

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

ERIC ARNOLD BUFFONG, M.D.
CO-04-10-5154-A

COMMISSIONER'S
SUMMARY
ORDER

TO: ERIC ARNOLD BUFFONG, M.D.
1554 Glencove Drive
Columbus, GA 21904

PUBLIC

The undersigned, Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr. P.H., Commissioner of Health, pursuant to N.Y. Public Health Law §230, upon the recommendation of a committee on Professional Medical Conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, has determined that the duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another jurisdiction, the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners, State of Georgia (hereinafter "Georgia Board") has made a finding substantially equivalent to a finding that the practice of medicine by **ERIC ARNOLD BUFFONG, M.D.**, Respondent, licensed to practice medicine in New York state on October 5, 1979, by license number 139872, in that jurisdiction, constitutes an imminent danger to the health, safety, and welfare of its people, as is more fully set forth in documents of the Georgia Board, attached hereto, as Appendix "A," and made a part hereof.

It is, therefore:

ORDERED, pursuant to N.Y. Public Health Law Section 230(12)(b), that effective immediately, **ERIC ARNOLD BUFFONG, M.D.**, Respondent, shall not practice medicine in the state of New York or in any other jurisdiction where that practice is dependent on a valid New York state license to practice medicine.

Any practice of medicine in the state of New York or in any other jurisdiction where that practice is dependent on a valid New York state license to practice medicine in violation of this Commissioner's Summary Order shall constitute Professional Misconduct within the meaning of N.Y. Educ. Law §6530 and may constitute unauthorized medical practice, a felony defined by N.Y. Educ. Law §6512.


This Order shall remain in effect until the final conclusion of a hearing that shall commence within thirty (30) days after the final conclusion of the disciplinary proceeding in the state of Georgia. The hearing will be held pursuant to the provisions of NY. Pub. Health Law §230, and N.Y. State Admin. Proc. Act §301-307 and 401. The hearing will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, on a date and at a location to be set forth in a written Notice of Referral Proceeding, together with a Statement of Charges, to be provided to the Respondent after the final conclusion of the Georgia proceeding. Said written Notice may be provided in person, by mail or by other means. If Respondent wishes to be provided said written notice at an address other than those set forth above, Respondent shall so notify, in writing, both the attorney whose name is set forth on this Order and the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, at the addresses set forth below.

Respondent shall notify the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, New York State Department of Health, 433 River Street, Suite 303, Troy, NY 12180-2299 via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, of the final conclusion of the Georgia proceeding, immediately upon such conclusion.

THESE PROCEEDINGS MAY RESULT IN A DETERMINATION THAT YOUR LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN NEW YORK STATE BE REVOKED OR SUSPENDED AND/OR THAT YOU MAY BE FINED OR SUBJECT TO OTHER SANCTIONS SET FORTH IN NEW YORK PUBLIC HEALTH LAW SECTION 230-A. YOU ARE URGED TO OBTAIN AN ATTORNEY FOR THIS MATTER.

DATE: Albany, New York

December 20, 2004



ANTONIA C. NOVELLO, M.D., M.P.H., Dr. P. H.
Commissioner

Inquires should be addressed to:

Robert Bogan
Associate Counsel
Office of Professional Medical Conduct
433 River Street – Suite 303
Troy, New York 12180
(518) 402-0828

BEFORE THE COMPOSITE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

ERIC ARNOLD BUFFONG, M.D.
License No. 046370

Respondent.

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DOCKET NO.

Composite State Board
of Medical Examiners

AUG 30 2004

DOCKET NUMBER

20050026

ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

1.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent is licensed by the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") to practice as a Physician in the State of Georgia.

2.

WHEREFORE, on or about August 3, 2004, Respondent was arrested by officers of the Columbus Police Department for the crime of rape of his patient B.T. in Columbus, GA, on or about June 19, 2004. Patient B.T. alleges that Respondent engaged in unwanted and forced sexual activity with her in his office.

3.

WHEREFORE, on or about August 20, 2004, Respondent was arrested by officers of the Columbus Police Department on charges of sexual battery and aggravated sodomy against his patient T.L.H. in Columbus, GA, on or about a June 23, 2003 office visit. Patient T.L.H. alleges that Respondent engaged in sexual misconduct with her during the office exam by placing his mouth on her breasts and genitals, inserting his fingers in both her rectum and vaginal areas, and placing his penis on her leg.

4.

WHEREFORE, C.D.F., a patient of Respondent's in Columbus, GA, has alleged that Respondent committed rape and aggravated sodomy against her after performing a hysterectomy on her. Patient C.D.F. also alleges that Respondent gave her a sexually transmitted disease.

5.

WHEREFORE, D.K., a patient of Respondent's in Jacksonville, North Carolina, alleges that Respondent committed sexual battery against her in October 1997 in Jacksonville, N.C.

6.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board finds that Respondent Eric Arnold Buffong's continued ability to practice as a physician poses a threat to the public health, safety and welfare and imperatively requires emergency action, it is hereby ORDERED that the license of Eric Arnold Buffong to practice as a physician in the State of Georgia be and is hereby SUSPENDED, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-13-18(c)(1), O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19(b) and 43-34-37, pending proceedings for further Board action which shall be promptly instituted and determined.

Further, the Board shall promptly request that the Office of State Administrative Hearings issue an official Notice of Hearing. The Board shall request that the Office of State Administrative Hearings assign the matter to an Administrative Law Judge and schedule the matter for a hearing. Should the Respondent request an expedited hearing, the date for the hearing is subject to change in the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

If the Respondent wishes to avail himself of the opportunity for an expedited hearing under O.C.G.A. § 50-13-18(c)(1), Respondent shall execute and file with the Docket Clerk of the Office of State Administrative Hearings, the original and one copy of the attached "Request for Expedited Hearing." Respondent shall also mail a copy to the attorney for the Board, whose name and address is listed on the Notice of Hearing.

This Order is signed and attested by the Executive Director on behalf of the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners.

This 30th day of August, 2004.

COMPOSITE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL
EXAMINERS

ROLAND S. SUMMERS, M.D.

President

(BOARD SEAL)


LASHARN HUGHES
Executive Director

Counsel:

AJAY R. GOHIL

Assistant Attorney General

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