



ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D. Commissioner SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N. Executive Deputy Commissioner

June 5, 2020

# CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

James Elist, MD 8500 Wilshire Blvd Suite 707 Beverly Hills, CA 90211

# Re: License No. 180235

Dear Dr. Elist:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Modification Order No. 20-143. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect June 12, 2020.

Please direct any questions to: Board for Professional Medical Conduct, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204, telephone # 518-402-0846.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Jakubowski, M.D. Interim Executive Secretary Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

Cc: Peter Osinoff Bonne, Bridges, Mueller, Okeefe and Nicholas 355 South Grand Ave, Suite 1750 Los Angleles CA 90071

### BPMC No. 20-143

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

# IN THE MATTER

OF

# JAMES ELIST, M.D.

MODIFICATION

ORDER

Upon the proposed Application for a Modification Order of James Elist, M.D.

(Respondent), which is made a part of this Modification Order, it is agreed to and

ORDERED, that the attached Application, and its terms, are adopted and SO

ORDERED, and it is further

ORDERED, that this Modification Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, ither

- either
- by mailing of a copy of this Modification Order, either by first class to Respondent at the address in the attached Application or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, OR
- upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney, whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATE: 6/4/2020



THOMAS T. LEE, M.D. Interim Chair State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER OF JAMES ELIST, M.D.

MODIFICATION AGREEMENT AND ORDER

James Elist, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about October 4, 1989, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the

State of New York and issued License No. 180235 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 8500 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 707, Beverly Hills, CA 90211, and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I am currently subject to BPMC Order # BPMC 20-108 (Attachment I) (henceforth "Original Order"), which was issued upon an Application For Consent Order signed by me on April 21, 2020, (henceforth Original Application"), adopted by the Original Order. I hereby apply to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct for an Order (henceforth "Modification Order"), modifying the Original Order, as follows:

The sanction imposed in the Original Order was:

 Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a(1), I shall be subject to a Censure and Reprimand;  Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 230-a(7) and (9), I shall be subject to a fine in the amount of \$500.

The sanction imposed shall be modified to read as follows:

- Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a(6), Respondent shall be subject to a limitation precluding registration or issuance of any further license; and
- That Respondent, who does not currently practice in the State of New York, shall be precluded from practicing medicine in New York State, from practicing in any setting where his practice is based solely on his New York license, and from further reliance upon Respondent's New York license to practice medicine to exempt Respondent from the licensure, certification or other requirements set forth in statute or regulation for the practice of any other profession licensed, regulated or certified by the Board of Regents, Department of Education, Department of Health or the Department of State; and
- That Respondent shall, within 30 days of the issuance of the Modification Order, notify the New York State Education Department, Division of Professional Licensing Services, that Respondent's license status is "inactive", and shall provide proof of such notification to the Director of OPMC immediately upon having done so, and shall not reactivate or reregister the license at any time. This Modification Order shall strike the Condition in the Original Order requiring

Respondent to maintain active registration of Respondent's license with the New York State Education Department, Division of Professional Licensing Services, to pay all registration fees; and

 That Respondent shall comply with all the conditions set forth in attached "Attachment II" ("Requirements for Closing a Medical Practice Following an Agreement to Never Register/Never Practice");

and

 Effective from the date of this Modification Order, the conditions in the Original Order that require Respondent to develop, maintain, and /or update a physician profile shall terminate;

and

All remaining Terms and Conditions will continue as written in the Original Order.

I make this Application of my own free will and accord and not under duress, compulsion or restraint, and seek the anticipated benefit of the requested Modification. In consideration of the value to me of the acceptance by the Board of this Application, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Original Order or the Modification Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, and ask that the Board grant this Application.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct and the Chair of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed agreement and Order, based upon my application, or to decline to do so. I further understand and agree that no prior or separate written or oral communication can limit that discretion.

DATE June 2, 2020

JAMES ELIST, M.D. RESPONDENT

1	5
The undersigned agree to Resp proposed penalty, terms and condition	ondent's attached Modification Agreement and to its s.
DATE: 6/2/2020	PETER OSINOFF, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent
DATE: <u>6/3/2020</u>	COURTNEY BERRY Associate Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct
DATE:	PAULA M. BREEN
	Director Office of Professional Medical Conduct

# EXHIBIT "B"

# **Requirements for Closing a Medical Practice** (Following Agreement to Never Register/Never Practice)

- Licensee shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in the practice of medicine in New York State, or under Licensee's New York license, in accordance with the terms of the Order. In addition, Licensee shall refrain from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application and from representing that Licensee is eligible to practice medicine in New York or pursuant to a New York license.
- Within 5 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall deliver Licensee's current biennial registration, if any, to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) at Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204-2719.
- 3. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall, with regard to New York practice or practice anywhere pursuant to Licensee's New York license, notify all patients of the cessation of Licensee's medical practice, and shall refer all patients to another licensed practicing physician for continued care, as appropriate. Licensee shall notify, in writing, each health care plan with which the Licensee contracts or is employed, and each hospital where Licensee has privileges, that Licensee has ceased medical practice. Within 45 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall provide OPMC with written documentation that all patients and hospitals have been notified of the cessation of Licensee's medical practice.
- 4. Licensee shall, with regard to New York practice or practice anywhere pursuant to Licensee's New York license, make arrangements for the transfer and maintenance of all patient medical records. Within 30 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall notify OPMC of these arrangements, including the name, address, and telephone number of an appropriate and acceptable contact persons who shall have access to these records. Original records shall be retained for at least 6 years after the last date of service rendered to a patient or, in the case of a minor, for at

least 6 years after the last date of service or 3 years after the patient reaches the age of majority, whichever time period is longer. Records shall be maintained in a safe and secure place that is reasonably accessible to former patients. The arrangements shall include provisions to ensure that the information in the record is kept confidential and is available only to authorized persons. When a patient or a patient's representative requests a copy of the patient's medical record, or requests that the original medical record be sent to another health care provider, a copy of the record shall be promptly provided or forwarded at a reasonable cost to the patient (not to exceed 75 cents per page.) Radiographic, sonographic and similar materials shall be provided at cost. A qualified person shall not be denied access to patient information solely because of an inability to pay.

- 5. In the event that Licensee holds a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) certificate for New York State, Licensee shall, within fifteen (15) days of the Order's effective date, advise the DEA, in writing, of the licensure action and shall surrender his/her DEA controlled substance privileges for New York State to the DEA. Licensee shall promptly surrender any unused DEA #222 U.S. Official Order Forms Schedules 1 and 2 for New York State to the DEA. All submissions to the DEA shall be addressed to Diversion Program Manager, New York Field Division, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, 99 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.
- 6. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall return any unused New York State official prescription forms to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement of the New York State Department of Health. If no other licensee is providing services at Licensee's practice location, Licensee shall properly dispose of all medications.
- 7. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall, with regard to New York practice or practice anywhere pursuant to Licensee's New York license, remove from the public domain any representation that Licensee is eligible to practice medicine, including all related signs, advertisements, professional listings (whether in telephone directories, internet or otherwise), professional stationery or billings. Licensee shall not share, occupy, or use office space in which another licensee provides health care services.

- 8. Licensee shall not, with regard to New York practice or practice anywhere pursuant to Licensee's New York license, charge, receive or share any fee or distribution of dividends for professional services rendered by Licensee or others while Licensee is barred from engaging in the practice of medicine. Licensee may be compensated for the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered, and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf, prior to the Order's effective date.
- 9. If Licensee is a shareholder in any professional service corporation organized to engage in the practice of medicine in New York, Licensee shall divest all financial interest in the professional services corporation, in accordance with New York Business Corporation Law. Such divestiture shall occur within 90 days. If Licensee is the sole shareholder in a professional services corporation, the corporation must be dissolved or sold within 90 days of the Order's effective date.
- 10. Failure to comply with the above directives may result in a civil penalty or criminal penalties as may be authorized by governing law. Under N.Y. Educ. Law § 6512, it is a Class E Felony, punishable by imprisonment of up to 4 years, to practice the profession of medicine when a professional license has been suspended, revoked or annulled. Such punishment is in addition to the penalties for professional misconduct set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a, which include fines of up to \$10,000 for each specification of charges of which the Licensee is found guilty, and may include revocation of a suspended license.

# ATTACHMENT I

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# Department

ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D. Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N. Executive Deputy Commissioner

April 22, 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

James J. Elist, MD

RE: License No. 180235

Dear Dr. Elist:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Order No. 20-108. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect April 29, 2020.

If the penalty imposed by the Order is a fine, please write the check payable to the New York State Department of Health. Noting the BPMC Order number on your remittance will assist in proper crediting. Payments should be directed to the following address:

> Bureau of Accounts Management New York State Department of Health Corning Tower, Room 2784 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Please direct any questions to: Board for Professional Medical Conduct, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York, 12204, telephone # 518-402-0846.

Sincerely,



Michael S. Jakubowski, M.D. Interim Executive Secretary Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

Peter Osinoff, Esq. 355 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1750 Los Angeles, CA 90071-1562

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

BPMC No. 20-108

IN THE MATTER OF JAMES ELIST, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

Upon the application of (Respondent) JAMES ELIST, M.D. in the attached Consent Agreement and Order, which is made a part of this Consent Order, it is

ORDERED, that the Consent Agreement, and its terms, are adopted and

it is further

ORDERED, that this Consent Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board,

ellher

by mailing of a copy of this Consent Order, either by first class mail to Respondent at the address in the attached Consent Agreement or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, OR

upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney,

whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATE: 4/21/2020


THOMAS T. LEE, M.D. Interim Chair State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER OF JAMES ELIST, M.D.

CONSENT AGREEMENT

JAMES ELIST, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

1

That on or about October 4, 1989 I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 180235 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is

and

will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) has charged me with one or more specifications of professional misconduct, as set forth in a Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", attached to and part of this Consent Agreement.

l agree not to contest the allegations, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law§ 230-a(1), I shall be subject to a Censure and Reprimand.  $\cdot$ 

Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 230-a(7) and (9), I shall be subject to a

fine in the amount of \$500, to be paid in full within 30 days of the effective

date of this Order. Payments must be submitted to:

Bureau of Accounts Management New York State Department of Health Corning Tower, Room 2784 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

In making such payment, Respondent shall indicate the order number of this

Order both on the payment check submitted and on the cover letter

accompanying payment. Additionally, Respondent shall simultaneously mail

a photocopy of the check and cover letter to:

Physician Monitoring Program

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

Riverview Center

150 Broadway, Suite 355

Albany, New York 12204-2719.

I further agree that the Consent Order shall impose the following conditions:

That Respondent shall comply with each and every penalty imposed by this Order pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a.

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Educ Law § 6502 including but not limited to the requirements that a licensee shall register and continue to be registered with the New York State Education Department (except during periods of actual suspension) and that a licensee shall pay all registration fees. Respondent shall not exercise the option provided in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6502(4) to avoid registration and payment of fees. This condition shall take effect 120 days after the Consent Order's effective date and will continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State; and

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2995-a(4) and 10 NYCRR 1000.5, including but not limited to the requirements that a licensee shall: report to the Department all information required by the Department to develop a public physician profile for the licensee; continue to notify the Department of any change in profile information within 30 days of any change (or in the case of optional information, within 365 days of such change); and, in addition to such periodic reports and notification of any changes, update his

or her profile information within six months prior to the expiration date of the licensee's registration period. Licensee shall submit changes to his or her physician profile information either electronically using the Department's secure web site or on forms prescribed by the Department, and licensee shall attest to the truthfulness, completeness and correctness of any changes licensee submits to the Department. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the Order's effective date and shall continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State. Respondent's failure to comply with this condition, if proven and found at a hearing pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230, shall constitute professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(21) and N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29). Potential penalties for failure to comply with this condition may include all penalties for professional misconduct set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a, including but not limited to: revocation or suspension of license, Censure and Reprimand, probation, public service and/or fines of up to \$10,000 per specification of misconduct found; and

That Respondent shall provide the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204-2719, with the following information, in writing, and ensure that this information is kept current: a full description of Respondent's employment and practice; all professional and residential addresses and

telephone numbers within and outside New York State; and all investigations, arrests, charges, convictions or disciplinary actions by any local, state or federal agency, institution or facility. Respondent shall notify OPMC, in writing, within 30 days of any additions to or changes in the required information. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the Order's effective date and shall continue at all times until Respondent receives written notification from the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, Physician Monitoring Program, that OPMC has determined that Respondent has fully complied with and satisfied the requirements of the Order, regardless of Iolling; and

That Respondent shall cooperate fully with the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) in its administration and enforcement of this Consent Order and in its investigations of matters concerning Respondent. Respondent shall respond in a timely manner to all OPMC requests for written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with this Consent Order. Respondent shall meet with a person designated by the Director of OPMC, as directed. Respondent shall respond promptly and provide all documents and information within Respondent's control, as directed. This condition shall take effect upon the Board's issuance of the Consent Order and will continue so long as Respondent remains licensed in New York State.

I stipulate that my failure to comply with any conditions of this Consent Order shall constitute misconduct as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29).

I agree that, if I am charged with professional misconduct in future, this Consent Agreement and Order shall be admitted into evidence in that proceeding.

I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand that if the Board does not adopt this Consent Agreement, none of its terms shall bind me or constitute an admission of any of the acts of alleged misconduct; this Consent Agreement shall not be used against me in any way and shall be kept in strict confidence; and the Board's denial shall be without prejudice to the pending disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination pursuant to the N.Y. Pub. Health Law.

I agree that, if the Board adopts this Consent Agreement, the Chair of the Board shall issue a Consent Order in accordance with its terms. I agree that this Consent Order shall take effect upon its issuance by the Board, either by mailing of a copy of the Consent Order by first class mail to me at the address in this Consent Agreement, or to my attorney by certified mail, OR upon facsimile transmission to me or my attorney, whichever is first. The Consent Order, this agreement, and all attached Exhibits shall be public documents, with only patient identities or other confidential information, if any, redacted. As public documents, they may be posted on the Department's website. OPMC shall report this action to the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Federation of State Medical Boards, and any other entities that the Director of OPMC shall deem appropriate.

I stipulate that the proposed sanction and Consent Order are authorized by N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 230 and 230-a, and that the Board and OPMC have the requisite powers to carry out all included terms. I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement of my own free will and not under duress, compulsion or restraint. In consideration of the value to me of the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement, allowing me to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Consent Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, I agree to be bound by the Consent Order, and I ask that the Board adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director of OPMC and the Chair of the Board each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed agreement and Consent Order, based upon my application, or to decline to do so. I further understand and agree that no prior or separate written or oral communication can limit that discretion.

DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

JAMES ELIST, M.D. RESPONDENT

The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Consent Agreement and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: April 17, 2020

PETER OSINOFF, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ April 20, 2020

IAN H. SILVERMAN, ESQ. Associate Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: <u>April 21, 2020</u>

PAULA M. BREEN Director Office of Professional Medical Conduct EXHIBIT "A"

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

#### IN THE MATTER

STATEMENT

OF

JAMES ELIST, M.D.

OF

CHARGES

JAMES ELIST, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about October 4, 1989, by the issuance of license number 180235 by the New York State Education Department.

### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. On or about July 18, 2019 the Medical Board of California (California Board) by way of a Decision and Order publicly reprimanded the Respondent and ordered him to take one continuing medical education course in the topic of medical recordkeeping. The California Board found that the Respondent failed to maintain adequate medical records for a single patient.

B. Respondent's conduct as described above upon which the finding of unprofessional conduct in California was based would, if committed in New York State, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of the State of New York as follows:

1. New York Education Law §6530(32) (failure to maintain a record

### FIRST SPECIFICATION

### HAVING BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. 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 (namely N.Y. Educ. Law §§ 6530 (32)) as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. The facts in Paragraph A and B.

### SECOND SPECIFICATION

### 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(32)) as alleged in the facts of the following:

2. The facts in Paragraphs A and B.

DATE: April 21, 2020 Albany New York



TIMOTHY J. MAHAR Deputy Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct