

New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

433 River Street, Suite 303 • Troy, New York 12180-2299 • (518) 402-0863

Richard F. Daines, M.D.

Commissioner

NYS Department of Health

Wendy E. Saunders

Chief of Staff

Keith W. Servis, Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

Public

Kendrick A. Sears, M.D.
Chair
Michael A. Gonzalez, R.P.A.
Vice Chair
Ansel R. Marks, M.D., J.D.
Executive Secretary

November 28, 2007

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ulises C. Sabato, M.D. 1720 Thatch Palm Drive Boca Raton, FL 33432

Re: License No. 163737

Dear Dr. Sabato:

Enclosed is a copy of Order #BPMC 07-260 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect December 5, 2007.

If the penalty imposed by this Order is a surrender, revocation or suspension, you are required to deliver your license and registration within five (5) days of receipt of this Order and return it to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, New York State Department of Health, 433 River Street, Suite 303, Troy, NY 12180-2299

Sincerely,

Ansel R. Marks, M.D., J.D.

Executive Secretary

Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc:

Keith J. Roberts, Esq.

Maggiano, DiGirolamo, Lizzi & Roberts, P.C.

201 Columbia Avenue Fort Lee, NJ 07024

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT	1
IN THE MATTER	CONSENT
OF	ORDER
ULISES C. SABATO, M.D.	BPMC No. #07-260
Upon the application of (Respondent), ULISES C. SABA Consent Agreement and Order, which is made a part of this Conser	TO, M.D. in the attached of Order, it is
ORDERED, that the Consent Agreement, and its terms, a	are adopted and it is further
ORDERED, that this Consent Order shall be effective upon tither by mailing of a copy of this Consent Order, either	on issuance by the Board,
by first class mail to Respondent at the address in the atta y certified mail to Respondent's attorney, or	ached Consent Agreement o
upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's	attomey, whichever is first
SO ORDERED.	1000
Chair State B	RICK A. SEARS, M.D. Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER

CONSENT

OF

AGREEMENT

ULISES C. SABATO, M.D. CO-07-01-0376-A

AND ORDER

ULISES C. SABATO, M.D., representing that all of the following statements are true, deposes and says:

That on or about August 19, 1985, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and Issued License No. 163737 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 1720 Thatch Palm Drive, Boca Raton, FL 33432, and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of my address thirty (30) days, thereof.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) has charged me with one (1) Specification of professional misconduct.

A copy of the Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", is attached to and part of this Consent Agreement.

I do not contest the one (1) Specification, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Respondent's New York State medical license shall be placed on active suspension for a minimum of one (1) year and until the successful completion of his New Jersey suspension.

Respondent shall comply fully with the December 13, 2006, Final Order of the New Jersey Board and any extension or modification thereof.

Respondent shall provide a written authorization for the New Jersey Board to provide the Director of OPMC with any/all information or documentation as requested by OPMC to enable OPMC to determine whether Respondent is in compliance with the New Jersey Order.

Respondent shall submit semi-annually a signed Compliance Declaration to the Director of OPMC, which truthfully attests whether Respondent has been in compliance with the New Jersey Order during the declaration period specified.

Prior to resuming any active practice of medicine Respondent shall notify the Director, OPMC, and shall be placed on four (4) years probation subject to whatever limitations, or further conditions, the Director deems appropriate.

Within 15 days of the effective date of this Order, if Respondent holds a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) certificate, Respondent shall advise the DEA in writing of the licensure action and shall surrender Respondent's DEA controlled substance certificate, privileges, and any used DEA #222 U.S. Official Order Forms Schedules 1 and 2, to the DEA for the duration of the suspension period.

Within 15 days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall return any unused New York State office prescription forms to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement of the New York State Department of Health. Respondent shall have all prescription pads bearing Respondent's name destroyed. If no other licensee is providing services at Respondent's practice location, Respondent shall dispose of all medications.

Should Respondent return to the practice of medicine in the State of New York or in any jurisdiction where that practice is predicated upon Respondent New York State medical license, Respondent shall provide ninety (90) days notice in writing to the Director, OPMC. The Director in his sole discretion, may impose whatever limitations, probation or further conditions, he deems appropriate.

I further agree that the Consent Order shall impose the following conditions:

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of New York Education Law § 6502 including but not limited to the requirements that a licensee shall register and continue to be registered with the New York State Education Department (except during periods of actual suspension) and that a licensee shall pay all registration fees. Respondent shall not exercise the option provided in New York Education Law § 6502(4) to avoid registration and payment of fees. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the Consent Order's effective date and will continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State; and

That Respondent shall cooperate fully with the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) in its administration and enforcement of this Consent Order and in its investigations of matters concerning Respondent. Respondent shall respond in a timely manner to all OPMC requests for written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with this Consent Order. Respondent shall meet with a person designated by the Director of OPMC, as directed. Respondent shall respond promptly and provide all documents and Information within Respondent's control, as directed. This condition shall take effect upon the Board's issuance of the Consent Order and will continue so long as Respondent remains licensed in New York State.

I stipulate that my failure to comply with any conditions of this Consent Order shall constitute misconduct as defined by New York Education Law § 6530(29).

I agree that, if I am charged with professional misconduct in future, this Consent Agreement and Order shall be admitted into evidence in that proceeding.

I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand that if the Board does not adopt this Consent Agreement, none of its terms shall bind me or constitute an admission of any of the acts of alleged misconduct; this Consent Agreement shall not be used against me in any way and shall be kept in strict confidence; and the Board's denial shall be without prejudice to the pending disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination pursuant to New York Public Health Law.

I agree that, if the Board adopts this Consent Agreement, the Chair of the Board shall issue a Consent Order in accordance with its terms. I agree that this Consent Order shall take effect upon its issuance by the Board, either by mailing of a copy of the Consent Order by first class mail to me at the address in this Consent Agreement, or to my attorney by certified mail, or upon facsimile transmission to me or my attorney, whichever is first. The Consent Order, this agreement, and all attached Exhibits shall be public documents, with only patient identities, if any, redacted. As public documents, they may be posted on the Department's website.

I stipulate that the proposed sanction and Consent Order are authorized by New York Public Health Law §§ 230 and 230-a, and that the Board and OPMC have the requisite powers to carry out all included terms. I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement of my own free will and not under duress, compulsion or restraint. In consideration of the value to me of the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement, allowing me to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Consent Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, I agree to be bound by the Consent Order, and I ask that the Board adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director of OPMC and the Chair of the Board each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed agreement and Consent Order, based upon my application, or to decline to do so. I further understand and agree that no prior or separate written or oral communication can limit that discretion.

AFFIRMED:

DATED: <u>// //3 /07</u>

ULISE C. SABATO, M.D.

Respondent

The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Consent Agreement and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: 11-13-07

KEITH J. ROBERTS
Attorney for Resignment

DATE: 14 Now WY 2007

ROBERT BOGAN

Associate Counsel

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 1/21/07

KETTH W. SERVIS

Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

STATE OF NEW YORK	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSION	IAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER

STATEMENT

OF

OF

ULISES C. SABATO, M.D. CO-07-01-0376-A

CHARGES

ULISES C. SABATO, M.D., Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York state on August 19, 1985, by the issuance of license number 163737 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- On or about December 13, 2006, the State of New Jersey, Department of Law & A. Public Safety, Division of Consumer Affairs, State Board of Medical Examiners (hereinafter "New Jersey Board"), by a Final Order (hereinafter "New Jersey Order"), inter alia, suspended Respondent's license to practice medicine for five (5) years, the first year of which shall be active suspension followed by probation, assessed a \$100,000.00 civil penalty, and required him to pay \$50,000.00 investigative costs and fees, based on gross negligence, gross malpractice or gross incompetence; grossly negligent or incompetent electrodiagnostic test selection, documentation and analysis; failure to prepare and maintain a proper patient record; deception in performance and billing for epidurograms; failure to require adequate medical records and truthful billing of imaging studies and disectomy procedures; deceptive or fraudulently billing for anesthesia fees by "up-coding" and/or inflating time claimed, and allowing or condoning the preparation of inadequate patient records; medically improper performance and documentation, and billing of trigger point injections; inflated coding for evaluation and management visits; deception and misrepresentation in billing for procedures performed and unbundling fees for supplies and materials; and failure to preserve patients records and failure to cooperate with the New Jersey Board investigation.
- B. The conduct resulting in the New Jersey 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(2) (practicing the profession fraudulently);
- 2. New York Education Law §6530(3) (negligence on more than one occasion);
- New York Education Law §6530(4) (gross negligence);
- 4. New York Education Law §6530(5) (incompetence on more than one occasion);
- 5. New York Education Law §6530(6) (gross incompetence);
- 6. New York Education Law §6530(32) (failing to maintain a record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation and treatment of the patient); and/or
- 7. New York Education Law §6530(35) (ordering of excessive tests, treatment, or use of treatment facilities not warranted by the condition of the patient).

SPECIFICATION

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

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

DATED: Cugul 7, 2007
Albany, New York

PETER D. VAN BUREN

Deputy Counsel

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "C"

GUIDELINES FOR CLOSING A MEDICAL PRACTICE FOLLOWING A REVOCATION, SURRENDER OR SUSPENSION (of 6 months or more) OF A MEDICAL LICENSE

- Respondent shall immediately cease the practice of medicine in compliance with the terms of the Consent Order. Respondent shall not represent himself or herself as eligible to practice medicine and shall refrain from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application.
- Within 15 days of the Consent Order's effective date, Respondent shall notify all patients that he or she has ceased the practice of medicine, and shall refer all patients to another licensed practicing physician for their continued care, as appropriate.
- Within 30 days of the Consent Order's effective date, Respondent shall have his or her
 original license to practice medicine in New York State and current blennial registration
 delivered to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) at 433 River Street
 Suite 303, Troy, NY 12180-2299.
- Respondent shall arrange for the transfer and maintenance of all patient medical 4. records. Within 30 days of the Consent Order's effective date, Respondent shall notify OPMC of these arrangements, including the name, address, and telephone number of an appropriate contact person, acceptable to the Director of OPMC, who shall have access to these records. Original records shall be retained for patients for at least 6 years after the last date of service, and, for minors, at least 6 years after the last date of service or 3 years after the patient reaches the age of majority, whichever time period is longer. Records shall be maintained in a safe and secure place that is reasonably accessible to former patients. The arrangements shall ensure that all patient information is kept confidential and is available only to authorized persons. When a patient or authorized representative requests a copy of the patient's medical record, or requests that the original medical record be sent to another health care provider, a copy of the record shall be promptly provided or sent at reasonable cost to the patient (not to exceed 75 cents per page.) Radiographic, sonographic and like materials shall be provided at cost. A qualified person shall not be denied access to patient information solely because of inability to pay.
- 5. Within 15 days of the Consent Order's effective date, if Respondent holds a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) certificate, Respondent shall advise the DEA in writing of the Ilcensure action and shall surrender his or her DEA controlled substance certificate, privileges, and any used DEA #222 U.S. Official Order Forme Schedules 1 and 2, to the DEA.
- 6. Within 15 days of the Consent Order's effective date, Respondent shall return any unused New York State official prescription forms to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement of the New York State Department of Health. Respondent shall have all prescription pads bearing Respondent's name destroyed. If no other licensee is providing services at Respondent's practice location, Respondent shall dispose of all medications.
- 7. Within 15 days of the Consent Order's effective date, Respondent shall remove from the public domain any representation that Respondent is eligible to practice medicine, including all related signs, advertisements, professional listings whether in telephone directories or otherwise, professional stationery or billings. Respondent shall not share, occupy or use office space in which another licensee provides health care services.

- 8. Respondent shall not charge, receive or share any fee or distribution of dividends for professional services rendered (by himself or others) while barred from practicing medicine. Respondent may receive compensation for the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered, and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf, prior to the Consent Order's effective date.
- 9. If Respondent is a shareholder in any professional service corporation organized to engage in the practice of medicine and Respondent's license is revoked, surrendered or suspended for 6 months or more pursuant to this Consent Order, Respondent shall, within 90 days of the Consent Order's effective date, divest himself/herself of all financial interest in such professional services corporation in accordance with New York Business Corporation Law. If Respondent is the sole shareholder in a professional services corporation, the corporation must be dissolved or sold within 90 days of the Consent Order's effective date.
- Failure to comply with the above directives may result in civil or criminal penalties. Practicing medicine when a medical license has been suspended, revoked or annulled is a Class E Felony, punishable by imprisonment for up to four years, under New York Education Law § 6512. Professional misconduct may result in penalties including revocation of the suspended license and/or fines of up to \$10,000 for each specification of misconduct, under New York Public Health Law § 230-a.