

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

In the Matter of the Accusation)
Against:)
)
)
Paul Morris Watson, M.D.)
)
Physician's and Surgeon's)
Certificate No. A 19202)
)
Respondent)
_____)

File No. 16-2000-109617

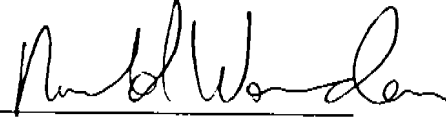
DECISION

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Division of Medical Quality of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on January 28, 2004

IT IS SO ORDERED January 21, 2004

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By: 
Ronald H. Wender, M.D., Chair
Panel B
Division of Medical Quality

1 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General
of the State of California
2 GAIL M. HEPPELL
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 California Department of Justice
1300 I Street, Suite 125
4 P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, California 94244-2550
5 Telephone: (916) 324-5336
Facsimile: (916) 327-2247

6 Attorneys for Complainant
7

8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY**
10 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
11 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
12 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

13 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 16-2000-109617

14 **PAUL MORRIS WATSON, M.D.**
15 1689 N. Marian Avenue
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
16 Physician and Surgeon's Certificate
No. A 19202

**STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
LICENSE**

17 Respondent.

18 **IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED** by and between the parties to
19 the above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

20 **PARTIES**

- 21 1. Complainant Ron Joseph is the Executive Officer of the Medical Board of
22 California. He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this matter
23 by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State of California, by Gail M. Heppell, Supervising
24 Deputy Attorney General.
- 25 2. Respondent is representing himself in this proceeding.
- 26 3. On or about July 1, 1960, the Medical Board of California issued
27 Physician and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 19202 to Paul Morris Watson, M.D. ("Respondent").
28 Said certificate is renewed and current with an expiration date of February 29, 2004.

1 Certificate to the Board for formal acceptance.

2 **EFFECT OF SURRENDER**

3 10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the
4 Board to issue its order accepting the surrender of his Physician and Surgeon's Certificate
5 without further process.

6 11. Upon acceptance of the stipulation by the Division of Medical Quality,
7 Respondent understands that he will no longer be permitted to practice as a physician and
8 surgeon in California, and also agrees to surrender and cause to be delivered to the Board both
9 his license and wallet certificate before the effective date of the decision.

10 12. Respondent fully understands and agrees that if he ever files an application
11 for relicensure or reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for
12 reinstatement. Respondent may petition for reinstatement three years from the effective date of
13 this order. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for
14 reinstatement of a revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges
15 and allegations contained in the Accusation No. 16-2000-109617 will be deemed to be true,
16 correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the
17 petition.

18 **RESERVATION**

19 13. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of
20 this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Board or other professional licensing
21 agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

22 **CONTINGENCY**

23 14. This stipulation shall be subject to the approval of the Division of Medical
24 Quality. Respondent understands and agrees that Board and counsel for complainant may
25 communicate directly with the Division of Medical Quality regarding this stipulation and
26 settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. If the Division of Medical Quality
27 fails to adopt this stipulation as its Order, the Stipulation for Surrender of License Order shall be
28 of no force or effect, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the

1 Division of Medical Quality shall not be disqualified from further action in this matter by virtue
2 of its consideration of this stipulation.

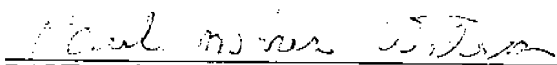
3 15. The parties agree that facsimile copies to this Stipulated Surrender of
4 License, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as original
5 Stipulated Settlement signatures.

6 **ACCEPTANCE**

7 I, Paul Morris Watson, M.D., have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender
8 of License and entered into this agreement freely and voluntarily, and with full knowledge of its
9 force and effect, do hereby surrender my Physician and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 19202 to the
10 Division of Medical Quality for its formal acceptance. By signing this Stipulated Surrender of
11 License I recognize that upon its formal acceptance by the Division of Medical Quality I will lose
12 all rights and privileges to practice as a physician and surgeon in the State of California and I will
13 also cause to be delivered to the Board both my license and wallet certificate before the effective
14 date of the decision.

15 I further agree that a facsimile copy of this Stipulated Surrender of License
16 including facsimile copies of signatures, may be used with the same force and effect as the
17 originals.

18 DATED: 12-22-03




PAUL MORRIS WATSON, M.D.
Respondent

20 **ENDORSEMENT**

21 The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License is hereby respectfully submitted for
22 consideration.

23 DATED: 12/29/03

BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General
of the State of California



GAIL M. HEPPILL
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for Complainant

28

EXHIBIT A

1 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General
of the State of California
2 GAIL M. HEPPELL, Supervising
Deputy Attorney General
3 1300 I Street, Suite 125
P. O. Box 944255
4 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550
Telephone: (916) 324-5336
5 Facsimile: (916) 327-2247
6 Attorneys for Complainant

FILED
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
SACRAMENTO *June 29 20 00*
BY *[Signature]* ANALYST

8 BEFORE THE
9 DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
10 MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 In the Matter of the Accusation) Case No. 16-2000-109617
against:)
12)
13 **PAUL MORRIS WATSON, M.D.**) **ACCUSATION**
14 1689 N. Marian Avenue)
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360)
15 Physician and Surgeon's)
Certificate No. A-19202)
16 Respondent.)

17
18 The Complainant alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Complainant, Ronald Joseph, is the Executive Director of the Medical
21 Board of California (hereinafter "Board") and brings this Accusation solely in his official
22 capacity.

23 2. On or about July 1, 1960, Physician and Surgeon's Certificate No. A-
24 19202 was issued by the Board to Paul Morris Watson, M.D. (hereinafter "respondent"). Said
25 certificate expired and was reissued on May 8, 1998. At all times relevant to the charges brought
26 herein this license has been in full force and effect. Unless renewed, it will expire on February
27 28, 2002.

1
2 **JURISDICTION**

3 3. This Accusation is brought before the Division of Medical Quality of the
4 Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs (hereinafter "Division") under the
5 authority of the following sections of the California Business and Professions Code (hereinafter
6 "Code") and/or other relevant statutory enactment.

7 A. Section 2227 of the Code provides that the Board may revoke,
8 suspend for a period not to exceed one year, or place on probation the license of any
9 licensee who has been found guilty under the Medical Practice Act and may recover the
10 costs of probation monitoring if probation is imposed.

11 B. Section 2234(b) of the Code provides that gross negligence
12 constitutes unprofessional conduct.

13 C. Section 2234(e) of the Code provides that the commission of any act
14 involving dishonesty or corruption that is substantially related to the qualifications,
15 functions or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct.

16 D. Section 2242 provides that the prescribing of dangerous drugs as
17 statutorily defined without good faith prior examination and medical indication therefor
18 constitutes unprofessional conduct.

19 E. Section 2305 of the Code provides that the revocation, suspension, or
20 other discipline, restriction, or limitation imposed by another state upon a license or
21 certificate to practice medicine issued by that state, or the revocation, suspension, or
22 restriction of the authority to practice medicine by any agency of the federal government,
23 that would have been grounds for discipline in California of a licensee under the Medical
24 Practice Act, constitutes unprofessional conduct.

25 F. Section 725 of the Code provides in pertinent part that repeated acts
26 of clearly excessive prescribing of drugs constitutes unprofessional conduct.

27 G. Section 141(a) of the Code provides that for any holder of a

1 California physician and surgeon's certificate, any disciplinary action by another State, an
2 agency of the federal government or a another country for any act substantially related to
3 the practice of medicine may be grounds for disciplinary action by the Board.

4 H. Section 125.3 of the Code provides in pertinent part that the Board
5 may request the administrative law judge to direct any licentiate found to have committed a
6 violation or violations of the licensing act to pay the Board a sum not to exceed the
7 reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

8 I. Section 14124.12(a) of the Welfare & Institutions Code provides in
9 pertinent part that upon written notice of the Medical Board of California that a physician
10 and surgeon's medical license has been placed on probation as a result of a disciplinary
11 action, no Medi-Cal claim for the type of surgical service or invasive procedure giving rise
12 to the probationary order and performed on or after the effective date of said probationary
13 order or during the period of probation shall be reimbursed, except upon a prior
14 determination that compelling circumstances warrant the continuance of reimbursement
15 during the probationary period for procedures other than those giving rise to the
16 probationary order.

17 4. Respondent is guilty of unprofessional conduct within the meaning of Code
18 sections 725, 2234(b), 2234(e), 2242 and 2305 and of conduct subject to discipline within the
19 meaning of Code section 141(a) as more particularly set forth hereinbelow.

20 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

21 (Out-of-State Discipline)

22 [Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 141(a) and 2305]

23 5. On or about March 8, 2000, the surrender of respondent's Tennessee
24 medical license became effective upon findings that between January 1, 1996 and June 1, 1997
25 respondent excessively prescribed scheduled drugs to the extent that he wrote 9,425 such
26 prescriptions within the indicated time period. (See Attachment "A" hereto.)

27 6. Respondent's conduct as set forth in paragraph 5, above, constitutes
unprofessional conduct within the meaning of Code sections 725, 2234(b), 2234(e) and 2242.

EXHIBIT A

1. The Respondent has, by his signature on this Order, waived his right to a contested case hearing and any and all rights to judicial review in this matter.
2. The Respondent agrees that presentation to and consideration of this Agreed Order by the Board for ratification and all matters divulged during that process shall not constitute unfair disclosure such that the Board or any of its members shall be prejudiced to the extent that it requires their disqualification from hearing this matter should this Order not be ratified. Likewise, all matters, admissions and statements disclosed or exchanged during the attempted ratification process shall not be used against the Respondent in any subsequent proceeding, unless independently entered into evidence or introduced as admissions.
3. The Respondent became licensed to practice medicine in Tennessee in May of 1974.
4. The prescribing practices of Respondent became the subject of a drug audit, which showed that within the time frame of January 1, 1996, through June 1, 1997, Respondent excessively prescribed scheduled drugs to the extent that he generated 9,425 prescriptions within the referenced seventeen-month time frame. A complaint was lodged against the Respondent by a pharmacist who stated that Respondent was excessively prescribing narcotics and Carisoprodol.
5. Respondent has admitted in writing that "sometimes" he prescribed more medication than was necessary. Respondent has also admitted that he has been advised by his colleagues and patient's relatives, that his patients were selling drugs, which he had prescribed for them.

6. The Notice of Charges filed against the Respondent allege that the Respondent's conduct set forth herein above, constitutes grounds for disciplinary action against a person licensed to practice medicine in Tennessee, pursuant to T.C.A. §§63-6-214(b)(1), (4),(12) and (13) of the Tennessee Medical Practice Act. Specifically, it is alleged that Respondent's conduct constitutes "unprofessional, dishonorable, or unethical conduct"(T.C.A. §63-6-214(b)(1)); " dispensing, prescribing, or otherwise distributing controlled substances ... in amounts and/or for duration's not medically necessary, advisable, or justified for a diagnosed condition"(T.C.A. §63-6-214(b)(12)); and " gross malpractice, or a pattern of continued or repeated malpractice ignorance, negligence or incompetence in the course of medical practice." (T.C.A. §63-6-214(b)(4)).
7. In response to the Notice of Charges Respondent states that around the time covered by the drug audit, he had a large influx of Tenn Care patients, many of whom had chronic pain syndrome, or were drug seekers, or were on disability. Respondent further states that because of his compassion, pity and desire to help these patients he sometimes prescribed more medication than was necessary. Respondent no longer practices in Tennessee. He is now retired and lives in California.
8. Although the Respondent contests the above allegations, both parties agree to resolve this matter by compromising settlement as hereinafter set forth, without any admission of any improper conduct on the part of the Respondent.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board has the power to revoke, suspend, restrict, limit or otherwise discipline a previously issued license for such a time as it may determine. T.C.A. §63-6-214(a).

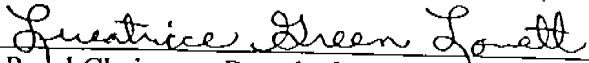
REASONS FOR DECISION

The Board takes this action to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Therefore, it is ORDERED as follows:

1. Respondent shall permanently surrender his license to the Board by a date no later than the effective date of this Agreement; it being understood by the Respondent that in so doing he relinquishes all rights too any present or future practice of medicine in Tennessee.
2. If Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of this Agreed Order, then the charges pending against him before the execution of this Agreed Order shall be reinstated.

So ORDERED this _____ day of, 2000 by the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners.


Panel Chairman, Board of Medical Examiners

Approved for entry by:

Paul M. Watson
Paul M. Watson, M.D.
Respondent

2-4-00
Date

Earl W. Roberts
Earl W. Roberts
Assistant General Counsel
26th Floor, Tennessee Tower
312 8th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37247-0120
(615) 741-1611

3-1-00
Date

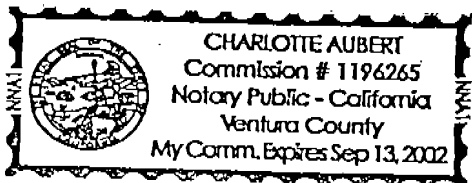
This Order was received for filing in the Office of the Secretary of State, Administrative Procedures Division, and became effective on the 8th day of March, 2000.

Charles C. Sullivan, II
Charles C. Sullivan, II, Director
Administrative Procedure Division

STATE OF California)

COUNTY OF Ventura)

On the 4 day of January, 2000, before me, a notary public in and for said Charlotte Aubert, appeared Paul M. Watson, M.D., who upon oath, states that he has read the foregoing Agreed Order, and that he knows the contents thereof to be true, and that the signing of the same is his free act and deed.



Charlotte Aubert
Notary Public, Ventura County

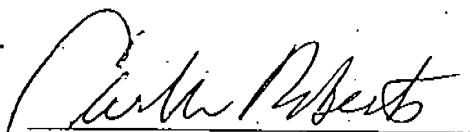
State of CALIFORNIA

My Commissioner Expires: 9/13/2002

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of this document has been served upon all interested parties, or their counsel, by delivering same to their office or by placing a true and correct copy of same in the United States mail, postage prepaid.

This 8th day of March, 2000.



Earl W. Roberts