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



Barbara A. DeBuono, M.D., M.P.H. Commissioner C. Maynard Guest, M.D. Executive Secretary

October 2, 1995

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Robert Williams, M.D. 6148 Starburn Path Columbia, Maryland 21045

RE: License No. 133353 Effective Date: 10/09/95

Dear Dr. Williams:

Enclosed please find Order #BPMC 95-233 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 Vacante

Charles Vacanti, M.D. Chairman Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc: Marta Sachey, Ecc

Upon the Application of ROBERT J. WILLIAMS, M.D. (Respondent) for Consent Order, which Application is made a part hereof, it is

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 Respondent, upon receipt by Respondent of this Order via certified mail, or seven days after mailing of this Order by certified mail, whichever is earliest.

SO ORDERED,

DATED: 27 September 1992

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Charles J. Vacanti, M.D. Chairperson State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

STATE OF NEW YORK : DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT ------X : APPLICATION IN THE MATTER OF ROBERT J. WILLIAMS, M.D. : ORDER

----X

COUNTY OF SITY BALTMORE

ROBERT J. WILLIAMS, M.D., being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- I was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on January 6, 1978 by the issuance of license number 133353 by the New York State Education Department.
- I am not currently registered with the New York State
 Education Department to practice medicine in New York State.
- 3. I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical conduct [hereafter "Board"] has charged me with one specification of professional misconduct. A copy of the Statement of Charges is annexed hereto, made a part hereof, and marked as Exhibit "A".

- I admit guilt to the one specification of professional misconduct with which I am charged as set forth in the Statement of Charges.
- 5. I hereby agree to the following penalties:
 - (a) A two year suspension of my license, such suspension stayed.
 - (b) A two year period of probation under the Terms of Probation set forth and attached hereto as "Exhibit B," which period shall begin on the effective date of the Order issued pursuant to this Application.
- I hereby make this Application to the Board and request that it be granted.
- 7. I understand that in the event that this Application is not granted by the Board, nothing contained herein shall be binding upon me or construed to be an admission of any act of misconduct charged against me, such Application shall not be used against me in any way and shall be kept in strict confidence during the pendency of the professional misconduct disciplinary proceeding; and such denial by the Board shall be made without prejudice to the continuance of any disciplinary proceeding and the final determination by the Board pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Law.
- 8. I agree that, in the event the Board grants my Application, as set forth herein, an order of the Chairperson of the Board shall be issued in accordance with same.

9. I am making this Application of my own free will and accord and not under duress, compulsion or restraint of any kind or manner.

WILLIAMS, M.D.

RESPONDENT

Sworn to before me this 19th day of September , 1995.

Unnabelle M. Lui, NOTARY PUBLIC

my commission appress 10/1/95 poer



The undersigned agree to the attached Application of the Respondent and to the proposed penalty based on the terms and conditions thereof.

DATE:

DATE: 9-20-9

201.22, 1995 DATE:

DATE: 27 September 1995

ROBERT 7. WILLIAMS, M.D. Respondent

E. MARTA SACHEY Associate Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

KATHLEEN M. TANNER

KATHLEEN M. TANNER DIRECTOR Office of Professional Medical Conduct

MD.

CHAIRPERSON State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

ROBERT J. WILLIAMS, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on January 6, 1978 by the issuance of license number 133353 by the New York State Education Department. Respondent is not currently registered with the New York State Education Department to practice medicine in New York State.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

1. The State of Maryland Board of Physician Quality Assurance, by Consent Order dated April 4, 1995 and entered in with Respondent, found that Respondent prescribed drugs for illegitimate medical purposes in violation of Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. §14-404(a)(27) and that Respondent failed to meet appropriate peer review for the delivery of quality medical care in violation of Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. §14-404(a)(22).

EXHIBIT A

- 2. The Maryland Board suspended Respondent's license for sixty days, immediately stayed the suspension and placed Respondent on probation for three years. The terms of probation included, <u>inter alia</u>, successful completion of a mini-residency in the prescribing of controlled substances, supervision of Respondent's practice by another physician, and restriction of Respondent from prescribing controlled dangerous substances to other than in-patient hospital patients until reinstatement of full prescribing privileges by the Maryland Board. The Maryland Board, by Order of July 25, 1995, terminated the restrictions it had imposed on Respondent's prescribing privileges.
- 3. The conduct underlying the Maryland Board's finding of unprofessional conduct would, if committed in New York State, constitute professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ.Law§6530(3) [negligence on more than one occasion] (McKinney Supp. 1995).

SPECIFICATION

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(9)(b) by reason of 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 has 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 1 through 3.

DATED: Albany, New York

. VAN BUREN

D. Deputy Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT B

TERMS OF PROBATION

ROBERT J. WILLIAMS, M.D.

- 1. Respondent during the period of probation 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 imposed by law and by his profession;
- 2. Respondent shall submit written notification to the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), addressed to the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct, New York State Department of Health, Corning Tower Building, 4th Floor, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12237 [hereafter "OPMC"] of any employment and practice, of Respondent's residence and telephone number, of any change in Respondent's employment, practice, residence, or telephone number within or without the State of New York;
- 3. Respondent shall submit to OPMC, no later than the first three months of probation, written proof from the Division of Professional Licensing Services (DPLS), New York State Education Department (NYSED), that Respondent has paid all registration fees due and owing to the NYSED and Respondent shall cooperate with and submit whatever papers are requested by DPLS in regard to said registration fees
- 4. Respondent shall submit to OPMC, no later than the first two months of probation, written proof that (a) Respondent is currently registered with the NYSED, unless Respondent submits written proof that Respondent has advised DPLS, NYSED, that Respondent is not engaging in the practice of medicine in New York State and does not desire to register, and that (b) Respondent has paid any fines which may have previously been imposed upon Respondent by the Board of Regents.
- 5. Respondent shall comply with the terms and conditions of probation imposed upon him by the State of Maryland Board of Physician Quality Assurance in its Consent Order dated April 4, 1995, a copy of which is annexed hereto, made a part hereof, and marked as "Exhibit C."
- 6. Respondent, at the direction of OPMC, shall cause the Maryland Board to submit written notification to OPMC of Respondent's compliance or noncompliance with the terms and conditions of probation imposed by the Maryland Board and shall execute any releases or authorizations necessary for the Maryland Board to provide such notification.

EXHIBIT B

- 7. In the event Respondent practices medicine in New York State before the termination of his probation in New York, the terms and conditions of the Maryland probation shall apply to Respondent during his practice of medicine in New York State, at the discretion of OPMC, until the end of the two year term of probation imposed by the Order issued pursuant to Respondent's Application for Consent Order.
- 8. Respondent shall assume and bear all costs related to compliance with the Terms of Probation.
- 9. Respondent, so long as there is full compliance with every term herein, may practice his profession in accordance with the Terms of Probation; provided, however, that upon receipt of evidence of noncompliance with or any violation of these terms, the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct and/or the Board may initiate a violation of probation proceeding and/or such other proceeding against Respondent as may be authorized by the Public Health Law.

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE
ROBERT J. WILLIAMS, M.D.	*	STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIAN
Respondent	*	QUALITY ASSURANCE
License Number: D25055	*	Case Number: 94-0236
		• • • * * * * * * * *

A. . .

CONSENT ORDER

BACKGROUND

The State of Maryland Board of Physician Quality Assurance (the "Board") voted to charge Robert J. Williams, M.D. (the Respondent) (D.O.B. 1/14/34), License Number D25055, with violations of the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. ("H.O") §14-401 <u>et seq</u>. (1991 Repl. Vol.) on August 24, 1994.

The Board voted to charge the Respondent under the Act with the following violations in H.O. §14-404:

(a) Subject to the hearing provisions of §14-405 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its full authorized membership, may reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the licensee:

> (22) Fails to meet appropriate standards as determined by appropriate peer review for the delivery of quality medical and surgical care performed in an outpatient surgical facility, office, hospital, or any other location in this State;

(27) Sells, prescribes, gives away, or administers drugs for illegal or illegitimate medical purposes.

Prior to filing formal charges, a Case Resolution Conference was held on January 18, 1995. As a result of the Case resolution Conference, and the negotiations entered into between the Office of

EXHIBIT C

the Attorney General and the Respondent, the Respondent agreed to enter into the following Consent Order according to the terms set forth below.

The Board, at its meeting on February 22, 1995 considered the Case Resolution Conference's recommendation and voted to accept this Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent was licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland on June 19, 1980.

2. On or around September 21, 1993, on information from the State of Maryland Division of Drug Control, the Respondent became the subject of an investigation by the Board concerning the Respondent's prescribing practices.

3. Subsequently, on or about January 7, 1994, the Board referred the matter for an investigation and a practice review to the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland ("Med-Chi") Peer Review Management Committee (PRMC). Subsequently, Med-Chi, PRMC referred this matter to the Baltimore City Medical Society (BCMS).

4. The BCMS Peer Review Committee (PRC) conducted a practice review, and then issued a report to the Board on July 5, 1994, finding that the Respondent prescribed controlled dangerous substances (CDS) without medical indication and failed to meet the appropriate standard for the delivery of quality medical care.

5. The Respondent disagrees with the findings of the peer reviewers.

Sec. 2.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the Findings of Fact, the Board concludes, as a matter of law, the following:

The Respondent prescribed drugs for illegitimate medical purposes in violation of MD. HEALTH OCC. CODE ANN. §14-404(a)(27) (1991 Repl. Vol.).

The Respondent failed to meet appropriate standards as determined by appropriate peer review for the delivery of quality medical care in violation of MD. HEALTH OCC. CODE ANN. \$14-404(a)(22) (1991 Repl. Vol.).

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law, it is this <u>4</u> day of <u>Apric</u>, 1995, by the State of Maryland Board of Physician Quality Assurance:

ORDERED that the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland be and it is hereby SUSPENDED for a period of sixty (60) days as of the effective date of this Consent Order, that being the date on which the Board executes this Consent Order; and be it further

ORDERED that the aforementioned **SUSPENSION** be and it is immediately **STAYED**; and be it further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of **THREE (3) YEARS** from the effective date of this Consent Order, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete the Mini-Residency in the Proper Prescribing of Controlled Dangerous Substances given by Forensic and Educational Consultants, located in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey, from May 1 - May 6, 1995. The Respondent shall take the aforementioned Mini-Residency program in addition to his yearly required continued medical education (CME) licensure requirements.

(a) The Respondent shall submit a certificate of attendance to the Probation Office of the Board, within thirty (30) days of completion of the aforementioned Mini-Residency. The Respondent further acknowledges and understands that failure to abide by these enrollment, attendance, completion and submission terms shall be deemed a breach of and violation of this Consent Order.

2. The Respondent shall be prohibited from prescribing controlled dangerous substances (CDS), or other non-CDS addictive drugs¹ including Stadol, Ambien, Soma, Chloral Hydrate, Fioricet,

¹ "Other non-CDS addictive drugs" means potentially psychologically dependent drugs/medications; or potentially abusable drugs/medications.

Flexeril, or their generic equivalents except that he may write CDS or other non-CDS addictive drugs in hospital medication orders for the Respondent's in-patient hospital patients only.

(a) The Respondent may petition the Board for reinstatement of his full CDS prescribing privileges AFTER:

(1) completion of the Mini-Residency course.The reinstatement of the Respondent's prescribing privileges shallbe in the sole discretion of the Board.

3. The Respondent shall comply with the conditions listed below:

(a) Enroll in and take the Special Purpose Examination("SPEX") in June 1995 and attain a passing grade of 75; and

(b) If the Respondent fails to attain a passing grade of 75, then he shall return to the Board for a follow-up conference before the CRC, which may recommend to the Board imposition of additional probationary terms as deemed appropriate; and

(c) Enroll in, attend and successfully complete the general review course in Internal Medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital from May 15-19, 1995; and

(d) The Respondent shall submit a certificate of attendance to the Probation Office of the Board, within thirty (30) days of completion of the aforementioned SPEX examination and Internal Medicine course. The Respondent further acknowledges and understands that failure to abide by these enrollment, attendance, completion and submission terms shall be deemed a breach of and violation of this Consent Order.

4. The Respondent's practice shall be supervised by a Boardapproved physician:

(a) The supervising physician shall be in the same specialty as the Respondent, and the supervision shall be on a weekly basis.

(b) The weekly supervision shall begin effective February 1, 1995, and shall continue uninterrupted for one (1) year thereafter.

(c) The Respondent shall meet with the supervising physician individually for weekly supervisory sessions to review the Respondent's prescribing practices and general medical care. The supervising physician will determine how much time each week is needed to review the Respondent's prescribing practices and general medical practice.

(d) For the duration of the supervision and after reinstatement of the Respondent's CDS prescribing privileges, the Respondent shall report to the supervising physician the following:

(1) the name of each patient to whom a CDS or other non-CDS addictive drug has been prescribed;

(2) the diagnosis of each patient;

(3) the course of treatment for each patient; and

(4) the purpose of the CDS or non-CDS addictive prescription.

(i) The supervising physician will determine whether a retricular non-CDS drug, other than those specifically

named herein, is non-CDS addictive drug within the meaning of this Consent Order.

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(e) The supervising physician must notify the Board in writing of his acceptance of the supervisory role over the Respondent.

(f) The supervising physician will submit quarterly reports to the Board addressing the Respondent's attendance, participation, and ability to improve his pattern of practice. In the quarterly reports, the supervising physician will also discuss whether the Respondent is paying the costs of the supervision as discussed in paragraph (h) below.

(g) The Board must approve and ratify any changes in supervision based upon the supervising physician's reports.

(h) The Respondent shall pay all costs associated with the weekly supervisory sessions and the quarterly reports as per agreement between the Respondent and the supervising physician. If the Respondent fails to pay the bill pursuant to the agreement, the supervising physician will notify the Board. Failure to pay all bills pursuant to the agreement shall be deemed a breach of and violation of this Consent Order.

(i) If the Respondent fails to attend the weekly supervisory sessions, the supervising physician shall notify the Board. The Respondent's failure to attend shall be deemed a breach of and violation of this Consent Order subject to the sanctions set forth in this Consent Order.

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(j) In the event that the supervising physician believes that the Respondent is a danger to his patients, or is not competent to practice medicine, or is in violation of this Order, then the supervising physician shall immediately notify the Board.

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(k) For purposes of this Consent Order, the supervising physician shall be treated as a member of the peer review committee and shall be immune from civil liability in accordance with H.O. \$14-501 when performing the functions of a Medical Review Committee.

(1) The Respondent shall practice in accordance with the laws governing the practice of medicine in Maryland;

5. The Respondent shall be subject to periodic peer reviews during the period of probation as ordered by the Board, shall cooperate in order to facilitate peer review, and shall participate in peer review where and when requested. The Respondent shall undergo the first peer review one year after completion of all educational courses stated herein, and thereafter shall be subject to peer review on an annual basis for a minimum of two (2) peer reviews as a condition of this Consent Order;

6. The Respondent shall practice competently. The Respondent shall practice within the standard of care as determined by appropriate peer review to be conducted as set forth in paragraph no. 5 above. If the Respondent is found to be practicing below the standard of care as determined by the Board through appropriate peer leview, and if the peer review determination is approved by the Board, then he is deemed to have breached and

violated the terms of his probation and this Consent Order; and be it further

ORDERED that if the Respondent violates any of the terms or conditions of this Consent Order, and/or any of the terms or conditions of his probation, as set forth in this Consent Order, then the Board, after determination of violation and notice and a hearing, shall lift the stay of suspension and reinstate the sixty (60) days suspension and/or impose any other disciplinary sanctions it deems appropriate, including additional suspension or revocation, said violation of probation being proved by a preponderance of evidence; and be it further

ORDERED that if the Board has probable cause to believe that the Respondent presents a danger to the public health, safety or welfare, the Board, WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING, may impose any other disciplinary sanctions it deems appropriate, including additional suspension or revocation, provided that the Respondent is given notice of the Board's action and an opportunity for a hearing within thirty (30) days after requesting same in accordance with MD. STATE GOV'T CODE ANN. §10-222 (Supp. 1993); and be it further

ORDERED that three (3) after the effective date of this Consent Order, the Respondent may submit a petition for termination of probation and reinstatement of his license without any conditions or restrictions to the Board provided that he has been peer reviewed a minimum of two (2) times, and is not in violation of this Consent Order; and be it further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall be responsible for all costs incurred under this Consent Order; and be it further

ORDERED that this Consent Order is considered a public document pursuant to Md. State Cov't Code Ann. §10-611, <u>et seq</u>. (1993).

4/4/95

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Israel H. Weiner, M.D.

Israel H. Weiner, M.D. Chair Board of Physician Quality Assurance

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS BLANK

I HEREBY ATTEST AND CERTARY UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY ON <u>the</u> 14,1495 THAT THE FORGOING DOCUMENT IS A FULL, TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE AND IN MY LEGAL CUSTODY.

Ann

DEFUTY DIRECTOR () MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIAN QUALITY ASSURANCE

CONSENT

I, Robert J. Williams, M.D., acknowledge that I am represented by legal counsel, and I have had the opportunity to consult with counsel before entering into and signing this document. By this consent, and in order to resolve this matter, I hereby accept and agree to be bound by the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions and restrictions, consisting of twelve (12) pages.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by the laws of the State of Maryland.

I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order.

I also affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal any adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed any such hearing.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with counsel, voluntarily and without reservation, and with full understanding and comprehension of the language, meaning, and terms of this Consent Order.

<u>il(::);;;</u> ns, M.D.

Read and approved: Date

Anton J.S. Keating, Esqu. Attorney for Respondent .re

STATE OF May Complement CITY/COUNTY OF 12 Clarace

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this <u>18</u> day of <u>Manch</u>, 1995, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Robert J. Williams, M.D. and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and not rial seal.

Notary Public Ant

My Commission expires: 10/197

williams.co