



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
James W. Clyne, Jr.
Executive Deputy Commissioner
Keith W. Servis, Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

PUBLIC

Kendrick A. Sears, M.D.
Chair
Carmela Torrelli
Vice Chair
Katherine A. Hawkins, M.D., J.D.
Executive Secretary

June 25, 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Neha Batheja, RPA

REDACTED

RE: License No. 007948

Dear Ms. Batheja:

Enclosed is a copy of Order BPMC #10-111 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect July 2, 2010.

If the penalty imposed by the Order is a fine, please write the check payable to the New York State Department of Health. Noting the BPMC Order number on your remittance will assist in proper crediting. Payments should be directed to the following address:

Bureau of Accounts Management
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower, Room 1717
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237

Sincerely,

REDACTED

Katherine A. Hawkins, M.D., J.D.
Executive Secretary
Board for Professional Medical Conduct

cc: Keven Porter, Esq.
Bartlett, McDonough, Bastone & Monaghan, LLP
81 Main Street
White Plains, NY 10601-1711

**IN THE MATTER
OF
NEHA BATHEJA, R.P.A.**

**CONSENT
ORDER**

BPMC # 10-111

Upon the application of (Respondent) NEHA BATHEJA, R.P.A. in the attached Consent Agreement and Order, which is made a part of this Consent Order, it is

ORDERED, that the Consent Agreement, and its terms, are adopted and it is further

ORDERED, that this Consent Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, either

- by mailing of a copy of this Consent Order, either by first class mail to Respondent at the address in the attached Consent Agreement or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, OR
- upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney, whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

REDACTED

DATE: June 24, 2010

KENDRICK A. SEARS, M.D.
Chair
State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

**IN THE MATTER
OF
NEHA BATHEJA, R.P.A.**

**CONSENT
AGREEMENT
AND
ORDER**

NEHA BATHEJA, R.P.A., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about December 21, 2000, I was authorized to practice as a registered physician assistant in New York State, and issued Registration Number 007948 (hereafter "license") by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is REDACTED

, and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) has charged me with one 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 First Specification, Fraudulent Practice, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a(1), I shall be subject to a Censure and Reprimand. Pursuant to Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a(9), I shall be placed on probation for a period of three years, subject to the terms set forth in attached Exhibit "B". Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law

§§ 230-a(7) and (9), I shall be subject to a \$5,000.00 fine, to be paid in full within one year of the Order's effective date, as follows: payments of \$1250 per installment shall be due on September 1, 2010, December 1, 2010, March 1, 2011, and June 1, 2011. Payments must be submitted to:

Bureau of Accounts Management
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Room 1717
Albany, New York 12237

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

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Educ 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 N.Y. Educ. Law § 6502(4) to avoid registration and payment of fees. This condition shall take effect 120 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 N.Y. Educ. 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 N.Y. Pub. 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 N.Y. Pub. 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.

DATE 6/15/10

REDACTED

NEHA BATHEJA, R.P.A.
RESPONDENT

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

DATE: 6/15/10

REDACTED

KEVIN PORTER, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

DATE: June 18, 2010

REDACTED

MARCIA E. KAPLAN
Associate Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 6/24/10

REDACTED

KEITH W. SERVIS
Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "A"

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

**IN THE MATTER
OF
NEHA BATHEJA, R.P.A.**

**STATEMENT
OF
CHARGES**

NEHA BATHEJA, R.P.A., the Respondent, was authorized to practice as a registered physician assistant in New York State on or about December 21, 2000, by the issuance of Registration Number 007948 (hereafter "license") by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. On two occasions, one in or about May, 2006, and the other in or about July 2006, Respondent inappropriately, and with intent to mislead, wrote prescriptions for Vicodin, a controlled substance, and signed a physician's name to those prescriptions without the physician's authorization, for an individual who was not a patient of the physician. (The physician and the individual for whom she wrote the prescription are identified in "Appendix A".)

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

FIRST SPECIFICATION

FRAUDULENT PRACTICE

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(2) by practicing the profession of medicine fraudulently as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. Paragraph A.

DATE: June 18, 2010
New York, New York

REDACTED

ROY NEMERSON
Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "B"

Terms of Probation

1. Respondent's conduct shall conform to moral and professional standards of conduct and governing law. Any act of professional misconduct by Respondent as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law §§ 6530 or 6531 shall constitute a violation of probation and may subject Respondent to an action pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230(19).
2. Respondent shall maintain active registration of Respondent's registration to practice as a registered physician assistant (except during periods of actual suspension) with the New York State Education Department Division of Professional Licensing Services, and shall pay all registration fees.
3. Respondent shall provide the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), Hedley Park Place, 433 River Street Suite 303, Troy, New York 12180-2299 with the following information, in writing, and ensure that this information is kept current: a full description of Respondent's employment and practice; all professional and residential addresses and telephone numbers within and outside New York State; and all investigations, arrests, charges, convictions or disciplinary actions by any local, state or federal agency, institution or facility. Respondent shall notify OPMC, in writing, within 30 days of any additions to or changes in the required information.
4. Respondent shall cooperate fully with, and respond in a timely manner to, OPMC requests to provide written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with the terms of this Consent Order. Upon the Director of OPMC's request, Respondent shall meet in person with the Director's designee.
5. Respondent's failure to pay any monetary penalty by the prescribed date shall subject Respondent to all provisions of law relating to debt collection by New York State, including but not limited to: the imposition of interest, late payment charges and collection fees; referral to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance for collection; and non-renewal of permits or licenses [Tax Law § 171(27); State Finance Law § 18; CPLR § 5001; Executive Law § 32].
6. Payment of the \$5000 fine imposed is also a term of probation. The fine is payable in full within one year of the Order's effective date, as follows: payments of \$1250 per installment shall be due on September 1, 2010, December 1, 2010, March 1, 2011, and June 1, 2011. Payments must be submitted to:

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New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Room 1717
Albany, New York 12237
7. The probation period shall toll when Respondent is not engaged in active practice as a physician assistant in New York State for a period of 30 consecutive days or more. Respondent shall notify the Director of OPMC, in writing, if Respondent is not currently engaged in, or intends to leave, active practice as a physician assistant in New York State for a consecutive 30 day period. Respondent shall then notify the Director again at least 14

days before returning to active practice. Upon Respondent's return to active practice in New York State, the probation period shall resume and Respondent shall fulfill any unfulfilled probation terms and such additional requirements as the Director may impose as reasonably relate to the matters set forth in Exhibit "A" or as are necessary to protect the public health.

8. The Director of OPMC may review Respondent's professional performance. This review may include but shall not be limited to: a review of office records, patient records, hospital charts, and/or electronic records; and interviews with or periodic visits with Respondent and staff at practice locations or OPMC offices.
9. Respondent shall adhere to federal and state guidelines and professional standards of care with respect to infection control practices. Respondent shall ensure education, training and oversight of all office personnel involved in medical care, with respect to these practices.
10. Respondent shall maintain complete and legible medical records that accurately reflect the evaluation and treatment of patients and contain all information required by State rules and regulations concerning controlled substances.
11. Respondent shall enroll in and complete a continuing education program, including CME in the areas of medical ethics and appropriate prescribing practices, subject to the Director of OPMC's prior written approval. This continuing education program shall be completed within the first 90 days of the probation period.
12. Respondent shall comply with this Consent Order and all its terms, and shall bear all associated compliance costs. Upon receiving evidence of noncompliance with, or a violation of, these terms, the Director of OPMC and/or the Board may initiate a violation of probation proceeding, and/or any other such proceeding authorized by law, against Respondent.