BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation)		
Against:)		
)		
)		
GUNJAN GOEL M.D.)	File No. 800201400554	8
)		
Physician's and Surgeon's)		
Certificate No. A122057)		
)		
Respondent)		
-)		

DECISION

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on July 22, 2016.

IT IS SO ORDERED June 22, 2016.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By:

Jamie Wright, J.D., Chair

Panel A

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS		
2	Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General KAROLYN M. WESTFALL		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 234540		
5	600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101		
6	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266		
7	Telephone: (619) 645-3121 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9			
10	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA		
11	DEPARTMENT OF C	CONSUMER AFFAIRS CALIFORNIA	
12			
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2014-005548	
14	GUNJAN GOEL, M.D. 200 W Arbor Dr. #8893	OAH No. 2015100113	
15	San Diego, CA 92103	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND	
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057	DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
17	Respondent.		
18	Teoponaum.		
19	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGE	REED by and between the parties to the above-	
20	entitled proceedings that the following matters a	re true:	
21	PAR	TIES	
22	1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board		
23	of California. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this		
24	matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Karolyn M. Westfall,		
25	Deputy Attorney General.		
26	2. Respondent Gunjan Goel, M.D. (respondent) is represented in this proceeding by		
27	attorney Richard D. Barton, Esq. and Natalie V. Mueller, Esq., whose address is: 12544 High		
28	Bluff Drive, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92130.		
		1	

3. On or about July 18, 2012, the Medical Board of California (Board) issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057 to respondent. The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges and allegations brought in Accusation No. 800-2014-005548 and will expire on June 30, 2016, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. On August 26, 2015, Accusation No. 800-2014-005548 was filed against respondent before the Board, and is currently pending against respondent. A true and correct copy of Accusation No. 800-2014-005548 and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on respondent at her address of record with the Board. A true and correct copy of Accusation No. 800-2014-005548 is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference as if fully set forth herein. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A true and correct copy of respondent's Notice of Defense and Special Notice of Defense is attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated herein by this reference as if fully set forth herein.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2014-005548. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2014-005548; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

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7. Having the benefit of counsel, respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent agrees that that charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2014-005548, if proven at hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057.
- 9. For the purpose of resolving Accusation No. 800-2014-005548 without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, respondent agrees that, at a hearing, complainant could establish a factual basis for some of the charges in Accusation No. 800-2014-005548, and that respondent hereby gives up her right to contest the charges in Accusation No. 800-2014-005548.
- 10. Respondent further agrees that her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.
 A122057 is subject to discipline and agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.
- 11. The admissions made by respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Medical Board of California or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

CONTINGENCY

- 12. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be subject to approval of the Board. The parties agree that this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be submitted to the Board for its consideration in the above-entitled matter and, further, that the Board shall have a reasonable period of time in which to consider and act on this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order after receiving it. By signing this stipulation, respondent fully understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind this stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it.
- 13. The parties agree that this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be null and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved and adopted by the Board, except for this paragraph, which shall remain in full force and effect. Respondent fully understands and

agrees that in deciding whether or not to approve and adopt this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, the Board may receive oral and written communications from its staff and/or the Attorney General's Office. Communications pursuant to this paragraph shall not disqualify the Board, any member thereof, and/or any other person from future participation in this or any other matter affecting or involving respondent. In the event that the Board does not, in its discretion, approve and adopt this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, with the exception of this paragraph, it shall not become effective, shall be of no evidentiary value whatsoever, and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto. Respondent further agrees that should this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order be rejected for any reason by the Board, respondent will assert no claim that the Board, or any member thereof, was prejudiced by its/his/her review, discussion and/or consideration of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order or of any matter or matters related hereto.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

- 14. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties in the above-entitled matter.
- 15. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including copies of the signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures and, further, that such copies shall have the same force and effect as originals.
- 16. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree the Board may, without further notice to or opportunity to be heard by respondent, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

A. PUBLIC REPRIMAND

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that respondent Gunjan Goel, M.D.'s, Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057, shall be and is hereby Publicly Reprimanded pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 2227, subdivision (a)(4). This Public Reprimand, which is issued in connection with Accusation No. 800-2014-005548, is as follows:

You used marijuana on three (3) to four (4) occasions from approximately July 2014, through December 2014, while on vacation, without having been issued a State of California medical marijuana identification card.

B. PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE). Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, respondent shall enroll in a professionalism program, that meets the requirements of Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1358. Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete that program. Respondent shall provide any information and documents that the program may deem pertinent. Respondent shall successfully complete the classroom component of the program not later than six (6) months after respondent's initial enrollment, and the longitudinal component of the program not later than the time specified by the program, but no later than one (1) year after attending the classroom component. The professionalism program shall be at respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

A professionalism program taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the program would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the program been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the program or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and, having the benefit of counsel, enter into it freely, voluntarily, intelligently, and with full knowledge of its force and effect on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate A122057. I fully understand that, after signing this stipulation, I may not withdraw from it, that it shall be submitted to the Medical Board of California for its consideration, and that the Board shall have a reasonable period of time to consider and act on this stipulation after receiving it. By entering into this stipulation, I

1	fully understand that, upon formal acceptance by the Board, I shall be publicly reprimanded by
2	the Board and shall be required to comply with all of the terms and conditions of the Disciplinary
3	Order set forth above. I also fully understand that any failure to comply with the terms and
4	conditions of the Disciplinary Order set forth above shall constitute unprofessional conduct and
5	will subject my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057 to further disciplinary action.
6	gunjan God
7	DATED: 16th May 2016 GUNJAN GOEL, M.D. Respondent
8	Respondent
9	I have read and fully discussed with respondent Gunjan Goel, M.D. the terms and
10	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
11	I approve its form and content.
12	DATED:
13	RICHARD D. BARTON, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent
14	
15	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>
16	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully
17	submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.
18	Dated: Respectfully submitted,
19	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California
20	Attorney General of Camornia ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General
21	Supervising Deputy Attenticy Seneral
22	
23	KAROLYN M. WESTFALL Deputy Attorney General
24	Attorneys for Complainant
25	12221789.doc
26	
27	
28	

1	fully understand that, upon formal acceptance by the Board, I shall be publicly reprimanded by		
2	the Board and shall be required to comply with all of the terms and conditions of the Disciplinary		
3	Order set forth above. I also fully understand that any failure to comply with the terms and		
4	conditions of the Disciplinary Order set forth above shall constitute unprofessional conduct and		
5	will subject my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057 to further disciplinary action.		
6			
7	DATED:		
8	GUNJAN GOEL, M.D. Respondent		
9	I have read and fully discussed with respondent Gunjan Goel, M.D. the terms and		
10	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.		
11	I approve its form and content.		
12	DATED: May 16,2014 Month Muller on behalf of: RICHARD D. BARTON, ESQ. Richard Barton		
13	Attorney for Respondent		
14			
15	ENDORSEMENT		
16	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully		
17	submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.		
18	Dated: 5/1/2/1/2 Respectfully submitted,		
19	Dated: 5/16/16 Respectfully submitted, KAMALA D. HARRIS		
20	Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ		
21	Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
22	(d) /lles/2, 1/		
23	KAROLYNM. WESTFAIL Deputy Attorney General		
24	Attorneys for Complainant		
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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2014-005548

FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA 1 KAMALA D. HARRIS MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA Attorney General of California 2 ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General 3 KAROLYN M. WESTFALL Deputy Attorney General 4 State Bar No. 234540 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 5 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 6 Telephone: (619) 645-3121 7 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 8 Attorneys for Complainant 9 BEFORE THE 10 MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS 11 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 12 13 Case No. 800-2014-005548 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: 14 ACCUSATION Gunjan Goel, M.D. 200 W Arbor Dr. #8893 15 San Diego, CA 92103 16 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057, 17 Respondent. 18 19 Complainant alleges: 20 **PARTIES** 21 Kimberly Kirchmeyer (complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official 1. capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer 22 23 Affairs. On or about July 18, 2012, the Medical Board of California (Board) issued 24 2. Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057 to Gunjan Goel, M.D. (respondent). 25 26 Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A122057 was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on June 30, 2016, unless renewed. 27 28 ///

ACCUSATION NO. 800-2014-005548

JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
 - 4. Section 2227 of the Code states:
 - "(a) A licensee whose matter has been heard by an administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel as designated in Section 11371 of the Government Code, or whose default has been entered, and who is found guilty, or who has entered into a stipulation for disciplinary action with the division, may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter:
 - "(1) Have his or her license revoked upon order of the board.
 - "(2) Have his or her right to practice suspended for a period not to exceed one year upon order of the board.
 - "(3) Be placed on probation and be required to pay the costs of probation monitoring upon order of the board.
 - "(4) Be publicly reprimanded by the board.
 - "(5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as part of an order of probation, as the board or an administrative law judge may deem proper.
 - "(b) Any matter heard pursuant to subdivision (a), except for warning letters, medical review or advisory conferences, professional competency examinations, continuing education activities, and cost reimbursement associated therewith that are agreed to with the division and successfully completed by the licensee, or other matters made confidential or privileged by existing law, is deemed public, and shall be made available to the public by the board pursuant to Section 803.1."
 - 5. Section 2234 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

"(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act].

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- 6. Unprofessional conduct under Business and Professions Code section 2234 is conduct which breaches the rules or ethical code of the medical profession, or conduct which is unbecoming a member in good standing of the medical profession, and which demonstrates an unfitness to practice medicine. (*Shea v. Board of Medical Examiners* (1978) 81 Cal.App.3d 564, 575.)
 - 7. Section 2238 of the Code states:

"A violation of any federal statute or federal regulation or any of the statutes or regulations of this state regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances constitutes unprofessional conduct."

- 8. Section 2239 of the Code states, in pertinent part:
- "(a) The use or prescribing for or administering to himself or herself, of any controlled substance; or the use of any of the dangerous drugs specified in Section 4022, or of alcoholic beverages, to the extent, or in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to the licensee, or to any other person or to the public, or to the extent that such use impairs the ability of the licensee to practice medicine safely or more than one misdemeanor or any felony involving the use, consumption, or self administration of any of the substances referred to in this section, or any combination thereof, constitutes unprofessional conduct. The record of the conviction is conclusive evidence of such unprofessional conduct.

" , , , ,

9. Section 11170 of the Health and Safety Code states, "No person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for himself."

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10. Section 11357 of the Health and Safety Code states, in pertinent part:

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"(b) Except as authorized by law, every person who possesses not more than 28.5 grams of marijuana, [1] other than concentrated cannabis, is guilty of an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100).

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FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Using or Administrating Controlled Substances to Herself)

- 11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2239, subdivision (a), of the Code, in that she has used or administered controlled substances to herself, as more particularly alleged hereinafter:
- (a) On or about May 29, 2014, the Board's Central Complaint Unit received a complaint alleging, among other things, that respondent was practicing medicine while under the influence of cannabis, and that she uses it daily, while at work, and on-call.
- (b) On or about January 16, 2015, Investigator S.B. from the Division of Investigation (DOI) Health Quality Investigation Unit (HQIU), approached respondent in the parking lot of her apartment complex. Investigator S.B. explained to respondent that he was investigating the complaint and inquired whether or not respondent "ingests" marijuana. Respondent replied, "No." Investigator S.B. then asked respondent if she would provide a hair sample. Respondent then admitted that she sometimes consumes marijuana on her days off. Respondent informed Investigator S.B. that the last time she consumed marijuana was the prior Wednesday. After being given approximately five minutes to speak with an attorney over the phone, respondent returned and agreed to provide a hair sample, but also insisted on providing a urine sample. Investigator S.B. obtained both samples from respondent and then mailed them off that day to be tested for marijuana.

¹ Marijuana is a Schedule I controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11054, subdivision (d).

- (c) On or about January 23, 2015, respondent's urine sample revealed negative results for marijuana.
- (d) On or about February 10, 2015, respondent's hair sample revealed positive results for THC² Metabolite.
- (e) On or about May 15, 2015, respondent appeared at the DOI HQIU field office for a subject interview. During that interview, respondent admitted consuming marijuana on three (3) to four (4) occasions from approximately July, 2014, through December, 2014. Respondent admitted using marijuana on those occasions socially with friends. Respondent denied having a California State issued medical marijuana identification card.³

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of State Laws Regulating Dangerous Drugs and/or Controlled Substances)

- 12. Respondent is further subject to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2238, of the Code, in that she has violated a state law or laws regulating dangerous drugs and/or controlled substances, as more particularly alleged hereinafter:
- (a) Paragraphs 11(a) through (e), above, are hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.
- (b) Respondent repeatedly administered to herself controlled substances, in violation of section 2239 of the Code, and Health and Safety Code section 11170.
- (c) Respondent repeatedly possessed marijuana, in violation of Health and Safety Code section 11357.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(General Unprofessional Conduct)

13. Respondent is further subject to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234 of the Code, in that she has engaged in conduct which breaches the rules or ethical code of the

² THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, is one of many compounds found in the resin secreted by glands of the marijuana plant.

³ Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11362.765, qualified patients who have a medical marijuana identification card are not subject to criminal liability under Health and Safety Code section 11357.

Exhibit B

Notice of Defense and Special Notice of Defense

BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In	the Matter	of the	Accusation	Against:
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Case No. 800-2014-005548

GUNJAN GOEL, M.D.

Respondent.

NOTICE OF DEFENSE

[Gov. Code §§ 11505 and 11506]

I, the undersigned Respondent in the above-entitled proceeding, hereby acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Accusation; Statement to Respondent; Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6 and 11507.7, Complainant's Request for Discovery; and two copies of a Notice of Defense.

I hereby request a hearing to permit me to present my defense to the charges contained in the Accusation.

Respondent's Name:

Respondent's Signature:

Respondent's Mailing

Address:

City, State and Zip Code:

Respondent's Telephone:

Respondent's Fax:

Respondent's E-mail

City September 1, 2015

Gunjan Goel, M.D.

Gunjan Goel, M.D.

Gunjan Goel, M.D.

Sunjan Goe

Check appropriate box:



I do not consent to electronic reporting.

The hearing in this case will be electronically reported/recorded, unless you check the above-left box to indicate that you do not consent to electronic recording, in which case the hearing will be reported by a stenographic reporter. If you do not check this box, you may withdraw your consent to electronic recording at any point up to fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the date set for hearing, by a written statement served on the Office of Administrative Hearings and on counsel for Complainant. If the box is not checked, and no written withdrawal of consent is served on the Office of Administrative Hearing and on counsel for Complainant by fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the hearing, you waive any right to stenographic reporting.

A	I am represented by counsel, whose name, address and telephone number appear belo	w:
	Counsel's Name Richard D. Barton, Esq. Procopio, Cory, h	largicares +
	Counsel's Mailing Address 12544 High Bluff Drive, Suite 300	Sauthly
	City, State and Zip Code San Diego, CA 92130	
	Counsel's Telephone: 1619) 515-3299	
	Counsel's Fax: (6(9) 235 - 0398	
	Counsel's E-mail: Yick-bartone procopio. com	
	I am not now represented by counsel. If and when counsel is retained, immediate	
	notification of the attorney's name, address and telephone number will be filed with t	he
	Office of Administrative Hearing and a copy sent to counsel for Complainant so that	
	counsel will be on record to receive legal notices, pleadings and other papers.	

The agency taking the action described in the Accusation may have formulated guidelines to assist the administrative law judge in reaching an appropriate penalty. You may obtain a copy of the guidelines by requesting them from the agency in writing.

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Page 5

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1 Richard D. Barton (Bar No. 102613)
   E-mail: rick.barton@procopio.com
   Shelley A. Carder (Bar No. 137755)
   E-mail: shelley.carder@procopio.com
   Natalie V. Mueller (Bar No. 292714)
   E-mail: natalie.mueller@procopio.com
   PROCOPIO, CORY, HARGREAVES AND
       SAVITCH LLP
   12544 High Bluff Drive, Suite 300
   San Diego, CA 92130
   Telephone: 858.720.6300
   Facsimile: 619.235.0398
   Attorneys for Respondent,
   GUNJAN GOEL, M.D.
                                         BEFORE THE
 9
                              MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
                           DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
10
                                   STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11
   In the Matter of the Accusation Against:
                                                     Case No. 800-2014-005548
                                                     SPECIAL NOTICE OF DEFENSE
   Gunjan Goel, M.D.
13
                                                     AND REQUEST FOR HEARING
   200 W Arbor Dr. #8893
   San Diego, CA 92103
                                                     [GOV. CODE §§ 11505 AND 11506]
   Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.
    A122057,
16
                             Respondent.
17
          Respondent, GUNJAN GOEL, M.D. ("Respondent"), by and through her attorneys,
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    Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP, presents the following in defense to the charges
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    contained in the Accusation brought by Kimberly Kirchmeyer ("Complainant"). Furthermore,
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    Respondent hereby requests a hearing pursuant to Government Code § 11506(a)(1) and requests
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    that the hearing proceed with a stenographic reporter. Respondent does not consent to electronic
    reporting of this matter.
23
                                      GENERAL DENIAL
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          Respondent generally and specifically denies each and every allegation in Complainant's
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    Accusation, and the whole thereof, including each and every cause for discipline therein.
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AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

As separate affirmative defenses to the Accusation, and to each and every cause for

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discipline therein, Respondent alleges as follows: FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Failure to State a Cause of Action) Under Government Code §11506(a)(2), Respondent objects to the Accusation on the ground that each and every cause for discipline does not state acts or omissions on which the agency may proceed. The allegations as asserted fail to demonstrate a violation of any statute relied upon therein or that the requirements of any alleged statutory violation have been met by Respondent's conduct. SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Accusation Vague and Uncertain) Under Government Code §11506(a)(3), Respondent objects to the Accusation in that it is 11 so indefinite and uncertain that Respondent cannot prepare her defense. THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Failure to Assert a Causal Nexus) 14 Respondent objects to the Accusation in that it fails to assert conduct which renders 15 Respondent unfit to practice her profession, in that no causal nexus exists between Respondent's 16 alleged conduct and the asserted causes of discipline. 17 FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE 18 (Equal Protection) 19 The Accusation, and each and every purported cause for discipline therein, denies 20 Respondent of her constitutional right to equal protection of the laws. 21 FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE 22 (Due Process) 23 The Accusation, and each and every purported cause for discipline therein, denies 24 Respondent of her constitutional right to due process of law. 25 26 /// 27 ///

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SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Compliance with Applicable Laws)

The Accusation and each and every purported cause for discipline therein, are barred in whole or in part by reason of Respondent's compliance with all applicable laws, statutes, and regulations.

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Absence of Harm or Injury)

Respondent objects to the Accusation on the ground that each and every cause for discipline does not state acts or omissions in which the agency was harmed and/or injured.

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Laches)

The Accusation and each and every purported cause for discipline therein, are barred by the doctrine of laches.

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Statute of Limitations)

The Accusation and each and every purported cause for discipline therein, are barred, in part or in whole, by the statute of limitations.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Duress)

The Accusation and each and every purported cause for discipline therein, are barred in whole or in part on the ground that Respondent was under duress when confronted by Complainant's representatives.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Entrapment and/or Outrageous Enforcement Conduct)

The conduct of Complainant's representatives rises to the level of gross misconduct which violates Respondent's Constitutional right to due process of law.

SPECIAL NOTICE OF DEFENSE CASE NO. 800-2014-005548

Page 8

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TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Unclean Hands) The Accusation and each and every purported cause for discipline therein, are barred in whole or in part, by the doctrine of unclean hands. THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Estoppel) The Accusation and each and every purported cause for discipline therein, are barred in whole or in part, by the doctrine of estoppel. FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Mitigation) Respondent expressly reserves the right to introduce evidence of mitigating circumstances in her defense which may be appropriate upon further investigation in this matter. FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Right to Plead Additional Defenses) Respondent expressly reserves the right to assert further defenses which may be appropriate upon further investigation in this matter. 16 PROCOPIO, CORY, HARGREAVES AND 18 DATED: September 9, 2015 SAVITCH LLP 19 20 By: Richard D. Barton, Esq. Shelley A. Carder, Esq. Natalie V. Mueller, Esq. Attorneys for Respondent, 23 GUNJAN GOEL, M.D. 24 25 26 27 28