

ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D. Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N. Executive Deputy Commissioner

December 5, 2017

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Walton James Montegut, M.D.

waiton damoo workogat, w.b.

RE: License No. 184645

Dear Dr. Montegut:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Order No. 17-337. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect December 12, 2017.

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, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York, 12204, telephone # 518-402-0846.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Catalano, M.D. Executive Secretary Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc: Amy T. Kulb, Esq. Jacobson, Goldberg & Kulb, LLP. 585 Stewart Avenue, Suite 720 Garden City, New York 11530

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

BPMC No. 17-337

IN THE MATTER OF WALTON JAMES MONTEGUT, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

Upon the application of (Respondent) WALTON JAMES MONTEGUT, 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: <u>12/04/2</u>017

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

WALTON JAMES MONTEGUT, M.D.

CONSENT AGREEMENT

WALTON JAMES MONTEGUT, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about January 4, 1991, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 184645 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 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 agree not to contest the allegations, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Pursuant to New York Pub. Health Law § 230-a(2), my license to practice medicine in New York State shall be suspended for twenty-four (24) months, with the entire twenty-four (24) months stayed.

Pursuant to New York Pub. Health Law § 230-a(9), I shall be placed on probation for thirty-six (36) months, subject to the terms set forth in attached Exhibit "B."

Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 230-a(7) and (9), I shall be subject to a fine in the amount of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), to be paid in full within 30 days of the effective date of this Order. Payments must be submitted to:

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

In making such payment, Respondent shall indicate the order number of this Order both on the payment check submitted and on the cover letter accompanying payment. Additionally, Respondent shall simultaneously mail a photocopy of the check and cover letter to:

Physician Monitoring Program
Office of Professional Medical Conduct
Riverview Center
150 Broadway, Suite 355
Albany, New York 12204-2719.

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

COMPLIANCE WITH OUT-OF-STATE BOARD ORDER

- 1) Respondent shall comply fully with the Decision of the Medical Board of California, dated January 5, 2017 and effective on February 3, 2017, and any extension or modification thereof, including the associated Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, signed by Respondent on or about November 3, 2016, and Accusation in Case No. 04-2010-207017, filed on or about July 14, 2015.
- 2) Respondent shall provide a written authorization for the Medical Board of California to provide the Director of OPMC with any/all information or documentation as requested by OPMC to enable OPMC to determine whether Respondent is in compliance with the California Decision and Order.

Respondent, by making this application, asserts that Respondent does not currently practice medicine in New York State or in any setting or jurisdiction where that practice is predicated upon Respondent's New York State medical license ("New York Practice"). As a Condition of this Order, should Respondent decide to resume practicing medicine in New York, Respondent shall, before beginning such practice, provide 90 days advance written notice to the Director of OPMC.

Respondent may not begin practicing medicine in New York until after Respondent receives the Director's written acknowledgment that this Condition has been satisfied, and shall be subject to any further Conditions the Director may impose

upon Respondent's New York Practice based on matters underlying this Consent Agreement and/or any circumstances or information known to the Director at the time of Respondent's proposed return to New York Practice. Respondent, by making this Application, stipulates that the Director shall be authorized in his or her sole discretion to impose whatever further Conditions the Director deems appropriate upon Respondent's return to practice in New York, and Respondent further stipulates that Respondent's failure to comply with these Conditions shall constitute misconduct as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29).

That Respondent shall comply with each and every penalty imposed by this Order pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a.

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Educ 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 N.Y. Educ, Law § 6502(4) to avoid registration and payment of fees. This condition shall take effect 120 days after the Consent Order's effective date and will continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State; and

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2995-a(4) and 10 NYCRR 1000.5, including but not limited to the requirements that a licensee shall: report to the department all information required by the Department to develop a public physician profile for the licensee; continue to notify the department of any change in profile information within 30 days of any change (or in the case of optional information, within 365 days of such change); and, in addition to such periodic reports and notification of any changes, update his or her profile information within six months prior to the expiration date of the licensee's registration period. Licensee shall submit changes to his or her physician profile information either electronically using the department's secure web site or on forms prescribed by the department, and licensee shall attest to the truthfulness, completeness and correctness of any changes licensee submits to the department. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the Order's effective date and shall continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State. Respondent's failure to comply with this condition, if proven and found at a hearing pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230, shall constitute professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(21) and N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29). Potential penalties for failure to comply with this condition may include all penalties for professional misconduct set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a, including but not limited to: revocation or suspension of license, Censure and Reprimand,

probation, public service and/or fines of up to \$10,000 per specification of misconduct found; and

That Respondent shall provide the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204-2719, with the following information, in writing, and ensure that this information is kept current: a full description of Respondent's employment and practice; all professional and residential addresses and telephone numbers within and outside New York State; and all investigations, arrests, charges, convictions or disciplinary actions by any local, state or federal agency, institution or facility. Respondent shall notify OPMC, in writing, within 30 days of any additions to or changes in the required information. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the Order's effective date and shall continue at all times until Respondent receives written notification from the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, Physician Monitoring Program, that OPMC has determined that Respondent has fully complied with and satisfied the requirements of the Order, regardless of tolling; and

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 the 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 malling 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 or other confidential information, 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 10/29/17

WALTON JAMES MONTEGOT, M.D. RESPONDENT The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Consent Agreement and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: 10 31

AMY T. KULB, ESQ. Altomey for Respondent

DAVID W. QUIST, ESQ)
Associate Attorney

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

KEITH W. SERVIS Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "A"

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

WALTON JAMES MONTEGUT, M.D.

OF CHARGES

WALTON JAMES MONTEGUT, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about January 4, 1991, by the Issuance of license number 184645 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. On or about January 5, 2017, the Medical Board of California ("Board") issued a Decision, effective February 3, 2017, based on a Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, signed by Respondent on or about November 3, 2016 and dated on or about November 15, 2016. The case was initiated by an Accusation (case no. 04-2010-207017), filed on or about July 14, 2015.
- B. Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, which the Decision incorporated, Respondent did not contest charges that he had, among other things, committed gross negligence with regard to his prescribing of controlled substances in the care of four patients and that he failed to maintain adequate records. The Board imposed a stayed revocation, required Respondent to complete a course of education, including courses in prescribing, medical record keeping and ethics, placed

Respondent on monitored probation for a period of three years and imposed other standard conditions.

- C. The conduct resulting in the Board's Decision and Order against Respondent would constitute misconduct under the laws of New York State pursuant to New York Education Law Section 6530(4) (gross negligence), and/or (32) (failure to maintain a record).
- D. On or about February 27, 2017, in the Superior Court of California, County of Orange, Respondent was convicted, pursuant to a guilty plea, to one misdemeanor count of reckless driving. Respondent was sentenced to 3 years' informal probation, subject to terms, payment of fines and/or fees, completion of a first offender alcohol program and victim impact counselling, and required to report to the Alcohol liaison.
- E. The conviction for reckless driving was for a crime which, had it been committed in New York, would have been a crime pursuant to § 1212 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law (reckless driving).

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

FIRST SPECIFICATION
HAVING HAD DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN

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 (namely N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(4) and/or (32)) as alleged in the facts of the following:

The facts in Paragraphs A, B and C.

SECOND SPECIFICATION
CRIMINAL CONVICTION (Other Jurisdiction)

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(9)(a)(iii) by having been convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under the law of another jurisdiction and which, if committed within this state, would have constituted a crime under New York state law (namely N.Y. Vehicle and Traffic Law § 1212) as alleged in the facts of the following:

2. The facts in Paragraph D and E.

November 29, 2017-DATE: October 2017

Albany, New York

MICHAEL A. HISER, ESQ.
Deputy Counsel

Buston of Brafassianal Madical C

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "B"

Terms of Probation

- 1) Respondent's conduct shall conform to moral and professional standards of conduct and governing law. Any act of professional misconduct by Respondent as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law §§ 6530 or 6531 shall constitute a violation of probation and may subject Respondent to an action pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230(19).
- 2) Respondent shall comply with all requirements of Article 33 of the Public Health Law and of New York State Department of Health regulations, and shall meet as requested with OPMC to provide proof of compliance.
- Respondent shall maintain, in a format that is acceptable to OPMC, a log of all ordering, prescribing, administering and/or dispensing of all controlled substances.
 - a) This log shall include the following information: the drug, the dose, the patient, the diagnosis, the date that the drug was prescribed, and such other information related to ordering, prescribing, administering and/or dispensing as may be requested by OPMC.
 - b) This log shall be subject to review by Respondent's Practice Monitor and Respondent shall make this log, and the records of any patient referenced in this log, immediately available to OPMC, upon demand.
 - c) Respondent shall cause the Practice Monitor to examine this log, and include, as part of the Practice Monitor's review of the medical records of patients treated by Respondent, an examination of at least 10 medical records per month obtained through examination of the log entries.
- 4) Respondent shall cooperate fully with, and respond in a timely manner to, OPMC requests to provide written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with the terms of this Consent Order. Upon the Director of OPMC's request, Respondent shall meet in person with the Director's designee.
- Respondent's failure to pay any monetary penalty by the prescribed date shall subject Respondent to all provisions of law relating to debt collection by New York State, including but not limited to: the imposition of interest, late payment charges and collection fees; referral to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance for collection; and non-renewal of permits or licenses [Tax Law § 171(27); State Finance Law § 18; CPLR § 5001; Executive Law § 32].
- The probation period shall toll when Respondent is not engaged in active medical practice in New York State for a period of 30 consecutive days or more.

 Respondent shall notify the Director of OPMC, in writing, if Respondent is not currently engaged in, or intends to leave, active medical practice in New York State for a consecutive 30 day period. Respondent shall then notify the Director again at

least 14 days before returning to active practice. Upon Respondent's return to active practice in New York State, the probation period shall resume and Respondent shall fulfill any unfulfilled probation terms and such additional requirements as the Director may impose as reasonably relate to the matters set forth in Exhibit "A" or as are necessary to protect the public health.

- 7) The Director of OPMC may review Respondent's professional performance. This review may include but shall not be limited to: a review of office records, patient records, hospital charts, and/or electronic records; and interviews with or periodic visits with Respondent and staff at practice locations or OPMC offices.
- Respondent shall adhere to federal and state guidelines and professional standards of care with respect to infection control practices. Respondent shall ensure education, training and oversight of all office personnel involved in medical care, with respect to these practices.
- 9) Respondent shall maintain complete and legible medical records that accurately reflect the evaluation and treatment of patients and contain all information required by State rules and regulations concerning controlled substances.
- 10) Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a continuing education program as directed by the Office of Professional Medical Conduct. This continuing education program is subject to the Director of OPMC's prior written approval.
- 11) Within thirty days of the Consent Order's effective date, Respondent shall practice medicine only when monitored by a licensed physician, board certified in an appropriate specialty, ("practice monitor") proposed by Respondent and subject to the written approval of the Director of OPMC. Any medical practice in violation of this term shall constitute the unauthorized practice of medicine.
 - a) Respondent shall make available to the monitor any and all records or access to the practice requested by the monitor, including on-site observation. The practice monitor shall visit Respondent's medical practice at each and every location, on a random unannounced basis at least monthly and shall examine a selection (no fewer than 20) of records maintained by Respondent, including patient records, prescribing information and office records. The review will determine whether the Respondent's medical practice is conducted in accordance with the generally accepted standards of professional medical care. Any perceived deviation of accepted standards of medical care or refusal to cooperate with the monitor shall be reported within 24 hours to OPMC.

- b) Respondent shall be solely responsible for all expenses associated with monitoring, including fees, if any, to the monitoring physician.
- Respondent shall cause the practice monitor to report quarterly, in writing, to the Director of OPMC.
- d) Respondent shall maintain medical malpractice insurance coverage with limits no less than \$2 million per occurrence and \$6 million per policy year, in accordance with Section 230(18)(b) of the Public Health Law. Proof of coverage shall be submitted to the Director of OPMC prior to Respondent's practice after the effective date of this Order.
- Respondent shall comply with this Consent Order and all its terms, and shall bear all associated compliance costs. Upon receiving evidence of noncompliance with, or a violation of, these terms, the Director of OPMC and/or the Board may initiate a violation of probation proceeding, and/or any other such proceeding authorized by law, against Respondent.