



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE
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MEDICAL CONDUCT

PUBLIC

February 24, 2005

Deborah Williams, Physician
79 Mackay Drive
Bergenfield, New Jersey 07621

Re: Application Restoration

Dear Dr. Williams:

Enclosed please find the Commissioner's Order regarding Case No. CP-04-19 which is in reference to Calendar No. 21163. This order and any decision contained therein goes into effect five (5) days after the date of this letter.

Very truly yours,

DANIEL J. KELLEHER
Director of Investigations

GUSTAVE MARTINE
Supervisor

DJK/GM/er

cc: Henry Nahal, Esq.
Hiscock & Barclay
50 Beaver Street
Albany, New York 12207-2830

The
University of the
Education



State of New York
Department

IN THE MATTER

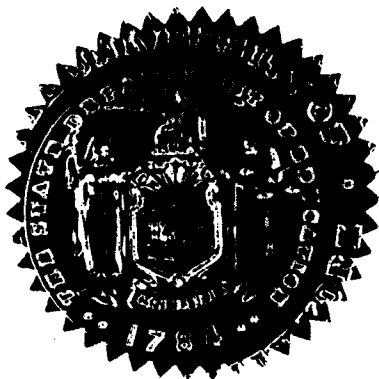
of the

Application of DEBORAH
WILLIAMS for restoration of her
license to practice as a physician in
the State of New York.

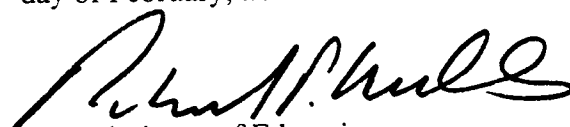
Case No. CP-04-19

It appearing that the license of DEBORAH WILLIAMS, 79 MacKay Drive, Bergenfield, New Jersey 07621, to practice as a physician in the State of New York, was revoked by the Administrative Review Board of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, effective February 7, 1995, and she having petitioned the Board of Regents for restoration of said license, and the Regents having given consideration to said petition and having agreed with and accepted the recommendations of the Peer Committee and the Committee on the Professions, now, pursuant to action taken by the Board of Regents on December 17, 2004, it is hereby

ORDERED that the petition for restoration of License No. 180333, authorizing DEBORAH WILLIAMS to practice as a physician in the State of New York, is denied, but that the Order of Revocation of said license is stayed for five years, and said DEBORAH WILLIAMS is placed on probation for a period of five years under specified terms and conditions, and upon successful completion of the probationary period, her license to practice as a physician in the State of New York be fully restored.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Richard P. Mills,
Commissioner of Education of the State of New York for
and on behalf of the State Education Department, do
hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of the State
Education Department, at the City of Albany, this 16th
day of February, 2005.


Commissioner of Education

Case No. CP-04-19

It appearing that the license of DEBORAH WILLIAMS, 79 MacKay Drive, Bergenfield, New Jersey 07621, to practice as a physician in the State of New York, having been revoked by the Administrative Review Board of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, effective February 7, 1995, and she having petitioned the Board of Regents for restoration of said license, and the Regents having given consideration to said petition, and having agreed with and accepted the recommendations of the Peer Committee and the Committee on the Professions, now, pursuant to action taken by the Board of Regents on December 17, 2004, it was

VOTED that the petition for restoration of License No. 180333, authorizing DEBORAH WILLIAMS to practice as a physician in the State of New York, is denied, but that the Order of Revocation of her license be stayed for five years, and said DEBORAH WILLIAMS be placed on probation for a period of five years under specified terms and conditions, and upon successful completion of the probationary period, her license to practice as a physician in the State of New York shall be fully restored.

Case number

CP-04-19

November 19, 2004

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
The State Education Department

Report of the Committee on the Professions
Application for Restoration of Physician License

Re: Deborah Williams

Attorney: Henry Nahal

Deborah Williams, 79 MacKay Drive, Bergenfield, New Jersey 07621 petitioned for restoration of her physician license. The chronology of events is as follows:

- 10/16/89 Issued license number 180333 to practice as a physician in New York State.
- 08/25/94 Charged with professional misconduct by Department of Health.
- 10/27/94 Hearing Committee of Office of Professional Medical Conduct revoked physician license.
- 01/31/95 Administrative Review Board for Professional Medical Conduct sustained Hearing Committee's determination to revoke license.
- 02/07/95 Effective date of revocation.
- 01/14/02 Submitted application for restoration of physician license.
- 11/18/03 Peer Committee restoration review.
- 06/17/04 Report and recommendation of Peer Committee. (See "Report of the Peer Committee.")
- 08/31/04 Committee on the Professions restoration review.
- 11/19/04 Report and recommendation of Committee on the Professions. (See "Report of the Committee on the Professions.")

Disciplinary History. (See attached disciplinary documents.) On August 25, 1994, the Department of Health charged Dr. Williams with professional misconduct

based on her conviction of committing an act constituting a crime under federal law. The charges alleged that on or about June 26, 1993, Dr. Williams was found guilty, after trial, of one count of Conspiracy to Participate in a Racketeering Enterprise, one count of Participating in the Affairs of an Enterprise through a Pattern of Racketeering Activity, 20 counts of Mail Fraud, and nine counts of Money Laundering. Specifically, Dr. Williams was found guilty of participating with others, from August 1990 through July 1991, in a scheme to operate medical clinics for the purpose of obtaining payments from Medicaid by submitting bills, or causing others to submit bills, for medical services, drug prescriptions, and laboratory tests which she knew to be, and were in fact, medically unnecessary.

On October 27, 1994, a Hearing Committee of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct sustained the charge of professional misconduct and determined that Dr. Williams' physician license should be revoked. Dr. Williams appealed this decision to an Administrative Review Board for Professional Medical Conduct. The Review Board sustained the Hearing Committee's determination of guilt and penalty. Dr. Williams' license was revoked, effective February 7, 1995.

Dr. Williams submitted an application for restoration of her physician license on January 14, 2002.

Recommendation of the Peer Committee. (See attached "Report of the Peer Committee.") The Peer Committee (Kavaler, Lopez, Josephson) met with Dr. Williams on November 18, 2003 to review her application for restoration. In its report, dated June 17, 2004, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the order of revocation of her license be stayed and that she be placed on probation for five years under specified terms and conditions. During the probationary period, she could practice medicine only as a salaried physician in a hospital or other Article 28 facility and her practice would be limited to pathology and teaching.

Recommendation of the Committee on the Professions. On August 31, 2004, the Committee on the Professions (Duncan-Poitier, Munoz, Earle) met with Dr. Williams to review her application for restoration. Henry Nahal, her attorney, accompanied her. Prior to the meeting, Mr. Nahal submitted a letter updating Dr. Williams' activities since meeting with the Peer Committee and a statement from William B. Jones, M.D., indicating that he mentored Dr. Williams by having her shadow him for two months during his rounds at Englewood Hospital. Dr. Jones stated that he discussed patient conditions, diseases and therapies in both general terms and for specific patients with Dr. Williams.

The Committee asked Dr. Williams to explain what led to the loss of her license. She replied that after completing medical school, she decided not to enter a residency program because she was unsure of the field she wanted. She reported that she completed the Ph.D. program at New York University and completed a one-year internship at Tulane University. Through this experience, she indicated that she found that she enjoyed doing dissections. Dr. Williams said that she got married and enrolled

in the three-year residency program at Columbia. She reported that she bought a "co-op" but her husband got a job in Germany and decided to leave her and return to his native country. She said that her salary of \$30,000 as a resident did not cover the payments she needed to make on her student loans and co-op. She reported that, at the time, she owed \$110,000 on her co-op, \$40,000 - \$45,000 for medical school loans, and \$40,000 - \$45,000 for graduate school loans. Dr. Williams told the Committee, "I was financially over my head." After seeing an advertisement in the New York Times, Dr. Williams reported that she decided to moonlight to supplement her salary and signed a contract with Mr. Khan who managed a number of clinics. She indicated that according to the arrangement with her employer, she would cash the checks she received from Medicaid and give 40% of the money to Mr. Khan. She reported that Mr. Khan was responsible for paying the staff and other clinic expenses. She said that Mr. Khan was defrauding Medicaid in all his clinics and that after federal investigators became involved, the clinics fell apart.

The Committee asked Dr. Williams to describe her involvement in the fraudulent activities. She replied that she was responsible for supervising physician assistants who actually saw the patients and wrote the prescriptions. She said that it was her responsibility to sign off on the Medicaid patient charts. She indicated that many of the patients were drug addicts and alcoholics who would sometimes sell their medications. Dr. Williams reported that Mr. Khan also operated a pharmacy. She said that she noticed that the physician assistants were ordering many tests. She reported that without her signature, Mr. Khan couldn't get paid. She told the Committee that at the time she didn't understand that her responsibility at the clinic "was key to the scheme." Dr. Williams stated that, at that time, she didn't understand the depth of the responsibility of a physician - to the patients, state, and professional community.

The Committee asked, "Were you aware it was wrong?" Dr. Williams replied that she recognized that certain things did not look right but as the money came in, she "chose to look the other way." She said, "I felt I was in between a rock and a hard place." She indicated that at the time she was "not sure where to go," especially, since she considered Mr. Khan to be an "unsavory character." Dr. Williams said that since she saw the clinic was not operating well, she rationalized that "maybe, I could fix it." The Committee asked Dr. Williams what she would say to a daughter who found herself in the same situation. She replied, "Get out. Tell the authorities. Stop immediately." She indicated that she would explain that the situation would not get better, since it was wrong from the beginning. She continued, saying that in such a situation, you must admit your guilt and follow through on your responsibilities to yourself, your profession, and the public. In response to the Committee's inquiry, Dr. Williams reported that her restitution amount was changed to \$30,000 because of her financial situation. She indicated that her parents refinanced their home to make her restitution payment.

The Committee asked Dr. Williams to describe what was different about her today. She replied, "I'm totally different." She indicated that she was now older and wiser and now approaches situations "more circumspect." She explained that after obtaining her first job after being in prison, she read the policy handbook cover to cover.

She indicated that she wanted to make certain that she understood the rules and regulations, including the rules of behavior and how she was expected to conduct herself. Dr. Williams stressed that she is now open and honest and realizes the importance of one's integrity. Additionally, she indicated that as she assumed administrative positions, she sought out the information she needed to make decisions and often had to refer to federal and state laws. She said that she wanted to make certain that she was doing things that were right. Dr. Williams told the Committee, "The old Deborah would just show up and do things." She indicated that her misconduct "cost me the shining part of the armor." She stated that she now realizes that "people are looking at you as role models." Since joining the faculty and administrative ranks, Dr. Williams reported that she has been trying to show young people "how and why I faltered." She stated, "If you don't know, you have a responsibility to find out."

Dr. Williams described her faculty appointments at New York Institute of Technology and New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and her teaching of students preparing for licensure as physicians and physician assistants. She described her recent promotions as Director of the Office of Opportunity and Equity at the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and Co-Director of the Bachelor of Science/Doctor of Osteopathy degree program. Additionally, she described the HIV/AIDS curriculum she designed. Dr. Williams told the Committee that the college administration knew of her criminal conviction but the faculty did not. She reported that the students found out about her conviction on the World Wide Web and she would individually talk with students to help them avoid the pitfalls she encountered. She said, "I never lied about it. I was very open."

Dr. Williams said that she has truly changed. She stated, "It is a great comfort living in the light." She reported that she was very young when she graduated from high school and attended prestigious postsecondary institutions. She indicated that when she entered the medical community, she was young and her "maturity was not there." She stated, "Sometimes, you get a little bit ahead of yourself." Dr. Williams said that she understands that to be a physician, one has to have a sense of integrity. She stated, "You have to understand the responsibility in front of you." She indicated that patients have to have access to the best care that a physician can provide and that the physician must understand the community. She said that people look up to physicians and have high expectations. Dr. Williams indicated that as a physician you are not here just to take care of yourself.

The overarching concern in all restoration cases is public protection. Education Law §6511 gives the Board of Regents discretionary authority to make the final decision regarding applications for the restoration of a license to practice as a physician in New York State. 8NYCRR §24.7(2) charges the Committee on the Professions (COP) with submitting a recommendation to the Board of Regents on restoration applications. Although not mandated in law or regulation, the Board of Regents has instituted a process whereby a Peer Committee first meets with an applicant for restoration and provides a recommendation to the COP. A former licensee petitioning for restoration has the significant burden of satisfying the Board of Regents that there is a compelling

reason that licensure should be granted in the face of misconduct so serious that it resulted in the loss of licensure. There must be clear and convincing evidence that the petitioner is fit to practice safely, that the misconduct will not recur, and that the root causes of the misconduct have been addressed and satisfactorily dealt with by the petitioner. It is not the role of the COP to merely accept, without question, the arguments presented by the petitioner but to weigh and evaluate all of the evidence submitted and to render a recommendation based upon the entire record.

The COP concurs with the Peer Committee that Dr. Williams is "sincerely remorseful for the actions that led to the loss of her license." The COP found her responses to its questions straightforward, heartfelt, and credible. Dr. Williams clearly expressed the potential danger in which her misconduct placed the public and described the ethical and moral considerations to which a physician must always adhere. Dr. Williams elucidated how she is now more mature and wiser and a "different Deborah," explaining that she is now more circumspect in approaching new situations and makes certain she understands what is expected of her. She identified the root causes of her misconduct and explained how the role of a physician must transcend personal needs. Her statement that she takes "great comfort in living in the light" illustrates that she has made the necessary behavioral changes in her life to make certain the misconduct will not recur. She has accepted what has happened to her and talks to students about her past in an effort to help them avoid making the same mistakes she made. She continues with her volunteer efforts to help serve the public she put in danger and has developed an HIV/AIDS curriculum so that physicians and physician assistants can better serve the community. The Peer Committee opined that it "finds the likelihood of any recurrence of misconduct remote" and the COP concurs. The COP accepts the conclusion of the Peer Committee that Dr. Williams has satisfied the reeducation criterion for restoration of her license. The COP finds that Dr. Williams presented a compelling case for the restoration of her license at this time.

Therefore, after a careful review of the record and its meeting with her, the Committee on the Professions voted unanimously to concur with the recommendation of the Peer Committee that the order of revocation of Dr. Williams' license to practice as a physician in New York State be stayed for five years, that she be placed on probation for five years under specified terms attached to the Report of the Peer Committee and labeled as Exhibit "A," and that upon satisfactory completion of the probationary period, her license be fully restored.

Johanna Duncan-Poitier, Chair

Frank Munoz

Steven Earle



The University of the State of New York

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
STATE BOARD FOR MEDICINE

-----X

In the Matter of the Application of

DEBORAH WILLIAMS

**REPORT OF
THE PEER
COMMITTEE
CAL. NO. 21163**

for the restoration of her license to
practice as a physician in the State of
New York.

-----X

DEBORAH WILLIAMS, hereinafter known as the applicant, was
previously licensed to practice as a physician in the State of
New York by the New York State Education Department.

PRIOR DISCIPLINE

The applicant's medical license was revoked, effective
February 7, 1995. The applicant had originally been indicted,
along with ten (10) other individuals, for participating in a
scheme to defraud the Medicaid program for medically unnecessary
services and diagnostic tests, and for authorizing physician
assistants to write prescriptions for drugs which were medically
unnecessary. In June, 1993, she was found guilty after trial, in
U.S. District Court, Southern District, of conspiring to
participate in, and participating in, a racketeering enterprise
designed to defraud the state Medicaid system, mail fraud, and

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money laundering. She was sentenced on November 10, 1993 to thirty six (36) months in prison, followed by three years supervised release, and was ordered to pay restitution of \$1,814,896 to the former New York State Department of Social Services, in addition to \$50,000 to the United States.

The applicant then appealed her judgment of conviction and sentence to the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, which held that the evidence illustrated a scheme to defraud. The court's decision determined that the physicians received Medicaid payments for office visits and tests purportedly performed at the clinics. Of these payments, the physicians would "kick back" a percentage to the defendant individual who ran the clinics. The appellate court determined there was evidence that the applicant saw some patients on Saturdays, but she also "supervised" physician assistants during the week, even though she was not present at the clinics during that time. The court further determined that the evidence presented at the trial was sufficient to prove that the applicant had knowledge of the scheme to defraud Medicaid.

Following appeal, the restitution orders were revised for several defendants, including the applicant, and an amended judgment of conviction against the applicant, dated September 19, 1995, reduced her restitution to \$30,000 based on ability to pay, not on findings of diminished culpability.

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The applicant served one year in the general prison population and then volunteered for a "boot camp" program for six months and was then released to a halfway house for the remaining eighteen months of her sentence. The applicant has paid the required restitution and received an early discharge from her three years probation.

THE APPLICATION

On January 14, 2002 the applicant petitioned the New York State Education Department for the restoration on her license to practice as a physician in the State of New York.

In response to the question in the application:

"List other methods, if any, that you have used to maintain/improve your knowledge and skill in the practice of your profession since the date of the revocation/surrender of your license." The application states:

"Since the revocation of my license, I embarked on a teaching career. I first taught basic biological science at a community college and supervised Tutorial at the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. These tutorials included physiology, pathology, and other medical subjects. Students determined the emphasis of the tutorials."

"I am now an Assistant Professor at the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, where I have been

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employed for two years. My duties entail presenting both written and formal lectures in general, cardiovascular and gastrointestinal pathology. The lectures involve not only the presentation of the standard information to medical students, but also include new developments in technology and medical science that will impact treatment. In addition, I teach cell physiology, which includes cellular physiology, blood histology, blood physiology and their ramifications on medical science."

"Additionally, I have taught general physiology in the Bronx Lebanon physician assistants program, and physical diagnosis to physician assistant students at Tauro College. I am presently teaching general and systemic pathology to physician assistant students at the New York Institute of Technology."

"I have also developed an HIV training course that was taught at Harlem Hospital's physician assistant program, which is now being taught in the New York Institute of Technology physician assistant program. This HIV training course may also be instituted as a standard course in the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine."

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Regarding her continuing medical education (CME) and how it is relevant to her prior misconduct the application states in part:

"The importance of a varied and supervised postgraduate experience is that you learn important details. In addition, with age comes wisdom and a certain amount of healthy cynicism that is necessary for operating a business. Presently, I am a faculty member. In this position I have been apprised of certain office procedures, government regulations, and professional association rules and policies that were not emphasized to me as a resident."

"My positions of employment have given me the education preparation necessary so that the past will not become my future. I have learned a great deal over these number of years, knowledge which will make me a much better and more competent physician."

INVESTIGATIVE INTERVIEW

The applicant described her conviction as follows: She had been a medical resident at Columbia University, and was faced with outstanding student loans from medical school. She accordingly applied for a second job that she had seen advertised

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in the "New York Times," which involved supervising RPAs at a clinic. The clinic manager, a Mr. Khan, interviewed and hired her. But Khan was double-billing, filing false diagnoses, and submitting bills inconsistent with services actually rendered. He was eventually convicted, incarcerated, and then deported to his native Pakistan for his role in the scheme. Another defendant was physician Dr. Gilbert Ross, who also lost his license but later had it restored.

The applicant described her responsibility in the crime as follows: She had neglected to understand that supervising a medical clinic also entails legal responsibility for associated financial matters (not just medical issues). She admitted being "naive," and stated she was "extremely sorry" for her actions. She believes she is now "more circumspect and detailed...aware more of responsibilities and consequences and ramifications of any actions." Her conviction was a "disaster...and not just for myself." She had also hurt her "family and the State." She "cost the State money, and jeopardized people's [patients'] health." She is now "a changed person," and has "learned a hard lesson."

THE MEETING

On November 18, 2003 this Peer Panel met to consider the application in this matter. The applicant appeared and was represented by Henry Nahal, Esq. Dennis Spillane, Esq.

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represented the Division of Prosecutions of the Office of Professional Discipline.

After preliminary opening remarks by the Chairperson and the parties, the applicant called her first witness, Dr. Larry Stepp who has a Ph.D. in physiology, and is a professor of physiology at The New York College of Osteopathic Medicine (NYCOM), where the applicant is employed as a teacher. Dr. Stepp has known the applicant for seven years. He said the applicant started a program on AIDS training at the college: He said the applicant did this out of a personal interest rather than as a way of advancing herself. Dr. Stepp said that he learned about four years ago that the applicant had lost her medical license. He was not however aware of the applicant's criminal conviction. He said his impressions of the applicant are very favorable. He believes the applicant is very honest and helpful, that she will go out of her way to help even if it means working on the weekend.

Dr. Stepp said that when the applicant is teaching students she is always concerned that the students be aware that they must be concerned about the patients they will be treating. He said the applicant interacts well with the students and the students like her.

The applicant then called Maria Diaz Faro, Ph.D., a former professor at NYCOM who retired in 1997 but who met the applicant

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in 1994 at the college. Dr. Diaz Faro has known of the applicant's loss of her license for some time but only learned of the criminal conviction recently. Dr. Diaz Faro believes the applicant is concerned with excellence and with service and that the applicant is honest and is always available to help.

Dr. Diaz Faro said the applicant should get her license back because she could give a great deal to the community. She said the applicant has worked with the summer minority program at the college and that the applicant interacts well with the students.

The applicant then called Leon Jackson who is the Residential Director for Rehabilitation for the Elmcore Youth and Adult Activity Center in Corona, Queens. He has known the applicant for four or five years and first met her when she applied for a job at Elmcore as part of the requirements for her probation in the criminal matter. He said the applicant worked at Elmcore full time for about one year but even after the applicant left Elmcore she always kept in contact and still does, two to three times a week, either with phone calls or with visits to the center. Mr. Jackson said that while the applicant was at Elmcore her salary was \$30,000 per year, but that the applicant was not in it for the money. He said the applicant always went beyond the requirements of her job to help people. He said he thinks the applicant is a good honest person and he believes she is very remorseful for her past wrongdoing.

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The applicant then spoke, in response to questions from Mr. Nahal, Mr. Spillane and the Panel, and repeated much of what is in her application and in the investigative interview.

The applicant is now an assistant professor of pathology at NYCOM.

The applicant went on to say that she knew something was wrong at the clinic where the Medicaid fraud took place because many of the patients had the same diseases and that an enormous amount and types of tests were being ordered for these patients. The applicant said that she was in such financial difficulty at the time she did not care. She said she was paying off her student loans and her mortgage, which she had to handle on her own after her husband left her. She said money was coming in so she decided not to look at what was going on. She said she tried to rationalize it even though she knew full well that what was going on was far in excess of what was called for medically.

The applicant went on to say that she was seven months pregnant when she was sentenced to three years in prison. She said she was allowed to put off her prison term until her baby was nineteen months old at which time the applicant left her daughter with her parents in New Jersey. After eighteen months in prison the applicant was sent to a halfway house in New Jersey near her parents.

After a year at Elmcore the applicant worked for six months

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at Coney Island Hospital and then took the teaching position she now holds at NYCOM.

The applicant said she would like her license back so she could help out more at Elmcove doing a drug program and an HIV prevention and education program with outreach to the community. She would also need a license to work for the Center for Disease Control and do HIV work for them abroad. The applicant would also like her license restored for the validation that certification would bring which would provide her with more flexibility for growth.

The applicant went on to say that she is a changed person now. She said she was reckless, irresponsible, arrogant and did not take responsibility for her actions when she committed the acts that led to her conviction. She said she is just the opposite today. She is older, wiser and has a healthy cynicism about herself and the people she deals with.

Under cross-examination by Mr. Spillane the applicant conceded that she knew from the beginning that sending 40% of the Medicaid proceeds to Mr. Kahn, the landlord of the clinic, was fee splitting and illegal. She also conceded that she had her Medicaid payment checks sent to her father's house rather than her own home.

The applicant has paid the \$30,000 restitution ordered by the court.

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Upon questioning by the panel the applicant said that she would like to continue with the HIV project she is involved with now if she gets her license back. (We note that the applicant had an involvement in HIV study before she worked at Elmcree. She co-authored publications on subjects related to HIV prior to the loss of her medical license. See page 8 of her curriculum vitae which is part of her Application for Restoration.) She is interested in doing research about HIV, in providing education regarding prevention and in referring patients for services. When questioned further she conceded that she really does not have the education or clinical background to treat HIV patients as a physician. She said she is Board eligible in pathology and if she gets her license restored she would like to become Board Certified in pathology.

In his closing statement Mr. Spillane said, that as far as the applicant's remorse and rehabilitation, he was satisfied with the answers the applicant gave on those issues. He said he was impressed with the applicant's intelligence and sincerity. Mr. Spillane also said that he had listened very closely to what Mr. Jackson had to say in this regard about the applicant because he thinks Mr. Jackson knows the applicant very well. Mr. Spillane said he would leave the question of the applicant's re-education to the panel's expertise. He ended by saying he would leave the decision regarding restoration of the applicant's license to the

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panel's discretion and take no position himself in that regard.

Mr. Nahal closed by saying the applicant has paid a price for her mistake and has grown. She did volunteer work in prison and she continues to volunteer at Elmcove. He ended by using Mr. Jackson's words "everybody deserves a second chance".

RECOMMENDATION

We unanimously recommend that the application herein be granted and that the revocation of the applicant's license to practice medicine in the State of New York be stayed.

We have no doubt that the applicant is sincerely remorseful for the actions that led to the loss of her license. She has made the restitution required by the court. She received an early termination of her probation. She still volunteers at Elmcove even though she has full time employment elsewhere. She also does volunteer work at her church. (We were impressed with the letter from Saint Paul's Church as we were with all the letters in item 8 of the packet). All these things point to both remorse and rehabilitation.

Regarding continuing education, while the applicant has taken some CME courses, she has been involved in teaching at the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and elsewhere for the past several years and the panel finds this very important regarding re-education.

The panel also finds the likelihood of any recurrence of

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misconduct remote.

Accordingly, we unanimously recommend the granting of the application for restoration of licensure in this matter.


We further unanimously recommend that the applicant be placed on probation for five years under the terms of probation in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence Kavalier, MD,
Chairperson

Rafael Lopez, MD

Jordan S. Josephson, MD

 6/17/04

Chairperson

Dated

EXHIBIT "A"

TERMS OF PROBATION
OF THE PEER COMMITTEE

DEBORAH WILLIAMS

CALENDAR NO. 21163

1. That during the period of probation, applicant shall practice medicine only as a salaried physician in a hospital or other Article 28 facility;
2. That during the period of probation applicant's practice will be limited to pathology and teaching;
3. That applicant, during the period of probation, shall be in compliance with the standards of conduct prescribed by the law governing applicant's profession;
4. That applicant shall submit written notification to the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), 433 River Street - Suite 303, Troy, New York 12180-2299, of any employment and/or practice, applicant's residence, telephone number, or mailing address, and of any change in applicant's employment, practice, residence, telephone number, or mailing address within or without the State of New York;
5. That during the first two years of probation applicant shall have semi-annual performance reports submitted to the New York State Department of Health (DOH), addressed to the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct, as aforesaid, from her employer, evaluating his performance as a physician in her place of employment, said reports to be prepared by applicant's supervisor or employer;
6. That during the last three years of probation the applicant shall have annual performance reports submitted to the New York State Department of Health (DOH), addressed to the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct, as aforesaid, from her employer, evaluating his performance as a physician in her place of employment, said reports to be prepared by applicant's supervisor or employer;
7. That applicant shall submit written proof from the Division of Professional Licensing Services (DPLS), New York State Education Department (NYSED), that applicant has paid all registration fees due and owing to the NYSED and applicant shall cooperate with and submit whatever papers are requested by DPLS to be submitted by applicant to the Department of Health (DOH), addressed to the Director, OPMC, as aforesaid, no later than the first three months of the period of probation;

DEBORAH WILLIAMS (21163)

8. That applicant shall submit written proof to the DOH, addressed to the Director, OPMC, as aforesaid, that 1) applicant is currently registered with the NYSED, unless applicant submits written proof that applicant has advised DPLS, NYSED, that applicant is not engaging in the practice of applicant's profession in the State of New York and does not desire to register, and that 2) applicant has paid any fines which may have previously been imposed upon applicant by the Board of Regents or pursuant to section 230-a of the Public Health Law, said proof of the above to be submitted no later than the first two months of the period of probation;
9. That applicant shall make quarterly visits to an employee of the OPMC, DOH, unless otherwise agreed to by said employee, for the purpose of said employee monitoring applicant's terms of probation to assure compliance therewith, and applicant shall cooperate with said employee, including the submission of information requested by said employee, regarding the aforesaid monitoring;
10. That upon receipt of evidence of noncompliance with or any other violation of any of the aforementioned terms of probation, the OPMC may initiate a violation of probation proceeding.

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

-----X
IN THE MATTER : STATEMENT
OF : OF
DEBORAH WILLIAMS, M.D. : CHARGES
-----X

DEBORAH WILLIAMS, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on October 16, 1989 by the issuance of license number 180333 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 79 Mackay Drive, Bergenfield, NJ 07621.

SPECIFICATION

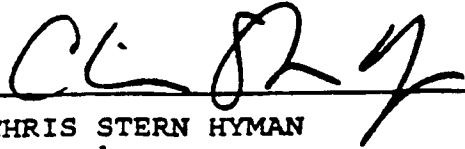
Respondent is charged with professional misconduct within the meaning of N.Y. Educ. Law Section 6530(9)(a)(ii) (McKinney Supp. 1994), in that Respondent was convicted of committing an act constituting a crime under federal law, specifically:

On or about June 26, 1993, Respondent was found guilty after trial and convicted on 31 counts of fraud, specifically one (1) count of Conspiracy to participate in a racketeering

enterprise, in violation of 18 USC 1962(d); one (1) count of Participating in the affairs of an enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity, in violation of 18 USC 1962(c); twenty (20) counts of Mail Fraud, in violation of 18 USC 1341; and nine (9) counts of Money Laundering, in violation of 18 USC 1956(a)(1)(A)(i) and (B)(i) and (2); in that, in or about August, 1990 through in or about July, 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 she knew to be, and were in fact, medically unnecessary. Judgement was entered, after sentencing, on November 19, 1993.

DATED: New York, New York

August 25, 1994



CHRIS STERN HYMAN
Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical
Conduct