

# Department of Health

Public

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

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

January 21, 2015

#### CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

James W. Goodnight, M.D.



Re: License No. 247600

Dear Dr. Goodnight:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Order No. 15-010. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect January 28, 2015.

If the penalty imposed by this Order is a surrender, revocation or <u>suspension</u>, you are required to deliver your license and registration within five (5) days of receipt of this Order to: c/o Physician Monitoring Unit, NYS DOH - OPMC, Riverview Center, Suite 355, 150 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204-2719.

If your license is framed, please remove it from the frame and <u>only send the parchment paper</u> on which your name is printed. Our office is unable to store framed licenses.

If the document(s) are lost, misplaced or destroyed, you are required to submit to this office an affidavit to that effect. Please complete and sign the affidavit before a notary public and return it to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct.

Please direct any questions to: NYS DOH - OPMC, Riverview Center, Suite 355, 150 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204-2719, telephone # (518)402-0855.

Sincerely,

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

cc: William J. Volonte, Esq. Oxfeld Cohen, P.C. 60 Park Place, Suite 600 Newark, NJ 07102

Enclosure

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HE STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL COND		
IN THE MATTER	CONSENT	
OF	ORDER	
JAMES W. GOODNIGHT , M.D.		
Upon the application of <b>JAMES W. GOODNIGHT</b> Agreement, which is made a part of this Consent Order, it is ORDERED, that the Consent Agreement, and its		
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: 1/20/2015	Carmela Torrelli Vice 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
JAMES W. GOODNIGHT, M.D. CO-13-12-7591-A	
JAMES W. GOODNIGHT, M.D., (Respondent), representing statements are true, deposes and says:	g that all of the following
That on or about February 11, 2008, I was authorized to pra	ctice medicine in the State
New York, and issued license number 247600 by the New York Sta	
My current address is	, and I will advise the
Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any chang	e of my address within thirty
(30) days, thereof.	
I understand that the New York State Board for Professional has charged me with one or more Specifications of professional mis	(i) (ii)
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 charges against me and agree to the fol	lowing penalty:
My license shall be suspended for an indefinite period of at	least six (6) months but at

My license shall be suspended for an indefinite period of at least six (6) months but at least until the December 13, 2013, suspension of my license to practice medicine in the State of New Jersey has been lifted and I have complied with all terms of the New

Jersey Consent Order (hereinafter "New Jersey Order"), whichever period is later.

Respondent shall provide a written authorization for the New Jersey Board to provide the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) with any/all information or documentation as requested by OPMC to enable OPMC to determine whether Respondent is in compliance with the New Jersey Order.

Respondent shall submit semi-annually a signed Compliance Declaration to the Director of OPMC, which truthfully attests whether Respondent has been in compliance with the New Jersey Order during the declaration period specified.

I shall be subject to the condition that I comply with attached Exhibit "C" ("Requirements for Closing a Medical Practice Following Medical License Revocation, Surrender or Suspension of a Medical License"). Upon compliance with all the conditions of this Consent Order, I may petition the Board for a Modification Order staying the indefinite suspension of my license.

#### I understand and agree:

That I shall be placed on a period of probation for two (2) years subject to terms and conditions as further set forth in attached exhibit "D."

That the Board will exercise its reasonable discretion upon my petition for a Modification Order, through a Committee on Professional Conduct, after a proceeding in which I have met a burden of proof and persuasion, as further set forth in attached Exhibit "B."

That the Committee's exercise of discretion shall not be reviewable by the Administrative Review Board.

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

That Respondent shall return all official New York State prescriptions to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, and shall surrender Respondent's Controlled Substance Registration Certificate to the United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, within 30 days of the Consent Order's effective date. Further, within 30 days of returning these prescriptions and surrendering this Registration, Respondent shall provide the Director of OPMC ("Director") with written evidence, satisfactory to the Director, that Respondent has complied with this condition.

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 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 investigation 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 OPMC with 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 New York State Education Law § 6530(29).

I agree that, if I am charged with professional misconduct in the future, this Consent Agreement and the Consent Order, and/or related Modification Orders, 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 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 this Consent Order shall take effect upon 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. This 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 N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 230 and 230-a, and that the Board for Professional Medical Conduct and the Office of Professional Medical Conduct 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, 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.

DATE: 1 10 2015

JAMES W. GOODNIGHT, M.D.
Respondent

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

DATE: 1/12/2015

WILLIAM VOLONTE, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

DATE: January 14, 2015

PAÚL TSUI Associate Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 1/15/15

KEATH W. SERVIS
Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct



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

IN THE MATTER

STATEMENT

OF

OF

JAMES W. GOODNIGHT, M.D. CO-13-12-7591-A

CHARGES

JAMES W. GOODNIGHT, M.D., Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on February 11, 2008, by the issuance of license number 247600 by the New York State Education Department.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. On or about December 13, 2013, the State of New Jersey, Department of Law & Public Safety, Division of Consumer Affairs, State Board of Medical Examiners, (hereinafter "New Jersey Board"), by a Consent Order (hereinafter "New Jersey Order"), inter alia, Suspended the license of Respondent to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey for a period of three (3) years with the first six (6) months of the suspension to be served as a period of active suspension and the remainder to be stayed and served as a period of probation, assessed a civil penalty of \$30,000.00, and costs totaling \$56,675.00 based on Respondent engaging in unauthorized practice on the part of an unlicensed individual, failing to safeguard a prescription pad, prescribing to himself and family members without medical records, failing to obtain informed consent of patient before treatment, failing to maintain sufficient and complete medical records, and prescribing medications including steroids to patients without performing full examinations or providing adequate individualized care,
- B. The conduct resulting in the New Jersey Board disciplinary action against Respondent would constitute misconduct under the laws of New York State, pursuant to the following sections of New York state law:
- New York Education Law §6530(2) (practicing the profession fraudulently or beyond its authorized scope).
- New York Education Law §6530(3) (practicing the profession with negligence on more than one occasion).

- New York Education Law §6530(11) (permitting, aiding or abetting an unlicensed person to perform activities requiring a license).
- New York Education Law §6530(32) (failing to maintain a record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation and treatment of the patient).

## SPECIFICATIONS FIRST SPECIFICATION

Respondent violated New York Education Law §6530(9)(d) by having his license to practice medicine suspended or having other disciplinary action taken by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, where the conduct resulting in the suspension or other disciplinary action involving the license would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state, in that Petitioner charges:

 The facts in Paragraphs A and B and B1, A and B and B2, A and B and B3, and/or A and B and B4.

DATED: Oct. 27, 2014

Albany, New York

MICHAEL A. HISER

Deputy Counsel

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

#### **EXHIBIT "B"**

- The suspension of Respondent's license shall be terminated only after Respondent makes a showing to the satisfaction of a Committee on Professional Conduct (Committee) of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) that Respondent is both fit and clinically competent to practice as a physician.
- 2. After Respondent completes the minimum period of suspension pursuant to the terms of this Consent Order, and upon Respondent's request, a Committee shall be convened to hear and evaluate Respondent's showing, as set forth in paragraph 1 above. The Board will make reasonable attempts to convene a Committee within 90 days of Respondent's request; however, Respondent's request shall not be perfected until the Director of OPMC receives all the required documentation, and complies with all the Conditions, set forth in paragraph 3 below. The Board shall determine the procedural nature of the proceeding through the exercise of the Director of OPMC's reasonable discretion upon consultation with Counsel, Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct (Counsel). Proceedings before a Committee shall not be in the nature of a hearing pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230, but shall instead be informal and intended only to address any facts, evidence, information, circumstances, or issues relating to the advisability of terminating Respondent's license suspension. The Committee shall be given access to evidence including, but not limited to:
  - Any evidence pertaining to Respondent's compliance with the condition imposed.
  - Any evidence that the Director or Counsel deems appropriate.
- Upon request of the Director of OPMC, Respondent shall attend, participate in and cooperate with an interview with designated personnel from the OPMC.
- At least 14 days before the scheduled date of the proceeding referred to in paragraph 2, Respondent shall provide OPMC with the following:
  - a. Evidence that Respondent has maintained adequate knowledge and competence to practice medicine; this evidence shall include documentation of continuing medical education and, at the Director of OPMC's request, a report of an independent evaluation of Respondent's medical knowledge and competence.
- 5. If the Chair of the Committee issues an Order finding that Respondent has regained fitness and competence to practice medicine, and therefore terminates the suspension of Respondent's license, the Order shall further impose a period of probation, pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a, during which Respondent's practice as a physician shall be subject to conditions imposed for a period of no less than two (2) years. The minimum conditions shall include the following:

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.

 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 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.

- 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.
- 6. The terms set forth in paragraph 5 are the minimum probation terms related to fitness to practice to be imposed on Respondent upon the termination of Respondent's license suspension, and other terms may be added by the Committee. All compliance costs shall be Respondent's responsibility. Respondent's failure to comply with any condition imposed at the time of suspension termination may result in disciplinary action against Respondent with charges of professional misconduct as defined by the New York State Education Law, including but not limited to N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29).
- If a Committee denies a petition by Respondent for license suspension termination, Respondent shall be barred from requesting that a Committee be convened to hear a petition for license suspension termination for 9 months from the date of the denial.
- In addition to the terms set out in paragraph 5, and any other terms added by the Committee, upon the termination of Respondent's license suspension, Respondent shall also be subject to the following standard terms of probation:
  - Respondent's conduct shall conform to moral and professional standards of conduct and governing law.
  - b. Respondent shall provide the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), Riverview Center, Suite 355, 150 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204, 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.
  - c. Any civil penalty not paid by Respondent by the prescribed date shall subject Respondent to all legal provisions pertaining to debt collection, including the imposition of interest, late payment charges and collection fees, referral of the debt to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance for collection,

- and the non-renewal of permits or licenses. [Tax Law § 171(27); State Finance Law § 18; CPLR § 5001; Executive Law § 32].
- d. 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.
- e. Respondent's professional performance may be reviewed by the Director of OPMC. This review may include, but shall not be limited to a review of office records, patient records, hospital charts, and/or electronic records, as well as interviews and/or periodic visits with Respondent and staff at practice locations or OPMC offices.
- f. 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.
- g. Respondent shall maintain legible and complete medical records which accurately reflect the evaluation and treatment of patients. The medical records shall contain all information required by state rules and regulations regarding controlled substances.
- h. Respondent shall comply with this Consent Order and all its terms, conditions, restrictions, limitations and penalties and shall be responsible for all associated compliance costs. Upon receiving evidence of non-compliance with the Consent Order, or any violation of its terms, the Director of OPMC and/or the Board may initiate a violation of probation proceeding and/or any other proceeding against Respondent authorized by law.

#### **EXHIBIT "C"**

### 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 Respondent shall provide the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), 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,

#### **EXHIBIT "C"**

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.

- 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.
- 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 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.

#### EXHIBIT "D"

#### Terms of Probation

- 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 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.
- 5) 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's prescribing practices may be reviewed upon demand by OPMC.
- 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.

- 7) 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.
- 8) Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete continuing education programs subject to the Director of OPMC's prior written approval and shall be successfully completed within the first 90 days of the probation period.
- 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.