Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Richard F. Daines, M.D. Commissioner

April 2, 2007

#### **CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Sharon Elaine King, M.D. 7527 Cobblewood Drive Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009-3896 Robert Bogan, Esq. NYS Department of Health Hedley Building – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor 433 River Street Troy, New York 12180

RE: In the Matter of Sharon Elaine King, M.D.

#### Dear Parties:

Enclosed please find the Determination and Order (No. 07-69) of the Hearing Committee in the above referenced matter. This Determination and Order shall be deemed effective upon the receipt or seven (7) days after mailing by certified mail as per the provisions of §230, subdivision 10, paragraph (h) of the New York State Public Health Law.

Five days after receipt of this Order, you will be required to deliver to the Board of Professional Medical Conduct your license to practice medicine together with the registration certificate. Delivery shall be by either certified mail or in person to:

Office of Professional Medical Conduct New York State Department of Health Hedley Park Place 433 River Street - Fourth Floor Troy, New York 12180

If your license or registration certificate is lost, misplaced or its whereabouts is otherwise unknown, you shall submit an affidavit to that effect. If subsequently you locate the requested items, they must then be delivered to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct in the manner noted above.

As prescribed by the New York State Public Health Law §230, subdivision 10, paragraph (i), and §230-c subdivisions 1 through 5, (McKinney Supp. 1992), "the determination of a committee on professional medical conduct may be reviewed by the Administrative Review

Board for professional medical conduct." Either the licensee or the Department may seek a review of a committee determination.

Request for review of the Committee's determination by the Administrative Review Board stays penalties other than suspension or revocation until final determination by that Board. Summary orders are not stayed by Administrative Review Board reviews.

All notices of review must be served, by certified mail, upon the Administrative Review Board and the adverse party within fourteen (14) days of service and receipt of the enclosed Determination and Order.

The notice of review served on the Administrative Review Board should be forwarded to:

James F. Horan, Esq., Administrative Law Judge New York State Department of Health Bureau of Adjudication Hedley Park Place 433 River Street, Fifth Floor Troy, New York 12180

The parties shall have 30 days from the notice of appeal in which to file their briefs to the Administrative Review Board. Six copies of all papers must also be sent to the attention of Mr. Horan at the above address and one copy to the other party. The stipulated record in this matter shall consist of the official hearing transcript(s) and all documents in evidence.

Parties will be notified by mail of the Administrative Review Board's Determination and Order.

Sincerely,

Sean D. O'Brien, Director Bureau of Adjudication

SDO:cah

**Enclosure** 

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



#### IN THE MATTER

**OF** 

#### SHARON ELAINE KING, M.D.

DETERMINATION

**AND** 

ORDER

BPMC #07-69

A hearing was held on March 22, 2007, at the offices of the New York State Department of Health ("the Petitioner"). A Notice of Referral Proceeding and a Statement of Charges, both dated January 26, 2007, were served upon the Respondent, Sharon Elaine King, M.D. Pursuant to Section 230(10)(e) of the Public Health Law, Steven V. Grabiec, M.D., Chairperson, John B. Waldman, M.D., and James P. Milstein, J.D., duly designated members of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, served as the Hearing Committee in this matter. William J. Lynch, Esq., Administrative Law Judge, served as the Administrative Officer.

The Petitioner appeared by **Thomas Conway, Esq.**, General Counsel, by **Robert Bogan, Esq.**, of Counsel. The Respondent did not appear at the hearing, either in person or by counsel.

Evidence was received and transcripts of these proceedings were made.

After consideration of the entire record, the Hearing Committee issues this Determination and Order.

#### STATEMENT OF CASE

This case was brought pursuant to Public Health Law Section 230(10)(p). The statute provides for an expedited hearing when a licensee is charged solely with a violation of Education Law Section 6530(9). In such cases, a licensee is charged with misconduct based upon a prior criminal conviction in New York State or another jurisdiction, or upon a prior administrative adjudication regarding conduct that would amount to professional misconduct, if committed in New York. The scope of an expedited hearing is limited to a determination of the nature and severity of the penalty to be imposed upon the licensee.

In the instant case, the Respondent is charged with professional misconduct pursuant to Education Law Section 6530(9)(b) and (d). Copies of the Notice of Referral Proceeding and the Statement of Charges are attached to this Determination and Order as Appendix 1.

#### **WITNESSES**

For the Petitioner:

None

For the Respondent:

None

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The following Findings of Fact were made after a review of the entire record in this matter. Numbers below in parentheses refer to exhibits, denoted by the prefix "Ex." These citations refer to evidence found persuasive by the Hearing Committee in arriving at a particular finding. Conflicting evidence, if any, was considered and rejected in favor of the cited evidence. All Hearing Committee findings were unanimous.

- 1. Sharon Elaine King, the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on June 20, 1980, by the issuance of license number 142396 by the New York State Education Department (Petitioner's Ex. 4).
- 2. On October 11, 2006, the State of Michigan, Department of Community Health, Bureau of Health Professions, Board of Medicine, Disciplinary Subcommittee ("Michigan Board"), by a Final Order ("Michigan Order"), inter alia, suspended Respondent's license to practice medicine for a minimum period of six months and one day, based on negligence or failure to exercise due care, a departure from or failure to conform to minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing practice, suffering from a mental or physical disability reasonably related to and adversely affecting her ability to practice in a safe and competent manner, and practicing without a valid license (Petitioner's Ex. 5).

#### HEARING COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS

The Hearing Committee concludes that the conduct of the Respondent would constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York State, had the conduct occurred in New York State, pursuant to:

- New York Education Law Section 6530(24) - "Practicing or offering to practice beyond the scope permitted by law..."

#### **VOTE OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE**

#### FIRST SPECIFICATION

"Respondent violated New York Education Law Section 6530(9)(b) by having been found guilty of improper professional practice or professional misconduct by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state where the conduct upon

which the finding was based would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state..."

VOTE: Sustained (3-0)

#### SECOND SPECIFICATION

"Respondent violated New York Education Law Section 6530(9)(d) by having her license to practice medicine suspended and/or having other disciplinary action taken by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, where the conduct resulting in the suspension and/or other disciplinary action would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state..."

VOTE: Sustained (3-0)

#### **HEARING COMMITTEE DETERMINATION**

The Respondent did not appear at the hearing, either in person or by counsel. The Administrative Law Judge, after considering the documentary evidence concerning service of the Notice of Referral Proceeding and the Statement of Charges (Petitioner's Ex. 2, 3) ruled that the Petitioner had met the requirements of law for service of the process, that jurisdiction had been established over the Respondent, and that the hearing could proceed on the merits despite Respondent's absence.

In the Michigan Order, the Michigan Board found that the Respondent violated various provisions of its Public Health Code including negligence or failure to exercise due care, a departure from or failure to conform to minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing practice, suffering from a mental or physical disability reasonably related to and adversely affecting her ability to practice in a safe and competent manner, and practicing without a valid license.

In the Statement of Charges for this proceeding, the Petitioner alleged that the finding regarding the Respondent's conduct in Michigan would constitute misconduct under §6530(24) of the New York Education Law (practicing beyond the scope permitted by law). The record indicates that the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the state of Michigan lapsed on January 31, 2003. Nonetheless, the Respondent engaged in the practice of medicine there from January 26, 2006 through March 8, 2006, in that she resided in Michigan and wrote multiple prescriptions for herself, which she filled or attempted to fill at a pharmacy in Michigan. Since the Michigan Board found that the Respondent practiced medicine without a valid license, any practice of medicine by the Respondent in Michigan was beyond the scope permitted by law. The Respondent's license to practice medicine in New York does not prevent a finding that her conduct in Michigan would constitute professional misconduct if committed in New York. While New York Education Law §6526 does permit certain physicians licensed in another state to practice medicine here without a license issued by New York State with specified limitations, the record does not indicate that the Respondent's circumstances fell within any of those exemptions.

The Michigan Board suspended the Respondent's license and ordered that any application by the Respondent for reinstatement of her license contain clear and convincing evidence the she is of good moral character, is able to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety, and that it is in the public interest for her to resume the practice. The Petitioner contended that the Michigan Board's sanction is most akin to a license revocation in the state of New York and recommended that the Respondent's license to practice medicine be revoked. Since the Respondent did not appear at the hearing, the hearing record does not contain any evidence of mitigating circumstances, rehabilitation or remorse. Moreover, there is no evidence that the Respondent can be

trusted to practice medicine safely if she returns to New York. As such, the Petitioner's recommendation will be adopted.

#### **ORDER**

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- The Respondent's license to practice medicine in New York State is revoked.
- 2. This Order shall be effective upon service on the Respondent in accordance with the requirements of Public Health Law Section 230(10)(h).

DATED: Niagara Falls, New York

March 29, 2007

Steven V. Grabiec, M.D. Chairperson

John B. Waldman, M.D. James P. Milstein, J.D.

TO:

Sharon Elaine King, M.D. Respondent 7527 Cobblewood Drive Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009-3896

Robert Bogan, Esq.
Attorney for Petitioner
Associate Counsel
NYS Department of Health
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct
433 River Street, Suite 303
Troy, New York 12180-2299

# APPENDIX I



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

IN THE MATTER

**NOTICE OF** 

OF

REFERRAL

SHARON ELAINE KING, M.D. CO-06-11-6644-A

**PROCEEDING** 

TO: SHARON ELAINE KING, M.D.

7527 Cobblewood Dr.

Kalamazoo, MI 49009-3896

#### PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

An adjudicatory proceeding will be held pursuant to the provisions of New York Public Health Law §§230(10)(p) and New York State Administrative Procedures Act §§301-307 and 401. The proceeding will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Committee) on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the New York State Department of Health, Hedley Park Place, 433 River Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Troy, NY 12180.

At the proceeding, evidence will be received concerning the allegations set forth in the Statement of Charges, which is attached. A stenographic record of the proceeding will be made and the witnesses at the proceeding will be sworn and examined.

You may appear in person at the proceeding and may be represented by counsel. You may produce evidence or sworn testimony on your behalf. Such evidence or sworn testimony shall be strictly limited to evidence and testimony relating to the nature and severity of the penalty to be imposed upon the licensee. Where the charges are based on the conviction of state law crimes in other jurisdictions, evidence may be offered which would show that the conviction would not be a crime in New York State. The Committee also may limit the number of witnesses whose testimony will be received, as well as the length of time any witness will be permitted to testify.

If you intend to present sworn testimony, the number of witnesses and an estimate of the time necessary for their direct examination must be submitted to the New York State Department of Health, Division of Legal Affairs, Bureau of Adjudication, Hedley Park Place, 433 River Street, Fifth Floor South, Troy, NY 12180, ATTENTION: HON. SEAN D. O'BRIEN, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF, ADJUDICATION (Telephone: (518-402-0748), (henceforth "Bureau of Adjudication") as well as the Department of Health attorney indicated below, no later than ten days prior to the scheduled date of the Referral Proceeding, as indicated above.

Pursuant to the provisions of New York Public Health Law §230(10)(p), you shall file a written answer to each of the charges and allegations in the Statement of Charges not less than ten days prior to the date of the hearing. Any charge or allegation not so answered shall be deemed admitted. You may wish to seek the advice of counsel prior to filing such answer. The answer shall be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, and a copy shall be forwarded to the attorney for the Department of Health whose name appears below. You may file a written brief and affidavits with the Committee. Six copies of all papers you submit must be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication at the address indicated above, no later than fourteen days prior to the scheduled date of the Referral Proceeding, and a copy of all papers must be served on the same date on the Department of Health attorney indicated below. Pursuant to §301(5) of the State Administrative Procedure Act, the Department, upon reasonable notice, will provide at no charge a qualified interpreter of the deaf to interpret the proceedings to, and the testimony of, any deaf person. Pursuant to the terms of New York State Administrative Procedure Act §401 and 10 N.Y.C.R.R. §51.8(b), the Petitioner hereby demands disclosure of the evidence that the Respondent intends to introduce at the hearing, including the names of witnesses, a list of and copies of documentary evidence and a description of physical or other evidence which cannot be photocopied.

The proceeding may be held whether or not you appear. Please note that requests for adjournments must be made in writing to the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, with a copy of the request to the attorney for the Department of Health, whose name appears below, at least five days prior to the scheduled date of the proceeding. Adjournment requests are not routinely granted. Claims of court engagement will require detailed affidavits of actual engagement. Claims of illness will require medical documentation. Failure to obtain an attorney within a reasonable period of time prior to the proceeding will not be grounds for an adjournment.

The Committee will make a written report of its findings, conclusions as to guilt, and a determination. Such determination may be reviewed by the administrative review board for professional medical conduct.

SINCE THESE PROCEEDINGS MAY RESULT IN A DETERMINATION
THAT SUSPENDS OR REVOKES YOUR LICENSE TO PRACTICE
MEDICINE IN NEW YORK STATE AND/OR IMPOSES A FINE FOR
EACH OFFENSE CHARGED, YOU ARE URGED TO OBTAIN AN
ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER.

DATED: Albany, New York

Jan. 26, 2007

PETER D. VAN BUREN

Deputy Counsel

**Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct** 

Inquiries should be addressed to:

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

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

IN THE MATTER

STATEMENT

**OF** 

OF

SHARON ELAINE KING, M.D. CO-06-11-6644-A

**CHARGES** 

SHARON ELAINE KING, M.D., Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York state on June 20, 1980, by the issuance of license number 142396 by the New York State Education Department.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- A. On or about October 11, 2006, the State of Michigan, Department of Community Health, Bureau of Health Professions, Board of Medicine, Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter, "Michigan Board"), by a Final Order (hereinafter "Michigan Order"), inter alia, SUSPENDED Respondent's license to practice medicine for a minimum period of six (6) months and one (1) day, based on negligence or failure to exercise due care, a departure from or failure to conform to minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing practice, suffering from a mental or physical disability reasonably related to and aversely affecting her ability to practice in a safe and competent manner, and practicing medicine without a valid license.
- B. The conduct resulting in the Michigan 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:
- 1. New York Education Law §6530(24) (practicing beyond the scope permitted by law).

## SPECIFICATIONS FIRST SPECIFICATION

Respondent violated New York Education Law §6530(9)(b) by having been found guilty of improper professional practice or professional misconduct by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state where the conduct upon which the finding was based 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/or B.

#### SECOND SPECIFICATION

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

2. The facts in Paragraphs A and/or B.

DATED: Jan. 26, 2007 Albany, New York PETER D. VAN BUREN

**Deputy Counsel** 

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct