

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

In the Matter of the Accusation
Against:

Carolyn Marie Parma, M.D.

Physician's & Surgeon's
Certificate No A157074

Respondent.

Case No. 800-2018-051077

DECISION

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reprimand 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 October 16, 2020.

IT IS SO ORDERED September 18, 2020.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By: 

Kristina D. Lawson, J.D., Chair
Panel B

1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
2 JANE ZACK SIMON
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 ANA GONZALEZ
Deputy Attorney General
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7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

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

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2018-051077

13 **CAROLYN MARIE PARMA, M.D.**

14 Epic Care
3003 Oak Road
15 Suite 104
Walnut Creek CA 94597

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
DISCIPLINARY ORDER FOR PUBLIC
REPRIMAND**

16
17 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A
157074

18 Respondent.
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21 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
22 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

23 **PARTIES**

24 1. William Prasifka (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of
25 California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this
26 matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Ana Gonzalez, Deputy
27 Attorney General.
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1 CULPABILITY

2 9. Respondent agrees that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish
3 a *prima facie* case with respect to the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-
4 2018-051077 and that she has thereby subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate to
5 disciplinary action. Respondent further agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of
6 discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

7 10. Respondent further agrees that if she fails to successfully complete the
8 professionalism program, which is more fully described below, within the required time, all of the
9 charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2018-051077, shall be deemed true,
10 correct, and fully admitted by Respondent for purposes of any further proceeding before the
11 Board, and that her failure to complete the professionalism program shall constitute
12 unprofessional conduct and grounds for further disciplinary action.

13 CONTINGENCY

14 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Medical Board of California.
15 Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Medical
16 Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and
17 settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or her counsel. By signing the
18 stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek
19 to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails
20 to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary
21 Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal
22 action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having
23 considered this matter.

24 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile
25 copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile
26 signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

1 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that
2 the Board may, without further notice or opportunity to be heard by the Respondent, issue and
3 enter the following Disciplinary Order:

4 **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

5 **A. PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

6 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 157074
7 issued to Respondent Carolyn Marie Parma, M.D., shall be and is hereby Publicly Reprimanded
8 pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 2227, subdivision (a)(4). This
9 Public Reprimand is issued in connection with Respondent's driving under the influence
10 conviction on October 28, 2018 as set forth in Accusation No. 800-2018-051077 (exhibit A).

11 **B. PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE)**. Within 60 calendar

12 days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a professionalism program,
13 that meets the requirements of Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1358.1.
14 Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete that program. Respondent shall
15 provide any information and documents that the program may deem pertinent. Respondent shall
16 successfully complete the classroom component of the program not later than six (6) months after
17 Respondent's initial enrollment, and the longitudinal component of the program not later than the
18 time specified by the program, but no later than one (1) year after attending the classroom
19 component. The professionalism program shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in
20 addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

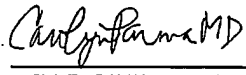
21 A professionalism program taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the
22 Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board
23 or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the program would have
24 been approved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

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

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ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Stephen M. Boreman. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.


DATED: 08 / 11 / 2020 
CAROLYN MARIE PARMA, M.D.
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Carolyn Marie Parma, M.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: 08 / 11 / 2020 
STEPHEN M. BOREMAN
Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.

DATED: 8/12/2020 Respectfully submitted,
XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
JANE ZACK SIMON
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

ANA GONZALEZ
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2018-051077

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3 State Bar No. 116564
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6 Attorneys for Complainant

7
8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2018-051077

13 **Carolyn Marie Parma, M.D.**
Epic Care
14 3003 Oak Road
Suite 104
Walnut Creek CA 94597
15 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate
No. A 157074,

A C C U S A T I O N

16 Respondent.
17

18
19 **PARTIES**

20 1. ~~Christine J. Lally (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity~~
21 as the Interim Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer
22 Affairs (Board).

23 2. On July 16, 2018, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate
24 Number A 157074 to Carolyn Marie Parma, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's
25 Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will
26 expire on July 31, 2020, unless renewed.

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1 JURISDICTION

2 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following
3 laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise
4 indicated.

5 4. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the
6 Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed
7 one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other
8 action taken in relation to discipline as the Board deems proper.

9 5. Section 2234 of the Code requires the Board to take action against any licensee who
10 is charged with unprofessional conduct.

11 6. Section 2236 of the Code provides that the conviction of any offense substantially
12 related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes
13 unprofessional conduct.

14 7. Section 2239 of the Code provides that the use of alcoholic beverages, to the extent,
15 or in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to the licensee, or to any other person or to the
16 public, or to the extent that such use impairs the ability of the licensee to practice medicine safely
17 constitutes unprofessional conduct.

18 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

19 (Unprofessional Conduct: Conviction of a Crime/Dangerous Use of Alcohol)

20 ~~8. Shortly after 3:00 a.m. on October 28, 2018, police officers responded to a call for~~
21 assistance placed by Respondent from a telephone at a gas station near her home. Dispatchers
22 informed responding officers that the caller was crying and could not complete sentences, and
23 stated that she was intoxicated and scared. Responding officers noted that Respondent was crying
24 and had difficulty communicating. She confirmed that she had driven her car, and in response to
25 officers' questions, stated she had consumed "about three drinks" but was unable to recall when
26 or where she had consumed the drinks. Field sobriety tests were administered, and Respondent
27 was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. A blood test, drawn just after 4:00 a.m.,
28 returned a blood alcohol level of .27%.

1 9. In various communications after her arrest, Respondent explained that she had been
2 drinking with a friend until approximately 2 a.m., then was driven to her home where she fell
3 asleep. She awoke at 3 a.m. and could not locate her friend or her cell phone. She became upset
4 and worried about her friend's well-being and drove to a nearby gas station to call for help.

5 10. Criminal charges were filed charging Respondent with driving under the influence of
6 alcohol, driving with a blood alcohol level greater than the legal limit, and driving with a blood
7 alcohol level of more than .20%. On July 23, 2019, Respondent entered into a plea agreement
8 under which she was found guilty and convicted of reckless driving involving alcohol.

9 11. Respondent's criminal conviction for reckless driving involving the use of alcohol,
10 and her driving with a very high blood alcohol level constitutes a conviction substantially related
11 to the qualifications, functions and duties of a physician and surgeon, and cause for discipline for
12 unprofessional conduct pursuant to sections 2234 and/or 2236 of the Code.

13 12. Respondent's conduct in driving while under the influence of alcohol and driving
14 with a high blood alcohol content constitutes unprofessional conduct and the use of alcohol in a
15 dangerous manner, and cause for discipline pursuant to sections 2234 and/or 2239 of the Code.

16 PRAYER

17 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
18 and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision:

19 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 157074,
20 ~~issued to Carolyn Marie Parma, M.D.,~~

21 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Carolyn Marie Parma, M.D.'s authority
22 to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

23 3. Ordering Carolyn Marie Parma, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the Board the
24 costs of probation monitoring; and

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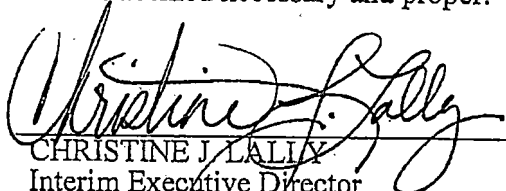
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4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: MAR 11 2020


CHRISTINE J. LALLY
Interim Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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