

#### New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

Antonia C. Novello, M.D.,M.P.H., Dr. P.H. Commissioner NYS Department of Health

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner
NYS Department of Health

Dennis J. Graziano, Director Office of Professional Medical Conduct William P. Dillon, M.D. Chair

Michael A. Gonzalez, R.P.A. Vice Chair

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

October 23, 2002

#### CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

William G. Cummings, M.D. 47 Jamie Court Suffern, New York 10901

RE: License No. 192218

Dear Dr. Cummings:

Enclosed please find Order #BPMC 02-326 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect October 23, 2002.

If the penalty imposed by the Order is a surrender, revocation or suspension of this license, you are required to deliver to the Board the license and registration within five (5) days of receipt of the Order to Board for Professional Medical Conduct, New York State Department of Health, Hedley Park Place, Suite 303, 433 River Street, Troy, New York 12180.

Sincerely.

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

**Executive Secretary** 

Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc:

Wilfred T. Friedman, Esq. Freidman and Mahdavian, P.C. The Bar Building, Suite 1205 36 West 44th Street New York, NY 10036

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

### IN THE MATTER **OF**

WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER BPMC No. 02-326

Upon the application of (Respondent) William G. Cummings, M.D. 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 SO ORDERED, and it is further

ORDERED, that this 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.

State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

#### IN THE MATTER

**OF** 

WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS, M.D.

CONSENT
AGREEMENT
AND
ORDER

William G. Cummings, M.D., representing that all of the following statements are true, deposes and says:

That on or about May 17, 1993, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 192218 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 47 Jamie Court, Suffern, New York 10901 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 has charged me with 50 specifications of professional misconduct.

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

I admit to so much of the First Specification as alleges that I am dependent upon or an habitual user of narcotics, including Demerol, or other drugs having similar effect, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

 My license shall be suspended for an indefinite period but no less than twelve months. I shall be subject to a condition that I comply with Exhibit "C," "Guidelines For Closing a Medical Practice Following a Revocation, Surrender or Suspension (Of 6 Months) or More) of a Medical License," attached hereto." Upon compliance with all conditions of this Order, but no sooner than twelve months from the effective date of this order, I may petition the Board for a Modification Order staying the indefinite suspension of my license.

My medical license shall be permanently limited to preclude my
dispensing of controlled substances, steroids, hormones or their
pharmacologic equivalents from any location other than an Article 28
facility and to any person other than a patient currently being treated in
an Article 28 facility.

#### I understand and agree:

That any Modification Order the Board may issue, in the exercise of its reasonable discretion, may include terms of probation, and/or further conditions on my practice.

That the Board will exercise its reasonable discretion upon my petition for a Modification Order through a Committee on Professional Conduct, after a proceeding in which I have met a burden of proof and persuasion as further set forth in attached Exhibit "B".

That the Committee's exercise of discretion shall not be reviewable by the Administrative Review Board.

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

That, I shall return any and all official New York State prescriptions to the Bureau of Controlled Substances, and I shall surrender my Controlled Substance Registration Certificate to the United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, within thirty days of the effective date of this Order. Further, within thirty days of returning said prescriptions and surrendering said registration, I shall provide the Director of OPMC ("Director") with written evidence, satisfactory to the Director, that I have so complied with this condition.

That Respondent shall maintain current registration of licensure with the New York State Education Department Division of Professional Licensing Services (except during periods of actual suspension), and shall pay all registration fees. This condition shall take effect thirty (30) days after the Consent Order's effective date and will continue so long as Respondent remains licensed 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 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 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 Order shall constitute misconduct as defined by New York State Education Law §6530(29).

If I am charged with professional misconduct in the future, I hereby stipulate and agree to the admission into evidence at such proceeding, during the Department's case-in-chief, of this Application and Order, and/or related Modification Orders at the sole discretion of the Department (Petitioner).

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 the 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 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.

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 ask that the Board adopt this Consent Agreement.

DATED 10/8/07

WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS, M.D.

DATE: 10/9/02

DATE: 10/9/02

WILERED FRIEDMAN, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

TIMOTHY & MAHAR ASSOCIATE COUNSEL Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 10/9/02

DATE: 0 11/02

DATE: 0 11/02

DATE: 0 17/02

DATE

#### EXHIBIT "B"

- 1. The suspension of Respondent's license shall be terminated only upon a showing to the satisfaction of a Committee on Professional Conduct (Committee) of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) that Respondent has successfully complied with or completed a course of therapy and ongoing evaluation, which successful compliance or completion must include a determination by said Committee that Respondent is no longer incapacitated for the practice as a physician and <a href="that Respondent">that Respondent is both fit and clinically competent to practice as a physician</a>. Respondent shall provide to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) a proposed treatment plan, for advice as to whether it is generally appropriate, but the determination of successful compliance with or completion of the course of therapy shall be made solely by the Committee, and shall include, but not be limited to, a determination that Respondent is no longer incapacitated for the active practice as a physician.
- 2. Upon Respondent's request, but after the passage of the minimum period of suspension, a meeting of a Committee shall be convened for the purpose of hearing and evaluating Respondent's showing referred to in paragraph 1. The Board will make reasonable attempts to convene a Committee not later than 90 days after Respondent's request, which shall not be deemed to have been perfected until receipt, by the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, (Director) of all that is required to be provided by Respondent pursuant to the Conditions imposed upon Respondent and pursuant to paragraph 3 below. The procedural nature of said proceeding shall be determined by the Board through the discretion of the Director of OPMC upon consultation with Counsel, Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct (Counsel). Proceedings before said Committee shall <u>not</u> be in the nature of a hearing pursuant to New York Public Health Law §230, but shall instead be informal and intended only for the purpose of addressing any and all facts, evidence, information, circumstances, or issues which do or may relate to the advisability of terminating the suspension of Respondent's license. The Committee shall be given access to evidence including, but not limited to:
  - a. Any and all evidence pertaining to Respondent's compliance with the conditions imposed.

- b. Any evidence which the Director or Counsel deems appropriate.
- 3. At the time that Respondent requests that a meeting of a Committee be scheduled, pursuant to paragraph 2, he shall provide the Director of OPMC with the following:
  - a. The signed acknowledgment and curriculum vitae from the proposed sobriety monitor referred to in paragraph 5c.
  - b. The signed acknowledgment and curriculum vitae from the proposed supervising physician referred to in paragraph 5d.
  - c. The signed acknowledgment and curriculum vitae from the proposed health care professional referred to in paragraph 5e.
  - d. Certified true and complete copies of all evaluation and treatment records relating to Respondent's substance abuse/dependence, psychological, psychiatric and/or mental health treatment whether in an in-patient, out-patient, after-care or consultation setting. These certified records shall be forwarded directly to OPMC from all treatment providers, facilities and evaluators. These records shall reflect any treatment and evaluation provided whether said treatment and evaluation occurred prior to or during the time this suspension is in effect. Such records shall include documentation of the results of all tests conducted to evaluate Respondent's fitness and clinical competence to practice medicine.
  - e. Documentation of Respondent's participation in the program(s) of the Committee for Physicians' Health of the Medical Society of the State of New York or other equivalent program(s).
     Documentation shall include but not be limited to verification of compliance and results of forensically valid alcohol/drug screening.
  - f. Fully executed waivers of patient confidentiality concerning any previous and prospective treatment records.
  - g. A current, independent, in-depth chemical dependency and psychiatric evaluation by a board-certified psychiatrist specializing in addiction medicine.

h. Upon request of the Director of OPMC, Respondent shall attend, participate in and cooperate with an interview with designated personnel from the OPMC.

Provision of the aforesaid documents will not, alone, constitute a showing that Respondent is no longer incapacitated for active practice as a physician.

- 4. At least fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled date of the proceeding referred to in paragraph 2, Respondent shall provide OPMC with the following:
  - a. Certified true and complete copies of records updating treatment and alcohol/drug screening since the date of the original submissions referred to in paragraph 3d.
  - b. Evidence that Respondent has maintained adequate knowledge and competence to practice as a physician. Such evidence shall include documentation of continuing medical education and, if so requested by the Director of OPMC, a report of an independent evaluation of Respondent's medical knowledge and competence.

Submission of the aforesaid evidence shall not, alone, constitute a showing that Respondent is no longer incapacitated for active practice as a physician.

- 5. If the Chairperson of the Committee issues an order (Order) finding that Respondent has successfully completed the prescribed course of treatment and has regained fitness and competence to practice medicine, and therefore terminating the suspension of Respondent's license, the Order shall further impose a period of probation, pursuant to New York Public Health Law §230-a, during which Respondent's practice as a physician shall be subject to conditions imposed. Respondent's practice shall be subject to such conditions for a period of no less than five years. The minimum conditions shall include the following:
  - a. Respondent shall be required to comply with the terms of a continuing after-care treatment plan that addresses the major problems associated with Respondent's illness.
  - b. At the direction of the Director of OPMC, Respondent shall submit to periodic interviews with, and evaluations by, a board-certified psychiatrist or other licensed mental health practitioner designated by the Director. Said practitioner shall report to the Director regarding Respondent's condition and Respondent's

fitness or incapacity to practice as a physician.

- c. Respondent's sobriety will be monitored by a health care professional proposed by Respondent and approved in writing by the Director of OPMC. Said monitor shall not be a personal friend. Said monitor shall be familiar with Respondent's history of chemical dependence, with this suspension and with the terms of probation to be set forth. Said sobriety monitor shall acknowledge his/her willingness to comply with the monitoring by executing the acknowledgment provided by OPMC.
  - i. Said monitor shall see Respondent at least twice during each month.
  - ii. Said monitor shall direct Respondent to submit to unannounced tests of his blood, breath and/or urine for the presence of drugs or alcohol and shall report to OPMC within 24 hours if at any time such a test is positive or is refused by Respondent.
  - iii. Said monitor shall report to OPMC any non-compliance with the imposed conditions.
  - iv. Respondent shall ensure that said monitor submits to OPMC quarterly reports certifying Respondent's compliance or detailing Respondent's failure to comply with each of the conditions imposed. The reports shall include the results of all body fluid and/or breath tests for drugs and/or alcohol performed during that quarter.
  - v. Respondent shall avoid all substances which may cause positive urines such as poppy seeds, mouthwash and cough medication. Any positive test result will be considered a violation of this Order.
- d. Respondent shall be supervised in Respondent's medical practice by a licensed physician, proposed by Respondent and approved in writing by the Director of OPMC, in accordance with the conditions contained in or annexed to the Order. Said supervising physician shall be familiar with Respondent's history of impairment and with the Order and its conditions. Said

supervising physician shall supervise Respondent's compliance with the conditions of practice imposed by the Order. Said supervising physician shall be in a position to regularly observe and assess Respondent's medical practice. Said supervising physician shall acknowledge his/her willingness to comply with the supervision by executing the acknowledgment provided by OPMC.

- i. Respondent shall ensure that said supervising physician submits o OPMC quarterly reports regarding the quality of Respondent's medical practice, any unexplained absences from work and certifying his compliance or detailing his failure to comply with each condition imposed.
- ii. Said supervising physician shall report any suspected impairment, inappropriate behavior, questionable medical practices or possible misconduct to OPMC.
- e. Respondent shall continue in treatment with a health care professional, proposed by Respondent and approved, in writing, by the Director of OPMC, for as long as the health care professional determines it is necessary.
  - Respondent shall ensure that said treating health care professional or program submits to OPMC quarterly reports certifying that Respondent is complying with the treatment.
  - ii. Said treating health care professional shall report to OPMC immediately if Respondent is non-compliant with the treatment plan or demonstrates any significant pattern of absences.
  - iii. Said treating health care professional shall acknowledge his/her willingness to comply with the above-mentioned reporting by executing the acknowledgment provided by OPMC.
- 6. The terms set out in paragraph 5 shall be the minimum probation terms, related to Respondent's fitness to practice, to be imposed on his practice upon terminating the suspension of his license, and that other terms may be added by the Committee, and that the costs of complying with all such terms will be

Respondent's responsibility. Any failure by Respondent to comply with the conditions imposed upon his practice at the time of suspension termination, may result in disciplinary action being brought against him charging professional misconduct as defined by the New York State Education Law, including but not limited to NY Education Law §6530(29).

- 7. Upon any denial of respondent's petition for suspension termination made by the Committee, Respondent shall not again request convening a Committee until a minimum period of nine (9) months has elapsed since such denial.
- 8. In addition to the terms set out in paragraph 5 and any other terms added by the Committee upon the termination of Respondent's license suspension, he shall also be subject to the following standard terms of probation:
  - a. Respondent shall conduct himself in all ways in a manner befitting his professional status, and shall conform fully to the moral and professional standards of conduct and obligations imposed by law and by the profession of medicine.
  - b. Respondent shall submit written notification of all sites of employment and/or medical practice to the New York State Department of Health addressed to the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, New York State Department of Health, 433 River Street, Suite 303, Troy, NY 12180-2299; said notice is to include a full description of any employment and practice, professional and residential addresses and telephone numbers within or without New York State, and any and all investigations, charges, convictions or disciplinary actions by any local, state or federal agency, institution or facility, within thirty (30) days of each action.
  - c. Respondent shall fully cooperate with and respond in a timely manner to requests from OPMC to provide written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with the terms of this Order. Respondent shall personally meet with a person designated by the Director of OPMC as requested by the Director.
  - d. Any civil penalty not paid by the date prescribed herein shall be subject to all provisions of law relating to debt collection by New York State. This includes but is 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].

- e. Any period of probation shall be tolled during periods in which Respondent is not engaged in the active practice as a physician in New York State. Respondent shall notify the Director of OPMC, in writing, if Respondent is not currently engaged in or intends to leave the active practice as a physician in New York State for a period of thirty (30) consecutive days or more. Respondent shall then notify the Director again prior to any change in that status. The period of probation shall resume and any terms of probation which were not fulfilled shall be fulfilled upon Respondent's return to practice in New York State. The tolling provision set forth in this paragraph may be waived by the Director of OPMC, in the Director's discretion.
- f. Respondent's professional performance may be reviewed by the Director of OPMC. This review may include, but shall not be limited to, a review of office records, patient records and/or hospital charts, interviews with or periodic visits with Respondent and Respondent's staff at practice locations or OPMC offices.
- g. Respondent shall maintain legible and complete medical records which accurately reflect the evaluation and treatment of patients. The medical records shall contain all information required by state rules and regulations regarding controlled substances.
- h. Respondent shall comply with all terms, conditions, restrictions, limitations and penalties to which Respondent is subject pursuant to the Order and shall assume and bear all costs related to compliance. Upon receipt of evidence of non-compliance with, or any violation of these terms, the Director of OPMC and/or the Board may initiate a violation of probation proceeding and/or any such other proceeding against Respondent as may be authorized pursuant to the law.

#### **EXHIBIT "C"**

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

- 1. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist 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.
- 2. Within fifteen (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.
- 3. Within thirty (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 biennial 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 4. medical records. Within thirty (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 six (6) years after the last date of service, and, for minors, at least six (6) years after the last date of service or three (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 seventy-five 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 fifteen (15) days of the Order's effective date, if Respondent holds a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) certificate, Respondent shall advise the DEA in writing of the licensure action and shall surrender his or her DEA controlled substance certificate, privileges, and any used DEA #222 U.S. Official Order Forms Schedules 1 and 2, to the DEA.
- 6. Within fifteen (15) days of the Order's effective date, Respondent shall return any unused New York State official prescription forms to the Bureau of Controlled Substances 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 his practice location, Respondent shall dispose of all medications.
- 7. Within fifteen (15) days of the 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 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 six (6) months or more pursuant to this Order, Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days of the 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 ninety (90) days of the Order's effective date.
- 10. 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 (4) years,

under Section 6512 of the Education Law. 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 Section 230-a of the Public Health Law.

#### **AUTHORIZATION**

I, William G. Cummings, M.D., authorize all programs in which I have enrolled as an alcohol or drug abuse patient to disclose to the New York State Department of Health, Office of Professional Medical Conduct the following information:

> ANY AND ALL RECORDS PERTAINING TO MY EVALUATION AND TREATMENT WITH REGARD TO ALCOHOL AND/OR DRUG ABUSE.

The purpose of the disclosure authorized herein is to provide information which enables and facilitates the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct in its performance of duties and responsibilities pursuant to Section 230 of the New York Public Health Law.

I understand that, to the extent my records are protected under federal regulations governing Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records, 42 CFR Part 2, such records cannot be disclosed without my written consent unless otherwise provided for in the regulations. I also understand that I may revoke this consent at any time except to the extent that action has been taken in reliance on it and that in any event this consent expires automatically upon final disposition of the relevant investigation and/or proceeding by the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct.

PHONE: (518) 402-0845 FAX: (518) 402-0790

#### PRACTICE SUPERVISOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I have agreed to act as Practice Superv	visor for WILLIA	M G. CUMMINGS, M.D.("Licensee").
I am familiar with the Licensee's histo	ory of substance al	ouse.
I have read and am familiar with the n	ninimum terms an	d conditions outlined in the Consent Order.
I have read and am familiar with the C	OPMC "General	Criteria for Practice Supervisors."
I am not a personal friend or relative of Conduct.	of the Licensee no	r a member of the NYS Board for Professional Medical
I will regularly observe and assess the	Licensee's medic	al practice.
urine to detect the presence of drugs of Professional Medical Conduct on a qu	or alcohol and will arterly basis. I w	ounced, supervised tests of blood, breath screening and/or report the results of all such tests to the Office of ill report any failure or refusal to submit to testing by the ssional Medical Conduct within twenty-four (24) hours.
medical practice, work attendance and	d overall compliant ware that the Licen	onal Medical Conduct regarding the quality of the Licensee's nee with the terms and conditions of the Order. Should use has violated any term of the Order, I will contact the refour (24) hours.
	NAME:	
	ADDRESS:	
	PHONE:	
		O MAY BE IMPAIRED AND/OR GUILTY OF PROFESSIONAL F PUBLIC HEALTH AND EDUCATION LAW
	SIGNED:	

Return completed form and a current copy of your curriculum vitae to:

DATE:

PHONE: (518) 402-0845 FAX: (518) 402-0790

#### PRACTICE MONITOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I have agreed to act as Practice Mon:	itor for WILLIAM	G. CUMMINGS, M.D. ("Licensee").
I am familiar with the Licensee's his	tory of substance at	ouse.
I have read and am familiar with the	minimum terms an	d conditions outlined in the Consent Order.
I have read and am familiar with the	OPMC "General C	Criteria For Practice Monitors."
I am not a personal friend or relative Conduct.	of the Licensee no	r a member of the NYS Board for Professional Medical
I will regularly observe and assess th	ne Licensee's medic	al practice.
urine to detect the presence of drugs Professional Medical Conduct on a	or alcohol and will quarterly basis. I w	ounced, supervised tests of blood, breath screening and/or report the results of all such tests to the Office of ill report any failure or refusal to submit to testing by the ssional Medical Conduct within twenty-four (24) hours.
medical practice, work attendance as	nd overall compliar aware that the Licer	onal Medical Conduct regarding the quality of the Licensee's ace with the terms and conditions of the Order. Should usee has violated any term of the Order, I will contact the four (24) hours.
	NAME:	
	ADDRESS:	<u> </u>
	•	
	PHONE:	
		D MAY BE IMPAIRED AND/OR GUILTY OF PROFESSIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND EDUCATION LAW
	DATE:	

Return completed form and a current copy of your curriculum vitae to:

> PHONE: (518) 402-0845 FAX: (518) 402-0790

#### THERAPY MONITOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I have agreed to act as therapy monitor for WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS, M.D.("Licensee"). I am familiar with the Licensee's history of substance abuse.

I have read and am familiar with the minimum terms and conditions outlined in the Consent Order.

I have read and am familiar with the OPMC "Therapy monitor/Therapist Responsibilities."

I am not a personal friend or relative of the licensee, nor a member of the NYS Board for Professional Medical Conduct.

Should the licensee refuse to submit to any test I may order for the presence of drugs or alcohol, or if the test is positive, I will report the incident to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct within twenty-four (24) hours.

I will submit quarterly reports to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct regarding the licensee's compliance, or any pattern of non-compliance, with the terms and conditions of the Order. Should problems arise, or sould I become aware that the licensee has violated any term of the Order, I will contact the Office of Professional Medical Conduct within twenty-four (24) hours.

I will ensure that the Office of Professional Medical Conduct is notified should the licensee drop out of treatment or fall into a significant pattern of absences.

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
PHONE:	
FAILURE TO REPORT TO OPMC A PHYSICIAN WHO MA MISCONDUCT IS A VIOLATION OF PU	
SIGNED: DATE:	•

Return completed form and a current copy of your curriculum vitae to:

PHONE: (518) 402-0845 FAX: (518) 402-0790

#### SOBRIETY MONITOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I have agreed to act as Sobriety Monitor for WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS, M.D. ("Licensee").
I am familiar with the Licensee's history of substance abuse.
I have read and am familiar with the minimum terms and conditions outlined in the Consent Order.
I have read and am familiar with the OPMC "Requirements for Drug/Alcohol Screens."
I am not a personal friend or relative of the Licensee nor a member of the NYS Board for Professional Medical Conduct.
I am prepared to direct the Licensee to submit to unannounced, supervised tests of blood, breath screening and/or urine to detect the presence of drugs or alcohol and will report the results of all such tests to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct on a quarterly basis. I will report any failure or refusal to submit to testing by the Licensee and any positive results to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct within twenty-four (24) hours.
I will submit quarterly reports to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct regarding the Licensee's overall compliance, or any pattern of non-compliance, with the terms and conditions of the Order. Should problems arise, or should I become aware that the Licensee has violated any term of the Order, I will contact the Office of Professional Medical Conduct within twenty-four (24) hours.
NAME:
ADDRESS:
PHONE:
FAILURE TO REPORT TO OPMC A PHYSICIAN WHO MAY BE IMPAIRED AND/OR GUILTY OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT IS A VIOLATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND EDUCATION LAW
SIGNED:

Return completed form and a current copy of your curriculum vitae to:

DATE:

	T OF HEALTH	: DEPA	YORK	OF NEV	STATE
	CAL CONDUCT	ROFESSIONAL	FOR PR	BOARD	STATE
	X			<b></b>	
STATEMENT	:	THE MATTER	IN		
OF	:	OF			
CHARGES	.D. :	M G. CUMMINO	TLLIAM	V	
	X				

William G. Cummings, M.D., Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on May 17, 1993, by the issuance of license number 192218 by the New York State Education Department.

#### Factual Allegations

- 1. During a period of time which includes the Spring of 2002, Respondent has been dependent upon or has been an habitual user of narcotics, including Demerol, or other drugs having similar effect.
- 2. During a period of time which includes the Spring of 2002, Respondent has practiced medicine while impaired by drugs, including Demerol.
- 3. Respondent, on one or more occasions, has used Demerol for non-medical and/or recreational purposes.
- 4. Respondent, during the period 1992 to the present, has had a psychiatric condition which impairs his ability to practice medicine and for which he is currently receiving therapy.

- A. 1. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered

  Demerol to Patient A (Patients are identified by

  name in Appendix A hereto), without adequate medical

  indications, and for non-medical and/or recreational

  purposes.
  - 2. Respondent has given Demerol to Patient A or permitted her access to Demerol for selfadministration without adequate medical indications, and for non-medical and/or recreational purposes.
  - 3. Respondent has given Demerol to Patient A or allowed her access to Demerol without adequate medical indications, and for non-medical and/or recreational purposes when Respondent knew or should have known that Patient A was dependent on Demerol.
  - 4. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Patient A.
- B. Respondent provided medical care to Patient B from approximately July, 2001 to May, 2002 at his offices located at 11 North Airmont Road, Suffern, New York for arrhythmia, among other conditions. Respondent's medical care of Patient B deviated from accepted standards of medical care in the following respects:
  - Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered or gave for self-administration steroids,

testosterone or similar medications to Patient B for non-medical purposes and/or without adequate medical indications.

- 2. Respondent, on one or more occasions, gave steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Patient B when Respondent knew or should have known that Patient B was using steroids, testosterone or similar medications in connection with strength training.
- Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Patient B.
- C. 1. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered

  Demerol to Individual C, a female social

  acquaintance, without adequate medical indications,

  and/or for non-medical and/or recreational purposes.
  - 2. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered Demerol to Individual C, a female social acquaintance, with the intention of engaging in sexual activity with Individual C.
  - 3. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Patient C.

- D. 1. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered

  Demerol to Individual D, a female social

  acquaintance, without adequate medical indications,

  and for a non-medical and/or recreational purposes.
  - 2. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered

    Demerol to Individual D, a female social

    acquaintance with the intention of engaging in

    sexual activity with Individual D.
  - Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Individual D.
- E. 1. Respondent, on one or more occasions, gave Demerol to Individual E, a male social acquaintance, for self-administration without adequate medical indications, and for non-medical and/or recreational purposes.
  - Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Individual E.
- F. 1. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered and/or gave for self-administration, Demerol to Patient F, a female social acquaintance, at her home and at Respondent's office, without adequate medical indications, and for non-medical and/or recreational purposes.

- 2. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Patient F.
- G. 1. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered and/or gave for self-administration, steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Patient G for non-medical purposes and/or without adequate medical indications.
  - 2. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered or gave steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Patient G when Respondent knew or should have known that Patient G was using steroids, testosterone or similar medications in connection with strength training.
  - 3. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Patient G.
- H. 1. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered and/or gave for self-administration, steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Individual H for non-medical purposes and/or without adequate medical indications.
  - 2. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered and/or gave steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Individual H when Respondent knew or should have known that Individual H was using

steroids, testosterone or similar medications in connection with strength training.

- 3. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Individual H.
- I. Respondent provided medical care to Patient I from approximately August 1997 through May, 1999 at his office for bilateral gynecomastia, and facial acne, among other conditions. Respondent's medical care of Patient I deviated from accepted standards of medical care in the following respects:
  - Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered and/or gave for self-administration, steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Patient I for non-medical purposes and/or without adequate medical indications.
  - 2. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered and/or gave steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Patient I when Respondent knew or should have known that Patient I was using steroids, testosterone or similar medications in connection with strength training.
  - 3. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Patient I.

- J. Respondent provided medical care to Patient J from approximately February, 1999 through February, 2002 at his offices for back pain, among other conditions.

  Respondent's medical care of Patient J deviated from accepted standards of medical care in the following respects:
  - 1. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered and/or gave for self-administration steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Patient J for non-medical purposes and/or without adequate medical indications.
  - 2. Respondent, on one or more occasions, administered and/or gave steroids, testosterone or similar medications to Patient J when Respondent knew or should have known that Patient J was using steroids, testosterone or similar medications in connection with strength training.
  - 3. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate and/or accurate medical record for Patient J.
- K. Respondent provided medical care to Patient K from approximately February, 1996 to July, 1999 at his office then located at 11 North Airmont Road, Suffern, New York for hypertension and impotence, among other conditions. Respondent's medical care of Patient K deviated from accepted standards of care in the following respects:

- 1. Respondent, on various occasions, failed to take an adequate medical history from Patient K.
- Respondent, on various occasions, failed to perform an adequate physical exam and/or evaluation of Patient K.
- 3. Respondent, on various occasions, failed to formulate an adequate working diagnosis and/or a treatment plan for Patient K.
- 4. Respondent, on various occasions, ordered a bone density study and/or a typanogram test and/or pulmonary function test for Patient K without adequate medical indications.
- 5. Respondent, on various occasions, administered IM testosterone to Patient K without adequate medical indications.
- 6. Respondent inappropriately ordered Feldene and/or Naprosyn for Patient K.
- 7. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate medical record for Patient K.
- L. Respondent provided medical care to Patient L at his office from approximately August, 1995 to January, 2000 for diabetes, hypertension and impotence, among other conditions. Respondent's medical care of Patient L deviated from accepted standards of care in the following respects:
  - 1. Respondent, on various occasions, failed to take an adequate medical history from Patient L.

- Respondent, on various occasions, failed to perform an adequate physical examination on Patient L.
- 3. Respondent, on various occasions, failed to formulate an adequate working diagnosis and/or treatment plan for Patient L.
- 4. Respondent, on various occasions, ordered a bone density study and/or a pulmonary function test of Patient L without adequate medical indication.
- 5. Respondent, on various occasions, administered IM testosterone to Patient L without adequate medical indications and/or when contraindicated.
- 6. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate medical record for Patient L.
- M. Respondent provided medical care to Patient M at his office from approximately March, 1996 to June, 1998 for congestive obstructive pulmonary disease, osteoporosis and impotence, among other conditions. Respondent's medical care of Patient M deviated from accepted standards of care in the following respects:
  - 1. Respondent, on various occasions, failed to take an adequate medical history from Patient M.
  - Respondent, on various occasions, failed to perform an adequate physical examination on Patient M.
  - 3. Respondent, on various occasions, failed to

formulate an adequate working diagnosis and/or an adequate treatment plan for Patient M.

- 4. Respondent, on various occasions, administered IM testosterone to Patient M. Respondent, on certain occasions, administered IM testosterone to Patient M without an adequate medical indication and/or without documenting an adequate medical indication.
- 5. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate medical record for Patient M, including, but not limited to, Respondent's failure to document in the office record controlled dangerous substances prescribed to Patient M.
- N. Respondent provided medical care to Patient N at his office from approximately May, 1997 to September, 1998 for anxiety and headaches, among other conditions.

  Respondent's medical care of Patient N deviated from accepted standards of medical care in the following respects:
  - 1. Respondent, on various occasions, failed to take an adequate medical history from Patient N.
  - Respondent, on various occasions, failed to perform an adequate physical examination on Patient N.
  - 3. Respondent, on various occasions, failed to formulate an adequate working diagnosis and/or a treatment plan for Patient N.
  - 4. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate medical record for Patient N.

- O. Respondent provided medical care to Patient O at his office from approximately December, 1996 through January, 1997 for headaches, among other conditions. Respondent's medical care of Patient O deviated from accepted standards of care in the following respects:
  - 1. Respondent failed to perform an adequate physical examination on Patient O.
  - Respondent prescribed Percocet for Patient 0 in quantities which were inappropriate.
  - 3. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate medical record for Patient O.
- P. Respondent provided medical care to Patient P
  at his office from approximately October, 1996 through
  December, 1998. Respondent's medical care of Patient P
  deviated from accepted standards of medical care in the
  following respects:
  - Respondent on various occasions failed to take an adequate medical history from Patient P.
  - 2. Respondent on various occasions failed to perform an adequate physical examination on Patient P.
  - 3. Respondent on various occasions failed to formulate an adequate working diagnosis and/or a treatment plan for Patient P.

- 4. Respondent failed to document in Patient P's chart the prescription of a controlled dangerous substance.
- 5. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate medical record for Patient P.
- Q. Respondent prescribed 90 Valium and 120 Percocet to
  Patient Q, a member of his office staff, on or about
  January, 1997. Respondent's medical care of Patient Q
  deviated from accepted standards of medical care in the
  following respects:
  - Respondent failed to perform a physical examination on Patient Q prior to prescribing Valium and Percocet to Patient Q.
  - Respondent prescribed excessive amounts of Valium and/or Percocet to Patient Q.
  - 3. Respondent failed to maintain an adequate medical record for Patient O.
- R. Respondent, on or about, February 11, 2002, submitted an application for reappointment to the medical staff of Good Samaritan Hospital, Suffern, New York in which he falsely answered the following question "No"
  - M. Do you know of any current personal health problems such as \*\*\* drug or alcohol addiction \*\*\* which could interfere with your ability to practice your medical/dental specialty?

- 1. Respondent falsely answered item M "No" when he knew or should have known that he was addicted to Demerol or a like drug which he knew or should have known could interfere with his ability to practice medicine.
- S. Respondent failed to properly safeguard and/or secure controlled substances, including Demerol, in a locked cabinet in his medical office on and before June 9, 2002 in violation of 10 NYCRR 80.6.
- T. Respondent failed to properly safeguard and/or secure controlled substances, including Demerol, in a locked cabinet in his medical office on and before June 9, 2002 in violation of 10 NYCRR 80.6 and when Respondent knew that there had been an attempt to break into his medical offices in the weeks prior to June 9, 2002.

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

#### FIRST THROUGH SECOND SPECIFICATIONS

### DEPENDENCE ON HABITUAL USE OF NARCOTICS Having a Psychiatric Condition Which Impairs Practice

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(8) by reason of his being dependent on or a habitual user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drugs having similar effects or having a psychiatric condition which impairs his ability to practice, in that Petitioner charges the following:

- 1. The facts set forth in paragraphs 1 and/or 3.
- 2. The facts set forth in paragraph 4.

#### THIRD SPECIFICATION

#### PRACTICING WHILE IMPAIRED BY DRUGS

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(7) by reason of his having practiced medicine while impaired by drugs, in that Petitioner charges the following:

3. The facts set forth in paragraphs 2.

## FOURTH THROUGH SEVENTEENTH SPECIFICATIONS GROSS NEGLIGENCE

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(4) by reason of his practicing the profession of medicine with gross negligence on a particular occasion, in that Petitioner charges the following:

- 4. The facts set forth in paragraph 2 and/or 3.
- 5. The facts set forth in paragraphs A.1, A.2 and/or A.3.
- 6. The facts set forth in paragraphs B.T and/or B.2.
- 7. The facts set forth in paragraphs C.1 and/or C.2.
- 8. The facts set forth in paragraphs D.1 and/or D.2.
- 9. The facts set forth in paragraph E.1.

- 10. The facts set forth in paragraphs F.1.
- 11. The facts set forth in paragraphs G.1 and/or G.2.
- 12. The facts set forth in paragraphs H.1 and/or H.2.
- 13. The facts set forth in paragraphs I.1 and/or I.2.
- 14. The facts set forth in paragraphs J.1 and/or J.2.
- 15. The facts set forth in paragraphs K.1, K.2, K.3, K.4, K.5, and K.6.
- 16. The facts set forth in paragraphs L.1, L.2, L.3, L.4, and L.5.
- 17. The facts set forth in paragraphs M.1, M.2, M.3, and M.4.

## EIGHTEENTH THROUGH THIRTY-FIRST SPECIFICATIONS GROSS INCOMPETENCE

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(6) by reason of his practicing the profession of medicine with gross incompetence on a particular occasion, in that Petitioner charges the following:

- 18. The facts set forth in paragraph 2 and/or 3.
- 19. The facts set forth in paragraphs A.1, A.2 and/or A.3.
- 20. The facts set forth in paragraphs B.1 and/or B.2.
- 21. The facts set forth in paragraphs C.1 and/or C.2.
- 22. The facts set forth in paragraphs D.1 and/or D.2.
- 23. The facts set forth in paragraph E.1.
- 24. The facts set forth in paragraphs F.1.
- 25. The facts set forth in paragraphs G.1 and/or G.2.
- 26. The facts set forth in paragraphs H.T and/or H.2.
- 27. The facts set forth in paragraphs I.1 and/or I.2.
- 28. The facts set forth in paragraphs J.1 and/or J.2.
- 29. The facts set forth in paragraphs K.1, K.2, K.3, K.4, K.5, K.6.

- 30. The facts set forth in paragraphs L.1, L.2, L.3, L.4, L.5.
- 31. The facts set forth in paragraphs M.1, M.2, M.3, M.4.

#### THIRTY-SECOND SPECIFICATION

#### NEGLIGENCE ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(3) by reason of his practicing the profession of medicine with negligence on more than one occasion, in that Petitioner charges two or more of the following:

32. The facts set forth in paragraphs 2, 3, A.1, A.2, A.3, B.1, B.2, C.1, C.2, D.1, D.2, E.1, F.1, G.1,G.2, H.1, H.2, I.1, I.2, J.1, J.2, K.1, K.2, K.3, K.4, K.5, K.6, L.1, L.2, L.3, L.4, L.5, M.1, M.2, M.3, M.4, N.1, N.2, N.3, O.1, O.2, P.1, P.2, P.3, P.4, and/or Q.1, and Q.2.

#### THIRTY-THIRD SPECIFICATION

#### INCOMPETENCE ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(5) by reason of his practicing the profession of medicine with incompetence on more than one occasion, in that Petitioner charges two or more of the following:

33. The facts set forth in paragraphs 2, 3, A.1, A.2, A.3, B.1, B.2, C.1, C.2, D.1, D.2, E.1, F.1, G.1, G.2, H.1, H.2, I.1, I.2, J.1, J.2, K.1, K.2, K.3, K.4, K.5, K.6, L.1, L.2, L.3, L.4, L.5, M.1, M.2, M.3, M.4, N.1, N.2, N.3, O.1, O.2, P.1, P.2, P.3, P.4, and/or Q.1, and Q.2.

# THIRTY-FOURTH THROUGH FORTY-FIFTH SPECIFICATIONS MORAL UNFITNESS

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(20) by reason of his having committed conduct in the practice of medicine which evidences moral unfitness to practice medicine, in that Petitioner charges the following:

- 34. The facts set forth in paragraph 3.
- 35. The facts set forth in paragraphs A.1, A.2 and/or A.3.
- 36. The facts set forth in paragraphs B.1 and/or B.2.
- 37. The facts set forth in paragraphs C.1 and/or C.2.
- 38. The facts set forth in paragraphs D.1 and/or D.2.
- 39. The facts set forth in paragraph E.1.
- 40. The facts set forth in paragraphs F.1.
- 41. The facts set forth in paragraphs G.1 and/or G.2.
- 42. The facts set forth in paragraphs H.1 and/or H.2.
- 43. The facts set forth in paragraphs I.1 and/or I.2.
- 44. The facts set forth in paragraphs J.1 and/or J.2.
- 45. The facts set forth in paragraph R.1

#### FORTY-SIXTH SPECIFICATION

#### ORDERING EXCESSIVE TESTS

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(35) by reason of his having ordered excessive tests of a patient not warranted by the condition of the patient, in that Petitioner charges the following:

46. The facts set forth in paragraphs K.4, and/or L.4.

#### FORTY-SEVENTH SPECIFICATION

#### INADEQUATE RECORDS

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(32) by reason of his failing to maintain a record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation and treatment of the patient, in the Petitioner charges the following:

47. The facts set forth in paragraphs A.4, B.3, C.3, D.3, E.2, F.2, G.3, H.3, I.3, J.3, K.7, L.6, M.4, M.5, N.4, O.3, P.4, P.5, and/or Q.3.

#### FORTY-EIGHTH SPECIFICATION

#### FRAUD IN THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(2) by reason of his having practiced the profession of medicine fraudulently in that Petitioner charges the following:

48. The facts set forth in paragraphs R.1.

#### FORTY-NINTH SPECIFICATION

#### FILING A FALSE REPORT

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(21) by reason of his having made or filed a false report, in that Petitioner charges the following:

49. The facts set forth in paragraphs R.1.

#### FIFTIETH SPECIFICATION

### A FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REGULATIONS GOVERNING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(16) by reason of his having willfully or with gross negligence failed to comply with a regulation governing the practice of medicine, and specifically 10NYCRR§80.6, in that Petitioner charges the following:

50. The facts set forth in paragraphs S or T.

DATED: October 9 ,2002 Albany, New York

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

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