## **PUBLIC**



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

Sue Kelly Executive Deputy Commissioner

April 25, 2013

## CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dhanraj J. Soogree, M.D.

ADDRESS REDACTED

Re: License No. 210443

Dear Dr. Soogree:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Modification Order No. 13-107. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect May 2, 2013.

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,

#### SIGNATURE REDACTED

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

### Enclosure

cc: Thomas F. Currie, Esq.

Martin, Ganotis, Brown, Mould & Currie, P.C.

5790 Widewaters Parkway

Dewitt, NY 13214

DRK STATE DEPARTMENT OF F BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CON	
IN THE MATTER	MODIFICATION
OF	ORDER
DHANRAJ SOOGREE, M.D.	BPMC #: 13-107

Upon the proposed Application for a Modification Order of, DHANRAJ SOOGREE, M.D. (Respondent), in the attached Consent Agreement, 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 or email transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney, whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATE: 04/23/13

SIGNATURE REDACTED

Carmela Torrelli Vice Chair State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

# OF DHANRAJ SOOGREE, M.D.

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

DHANRAJ SOOGREE, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about May 21, 1998, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 210443 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is ADDRESS REDACTED and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I am currently subject to BPMC Order # BPMC 13-75 (Attachment I) (henceforth "Original Order"), which was issued upon an Application For Consent Order signed by me on March 3, 2013, (henceforth Original Application"), adopted by the Original Order. I hereby apply to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct for an Order (henceforth "Modification Order"), modifying the Original Order, as follows:

The sanction imposed in the Original Order was:

"Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a(3), my license to practice medicine in New York State shall be limited to preclude me from practicing in

an emergency department setting, and to permit me to work only in a family practice setting.

Pursuant to New York Pub. Health Law § 230-a(2), my license to practice medicine in New York State shall be actually suspended until such time as I complete the Clinical Competency Assessment ("CCA") described in the attached Exhibit "B", the written report of such assessment has been received by the Director of OPMC, and I have complied with all other requirements related to the CCA.

Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a(9), after I complete the Clinical Competency Assessment described in the attached Exhibit "B" and the written report of such assessment has been received by the Director of OPMC, I shall be placed on probation for a period of thirty six months, subject to the terms set forth in attached Exhibit "B." I shall have the right to request termination of probation after 24 months, which may be granted or denied in the full and absolute discretion of the Director."

The sanction imposed shall be modified to read as follows:

My license to practice medicine shall be limited, pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health
Law § 230-a, to preclude patient contact and any practice of medicine,
clinical or otherwise. I shall be precluded from diagnosing, treating,
operating, or prescribing for any human disease, pain, injury, deformity, or

physical condition. I shall be precluded from further reliance upon my license to practice medicine to exempt me from the licensure, 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.

and

The condition with respect to Respondent's registration status set forth on page 3 of the Original Order shall be modified to read as follows:

That Respondent shall, within 30 days of the issuance of the Modification
Order, notify the New York State Education Department, Division of
Professional Licensing Services, that Respondent's license status is
"inactive," and shall provide proof of such notification to the Director of
OPMC within 30 days thereafter.

and

The following additional condition shall apply:

That Respondent shall return any and all official New York State
 prescriptions to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, and, in the event that
 Respondent holds a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Certificate for
 New York State, Respondent shall surrender Respondent's Certificate to
 DEA within 15 days of the Order's effective date. All submissions to DEA
 shall be addressed to Diversion Program Manager, New York Field Division,

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, 99 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10011. Further, within 30 days of returning these prescriptions and surrendering the Certificate, Respondent shall provide documentary proof of these transaction(s) to the Director of OPMC.

Attached Exhibit "B" shall substitute completely for the Exhibit "B" attached to the Original Order. Respondent shall comply with all conditions set forth in attached Exhibit "B" ("Requirements for Closing a Medical Practice").

All remaining Terms and Conditions will continue as written in the Original Order.

I make this Application of my own free will and accord and not under duress, compulsion or restraint, and seek the anticipated benefit of the requested Modification. In consideration of the value to me of the acceptance by the Board of this Application, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Original Order or the Modification Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, and ask that the Board grant this Application.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct and the Chair of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed agreement and 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 4/8/13

SIGNATURE REDACTED

DHANRAJ SOOGREE, M.D. // RESPONDENT

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

DATE: 4/11/13

SIGNATURE REDACTED

THOMAS F. CURRIE, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

DATE: 4/15/13

SIGNATURE REDACTED

MICHAEL A. HISER, ESQ. Associate Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 4/11/13

SIGNATURE REDACTED

KEATH W. SERVIS

Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

#### EXHIBIT "B"

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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 persons 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 fifteen (15) days of the Order's effective date, advise the DEA, in writing, of the licensure action and shall surrender his/her 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.
- 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 of 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.