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

Case No.: 800-2019-055303

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Arturo Lo Villamor, M.D.

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 85485

Respondent.

#### **DECISION**

The attached Stipulated Settlement 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 April 7, 2022.

IT IS SO ORDERED: March 8, 2022.

**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA** 

Richard E. Thorp, M.D. , Chair

Panel B

		•	
1	ROB BONTA		
2	Attorney General of California STEVEN D. MUNI		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General RYAN J. MCEWAN	•	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 285595		
5	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255		
6	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 210-7548		
7	Facsimile: (916) 327-2247	• ,	
/	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE		
9	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11			
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-055303	
13	ARTURO LO VILLAMOR, M.D.	OAH No. 2021030036	
14	2319 Cezanne Ct. Davis, CA 95618-0502	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND	
15	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate	DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
16	No. A 85485		
17	Respondent.		
18		J	
19	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
20	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
21	<u>PARTIES</u>		
22	1. William Prasifka (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of		
23	California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this		
24	matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Ryan J. McEwan, Deputy		
25	Attorney General.		
26	2. Respondent Arturo Lo Villamor, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding		
27	by attorney, Paul Chan, Esq., whose address is: 1851 Heritage Lane, Suite 128, Sacramento, CA		
28	95815-4996.		

3. On or about December 17, 2003, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 85485 to Arturo Lo Villamor, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2019-055303, and will expire on December 31, 2023, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 4. Accusation No. 800-2019-055303 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on February 4, 2021. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2019-055303 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

#### **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2019-055303. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with his counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his 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.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

#### **CULPABILITY**

9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 800-2019-055303.

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10. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

#### CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Medical Board of California. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Medical Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. Respondent agrees that if he ever petitions for early termination or modification of probation, or if an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation is filed against him before the Board, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2019-055303 shall be deemed true, correct and fully admitted by respondent for purposes of any such proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving Respondent in the State of California.
- 13. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or opportunity to be heard by the Respondent, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

### **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 85485 issued to Respondent Arturo Lo Villamor, M.D. is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and

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Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions:

1. <u>CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - ABSTAIN FROM USE</u>. Respondent shall abstain completely from the personal use or possession of controlled substances as defined in the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act, dangerous drugs as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4022, and any drugs requiring a prescription. This prohibition does not apply to medications lawfully prescribed to Respondent by another practitioner for a bona fide illness or condition.

Within 15 calendar days of receiving any lawfully prescribed medications, Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee of the: issuing practitioner's name, address, and telephone number; medication name, strength, and quantity; and issuing pharmacy name, address, and telephone number.

If Respondent has a confirmed positive biological fluid test for any substance (whether or not legally prescribed) and has not reported the use to the Board or its designee, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine. The Respondent shall not resume the practice of medicine until the final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation is effective. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within 30 days of the notification to cease practice. If the Respondent requests a hearing on the accusation and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of the request, unless the Respondent stipulates to a later hearing. If the case is heard by an Administrative Law Judge alone, he or she shall forward a Proposed Decision to the Board within 15 days of submission of the matter. Within 15 days of receipt by the Board of the Administrative Law Judge's proposed decision, the Board shall issue its Decision, unless good cause can be shown for the delay. If the case is heard by the Board, the Board shall issue its decision within 15 days of submission of the case, unless good cause can be shown for the delay. Good cause includes, but is not limited to, non-adoption of the proposed decision, requests for reconsideration, remands and other interlocutory orders issued by the Board. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period.

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If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within 30 days of the issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of a such a request, the notification of cease practice shall be dissolved.

2. <u>ALCOHOL - ABSTAIN FROM USE</u>. Respondent shall abstain completely from the use of products or beverages containing alcohol.

If Respondent has a confirmed positive biological fluid test for alcohol, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine. The Respondent shall not resume the practice of medicine until the final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation is effective. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within 30 days of the notification to cease practice. If the Respondent requests a hearing on the accusation and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of the request, unless the Respondent stipulates to a later hearing. If the case is heard by an Administrative Law Judge alone, he or she shall forward a Proposed Decision to the Board within 15 days of submission of the matter. Within 15 days of receipt by the Board of the Administrative Law Judge's proposed decision, the Board shall issues its Decision, unless good cause can be shown for the delay. If the case is heard by the Board, the Board shall issue its decision within 15 days of submission of the case, unless good cause can be shown for the delay. Good cause includes, but is not limited to, non-adoption of the proposed decision, requests for reconsideration, remands and other interlocutory orders issued by the Board. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period.

If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within 30 days of the issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of such a request, the notification of cease practice shall be dissolved.

3. <u>BIOLOGICAL FLUID TESTING</u>. Respondent shall immediately submit to biological fluid testing, at Respondent's expense, upon request of the Board or its designee. "Biological fluid testing" may include, but is not limited to, urine, blood, breathalyzer, hair follicle testing, or similar drug screening approved by the Board or its designee. Prior to

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practicing medicine, Respondent shall contract with a laboratory or service approved in advance by the Board or its designee that will conduct random, unannounced, observed, biological fluid testing. The contract shall require results of the tests to be transmitted by the laboratory or service directly to the Board or its designee within four hours of the results becoming available. Respondent shall maintain this laboratory or service contract during the period of probation.

A certified copy of any laboratory test result may be received in evidence in any proceedings between the Board and Respondent.

If Respondent fails to cooperate in a random biological fluid testing program within the specified time frame, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine. The Respondent shall not resume the practice of medicine until the final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation is effective. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within 30 days of the notification to cease practice. If the Respondent requests a hearing on the accusation and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of the request, unless the Respondent stipulates to a later hearing. If the case is heard by an Administrative Law Judge alone, he or she shall forward a Proposed Decision to the Board within 15 days of submission of the matter. Within 15 days of receipt by the Board of the Administrative Law Judge's proposed decision, the Board shall issue its Decision, unless good cause can be shown for the delay. If the case is heard by the Board, the Board shall issue its decision within 15 days of submission of the case, unless good cause can be shown for the delay. Good cause includes, but is not limited to, non-adoption of the proposed decision, requests for reconsideration, remands and other interlocutory orders issued by the Board. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period.

If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within 15 days of the issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of such a request, the notification of cease practice shall be dissolved.

4. <u>PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE)</u>. 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 1358.1. 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.

5. <u>PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION</u>. Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and on whatever periodic basis thereafter may be required by the Board or its designee, Respondent shall undergo and complete a psychiatric evaluation (and psychological testing, if deemed necessary) by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist, who shall consider any information provided by the Board or designee and any other information the psychiatrist deems relevant, and shall furnish a written evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Psychiatric evaluations conducted prior to the effective date of the Decision shall not be accepted towards the fulfillment of this requirement. Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychiatric evaluations and psychological testing.

Respondent shall comply with all restrictions or conditions recommended by the evaluating psychiatrist within 15 calendar days after being notified by the Board or its designee.

6. <u>PSYCHOTHERAPY</u>. If the evaluating psychiatrist described in the above paragraph

determines that Respondent requires psychotherapy treatment, within 15 calendar days of that determination, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval the name and qualifications of a board certified psychiatrist or a licensed psychologist who has a doctoral degree in psychology and at least five years of postgraduate experience in the diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders. Upon approval, Respondent shall undergo and continue psychotherapy treatment, including any modifications to the frequency of psychotherapy, until the Board or its designee deems that no further psychotherapy is necessary.

The psychotherapist shall consider any information provided by the Board or its designee and any other information the psychotherapist deems relevant and shall furnish a written evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall cooperate in providing the psychotherapist with any information and documents that the psychotherapist may deem pertinent.

Respondent shall have the treating psychotherapist submit quarterly status reports to the Board or its designee. The Board or its designee may require Respondent to undergo psychiatric evaluations by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist. If, prior to the completion of probation, Respondent is found to be mentally unfit to resume the practice of medicine without restrictions, the Board shall retain continuing jurisdiction over Respondent's license and the period of probation shall be extended until the Board determines that Respondent is mentally fit to resume the practice of medicine without restrictions.

Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychotherapy and psychiatric evaluations.

7. NOTIFICATION. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, the Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine, including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15 calendar days.

This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

- 8. <u>OBEY ALL LAWS</u>. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.
- 9. <u>QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS</u>. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.

Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

# 10. GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS.

# Compliance with Probation Unit

Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation unit.

# Address Changes

Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Board informed of Respondent's business and residence addresses, email address (if available), and telephone number. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Board or its designee. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business and Professions Code section 2021, subdivision (b).

#### Place of Practice

Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine in Respondent's or patient's place of residence, unless the patient resides in a skilled nursing facility or other similar licensed facility.

#### License Renewal

Respondent shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's license.

#### Travel or Residence Outside California

Respondent shall immediately inform the Board or its designee, in writing, of travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than thirty

(30) calendar days.

In the event Respondent should leave the State of California to reside or to practice ,Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

- 11. <u>INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE</u>. Respondent shall be available in person upon request for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.
- 12. NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 15 calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than 30 calendar days and within 15 calendar days of Respondent's return to practice. Non-practice is defined as any period of time Respondent is not practicing medicine as defined in Business and Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least 40 hours in a calendar month in direct patient care, clinical activity or teaching, or other activity as approved by the Board. If Respondent resides in California and is considered to be in non-practice, Respondent shall comply with all terms and conditions of probation. All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-practice and does not relieve Respondent from complying with all the terms and conditions of probation. Practicing medicine in another state of the United States or Federal jurisdiction while on probation with the medical licensing authority of that state or jurisdiction shall not be considered non-practice. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a period of non-practice.

In the event Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation exceeds 18 calendar months, Respondent shall successfully complete the Federation of State Medical Boards's Special Purpose Examination, or, at the Board's discretion, a clinical competence assessment program that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's "Manual of Model Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two (2) years. Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

Periods of non-practice for a Respondent residing outside of California will relieve Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws; General Probation Requirements; Quarterly Declarations; Abstain from the Use of Alcohol and/or Controlled Substances; and Biological Fluid Testing..

- 13. <u>COMPLETION OF PROBATION</u>. Respondent shall comply with all financial obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.
- 14. <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u>. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, or Petition to Revoke Probation, or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
- 15. <u>LICENSE SURRENDER</u>. Following the effective date of this Decision, if
  Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy
  the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request to surrender his or her license.
  The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in
  determining whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate
  and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, Respondent
  shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the Board or its
  designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject
  to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the
  application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.
- 16. <u>PROBATION MONITORING COSTS</u>. Respondent shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which

STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER (800-2019-055303)

1	ENI	DORSEMENT
2	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully	
3	submitted for consideration by the Medical	Board of California.
4	1/2/2020	
5	DATED: 1/3/7022	Respectfully submitted,
6		ROB BONTA Attorney General of California
7		STEVEN D. MUNI Supervising Deputy Attorney General
8		// 19le
9		RYAN J. MCEWAN
10		Deputy Attorney General  Attorneys for Complainant
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# Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2019-055303

1	XAVIER BECERRA		
2	Attorney General of California STEVEN D. MUNI		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General RYAN J. MCEWAN		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 285595		
5	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255		
6	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 210-7548		
7	Facsimile: (916) 327-2247 Attorneys for Complainant		
8	DEFFORM		
9	BEFORE THE  MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
11			
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-055303	
13	Arturo Lo Villamor, M.D.	ACCUSATION	
14	2319 Cezanne Ct. Davis, CA 95618-0502		
15	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate		
16	No. A 85485,		
17	Respondent.		
18		•	
19	Complainant alleges:		
20	<u>PARTIES</u>		
21	1. William Prasifka (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity		
22	as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs		
23	(Board).		
24	2. On or about December 17, 2003, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's		
25	Certificate No. A 85485 to Arturo Lo Villamor, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and		
26	Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought		
27	herein and will expire on December 31, 2021, unless renewed.		
28	111	·	
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(ARTURO LO VILLAMOR, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2019-055303

#### **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 provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Board deems proper.
  - 5. Section 2234 of the Code, states:

"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.

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- 6. Unprofessional conduct under Business and Professions Code section 2234 is conduct which breaches the rules or ethical conduct of the medical profession, or conduct which is unbecoming to 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 2236 of the Code states:
  - "(a) The conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act]. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred.

"

"(d) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction after a plea of nolo contendere is

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 deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section and Section 2236.1. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred."

#### 8. Section 2239 of the Code states:

"(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.

"(b) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section. The Medical Board may order discipline of the licensee in accordance with Section 2227 or the Medical Board may order the denial of the license when the time for appeal has elapsed or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting probation is made suspending imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing such person to withdraw his or her plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, complaint, information, or indictment."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> There is a nexus between a physician's use of alcoholic beverages and his or her fitness to practice medicine, established by the Legislature in section 2239, "in all cases where a licensed physician used alcoholic beverages to the extent or in such a manner as to pose a danger to himself or others." (Watson v. Superior Court (Medical Board) (2009) 176 Cal.App.4th 1407, 1411.)

9. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1360, states:

"For the purposes of denial, suspension or revocation of a license, certificate or permit pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the code, a crime or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a person holding a license, certificate or permit under the Medical Practice Act if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of a person holding a license, certificate or permit to perform the functions authorized by the license, certificate or permit in a manner consistent with the public health, safety or welfare. Such crimes or acts shall include but not be limited to the following:

Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of the Medical Practice Act."

# FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Use of Alcohol in a Dangerous or Injurious Manner)

- 10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2239, of the Code, and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1360, in that he used alcoholic beverages, to the extent, or in such a manner, as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, or to any other person or to the public, as more particularly alleged as follows:
- 11. On or about June 10, 2017, at approximately 1:38 a.m., Sacramento Communications Center advised of a solo vehicle traffic collision with an ambulance responding on the Mace Boulevard off-ramp from Interstate-80 westbound. California Highway Patrol (CHP) Officers A.P. and N.H.<sup>2</sup> responded and arrived at approximately 1:40 a.m. CHP Officer A.P. observed a red Honda HRV against a large pole facing west. It had major front-end damage and the front airbags were deployed. The CHP Officers checked the registration, which showed Respondent as the owner.
- 12. CHP Officer A.P. observed paramedics evaluating Respondent behind the vehicle. Respondent had sustained a small laceration to his left wrist as a result of the collision. (It was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Officer and witness identities are omitted to protect privacy. They will be provided in discovery.

discovered shortly after that Respondent had also suffered a broken back.) CHP Officer A.P. observed that Respondent's eyes were red and watery, his speech was slurred, and his breath had the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage.

- 13. While paramedics evaluated Respondent, CHP Officer A.P. contacted a male ("Passenger A") who was sitting on the curb just north of Respondent's vehicle. He stated that he was the right front passenger in Respondent's vehicle at the time of the collision. He further stated that Respondent was driving the vehicle at the time of the collision, and that they were on their way to Respondent's residence coming from a bar/nightclub in Sacramento.
- 14. After Respondent declined hospital treatment and signed a medical release, he admitted to CHP Officer A.P. that he had been driving his vehicle. The ignition key was in his right front pocket, which he provided to CHP Officer A.P. Respondent admitted to drinking two 16-ounce beers at the bar/nightclub in Sacramento prior to the collision. Respondent stated that he was exiting on Mace Boulevard at an unknown speed when he hit the pole. He further stated that he had lived in Davis since 2005 and taken that exit on countless occasions.
- 15. CHP Officer A.P. explained and demonstrated a series of field sobriety tests to Respondent, including the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus, Romberg, Finger to Nose, and One Leg Stand. Respondent failed to perform each test as explained and demonstrated. Respondent also consented to a preliminary breath test. He provided two breath samples that measured 0.137% at 2:05 a.m., and 0.134% at 2:07 a.m.
- 16. The CHP Officers arrested Respondent at 2:12 a.m. but did not handcuff Respondent so that paramedics could re-evaluate him. The paramedics observed a protrusion on Respondent's lower back, and he was placed in an ambulance for transport to U.C. Davis Medical Center. Prior to leaving for the hospital, Respondent agreed to submit a blood sample. At approximately 2:25 a.m., the paramedic removed a blood sample from Respondent's right wrist, which measured a blood alcohol concentration of 0.175%.
- 17. On or about August 1, 2017, in *The People of the State of California v. Arturo Lo Villamor*, Yolo County Superior Court Case No. CR-17004114, Respondent was charged with the following misdemeanors: (1) Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, in violation of Vehicle

Code section 23152(a); (2) Driving at 0.08% or Above, in violation of Vehicle Code section 23152(b). It was further alleged that Respondent had a blood alcohol concentration that was 0.15% or more, thus subjecting him to additional punishment under Vehicle Code section 23578.

- 18. On or about January 30, 2019, Respondent pleaded no contest to the charge of driving at 0.08% or above, in violation of Vehicle Code section 23152(b). The Court sentenced Respondent to: serve 4 days in jail; serve 3 years' probation; enroll in and complete a 3-month DUI program; pay fines and fees in the amount of \$2,158.00; refrain from driving after consuming any alcohol; submit to chemical tests when stopped or suspected of driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs; and refrain from consuming alcoholic beverages for approximately six months.
- 19. On or about August 26, 2020, a Board Investigator interviewed Respondent. Respondent stated that he had a glass of wine at dinner and approximately 2-3 beers and a Jell-O shot at the bar/nightclub in the several hours before his arrest. Respondent stated that, as a result of the drunk driving accident, he suffered a broken back and had surgery the day after the accident. In addition, his vehicle was totaled.

#### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Conviction of a Crime Substantially Related to the Qualifications, Functions, or Duties of a Physician)

20. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2236, of the Code, and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1360, in that he has been convicted of a crime, to wit: violation of Vehicle Code section 23152(b) driving at .08% or above, which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a physician and surgeon, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 10 through 19, above, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (General Unprofessional Conduct)

21. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 2227 and 2234, in that he has engaged in conduct which breaches the rules or ethical code of the medical profession,