

**These charges are only allegations which  
may be contested by the licensee in an  
Administrative hearing.**

IN THE MATTER  
  
OF  
  
JOANNE RIZZI-RICHMAN, M.D.

STATEMENT  
  
OF  
  
CHARGES

JOANNE RIZZI-RICHMAN, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about June 24, 1997, by the issuance of license number 207066 by the New York State Education Department.

**FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- A. On or about June 10, 2013, the Arizona Medical Board ("Board"), by Order for Letter of Reprimand and Probation and Consent to the Same ("Order"), determined that Respondent had used Fioricet to excess. The Board found that Respondent had engaged in unprofessional conduct by "habitual intemperance in the use of alcohol or habitual substance abuse," and by prescribing a controlled substance or prescription-only drug for other than accepted therapeutic purposes.
- B. Pursuant to the terms of the Order, Respondent was issued a reprimand and placed on probation subject to conditions, among which included participation in the Board's Physician Health Program monitoring service and associated testing and monitoring under that program, at Respondent's expense, agreement to enter into an

interim order of treatment in the event drugs or alcohol are used, Respondent's notification of all employers and facilities where Respondent has privileges, and agreement to participate in a similar program in another state if Respondent were to reside in or practice as a physician in a state other than Arizona.

C. Fioricet is a barbiturate.

D. 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 Sec. 6530(3) (negligence on more than one occasion) and/or Education Law Sec. 6530(8) (being dependent on or a habitual user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drugs having similar effects).

#### SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

##### 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 (3) and/or 6530 (8)) as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. The facts in Paragraphs A through D.

DATE: April 4, 2014  
Albany, New York

~~REDACTED~~  
MICHAEL A. HISER  
Deputy Counsel  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct