Corning Tower

The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza

Albany, New York 12237

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

March 1, 1995

Karen Schimke
Executive Deputy Commissioner

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Claudia Morales Bloch, Esq. NYS Department of Health 5 Penn Plaza-Sixth Floor New York, New York 10001

Gilbert Ross, M.D. 833 Northern Blvd. Suite 120 Great Neck, New York 11021 Vivian Shevitz, Esq. 19 North Moger Avenue Mount Kisco, New York 10549



RE: In the Matter of Gilbert Ross, M.D.

Dear Ms. Bloch, Dr. Ross and Ms. Shevitz:

Enclosed please find the Determination and Order (No. 95-42) 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required to deliver to the Board of Professional Medical Conduct your license to practice medicine if said license has been revoked, annulled, suspended or surrendered, together with the registration certificate.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 Corning Tower - Fourth Floor (Room 438) Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237 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 all action 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 Empire State Plaza Corning Tower, Room 2503 Albany, New York 12237-0030

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,

Tyrone T. Butler, Director Bureau of Adjudication

TTB:nm Enclosure STATE OF NEW YORK : DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER

OF

GILBERT ROSS, M.D.

DETERMINATION

AND

ORDER

BPMC-95-42

A Notice of Referral Proceedings and Statement of Charges, both dated August 25, 1994 were served upon the Respondent, GILBERT ROSS, M.D. ROBERT BRUCE BERGMANN, M.D., Chairman, HENRY PINSKER, M.D. and EUGENIA HERBST, duly designated members of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, served as the Hearing Committee in this matter pursuant to Section 230 (10)(e) of the Public Health Law. MICHAEL P. MCDERMOTT, ESQ., Administrative Law Judge, served as the Administrative Officer. A hearing was held on January 31, 1995. The Department appeared by Peter J. Millock, Esq. General Counsel, by CLAUDIA MORALES BLOCH, ESQ., of Counsel. The Respondent appeared by VIVIAN SHEVITZ, ESQ., 19 North Moger Avenue, Mount Kisco, New York 10549.

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 where 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 or another jurisdiction, or upon a prior administrative adjudication

regarding conduct which 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). A copy of the Notice of Referral Proceeding and Statement of Charges is attached to this Determination and Order as Appendix I.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The following Findings of Fact were made after a review of the entire record in this matter. Numbers in parenthesis refer to transcript page numbers or exhibits. These citations represent 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 findings were unanimous unless otherwise specified.

- Gilbert Ross, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on July 2, 1973, by the issuance of license number 116347 by the New York State Education Department.
- 2. On June 26, 1993, the Respondent was found guilty after trial in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York of one (1) count of participating in a racketeering enterprise; one (1) count of violation and pattern of racketeering activity; ten (10) counts of mail fraud; and one (1) count of criminal forfeiture. (Petitioner's Ex. 4)
- 3. The Respondent was sentenced to prison for forty-six (46) months on each of the counts to be served concurrently to each other. Upon release from imprisonment, the Respondent shall be on supervised release for a term of three (3) years. The Respondent was also ordered to

make restitution to the New York State Department of Social Services in the amount of \$612,855 on a schedule of payments as directed by the court. (Petitioner's Ex. 4)

4. The Respondent's prison sentence has been stayed pending appeal. (Tr. 78)

VOTE OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE

SPECIFICATION

(Having been convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under Federal Law)

SUSTAINED (3-0).

DETERMINATION OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE

The Hearing Committee has reviewed the entire record in this case to determine an appropriate penalty.

While it has been determined that the Respondent was convicted of one (1) count of participating in a racketeering enterprise; one (1) count of violation and pattern of racketeering activity; ten (10) counts of mail fraud; and one (1) count of criminal forfeiture, the Hearing Committee believes that there are mitigating circumstances which should be considered.

The record indicates that the Respondent's participation in the illegal activity was brief and limited (7 weeks) and that he voluntarily resigned when he perceived irregularities in the practice arrangement.

Since July, 1993, the Respondent has been the volunteer Medical Director of RotoCare, a free health care service for the poor and homeless. RotoCare is essentially a "soup kitchen" and the patients are mostly the people who come to the lunch program. As Medical Director, the Respondent comes to RotoCare every Monday to see patients and to diagnose, treat and manage their care.

The Hearing Committee believes that the Respondent is performing a needed service to the community that should be continued.

Considering the foregoing, the Hearing Committee believes that the interest of justice in this case can best be served by suspending the Respondent's license for two (2) years, staying said suspension, and placing the Respondent on probation and requiring him to perform 500 hours of community service.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Respondent's license to practice medicine n the State of New York is SUSPENDED for a period of two (2) years, SUSPENSION STAYED and the Respondent is placed on probation for a period of two (2) years subject to the following conditions:
- The Respondent shall perform 500 hours of community service as Medical Director of RotoCare or similar facility approved by the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct.
- 3. The Director of the RotoCare program or other approved facility shall submit a report, every three (3) months, to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct certifying the Respondent's compliance with this Order or reporting the Respondent's failure to comply.
- 4. Failure to comply with the conditions of this Order will result the automatic reinstatement of the two (2) year suspension of the Respondent's license to practice medicine upon notice to the Respondent.

5. This Order shall be effective upon service on the Respondent or the Respondent's attorney by personal service or by certified or registered mail.

DATED: Massapequa, New York

struary 27, 1995

ROBERT BRUCE BERGMANN, M.

HENRY PINSKER, M.D. EUGENIA HERBST STATE OF NEW YORK : DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER

NOTICE OF

OF

REFERRAL

GILBERT ROSS, M.D.

PROCEEDING

TO: GILBERT ROSS, M.D. 833 Northern Blvd. Suite 120 Great Neck, NY 11021

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

An adjudicatory proceeding will be held pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Pub. Health Law Section 230(10)(p) (McKinney Supp. 1994) and N.Y. State Admin. Proc. Act Sections 301-307 and 401 (McKinney 1984 and Supp. 1994). The proceeding will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Committee) on the 13th day of October, 1994 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon of that day at 5 Penn Plaza, 6th Floor, New York, New York 10001.

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, Corning Tower Building, 25th Floor, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12237, ATTENTION: HON. TYRONE BUTLER, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF ADJUDICATION, (henceforth "Bureau of Adjudication") as well as the Department of Health attorney indicated below, on or before September 29, 1994.

You may file a written answer, brief, and affidavits with the Committee. Six copies of all papers you wish to submit must be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication at the address indicated above on or before September 29, 1994 and a copy of all papers must be served on the same date on the Department of Health attorney indicated below. Pursuant to Section 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 proceeding may be held whether or not you appear. Please note that requests for adjournments must be made in writing to 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: New York, New York

CHRIS STERN HYMAN

Counsel

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

Inquiries should be addressed to:

CLAUDIA MORALES BLOCH Associate Counsel 212-613-2615

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

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IN THE MATTER : STATEMENT

OF : OF

GILBERT ROSS, M.D. : CHARGES

----X

GILBERT ROSS, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on July 2, 1973 by the issuance of license number 116347 by the New York State Education Department. The Respondent is currently registered with the New York State Education Department to practice medicine for the period January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1994 at 833 Northern Blvd., Suite 120, Great Neck, NY 11021.

SPECIFICATION

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct within the meaning of N.Y. Educ. Law Section 6530(9)(a)(ii) (McKinney Supp. 1994), in that Respondent was convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under federal law, specifically:

On or about June 26, 1993, Respondent was found guilty after trial and convicted, on 13 counts of fraud, specifically one (1) count of Participation in a racketeering enterprise, in

violation of 18 USC 1962(d); one (1) count of violation and pattern of racketeering activity, in violation of 18 USC 1962(c); ten (10) counts of Mail Fraud, in violation of 18 USC 1341 and 1342; and one (1) count of Criminal Forfeiture, in violation of 18 USC 982(a)(1), and (b)(1)A; in that, in or about February, 1991 through in or about April, 1991, Respondent together with others, participated in a scheme to operate medical clinics for the purpose of obtaining payments directly and indirectly from the Medicaid system by submitting bills, and causing others to submit bills, to the New York State Department of Social Service for medical services, drug prescriptions, and laboratory tests which he knew to be, and were in fact, medically unnecessary. Judgement was entered, after sentencing, on or about December 10, 1993.

DATED: New York, New York

august 25, 1994

CHRIS STERN HYMAN

Counsel

Bureau of Professional Medical

Conduct