New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct



Barbara A. DeBuono, M.D., M.P.H.

Commissioner of Health

Corning Tower • Empire State Plaza • Albany, NY 12237 • (518) 474-8357

Charles J. Vacanti, M.D. Chair

March 14, 1996

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Louis Arnold Blank, M.D. 32 Briarfield Lane Huntington, New York 11743

Re: License No. 170736

Dear Dr. Blank:

EFFECTIVE DATE MARCH 21, 1996

Enclosed please find Order #BPMC 96-57 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect upon receipt of this letter or seven (7) days after the date of this letter, whichever is earlier.

If the penalty imposed by the Order is a surrender, revocation or suspension of this license, you are required to deliver to the Board the license and registration within five (5) days of receipt of the Order.

Board for Professional Medical Conduct New York State Department of Health Empire State Plaza Tower Building-Room 438 Albany, New York 12237-0756

Sincerely,

Charles J. Vacanti, M.D.

Chair

Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Charles Vacanti

Enclosure

cc: Steven K. Frankel, Esq.

Frankel, Pariser & Rudder 361 Broadway-Suite 500

New York, New York 10013-3903

Irene Koch, Esq.

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D.

SURRENDER ORDER

BPMC #96-57

Upon the Application of LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D. (Respondent) to Surrender his/her license as a physician in the State of New York, which application is made a part hereof, it is

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

ORDERED, that the name of Respondent be stricken from the roster of physicians in the State of New York; it is further

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

SO ORDERED.

DATED: 12 March 1996

CHARLES J. VACANTI, M.D.

Chairperson State Board for Professional Medical Conduct NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER

OF

LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D.

55.:

APPLICATION TO SURRENDER LICENSE

STATE OF NEW YORK)

COUNTY OF NASSAU)

LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D., being duly sworn, deposes and says:

On or about July 1, 1987, I was licensed to practice medicine as a physician in the State of New York having been issued License No. 170736 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 32 Brierfield Lane, Huntington, New York, and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of my address.

I understand that I have been charged with fourteen specifications of professional misconduct as set forth in the Statement of Charges, annexed hereto, made a part hereof, and marked as Exhibit "A".

I am applying to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct for permission to surrender my license as a physician in the State of New York on the grounds that I admit guilt to the First Specification in full satisfaction of the Statement of Charges.

I hereby make this application to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct and request that it be granted.

3.-

I understand that, in the event that the application is not granted by the Justo Board for Professional Medical Conduct, nothing contained herein shall be binding upon me or construed to be an admission of any act of misconduct elleged or charged against me, such application shall not be used against me in any way, and shall be kept in strict confidence disting the pendency of the professional misconduct ellectrinery proceeding; and such denial by the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct shall be made without prejudice to the continuance of any disciplinary proceeding and the final determination by a Committee on Professional Medical Conduct pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Law.

agree that, in the event the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct grants my application, an order shall be issued striking my name from the roater of physicians in the State of New York without further notice to the.

i am making this Application of my own free will and accord and not under durate, computation or restraint of any kind or manner. In consideration of the value to me of the acceptance by the Board of this Application, allowing me to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits; I knowingly waive any right I may have to contest the Consent Order for which I hereby apply, whether administratively or judicially, and ask that the Application be granted.

LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D. Respondent

Swom to before me this

(day of MALCA, 1998

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IN THE MATTER

OF

LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.R.

APPLICATION TO SURFENDER

ad agree to the attached suplication of the Respondent to surrender

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HAR-06-86 NED 14115

SHOME NO' :

FROM:

NO. 848

1705

Date: March // 1996

ANNE F. SAILE Acting Director Office of Professional Medical Conduct

Date: March, 1996

CHARLES J. VACANTI, M.D.

person Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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EXHIBIT "A"

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about July 1, 1987, by the issuance of license number 170736 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. Respondent treated Patient A, a 40 year old female, at his office located at 131 East Main Street, East Rocksway, New York, on or about May 9, 1995.

 (The identities of Patient A and the other patients are disclosed in the attached Appendix). Patient A visited Respondent's office complaining of back problems and constipation.
 - In the course of a purported physical examination, but not for a proper medical purpose:
 - a. Respondent kissed Patient A and licked her car.
 - Respondent lifted Patient A's bra and then sucked and kissed both her breasts for several minutes.
 - c. After performing, a rectal examination on Patient A,

Respondent injerted his finger(s) in her vagina, and moved his fingers around, and in and out.

- d. While Patient A was on the examining table, Respondent attempted to insert his erect penis into Patient A's mouth.
- e. Respondent inserted his penis in Patient A's vagina, had intercourse with her for approximately five minutes during which time he ejaculated in Patient A.
- B. Respondent treated Patient B, a 40 year old female in or about August, 1991.

 Patient B, a Police Dispatcher, visited Respondent, who was at that time the Police Surgeon, complaining of a foot injury and hip pain.
 - in the course of a purported physical examination, but not for a proper medical purpose:
 - Respondent held Patient B's hips from behind her,
 and rubbed his groin against Patient B's buttocks.
- G. Respondent treated Patient C from in or about June, 1989 through in or about November, 1994.
 - 1. Respondent inappropriately prescribed Pondimin and Ionamin for Patient C.

- 2. Respondent falled to maintain a record for Patient C which accurately reflects his evaluation and treatment of Patient C.
- D. Respondent treated Patient D from in or about November, 1989 through in or about April, 1995.
 - Respondent inappropriately prescribed Lidex cream, and Hydrocodone syrup for Patient D.
 - Respondent failed to maintain a record for Patient D which accurately reflects his evaluation and treatment of Patient D.
- E. Respondent treated Patient E from in or about July, 1992 through in or about April, 1994.
 - Respondent failed to perform a physical examination on Patient

 E.
 - Respondent inappropriately prescribed ionimin. Pondimin.
 Prosom, Xanax, and other psychotropic drugs with abuse potential for Patient E.
 - 3. For over a one year period of time, Respondent inappropriately prescribed tranquilizer medication for Patient E at the same time

as he prescribed stimulants for Patient E.

- 4. Respondent failed to maintain a record for Patient E which accurately reflects his evaluation and treatment of Patient E.
- F. Respondent treated Patient F from in or about 1988 through in or about 1995.
 - Respondent inappropriately prescribed Vallum for Patient F, and continued such medication for several years.
 - Respondent falled to maintain a record for Patient F which accurately reflects his evaluation and treatment of Patient F.
- G. Respondent treated Patient/G from in or about 1989 through in or about 1995.
 - Respondent Inappropriately prescribed escalating doses of narcotics (including hydrocodone and morphine) for Patient G's chronic back pain on a long-term basis without.
 - Respondent failed to maintain a record for Patient G which accurately reflects his evaluation and treatment of Patient G.

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SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

FIRST THROUGH SECOND SPECIFICATIONS MORAL UNFITNESS

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(20)(McKinney Supp. 1996) by engaging in conduct in the practice of the profession of medicine that evidences moral unfitness to practice as alleged in the facts of the following:

- Paragraph A, and all of its subparagraphs. 1.
- Paragraph B , and all of its subparagraphs. 2.

THIRD THROUGH FOURTH SPECIFICATIONS WILLFULLY HARASSING, ABUSING OR INTIMIDATING PATIENTS

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(31)(McKinney Supp. 1996) by willfully harassing, abusing, or intimidating patients either physically or verbally as alleged in the facts of the following:

- Paragraph A, and all of its subparagraphs. 3.
- Paragraph B, and all of its subparagraphs. 4.

FIFTH THROUGH NINTH SPECIFICATION NEGLIGENCE ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §8530(3)(McKinney Supp. 1996) by practicing the profession of

NO. 848

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medicine with negligence on more than one occasion as alleged in the facts of two or more of the following:

- Paragraph C, and all of its subparagraphs. 5.
- Paragraph D, and all of its subperegraphs. 6.
- Paragraph E. and all of its subparagraphs. 7.
- Paragraph F, and all of its subparagraphs. 8.
- Paragraph G, and all of its subparagraphs. 9.

TENTH THROUGH FOURTEENTH SPECIFICATION FAILING TO MAINTAIN ACCURATE RECORDS

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law \$6530(32)(McKinney Supp. 1996) by failing to maintain records for each patient which accurately reflect the evaluation and treatment of the patients as alleged in the facts of two or more of the following:

- Paragraph C, and all of its subparagraphs. 10.
- Paragraph D, and all of its subparagraphs. 11.
- Paragraph E, and all of its subparagraphs. 12.
- Paragraph F, and all of its subparagraphs. 13.
- Paragraph G, and all of its subparagraphs. 14.

DATED:

1996 March New York, New York

> ROY NEMERSON reau of Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D.

COMMISSIONER'S
ORDER AND
NOTICE OF
HEARING

TO: LOUIS ARNOLD BLANK, M.D.

131 Main Street

East Rockaway, New York 11518

The undersigned, Barbara A. DeBuono, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner of Health of the State of New York, after an investigation, upon the recommendation of a Committee on Professional Medical Conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, and upon the Statement of Charges attached hereto and made a part hereof, has determined that the continued practice of medicine in the State of New York by Louis Arnold Blank, the Respondent, constitutes an imminent danger to the health of the people of this state.

It is therefore:

ORDERED, pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230(12) (McKinney Supp. 1996), that effective immediately Louis Arnold Blank, Respondent, shall not practice medicine in the State of New York. This Order shall remain in effect unless modified or vacated by the Commissioner of Health pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230(12) (McKinney Supp. 1996).

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing will be held pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230 (McKinney 1990 and Supp. 1996), and N.Y. State Admin. Proc. Act §§301-307 and 401 (McKinney 1984 and Supp. 1996). The hearing will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct on March 18, 1996, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the New York State Health Department, 5 Penn Plaza, Sixth Floor, New

York, NY 10001, and at such other adjourned dates, times and places as the committee may direct. The Respondent may file an answer to the Statement of Charges with the below-named attorney for the Department of Health.

At the hearing, evidence will be received concerning the allegations set forth in the Statement of Charges, which is attached. A stenographic record of the hearing will be made and the witnesses at the hearing will be sworn and examined. The Respondent shall appear in person at the hearing and may be represented by counsel. The Respondent has the right to produce witnesses and evidence on his behalf, to issue or have subpoenas issued on his behalf for the production of witnesses and documents and to cross-examine witnesses and examine evidence produced against him. A summary of the Department of Health Hearing Rules is enclosed. 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.

The hearing will proceed whether or not the Respondent appears at the hearing. Scheduled hearing dates are considered dates certain and, therefore, adjournment requests are not routinely granted. Requests for adjournments must be made in writing to the Administrative Law Judge's Office, Empire State Plaza, Corning Tower Building, 25th Floor, Albany, New York 12237-0026 and by telephone (518-473-1385), upon notice to the attorney for the Department of Health whose name appears below, and at least five days prior to the scheduled hearing date. Claims of court engagement will require detailed affidavits of actual engagement. Claims of illness will require medical documentation.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the committee shall make findings of fact, conclusions concerning the charges sustained or dismissed, and, in the event any of the charges are sustained, a determination of the penalty or sanction to be imposed or appropriate action to be taken. Such determination may be reviewed by the administrative review board for professional medical conduct.

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 BE FINED OR SUBJECT TO OTHER SANCTIONS SET FORTH IN NEW YORK PUBLIC HEALTH LAW §230-a (McKinney Supp. 1996). YOU ARE URGED TO OBTAIN AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER.

DATED: Albany, New York

7 March , 1996

BARBARA A. DeBUONO, M.D., M.P.H.

Commissioner of Health

Inquiries should be directed to:

Irene M. Koch Assistant Counsel N.Y.S. Department of Health Division of Legal Affairs 5 Penn Plaza Suite 601 New York, New York 10001 (212) - 613-2603

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

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OF CHARGES

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as he prescribed stimulants for Patient E.

- 4. Respondent failed to maintain a record for Patient E which accurately reflects his evaluation and treatment of Patient E.
- F. Respondent treated Patient F from in or about 1988 through in or about 1995.
 - Respondent inappropriately prescribed Valium for Patient F, and continued such medication for several years.
 - 2. Respondent failed to maintain a record for Patient F which accurately reflects his evaluation and treatment of Patient F.
- G. Respondent treated Patient G from in or about 1989 through in or about 1995.
 - 1. Respondent inappropriately prescribed escalating doses of narcotics (including hydrocodone and morphine) for Patient G's chronic back pain on a long-term basis.
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- 4. Paragraph B, and all of its subparagraphs.

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Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(3)(McKinney Supp. 1996) by practicing the profession of

medicine with negligence on more than one occasion as alleged in the facts of two or more of the following:

- 5. Paragraph C, and all of its subparagraphs.
- 6. Paragraph D, and all of its subparagraphs.
- 7. Paragraph E, and all of its subparagraphs.
- 8. Paragraph F, and all of its subparagraphs.
- 9. Paragraph G, and all of its subparagraphs.

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- 10. Paragraph C, and all of its subparagraphs.
- 11. Paragraph D, and all of its subparagraphs.
- 12. Paragraph E, and all of its subparagraphs.
- 13. Paragraph F, and all of its subparagraphs.
- 14. Paragraph G, and all of its subparagraphs.

DATED:

March 7, 1996 New York, New York

> ROYNEMERSON Deputy Counsel

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

APPENDIX

Patient A Theresa Turilli

Patient B Carol Ann De Joseph (Mullineux)

Patient C Maria Thomas

Patient D Jackie Esopa

Patient E Jane Esopa

Patient F Steven Bibicoff

Patient G Sandra Torberg