



STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

433 River Street, Suite 303

Troy, New York 12180-2299

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.
Commissioner

Public

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner

October 28, 2005

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Robelto A. Osborne, M.D.
555 NE 15TH Street TH717
Miami, Florida 33132

Robelto A. Osborne, M.D.
293 Troy Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11213

Robert Bogan, Esq.
Joel Abelove, Esq.
NYS Department of Health
Office of Professional Medical Conduct
433 River Street
Troy, New York 12180

RE: In the Matter of Robelto A. Osborne, M.D.

Dear Parties:

Enclosed please find the Determination and Order (No. 05-240) 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 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
Hedley Park Place
433 River Street - Fourth Floor
Troy, New York 12180

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 penalties other than suspension or revocation 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
Hedley Park Place
433 River Street, Fifth Floor
Troy, New York 12180

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sean D. O'Brien".

Sean D. O'Brien, Director
Bureau of Adjudication

SDO:djh

Enclosure

COPY

IN THE MATTER
OF
ROBELTO A. OSBORNE, M.D.

DETERMINATION
AND
ORDER

BPMC NO. 05-240

A hearing was held on October 19, 2005, at the offices of the New York State Department of Health ("the Petitioner"). A Notice of Referral Proceeding, dated May 4, 2005, and a Statement of Charges, dated May 5, 2005, were served upon the Respondent, **Robelto A. Osborne, M.D.** Pursuant to Section 230(10)(e) of the Public Health Law, **Peter B. Kane, M.D.**, Chairperson, **Marvin L. Harstein, M.D.**, and **Mr. John O. Raymond**, duly designated members of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, served as the Hearing Committee in this matter. **John Wiley, Esq.**, Administrative Law Judge, served as the Administrative Officer.

The Petitioner appeared by **Donald P. Berens, Jr., Esq.**, General Counsel, by **Robert Bogan, Esq.**, and **Joel Ablove, Esq.**, of Counsel. The Respondent did not appear at the hearing either in person or by counsel.

Evidence was received and transcripts of these proceedings were made.

After consideration of the entire record, the Hearing Committee issues this Determination and Order.

BACKGROUND

This case was brought pursuant to Public Health Law Section 230(10)(p). The statute provides for an expedited hearing when 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 State or another jurisdiction, or upon a prior administrative adjudication regarding conduct that 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) and (d). Copies of the Notice of Referral Proceeding and the Statement of Charges are attached to this Determination and Order as Appendix 1.

WITNESSES

For the Petitioner:	None
For the Respondent:	None

FINDINGS OF FACT

The following Findings of Fact were made after a review of the entire record in this matter. Numbers below in parentheses refer to exhibits, denoted by the prefix "Ex." These citations refer to 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 Hearing Committee findings were unanimous.

1. Robelto A. Osborne, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on August 18, 1987, by the issuance of license number 171923 by the New York State Education Department (Petitioner's Ex. 4).

2. On August 16, 2004, the Florida Board of Medicine ("Florida Board"), by a Final Order ("Florida Order"), revoked the Respondent's license to practice medicine and assessed \$6,988.22 costs, based on his failure to practice medicine with the level of care,

skill, and treatment which is recognized by a reasonably prudent similar physician as being acceptable under similar conditions, and based on failing to keep medical records that justify the course of the patient's medical treatment (Petitioner's Ex. 5).

HEARING COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS

The Hearing Committee concludes that the conduct of the Respondent would constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York State, had the conduct occurred in New York State, pursuant to:

- New York Education Law Section 6530(3) - "Practicing the profession with negligence on more than one occasion;"
- New York Education Law Section 6530(4) - "Practicing the profession with gross negligence on a particular occasion;"
- New York Education Law Section 6530(30) - "Abandoning or neglecting a patient under and in need of immediate professional care, without making reasonable arrangements for the continuation of such care....:" and
- New York Education Law Section 6530(32) - "Failing to maintain a record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation and treatment of the patient. Unless otherwise provided by law, all patient records must be retained for at least six years. Obstetrical records and records of minor patients must be retained for at least six years, and until one year after the minor patient reaches the age of eighteen years;"

VOTE OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE

FIRST SPECIFICATION

"Respondent violated New York Education Law Section 6530(9)(b) by having been found guilty of improper professional practice or professional misconduct by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state where the conduct upon

which the finding was based would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state..."

VOTE: Sustained (3-0)

SECOND SPECIFICATION

"Respondent violated New York Education Law Section 6530(9)(d) by having his license to practice medicine revoked or having other disciplinary action taken by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, where the conduct resulting in the revocation or other disciplinary action would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state..."

VOTE: Sustained (3-0)

HEARING COMMITTEE DETERMINATION

The Respondent did not appear at the hearing either in person or by counsel. The Administrative Law Judge ruled that the Petitioner's efforts to serve the Notice of Referral Proceeding and the Statement of Charges on the Respondent, as demonstrated by Petitioner's Ex. 2, 3, 9 and 10, met the legal requirements for service of process and that, therefore, the hearing could proceed on the merits despite the Respondent's absence.

The Respondent submitted by mail several documents for inclusion in the hearing record. The Administrative Law Judge ruled that only one of these documents was relevant and would be admitted into evidence. That document, an April 15, 2005, letter from Eileen Handberg, Ph.D., addressed To Whom It May Concern, was taken into evidence as Respondent's Ex. A.

The Florida Board found that the Respondent's treatment of two patients on whom he performed abortions fell below the standard of care expected of reasonably prudent physicians under similar conditions. Patient D.F. suffered a severe uterine perforation during surgery, which the Respondent failed to recognize. The patient experienced post-

operative pain and bleeding. D.F. called the Respondent's office several times to report the problem, but the calls were not returned. Later that day, D.F. went to a hospital where surgery was performed. A hysterectomy was necessary. Fetal parts were recovered during the surgery.

Patient M.D. suffered a tear in her uterus and damage to the small intestine during an abortion performed by the Respondent, conditions that he did not detect during the surgery. The patient experienced post-operative pain and bleeding that the Respondent did not assess. On the day after surgery, the patient went to a hospital and complained of weakness and abdominal pain. Surgery was performed by the Respondent to evacuate the products of conception and to repair a tear in the patient's uterus. Another surgeon performed a partial resection of the patient's small intestine.

In addition to the problems noted in the previous two paragraphs, the Florida Order also criticized the Respondent for failing to do necessary preoperative tests and for several recordkeeping deficiencies.

The findings of the Florida Board constitute serious deviations from the quality of care expected of physicians. Because the Respondent did not appear at the hearing, there is no testimony in the hearing record of mitigating circumstances, remorse or rehabilitation. Respondent's Ex. A contains no information useful to the Respondent other than a one sentence conclusory statement that the Respondent's "medical skills currently fall into the No Deficiencies classification and within standard of care."


The Petitioner recommended that the Respondent's license to practice medicine be revoked. Given the serious nature of the Respondent's professional misconduct and the absence of evidence in his favor, that recommendation will be adopted.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Respondent's license to practice medicine in New York State is revoked.
2. This Order shall be effective upon service on the Respondent in accordance with the requirements of Public Health Law Section 230(10)(h).

DATED: Cazenovia, New York

10/26, 2005



Peter B. Kane, M.D.
Chairperson

Marvin L. Harstein, M.D.
John O. Raymond

APPENDIX 1

10/17/05 EV JW
ORIGINAL

IN THE MATTER
OF
ROBELTO A. OSBORNE, M.D.
CO-04-09-4584-A

NOTICE OF
REFERRAL
PROCEEDING

TO: ROBELTO A. OSBORNE, M.D.
555 NE 15th Street TH717
Miami, FL 33132

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

An adjudicatory proceeding will be held pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230(10)(p) and N.Y. State Admin. Proc. Act Sections 301-307 and 401. The proceeding will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Committee) on the 22nd day of June 2005, at 10:00 in the forenoon of that day at the Hedley Park Place, 5th Floor, 433 River Street, Troy, New York 12180.

At the proceeding, evidence will be received concerning the allegations set forth in the attached Statement of Charges. 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 that 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, Hedley Park Place, 5th Floor, 433 River Street, Troy, New York, ATTENTION: HON. SEAN O' BRIEN, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF ADJUDICATION, (hereinafter "Bureau of Adjudication") as well as the Department of Health attorney indicated below, on or before June 13, 2005.

Pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Public Health Law §230(10)(p), you shall file a written answer to each of the Charges and Allegations in the Statement of Charges no later than ten days prior to the hearing. Any Charge of Allegation not so answered shall be deemed admitted. You may wish to seek the advice of counsel prior to filing such an answer. The answer shall be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, and a copy shall be forwarded to the attorney for the Department of Health whose name appears below. You may file a brief and affidavits with the Committee. Six copies of all such papers you wish to submit must be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication at the address indicated above on or before June 13, 2005, 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 the 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: Albany, New York

May 4, 2005


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

Inquiries should be addressed to:

Robert Bogan
Associate Counsel
New York State Department of Health
Office of Professional Medical Conduct
433 River Street – Suite 303
Troy, New York 12180
(518) 402-0828

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

IN THE MATTER
OF
ROBELTO A. OSBORNE, M.D.
CO-04-09-4584-A

STATEMENT
OF
CHARGES

ROBELTO A. OSBORNE, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York state on August 18, 1987, by the issuance of license number 171923 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. On or about August 16, 2004, the State of Florida, Board of Medicine (hereinafter "Florida Board"), by a Final Order (hereinafter "Florida Order"), REVOKED Respondent's license to practice medicine and assessed him \$6,988.22 costs, based upon his failure to practice medicine with that level of care, skill, and treatment which is recognized by a reasonably prudent similar physician as being acceptable under similar conditions and circumstance and failing to keep medical records that justify the course of a patient's medical treatment.

B. The conduct resulting in the Florida Board disciplinary action against Respondent would constitute misconduct under the laws of New York state, pursuant to the following sections of New York state Law:

1. New York Education Law §6530(3) (negligence on more than one occasion);
2. New York Education Law §6530(4) (gross negligence);
3. New York Education Law §6530(30) (abandoning or neglecting a patient); and/or
4. New York Education Law §6530(32) (failure to maintain a record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation and treatment of the patient).

SPECIFICATIONS
FIRST SPECIFICATION

Respondent violated New York Education Law §6530(9)(b) by having been found guilty of improper professional practice or professional misconduct by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state where the conduct upon which the finding was based would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state, in that Petitioner charges:

1. The facts in Paragraphs A and/or B.

SECOND SPECIFICATION

Respondent violated New York Education Law §6530(9)(d) by having his license to practice medicine revoked or having other disciplinary action taken by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, where the conduct resulting in the revocation or other disciplinary action would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws New York state, in that Petitioner charges:

2. The facts in Paragraphs A and/or B.

DATED: *May 5*, 2005
Albany, New York


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

SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HEARING RULES

(Pursuant to Section 301 SAPA)

The following items are addressed by the Uniform Hearing Procedures Rules of the New York State Department of Health:

Applicability

Definitions

Notice of Hearing

Adjournment

Answer or Responsive Pleading

Amendment of Pleadings

Service of Papers

Discovery

Hearing Officer/Pre-Hearing Conference

Pre-Hearing Conference

Stipulations and Consent Orders

The Hearing

Hearing Officer's Report

Exceptions

Final Determination and Order

Waiver of Rules

Time Frames

Disqualification for Bias

The exact wording of the rules is found at 10 NYCRR Part 51
Volume 10 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations. ~~Es~~
the above items may be summarized as following:

51.1 Applicability. These regulations apply to most
hearings conducted by the Department of Health.

51.2 Definitions.

1. "Commissioner" means Commissioner of the New
York State Department of Health.

2. "CPLR" means Civil Practice Law and Rules.
3. "Department" means New York State Department
Health.
4. "Hearing Officer" means the person appointed to
preside at the hearing or the person designated
as administrative officer pursuant to Public
Health Law Section 230.
5. "Party" means all persons designated as
petitioner, respondent or intervenor.
6. "Report" means the Hearing Officer's summary of
the proceeding and written recommendation or
findings, conclusions and determination of the
hearing committee pursuant to Public Health Law
Section 230.

51.3 The Department's Notice of Hearing and/or Statement
of Charges should be served at least 15 days prior to the first
hearing date, specify time, place and date(s) and should contain
the basis for the proceeding. Pursuant to Public Health Law
§230, the Notice of Hearing must, additionally, specify that the
licensee shall file a written answer.

51.4 Adjournment. Only the Hearing Officer may grant an
adjournment and only after he/she has consulted with both
parties. In hearings pursuant to Public Health Law Section 230
an adjournment on the initial day may be granted by the hearing
committee.

51.5 Answer or Responsive Pleading. A party may serve an answer or response to the allegations of the Department. In matters governed by PHL §230, the licensee is required to file a written answer to each of the charges and allegations of the Department. Under the law, any charge or allegation which is not so answered shall be deemed admitted.

51.6 Amendment to Pleadings. A party may usually amend papers if no substantial prejudice results by leave of the Hearing Officer.

51.7 Service of Papers. Except for the Notice of Hearing and/or Statement of Charges, all papers may be served by ordinary mail.

51.8 Disclosure. Generally, there is no disclosure of any kind and the Hearing Officer cannot require it, unless all parties agree. If agreed to, the Hearing Officer will ensure all parties proceed in accordance with their agreement. However, in a hearing in which revocation of a license or permit is sought or possible, a party may demand in writing that another party disclose the names of witnesses, document or other evidence such other party intends to offer at the hearing. A demand for such disclosure must be served at least 10 days prior to the first scheduled hearing date. Disclosure or a statement that the party has nothing to disclose must be made at least 7 days before the first scheduled hearing date. A party that determines to present witnesses or evidence not previously disclosed must supplement its disclosure as soon as is practicable. The Hearing Officer may, upon good cause shown, modify the times for demands for and response to disclosure or allow a party not to disclose or limit, condition or regulate the use of information disclosed and may preclude the introduction of evidence not disclosed pursuant to a demand.

51.9 Hearing Officer. He/she presides over the hearing and has the authority to ensure it is conducted in an orderly fashion. He/she may also order the parties to meet before the hearing to discuss the procedure. He/she does not have the authority to remove testimony from the transcript and/or dismiss charges unless authorized by delegation.

51.10 Stipulation and Consent and Surrender Orders. At any

time prior to a final order, parties may resolve all or any issues by stipulation. An order issued pursuant to a stipulation has the same force and effect as one issued after hearing.

51.11 The Hearing. A party may have an attorney represent him or her. Failure to appear may result in an adverse ruling. A hearing may be combined with or separated from another hearing depending on whether such action will result in delay, cost or prejudice. While the rules of evidence as applied in a courtroom are not observed, witnesses must be sworn or give an affirmation and each party has the right to present its case and to cross-examine. The Department has broad discretion to place documents into evidence. A record of the proceeding must be made. In enforcement cases, the Department has the burden of proof and of going forward. In matters relating to neglect or abuse of patients under Public Health Law Section 2803-d, the Hearing Officer may not compel disclosure of the identity of the person making the report or who provided information in the investigation of the report.

Complaints relating to Public Health Law Section 230 may not be introduced into evidence by either party and their production cannot be required by the Hearing Officer.

Claims that a hearing has been unreasonably delayed is treated as an affirmative defense (Section 51.5) or as part of the claimant's case. The burden of going forward and of proof are on the claimant.

A verbatim record of the proceeding shall be made by any means determined by the Department. The record shall include notice of hearing and any statement of charges, responsive pleadings, motions, rulings, transcript or recording, exhibits, stipulations, briefs, any objections filed, any decision, determination, opinion, order or report rendered.

51.12 Hearing Officer or Hearing Committee Report. The report or determination should be submitted within 60 days of completion of the hearing.

51.13 Filing of Exceptions. Within 30 days of the date of a copy of the report of the Hearing Officer and proposed order any party may submit exceptions to said report and proposed order.

parties, a party may request, before the expiration of the exception period, the Supervising Law Judge to extend the exception period. All parties have the opportunity to state their position on the extension on the record. Extensions may be granted on good cause shown; however, they are not granted to allow a party to respond to exceptions already filed. Pursuant to PHL 230(c), a notice of request for review of the Hearing Committee determination must be served upon the ARB within 14 days of service of the determination. All parties have 30 days thereafter to submit briefs and 7 days from service of a brief to submit a reply.

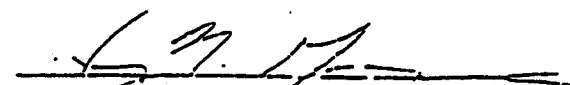
51.14 Final Determination Order. The hearing process ends when an order is issued by the Commissioner or his designee or the appropriate board of council. The order should state a basis for the decision. Each party receives a copy of the order.

51.15 Waiver of Rules. These rules and regulations may be dispensed with by agreement and/or consent.

~~51.16 Establishment, Construction, Rate Hearings.~~ Hearings involving any of these issues have time limits concerning the issuance of notices of hearing of 365 days of receipt by the Department of a request for hearing.

51.17 Disqualification for Bias. Bias shall disqualify a Hearing Officer and/or a committee member in hearings governed by Public Health Law Section 230. The party seeking disqualification must submit to the hearing officer an affidavit pursuant to SAPA Section 303. Mere allegations are insufficient. The Hearing Officer rules on the request.

DATED: Albany, New York
March 10, 1997


HENRY M. GREENBERG
General Counsel