

January 28, 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Robert F. Graves, M.D.
645 Osage Street
Sidney, NE 69162

Re: License No. 160922

Dear Dr. Graves:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Order No. 14-21. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect February 4, 2014.

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

Enclosure

cc: Michael Kelton, Esq.
Abrams Fensterman, LLP
630 Third Avenue, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10017

**IN THE MATTER
OF
ROBERT F. GRAVES, M.D.**

**CONSENT
ORDER**

Upon the application of (Respondent) ROBERT F. GRAVES, M.D. in the attached Consent Agreement and Order, which 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 transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney,

whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATE: 1/27/2014

REDACTED

ARTHUR S. HENGERER, M.D.

Chair

State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER
OF
ROBERT F. GRAVES, M.D.

CONSENT
AGREEMENT

ROBERT F. GRAVES, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about December 10, 1984 I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 160922 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 645 Osage Street, Sidney, NE 69162, and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) has charged me with one or more specifications of professional misconduct, as set forth in a Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", attached to and part of this Consent Agreement.

I do not contest the Specifications, which are based upon the disciplinary action by the State of Nebraska, and, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, agree to the following penalty:

- That Respondent shall never re-register or activate his license to practice medicine as a physician in New York State.
- That Respondent, who does not currently practice medicine in the State of New York, nor in a jurisdiction where such practice is based solely on Respondent's New York license, shall be precluded from practicing medicine in New York State. Respondent shall also be precluded from practicing in any setting where his practice is based solely on his New York license, and shall be precluded from reliance upon his license to practice medicine in New York to exempt him from the license, certification or other requirements set forth in statute or regulation for the practice of any other profession licensed, regulated, or certified by the Board of Regents, Department of Education, Department of Health or the Department of State.

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

That Respondent shall cooperate fully with the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) in its administration and enforcement of this 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 Order.

Respondent shall meet with a person designated by the Director of 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 this Consent Order shall constitute misconduct as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29).

I agree that, if I am charged with professional misconduct in future, this Consent Agreement and 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 N.Y. Pub. 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 this 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 transmission to me or my attorney, whichever is first. The Consent Order, this 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's website. OPMC shall report this action to the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Federation of State Medical Boards, and any other entities that the Director of OPMC shall deem appropriate.

I stipulate that the proposed sanction and Consent Order are authorized by N.Y. Pub. 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, whether administratively 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 of OPMC and the Chair of the Board each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed 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.

DATE 1-16-2014

REDACTED

ROBERT F. GRAVES, M.D.
RESPONDENT

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

DATE: 1/17/2014

REDACTED

MICHAEL KELTON, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

DATE: JAN. 21, 2014

REDACTED

NATHANIAL WHITE
Assistant Attorney
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 1/24/14

REDACTED

KEITH W. SERVIS
Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT A

IN THE MATTER

OF

ROBERT F. GRAVES, M.D.

STATEMENT

OF

CHARGES

ROBERT F. GRAVES, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about December 10, 1984, by the issuance of license number 160922 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. On or about November 6, 2012, Respondent entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Attorney General's Office in the State of Nebraska, whereby Respondent admitted to the allegations set out in the Attorney General's Petition for Disciplinary Action. The Petition for Disciplinary Action charged Respondent with, in relevant part, misconduct for illness, deterioration or disability that impairs the ability to practice the profession. The Settlement Agreement proposed sanctions of a censure, a \$5,000.00 civil penalty and Respondent's mandatory enrollment and successful completion of a pre-approved Disruptive Physician course. On or about December 27, 2012, the Chief Medical Officer of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services adopted and ordered the terms of the November 6, 2012 Settlement Agreement thereby making it a final disciplinary order.

B. The conduct resulting in the Nebraska disciplinary action against Respondent would constitute misconduct under the laws of New York State, pursuant to the following section of New York State law:

1. New York Education Law Section 6530(7) (practicing the profession while impaired by mental disability).

FIRST SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(9)(b) by having been found guilty of improper professional practice or professional misconduct by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state where the conduct upon which the finding was based would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. The facts of paragraphs A and B.

SECOND SPECIFICATION

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(9)(d) by having his or her license to practice medicine revoked, suspended or having other disciplinary action taken, or having his or her application for a license refused, revoked or suspended or having voluntarily or otherwise surrendered his or her license after a disciplinary action was instituted by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, where the conduct resulting in the revocation, suspension or other disciplinary action involving the license or refusal, revocation or suspension of an application for a license or the surrender of the license would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state as alleged in the facts of the following:

2. The facts of paragraphs A and B.

DATE: October 25, 2013
Albany, New York

REDACTED

MICHAEL A. FISER
Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "B"

Requirements for Closing a Medical Practice Following a Revocation, Surrender, Limitation or Suspension of a Medical License

1. Licensee shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in the practice of medicine in New York State, or under Licensee's New York license, in accordance with the terms of the Order. In addition, Licensee shall refrain from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application and from representing that Licensee is eligible to practice medicine.
2. Within 5 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall deliver Licensee's original license to practice medicine in New York State and current biennial registration to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) at Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204-2719.
3. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall notify all patients of the cessation or limitation of Licensee's medical practice, and shall refer all patients to another licensed practicing physician for continued care, as appropriate. Licensee shall notify, in writing, each health care plan with which the Licensee contracts or is employed, and each hospital where Licensee has privileges, that Licensee has ceased medical practice. Within 45 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall provide OPMC with written documentation that all patients and hospitals have been notified of the cessation of Licensee's medical practice.
4. Licensee shall make arrangements for the transfer and maintenance of all patient medical records. Within 30 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall notify OPMC of these arrangements, including the name, address, and telephone number of an appropriate and acceptable contact person who shall have access to these records. Original records shall be retained for at least 6 years after the last date of service rendered to a patient or, in the case of a minor, for at least 6 years after the last date of service or 3 years after the patient reaches the age of majority, whichever time period is longer. Records shall be maintained in a safe and secure place that is reasonably accessible to former patients. The arrangements shall include provisions to ensure that the information in the record is kept confidential and is available only to authorized persons. When a patient or a patient's representative requests a copy of the patient's medical record, or requests that the original medical record be sent to another health care provider, a copy of the record shall be promptly provided or forwarded at a reasonable cost to the patient (not to exceed 75 cents per page.) Radiographic, sonographic and similar materials shall be provided at cost. A qualified person shall not be denied access to patient information solely because of an inability to pay.
5. In the event that Licensee holds a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) certificate for New York State, Licensee shall, within 15 days of the Order's

effective date, advise the DEA, in writing, of the licensure action and shall surrender Licensee's DEA controlled substance privileges for New York State to the DEA. Licensee shall promptly surrender any unused DEA #222 U.S. Official Order Forms Schedules 1 and 2 for New York State to the DEA. All submissions to the DEA shall be addressed to Diversion Program Manager, New York Field Division, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, 99 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

6. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall return any unused New York State official prescription forms to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement of the New York State Department of Health. If no other licensee is providing services at Licensee's practice location, Licensee shall properly dispose of all medications.
7. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall remove from the public domain any representation that Licensee is eligible to practice medicine, including all related signs, advertisements, professional listings (whether in telephone directories, internet or otherwise), professional stationery or billings. Licensee shall not share, occupy, or use office space in which another licensee provides health care services.
8. Licensee shall not charge, receive or share any fee or distribution of dividends for professional services rendered by Licensee or others while Licensee is barred from engaging in the practice of medicine. Licensee may be compensated for the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered, and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf, prior to the Order's effective date.
9. If Licensee is a shareholder in any professional service corporation organized to engage in the practice of medicine, Licensee shall divest all financial interest in the professional services corporation, in accordance with New York Business Corporation Law. Such divestiture shall occur within 90 days. If Licensee is the sole shareholder in a professional services corporation, the corporation must be dissolved or sold within 90 days of the Order's effective date.
10. Failure to comply with the above directives may result in a civil penalty or criminal penalties as may be authorized by governing law. Under N.Y. Educ. Law § 6512, it is a Class E Felony, punishable by imprisonment for up to 4 years, to practice the profession of medicine when a professional license has been suspended, revoked or annulled. Such punishment is in addition to the penalties for professional misconduct set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a, which include fines of up to \$10,000 for each specification of charges of which the Licensee is found guilty, and may include revocation of a suspended license.