

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

AVISTAR MEDICAL SERVICES, P.C.

**CONSENT
AGREEMENT
AND
ORDER**

BPMC No. 02-21

The Respondent, Avistar Medical Services, P.C. says:

The Respondent is a professional service corporation duly authorized to practice medicine in the State of New York pursuant to Article 15 of the Business Corporation Law.

The Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, and the prehearing and hearing procedures of Title II-A of Article 2 of the New York Public Health Law, pursuant to Section 1503(d) of the New York Business Corporation Law.

The Respondent is applying to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct for a Consent Agreement and Order imposing a penalty, pursuant to Section 230-a of the Public Health Law and Section 1503(d) of the Business Corporation Law, of revocation of its certificate of incorporation such that the revocation shall be effective immediately and shall be self-executing, and this Consent Agreement and Order shall be deemed automatically to be the final and operative document revoking the Respondent's certificate of incorporation, and the Respondent requests that the Board issue this Consent Agreement and Order.

The Respondent acknowledges that it has been charged with professional misconduct as set forth in the Statement of Charges, annexed hereto, made a part hereof, and marked as Exhibit "A."

Subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of this Consent Agreement and Order, the Respondent admits the allegations and specification set forth in the First Specification of the Statement of Charges in full satisfaction of all such allegations and specifications.

The Respondent agrees that, in the event the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct agrees with its proposal, this Consent Agreement and Order shall be issued revoking its certificate of incorporation. The Respondent agrees that such revocation shall be effective immediately and shall be self-executing, and this Consent Agreement and Order shall be deemed automatically to be the final and operative document revoking the Respondent's certificate of incorporation. The Respondent agrees, notwithstanding the above, nothing herein shall be construed to absolve the Respondent in any way from paying to the Departments of State, Education, and Taxation and Finance any outstanding taxes, fines and penalties.

In addition, the Respondent agrees that this Consent Agreement and Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, which may be accomplished by mailing, by first class mail, a copy of this Consent Agreement and Order to it in care of Robban A. Sica, M.D., President, 37 Lakewood Road, Trumbull, CT 06611, or to its attorney, or upon transmission via facsimile to it or its attorney, whichever is earliest.

The Respondent shall fully cooperate in every respect with the Office of Professional Medical Conduct in its administration and enforcement of this Consent Agreement and Order by providing written responses, attending meetings or providing documentation concerning verification of its compliance with the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order.

The Respondent agrees that in the event it is charged with professional misconduct in the future for violation or non-compliance with any provision of this Consent Agreement and Order, or in the event that it is charged with professional misconduct in the future for any other type of misconduct, this Consent Agreement and Order shall be admitted into evidence in that proceeding.

The Respondent acknowledges that, in the event that this proposed agreement is not granted by the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, nothing contained herein shall be binding upon it or construed to be an admission of any act of misconduct alleged or charged against it, such proposed agreement shall not be used against it in any way, and shall be kept in strict confidence during the pendency of the professional misconduct disciplinary proceeding; and such denial by the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct shall be made without prejudice to the continuance of any disciplinary proceeding and the final determination by a Committee on Professional Medical Conduct pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Law.

The Respondent is making this application of its own free will and accord and not

under duress, compulsion or restraint of any kind or manner. In consideration of the value to it of the acceptance by the Board of this application allowing it to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits, the Respondent knowingly waives any right it may have to contest, whether administratively or judicially, the Consent Agreement and Order issued hereunder for which it hereby applies and the respondent asks that the application be granted.

The Respondent is making this application through its President, Robban A. Sica, M.D., and the Respondent and Robban A. Sica, M.D., warrant that she has the necessary corporate authority to enter into this Consent Agreement and Order on behalf of the Respondent and to consent on behalf of the Respondent to the revocation of the Respondent's certificate of incorporation.

Date: 12/21, 2001

Avistar Medical Services, P.C.
By: [Signature]
Robban A. Sica, M.D.
President

State of Connecticut
County of Fairfield ss.: Trumbull

On the 21st day of December 2001, before me personally came Robban A. Sica, M.D., who being by me duly sworn, did depose and say that she resides in Trumbull Connecticut 06611; that she is the President of the Respondent, the professional service corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; and that she signed her name thereto by order of the board of directors of said corporation.

[Signature]
Notary Public
Robert A. Pagliuca, Sr.
Commission Expires 11/30/06

AGREED TO:

Date: December 20, 2001

[Signature]
Peter J. Willock, Esq.
Attorney for Respondent
Nixon Peabody LLP
Omni Plaza
30 South Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12207

Date: 12/27, 2001

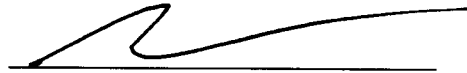
[Signature]
Jacques G. Simon, Esq.
Attorney for Respondent
299 Broadway, Suite 1700
New York, NY 10007

Date: Dec 28, 2001



Richard J. Zannleuter, Esq.
Associate Counsel
Bureau of Professional
Medical Conduct

Date: January 9, 2001 ^{OK}
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Dennis J. Graziano
Director, Office of
Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER
OF
AVISTAR MEDICAL SERVICES, P.C.

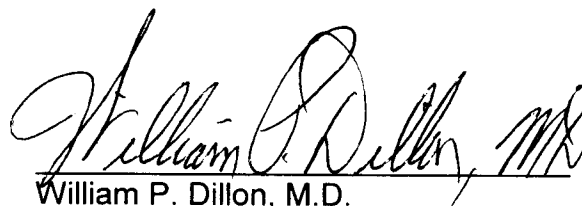
ORDER

Upon the proposed Consent Agreement and Order of Avistar Medical Services, P.C., which proposed agreement is made a part hereof, it is AGREED TO and

ORDERED, that the proposed agreement and the provisions thereof, including the Appendix to this Order, are hereby adopted; it is further

ORDERED, that this Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, which may be accomplished by mailing, by first class mail, a copy of this Order to the Respondent's attorney at the address set forth in this agreement or upon transmission via facsimile to the Respondent in care of Robban A. Sica, M.D., or to the Respondent's attorney, whichever is earliest.

DATED: 1/15/02



William P. Dillon, M.D.
Chair
State Board for Professional
Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT A

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

AVISTAR MEDICAL SERVICES, P.C.

**STATEMENT
OF
CHARGES**

The Respondent is a professional service corporation duly authorized to practice medicine in the State of New York pursuant to Article 15 of the Business Corporation Law.

The Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, and the prehearing and hearing procedures of Title II-A of Article 2 of the New York Public Health Law, pursuant to Section 1503(d) of the New York Business Corporation Law.

ALLEGATIONS

A. A professional service corporation may be organized by one or more individuals who are authorized by law to render the same professional service, pursuant to Section 1503(a) of the New York Business Corporation Law.

B. Between May 9, 1995 and July 1, 1999, Robban A. Sica, M.D., became the sole shareholder of the Respondent and the Respondent was organized to practice medicine in compliance with Section 1503(a) of the New York Business Corporation Law.

C. Dr. Sica was the physician who, in compliance with Sections 1503(a) and 1504(a) of the New York Business Corporation Law, was the shareholder, director and officer of the Respondent.

D. Upon organizing, establishing, or owning the Respondent, Dr. Sica, upon advice of counsel, hired a management company to supervise, administer and oversee every aspect of the business operations of the Respondent, including, but not limited to, procuring physical space, hiring and supervising non-professional employees, billing insurance companies, and handling all of the bookkeeping and accounting.

E. In many instances, Dr. Sica, and/or the Respondent, per an agreement with each management company, received consideration, in the form of an annual fee to be available to perform professional services on a consulting basis.

F. As of March 31, 2001, Dr. Sica's New York registration as a physician expired. Dr. Sica willfully has not renewed the registration, rendering her not duly authorized by law to practice medicine in New York and disqualifying her as the sole shareholder of the Respondent. Upon Dr. Sica's failure to renew her registration, Dr. Sica notified the Respondent to cease operations, but the Respondent failed to enforce compliance with Section 1509 of the Business Corporation Law.

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

FIRST SPECIFICATION

The Respondent is charged with professional misconduct by reason of WILLFULLY FAILING TO COMPLY WITH BUSINESS CORPORATION LAW §1503, in violation of the third undesignated clause of New York Education Law §6530(12), in that Petitioner charges:


1. The factual allegations in paragraphs A, B, C, and/or F.

SECOND SPECIFICATION

The Respondent is charged with professional misconduct by reason of DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY RECEIVING OR AGREEING TO RECEIVE A FEE OR OTHER CONSIDERATION FROM A THIRD PARTY IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, in violation of New York Education Law §6530(18), in that Petitioner charges:

1. The factual allegations in paragraph A, B, C, D, and/or E.

DATED: *December 28*, 2001
Albany, New York


PETER D. VAN BUREN
Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional
Medical Conduct