARAH M. DEWITT, R.P.A. CO-12-01-0019-A PROCEEDING

TO:

Sarah M. Dewitt, R.P.A.

REDACTED

Sarah M. Dewitt, R.P.A. Upstate University 750 East Adams Street Syracuse, NY 13210

#### PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

An adjudicatory proceeding will be held pursuant to the provisions of New York Public Health Law §§230(10)(p) and New York State Administrative Procedures Act §§301-307 and 401. The proceeding will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Committee) on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012, at 10:30 a.m., at the offices of the New York State Department of Health, 150 Broadway, Suite 510, Albany, NY 12204-2719.

At the proceeding, evidence will be received concerning the allegations set forth in the Statement of Charges, which is attached. A stenographic record of the proceeding will be made and the witnesses at the proceeding will be sworn and examined.

You may appear in person at the proceeding and may be represented by counsel who shall be an attorney admitted to practice in New York state. You may produce evidence and/or sworn testimony on your behalf. Such evidence and/or sworn testimony shall be strictly limited to evidence and testimony relating to the nature and severity of the penalty to be imposed upon the licensee. Where the charges are based on the conviction of state law crimes in other jurisdictions, evidence may be offered that would show that the conviction would not be a crime in New York State. The Committee also

may limit the number of witnesses whose testimony will be received, as well as the length of time any witness will be permitted to testify.

If you intend to present sworn testimony, the number of witnesses and an estimate of the time necessary for their direct examination must be submitted to the New York State Department of Health, Division of Legal Affairs, Bureau of Adjudication, Hedley Park Place, 433 River Street, Fifth Floor South, Troy, NY 12180, ATTENTION: HON. JAMES F. HORAN, ACTING DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF ADJUDICATION (Telephone: (518-402-0748), (henceforth "Bureau of Adjudication") as well as the Department of Health attorney indicated below, no later than ten (10) days prior to the scheduled date of the Referral Proceeding, as indicated above.

Pursuant to the provisions of New York Public Health Law §230(10)(p), you shall file a written answer to each of the charges and allegations in the Statement of Charges not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing. Any charge or allegation not so answered shall be deemed admitted. You may wish to seek the advice of counsel prior to filing such answer. The answer shall be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, and a copy shall be forwarded to the attorney for the Department of Health, whose name appears below. You may file a written brief and affidavits with the Committee. Six (6) copies of all papers you submit must be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication at the address indicated above, no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled date of the Referral Proceeding, and a copy of all papers must be served on the same date on the Department of Health attorney, indicated below. Pursuant to §301(5) of the State Administrative Procedure Act, the Department, upon reasonable notice, will provide, at no charge, a qualified interpreter of the deaf to interpret the proceedings to, and the testimony of, any deaf person. Pursuant to the terms of New York State Administrative Procedure Act §401 and 10 N.Y.C.R.R. §51.8(b), the Petitioner demands, hereby, disclosure of the evidence that Respondent intends to introduce at the hearing, including the names of witnesses, a list of and copies of documentary evidence, and a description of physical and/or other evidence that cannot be photocopied.

YOU ARE ADVISED, HEREBY, THAT THE ATTACHED CHARGES WILL BE MADE PUBLIC FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THEY ARE SERVED.

Department attorney: Initial here

The proceeding may be held whether or not you appear. Please note that requests for adjournments must be made in writing to the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, with a copy of the request to the attorney for the Department of Health, whose name appears below, at least five (5) days prior to the scheduled date of the proceeding. Adjournment requests are not routinely granted. Claims of court engagement will require detailed affidavits of actual engagement. Claims of illness will require medical documentation. Failure to obtain an attorney within a reasonable period of time prior to the proceeding will not be grounds for an adjournment.

The Committee will make a written report of its findings, conclusions as to guilt, and a determination. Such determination may be reviewed by the administrative review board for professional medical conduct.

SINCE THESE PROCEEDINGS MAY RESULT IN A DETERMINATION
THAT SUSPENDS OR REVOKES YOUR LICENSE TO PRACTICE
MEDICINE IN NEW YORK STATE AND/OR IMPOSES A FINE FOR
EACH OFFENSE CHARGED, YOU ARE URGED TO OBTAIN AN
ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER.

DATED: Albany, New York

Overest 28 2012

REDACTED

PETER D. VAN BUREN
Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

Inquiries should be addressed to:

Joel E. Abelove Associate Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct Corning Tower – Room 2512 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12237 (518) 473-4282 STATE OF NEW YORK : DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER

STATEMENT

OF

OF

SARAH M. DEWITT, R.P.A. CO-12-01-0019-A CHARGES

SARAH M. DEWITT, R.P.A., Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on August 8, 2006, by the issuance of license number 011398 by the New York State Education Department.

# FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. On or about April 12, 2010, in Rush Town Court of the State of New York, Respondent was found guilty, based on a plea of guilty, of Driving While Intoxicated, in violation of New York Vehicle And Traffic Law, §1192.3, a class U misdemeanor, and was sentenced to a \$500.00 fine and \$400.00 surcharge. Respondent also had to undergo an alcohol evaluation and toxicology screen, and take a drinking and driving course.

### SPECIFICATION

Respondent violated New York Education Law §6530(9)(a)(i) by being convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under New York State law, in that Petitioner charges:

1. The facts in paragraph A.

DATED: Current 28, 2012

Albany, New York

REDACTED

PETER D. VAN BUREN
Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct