PUBLIC

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

IN THE MATTER

**OF** 

DWIGHT M. WILLIAMS, M.D.

CO-03-02-0953-A

STIPULATION AND APPLICATION FOR A NONDISCIPLINARY ORDER OF CONDITIONS PURSUANT TO §230 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH

**DWIGHT M. WILLIAMS, M.D.,** representing all statements herein made to be true, deposes and says:

That on or about December 10, 1982, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, having been issued License No.152712 by the New York State Education Department.

My current residence is 214 Downsbrook Drive, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870. I am affiliated with the following hospital and/or facilities: none at this time

I will notify the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct ("the Director") of any change in my residence, employment, or medical practice addresses or hospital affiliations.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct has investigated allegations of professional misconduct on my part with regard to my medical practice, including, but not limited to, allegations concerning my voluntarily surrendering my North Carolina license due to substance abuse.

I request that the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct ("the Board") and the Director, in reliance upon the results of its investigation to date, conclude the investigation of these allegations, provided I successfully, and without incident, comply with the Conditions set forth below. In consideration of the Board and the Director granting this Application, and upon the State Board's election not to bring disciplinary charges against me, I agree that the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct and the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, shall issue a *Nondisciplinary* Order of Conditions Pursuant to New York Public Health Law §230.

My license to practice medicine in the state of New York shall be inactive.

I agree that I shall not be permitted to engage in the active practice of medicine in the state of New York for at least one (1) year and until my license to practice medicine in the state of North Carolina is fully restored without conditions. One (1) year after the effective date of this order and after compliance with all conditions, I may petition the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct for a Modification Order, staying the suspension, to be followed by a five (5) year period conditions of monitoring, attached, hereto as Exhibit A, and permitting me to practice as a physician under whatever limitation(s), term(s) or further conditions the Board, in its reasonable discretion, exercised by a Committee on Professional Conduct, may impose. I understand and agree that the Committee's determination shall not be reviewable through recourse to the Administrative Review Board.

Licensee shall fully cooperate in every respect with the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) in its administration and enforcement of this Order and in its investigation of Licensee. Licensee shall respond in a timely manner to each and every request by OPMC to provide written periodic verification of Licensee's compliance with the terms of this Order. Licensee shall meet with a person designated by the Director of OPMC, as directed. Licensee shall respond promptly and provide any and all documents and information within Licensee's control, upon the direction of OPMC. This condition shall be in effect beginning upon the effective date of this Order and will continue while Licensee possesses a license.

I stipulate that my failure to comply with these conditions shall constitute misconduct as defined by New York State Education Law §6530(29).

I, hereby, make this Application to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (the Board) and request that it be granted.

I understand that nothing in this Application shall be construed as an admission by me of any act of alleged misconduct nor a finding of such misconduct. I, hereby, deny any acts of misconduct and reserve my right to assert any and all defenses on my behalf in any later or other proceeding.

I understand and agree that any failure by me to comply with, successfully complete, and satisfy any or all of the material conditions set forth herein and in Exhibit "A," and/or any unsatisfactory report by the designated monitor under the terms of Exhibit "A," shall vest the Director of OPMC, in the exercise of reasonable discretion, to vacate this agreement and permit the Director to pursue further investigation and/or

prosecution of misconduct charges against me to the full extent authorized by the Public Health Law and Education Law.

I understand that an Order issued upon this Application does not bar prosecution for professional misconduct based upon allegations of violations of Educ. Law Sec. 6530 whether those alleged violations occurred before or after the date of this Application.

I agree that if the Board grants this Application, an Order of the Chairperson of the Board shall be issued in accordance with its terms. I understand that this Nondisciplinary Order shall be disclosed to the Federal National Practitioner Data Bank, the Federation of State Medical Boards, and on the DOH website.

I make this Application of my own free will and accord and not under duress, compulsion or restraint of any kind. In consideration of the value to me of the Board's acceptance of this Application, I, hereby, waive any right I may have to contest the Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, I agree to be bound by the Order, and ask that the Board grant this Application.

DWIGHT M. WILLIAMS, M.D.

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

IN THE MATTER

**OF** 

DWIGHT M. WILLIAMS, M.D.

STIPULATION AND **APPLICATION** FOR A NONDISCIPLINARY ORDER **OF CONDITIONS PURSUANT TO** §230 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW

The undersigned agree to the attached Application of the Licensee and to the issuance of the proposed Order of Conditions Pursuant to §230 of the Public Health Law.

DATE: 10-10-03

GILBERT CHICHESTER, ESQ.

Attorney for Licensee

DATE: 11/24/03

Associate Counsel\

**Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct** 

DATE: 12 02 6

DENNIS J. GRAZIANO

Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

DWIGHT M. WILLIAMS, M.D.

NONDISCIPLINARY
ORDER
OF CONDITIONS
PURSUANT TO
§230 OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH

Upon the proposed agreement of **DWIGHT M. WILLIAMS, M.D.** (Licensee) for Consent Order, which Application is made a part hereof, it is agreed to and

ORDERED, that the application and the provisions thereof are hereby adopted and so ORDERED, and it is further

ORDERED, that this order shall take effect as of the date of the personal service of this order upon Licensee, upon receipt by Licensee of this order via certified mail, or seven days after mailing of this order by certified mail, whichever is earliest.

SO ORDERED.

DATED: 12/3/03

MICHAEL A. GONZALEZ, F

Vice Chair

State Board for Professional

**Medical Conduct** 

## **EXHIBIT A**

- 1. The inactivation of Respondent's license shall be terminated only upon a showing to the satisfaction of a Committee on Professional Conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (henceforth "Committee") that he has successfully complied with or completed a course of therapy and ongoing evaluation, which successful compliance or completion must include a determination by said Committee that he is no longer incapacitated for the practice of medicine and that he is both fit and clinically competent to practice as a Physician. Respondent shall provide to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct a proposed treatment plan, for advice as to whether it is generally appropriate, but the determination of successful compliance with or completion of the course of therapy shall be made solely by the Committee, and shall include, but not be limited to, a determination that Respondent is no longer incapacitated for the active practice of medicine.
- Upon Respondent's request, but after the passage of the minimum period of 2. suspension, a meeting of a Committee shall be convened for the purpose of hearing and evaluating Respondent's showing referred to in paragraph 1. The Board will make reasonable attempts to convene a Committee not later than 90 days after Respondent's request, which shall not be deemed to have been perfected until receipt, by the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, of all that is required to be provided by Respondent pursuant to the Conditions imposed upon her and pursuant to paragraph 3 below. The procedural nature of said proceeding shall be determined by the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct through the discretion of the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct upon consultation with Counsel, Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct. Proceedings before said Committee shall not be in the nature of a hearing pursuant to New York Public Health Law §230, but shall instead be informal and intended only for the purpose of addressing any and all facts, evidence, information, circumstances, or issues which do or may relate to the advisability of terminating the suspension of Respondent's license. The Committee shall be given access to evidence including, but not limited to:
  - a. Any and all evidence pertaining to Respondent's compliance with the Conditions imposed; and

- b. Any evidence which the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct or Counsel, Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct deems appropriate.
- 3. At the time that Respondent requests that a meeting of a Committee be scheduled, pursuant to paragraph 2, he shall provide the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, New York State Department of Health, 433 River Street, Suite 303, Troy, NY 12180-2299, with the following:
- a. The signed acknowledgment and curriculum vitae from the proposed sobriety monitor referred to in paragraph 5c.
  - b. The signed acknowledgment and curriculum vitae from the proposed supervising physician referred to in paragraph 5d;
  - c. The signed acknowledgment and curriculum vitae from the proposed health care professional referred to in paragraph 5e;
  - d. Certified true and complete copies of all evaluation and treatment records relating to Respondent's substance abuse/dependence, psychological, psychiatric and/or mental health treatment whether in an in-patient, out-patient, after-care or consultation setting. These certified records shall be forwarded directly to OPMC from all treatment providers/facilities/evaluators. These records shall reflect any treatment and evaluation provided whether said treatment and evaluation occurred prior to or during the time this suspension is in effect. Such records shall include documentation of the results of all tests conducted to evaluate Respondent's fitness and clinical competence to practice medicine;
  - e. Documentation of Respondent's participation in the program(s) of the Committee for Physicians' Health of the Medical Society of the State of New York or other equivalent program(s). documentation shall include but not be limited to verification of compliance and results of forensically valid alcohol/drug screening;
  - f. Fully executed waivers of patient confidentiality concerning any previous and prospective treatment records;

- g. A current, independent, in-depth chemical dependency and psychiatric evaluation by a board-certified psychiatrist specializing in addiction medicine; and
- h. Upon request of the Director of OPMC, Respondent shall attend, participate in and cooperate with an interview with designated personnel from OPMC.

Provision of the aforesaid documents will not, alone, constitute a showing that Respondent is no longer incapacitated for active practice as a Physician.

- 4. At least fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled date of the proceeding referred to in paragraph 2, Respondent shall provide OPMC with the following:
  - a. Certified true and complete copies of records updating treatment and alcohol/drug screening since the date of the original submissions referred to in paragraph 3d; and
  - b. Evidence that Respondent has maintained adequate knowledge and competence to practice as a physician. Such evidence shall include documentation of continuing medical education and, if so requested by the Director of OPMC, a report of an independent evaluation of Respondent's medical knowledge and competence.

Submission of the aforesaid evidence shall not, alone, constitute a showing that Respondent is no longer incapacitated for active practice as a Physician.

- 5. If the Chairperson of the Committee issues an order (Order) finding that Respondent has successfully completed the prescribed course of treatment and has regained fitness and competence to practice medicine, and therefore terminating the suspension of Respondent's license, the Order shall further impose a period of monitoring, pursuant to New York Public Health Law §230-a, during which his practice as a Physician shall be subject to conditions imposed. Respondent's practice shall be subject to such conditions for a period of no less than five years. The minimum conditions shall include the following:
  - a. Respondent shall be required to comply with the terms of a continuing aftercare treatment plan that addresses the major problems associated with his illness;

- b. At the direction of the Director of OPMC, Respondent shall submit to periodic interviews with, and evaluations by, a board certified psychiatrist or other licensed mental health practitioner designated by the Director. Said practitioner shall report to the Director regarding Respondent's condition and his fitness or incapacity to practice as a Physician;
- c. Respondent's sobriety will be monitored by a health care professional proposed by Respondent and approved in writing by the Director of OPMC. Said monitor shall not be a personal friend. Said monitor shall be familiar with Respondent's history of chemical dependence, with this suspension and with the terms of probation to be set forth. Said sobriety monitor shall acknowledge his/her willingness to comply with the monitoring by executing the acknowledgement provided by OPMC:
  - i. Said monitor shall see Respondent at least twice during each month;
  - ii. Said monitor shall direct Respondent to submit to unannounced tests of his blood, breath and/or urine for the presence of drugs or alcohol and shall report to OPMC within 24 hours if at any time such a test is positive or is refused by Respondent;
  - iii. Said monitor shall report to OPMC any noncompliance with the imposed conditions;
  - iv. Respondent shall ensure that said monitor submits to OPMC quarterly reports certifying Respondent's compliance or detailing Respondent's failure to comply with each of the conditions imposed. The reports shall include the results of all body fluid and/or breath tests for drugs and/or alcohol performed during that quarter; and
- d. Respondent shall be supervised in his medical practice by a licensed physician, proposed by him and approved in writing by the Director of OPMC, in accordance with the conditions contained in or annexed to the Order. Said supervising physician shall be familiar with Respondent's history of impairment and with the Order and its conditions. Said supervising physician shall supervise Respondent's compliance with the conditions of practice imposed by the Order. Said supervising physician shall be in a position regularly to observe and assess Respondent's medical practice. Said supervising

- physician shall acknowledge his/her willingness to comply with the supervision by executing the acknowledgment provided by OPMC:
- i. Respondent shall ensure that said supervising physician submits to OPMC quarterly reports regarding the quality of Respondent's medical practice, any unexplained absences from work and certifying his compliance or detailing his failure to comply with each condition imposed; and
- ii. Said supervising physician shall report any suspected impairment, inappropriate behavior, questionable medical practices or possible misconduct to OPMC; and
- e. Respondent shall continue in treatment with a health care professional, proposed by Respondent and approved, in writing, by the Director of OPMC, for as long as the health care professional determines it is necessary:
  - Respondent shall ensure that said treating health care professional or program submits to OPMC quarterly reports certifying that Respondent is complying with the treatment;
  - ii. Said treating health care professional shall report to OPMC immediately if Respondent is noncompliant with treatment plan or demonstrates any significant pattern of absences; and
  - iii. Said treating health care professional shall acknowledge his/her willingness to comply with the above-mentioned reporting by executing the acknowledgment provided by OPMC.
- 6. The terms set out in paragraph 5 shall be the minimum conditions, related to Respondent's fitness to practice, to be imposed on his practice upon terminating the suspension of his license, and that other conditions may be added by the Committee, and that the costs of complying with all such conditions will be Respondent's responsibility. Any failure by Respondent to comply with the conditions imposed upon his practice at the time of suspension termination, may result in disciplinary action being brought against him charging professional misconduct as defined by the New York State Education Law, including but not limited to N.Y. Education Law Section 6530(29).

- 7. Upon any denial of Respondent's petition for suspension termination made by the Committee, Respondent shall not again request convening a Committee until a minimum period of nine months has elapsed since such denial.
- 8. In addition to the conditions set out in paragraph 5 and any other conditions added by the Committee upon the termination of Respondent's license suspension, he shall also be subject to the following standard terms of monitoring:
  - a. Respondent shall conduct himself in all ways in a manner befitting his professional status, and shall conform fully to the moral and professional standards of conduct and obligations imposed by law and by the profession of medicine;
  - b. Respondent shall submit written notification of all sites of employment and/or medical practice to the New York State Department of Health addressed to the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, New York State Department of Health, 433 River Street, Suite 303, Troy, NY 12180-2299; said notice is to include a full description of any employment and practice, professional and residential addresses and telephone numbers within or without New York State, and any and all investigations, charges, convictions or disciplinary actions by any local, state or federal agency, institution or facility, within thirty days of each action;
  - c. Respondent shall fully cooperate with and respond in a timely manner to requests from OPMC to provide written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with the terms of this Order. He shall personally meet with a person designated by the Director of OPMC as requested by the Director;
  - d. Any civil penalty not paid by the date prescribed herein shall be subject to all provisions of law relating to debt collection by New York State. This includes but is 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 section 171(27)]; State Finance Law section 18; CPLR section 5001; Executive Law section 32];

- e. Any period of monitoring shall be tolled during periods in which Respondent is not engaged in the active practice as a Physician in New York State. Respondent shall notify the Director of OPMC, in writing, if he is not currently engaged in or intends to leave the active practice as a Physician in New York State for a period of thirty (30) consecutive days or more. Respondent shall then notify the Director again prior to any change in that status. The period of monitoring shall resume and any terms of probation which were not fulfilled shall be fulfilled upon Respondent's return to practice in New York State. The tolling provision set forth in this paragraph may be waived by the Director of OPMC, in the Director's discretion;
- f. 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 and/or hospital charts, interviews with or periodic visits with Respondent and his staff at practice locations or OPMC offices;
- 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; and
- h. Respondent shall comply with all terms, conditions, restrictions, limitations and penalties to which he is subject pursuant to the Order and shall assume and bear all costs related to compliance. Upon receipt of evidence of noncompliance with, or any violation of these terms, the Director of OPMC and/or the Board may initiate a violation of probation proceeding and/or any such other proceeding against Respondent as may be authorized pursuant to the law.