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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Keyvan Amiri-Khorheh, M.D.

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 55422

Respondent.

Case No. 800-2019-059826

# **DECISION**

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License 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 May 16, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED May 9, 2023.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Reji Varghese

**Interim Executive Director** 

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General ROBERT W. LINCOLN Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 316290 California Department of Justice 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9453 Facsimile: (619) 645-2012 Attorneys for Complainant			
10	BEFORE THE  MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS			
11				
12	STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-059826		
14		OAH No. 2022110278		
15	1661 Interlachen Rd., Apt. 286A Seal Beach, CA 90740	STIPULATED SURRENDER OF		
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 55422	LICENSE AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER		
17 18	Respondent.			
19	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGR	EED by and between the parties to the above-		
20	entitled proceedings that the following matters are			
21	PART			
22		terim Executive Director of the Medical Board		
23	of California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in			
24	this matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the			
25	Deputy Attorney General.			
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28	111 .			
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- 2. KEYVAN AMIRI-KHORHEH, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Elon Berk, Esq., whose address is: 15250 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1220, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403.
- 3. On or about December 20, 1995, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 55422 to KEYVAN AMIRI-KHORHEH, 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. 800-2019-059826 and will expire on July 31, 2023, unless renewed.

## **JURISDICTION**

4. Accusation No. 800-2019-059826 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 August 31, 2022. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2019-059826 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

# **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2019-059826. Respondent also has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. 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.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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# **CULPABILITY**

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 800-2019-059826, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 55422 for the Board's formal acceptance.
- 9. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate without further process.

# **CONTINGENCY**

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, 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 Disciplinary Order, the Stipulated Surrender 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.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

## **ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 55422, issued to Respondent KEYVAN AMIRI-KHORHEH, M.D., is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

- 1. The surrender of Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.
- 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a physician and surgeon in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Disciplinary Order.
- 3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board his pocket license and, if one was issued, his wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Disciplinary Order.
- 4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked or surrendered license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2019-059826 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.
- 5. Respondent shall pay the agency its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$26,375.00 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.
- 6. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation, No. 800-2019-059826 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

## **ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney Elon Berk, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated

1	Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree		
2	to be bound by the Decision and Disciplinary Order of the Medical Board of California.		
3			
4	DATED: 4/28/2023 Keyvan Amir, Khorheh		
5	KEYVAN AMIRI-KHORHEH, M.D. Respondent		
6	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent KEYVAN AMIRI-KHORHEH, M.D., the		
7	terms and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and		
8	Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.		
9			
10	DATED: 4/88/23		
11	ELON BERK, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent		
12	Autorney for Respondent		
13	ENDORSEMENT		
14.	The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order is hereby		
15	respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of		
16	Consumer Affairs.		
17			
18	DATED: 5 / 1 / 2 3  Respectfully submitted,		
19	ROB BONTA		
20	Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ		
21	Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
22	1.4 v. 1.		
23	ROBERT W. LINCOLN		
24	Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant		
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26	SD2022302334 37109018.docx		
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# Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2019-059826

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1	Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General ROBERT W. LINCOLN Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 316290 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266		
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6	Telephone: (619) 738-9453		
7	Facsimile: (619) 645-2012		
8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
11	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
12		CLASSIC CITY (ALL	
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-059826	
14	Keyvan Amiri-Khorheh, M.D.	ACCUSATION	
15	1661 Interlachen Rd., Apt. 286A Seal Beach, CA 90740		
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate		
17	No. A 55422,		
18	Responden	t.	
19			
20	PAI	RTIES	
21	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ngs this Accusation solely in his official capacity	
22	as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs		
23	(Board).	or committee of consumer Attails	
24	2. On or about December 20, 1995, the	Medical Roard inquad Dhyminiants - 1 G	
25	and Surgeon.		
26	Certificate No. A 55422 to Keyvan Amiri-Khorheh, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and		
27	Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought		
28	herein and will expire on July 31, 2023, unless renewed.		
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1	3. On June 17, 2022, an Automatic Suspension Order was issued suspending			
2	Respondent's physician' and surgeon's certificate. His license is still suspended.			
3	JURISDICTION			
4	4. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following			
5	laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise			
6	indicated.			
7	5. Section of the Code, states, in pertinent part:			
8	The California Board of Podiatric Medicine shall enforce and administer this article as to doctors of podiatric medicine. Any acts of unprofessional conduct or other violations proscribed by this chapter are applicable to licensed doctors of podiatric medicine and wherever the Medical Quality Hearing Panel established under Section 11371 of the Government Code is vested with the authority to enforce and carry out this chapter as to licensed physicians and surgeons, the Medical Quality Hearing Panel also possesses that same authority as to licensed doctors of podiatric medicine.			
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11				
12	6. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the			
13	Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed			
14	one year, placed on probation and required to pay costs of probation monitoring, or such other			
15	action taken in relation to discipline as the Board deems proper.			
16	7. Section 2234 of the Code, states, in pertinent part:			
17 18	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:			
19	(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.			
20				
21	(b) Gross negligence.			
22	(c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent			
23	acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.			
24				
25	(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption that is			
26	substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.			
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#### 8. 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. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that h the conviction occurred.

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

# COST RECOVERY

9. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case, with failure of the licensee to comply subjecting the license to not being renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be included in a stipulated settlement.

# **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

# 10. The Medi-Cal Program:

Medi-Cal is a health care benefit program, which provides reimbursement for medically necessary health care services to indigent individuals in California. Funding for Medi-Cal is shared between the federal government and the State of California.

11. To obtain payment for services, an enrolled provider, using its unique provider number, submitted claims to Medi-Cal certifying that the information on the claim form was truthful and accurate and that the services provided were reasonable and necessary to the health of the Medi-Cal beneficiary. Medi-Cal is a health care benefit program, as defined by Title 18, United States Code, Section 24(b).

# 12. The Family PACT Program:

The Family PACT program provides family planning services to indigent

California residents through the Medi-Cal program. This program assists individuals with access
to family planning services, contraception, sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment,

HIV screening, cancer screening, and limited infertility services. The Family PACT program provides blood and urine lab analysis for patients conducted at diagnostic laboratories. The program also provides patients with access to prescription contraception and other prescription medication from pharmacies.

13. Family PACT providers are public and private sector clinicians, including physicians and physician assistants, who are enrolled in the Medi-Cal program, as well as the Family PACT program. Medi-Cal compensates Family PACT providers, pharmacies, and laboratories for medically necessary Family PACT services provided to enrolled individuals.

# 14. The Los Angeles Community Clinic:

Defendant H., <sup>1</sup> Defendant E., and Defendant S. would direct the creation of and create false patient names and false patient charts in order to submit false claims from the Los Angeles Community Clinic to Medi-Cal through the Family PACT program. The false claims were for office visits that never occurred, and family planning services that were never provided, for patients who did not exist.

# 15. Respondent's Participation in Healthcare Fraud Conspiracy:

Beginning in or around January 2016, and continuing through in or around April 2019, in Los Angeles County, California, Respondent and Defendant H., Defendant W., Defendant E., Defendant S., and Defendant N., conspired with each other to commit health care fraud.

- 16. In particular, Respondent and Defendant W. would sign encounter forms in false patient charts, write prescriptions, and order lab tests for patients they knew they had not seen, knowing the prescriptions and orders would be referred to other providers who would submit claims based on them.
- 17. Additionally, Defendant H. would refer the prescriptions for false patients written by Respondent and Defendant W., to pharmacies in exchange for cash kickbacks for the patient referrals and knowing the referrals would be used by the pharmacies to submit claims. Defendant

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To protect privacy of defendants involved, their names have not been included in this pleading. Respondent is aware of the identity of all defendants referred herein.

H., Respondent, Defendant W., Defendant E., and Defendant S., would then submit to Medi-Cal false and fraudulent claims, which falsely represented that the Los Angeles Community Clinic had provided office visits and family planning services to patients through the Family PACT program when, in fact, no services were provided and the patients did not exist.

18. As a result of the submission of false and fraudulence claims, Medi-Cal would make payments to Los Angeles Community Clinic's JP Morgan Chase bank accounts, as well as Defendant H.'s bank account. From in or around January 2016 through in or around April 2019, the Los Angeles Community Clinic submitted approximately \$4,519,272.00 in claims for Family PACT services to Medi-Cal, and was paid approximately \$4,090,554.00. From in or around January 2016 through in or around April 2019, diagnostic laboratories and pharmacies submitted approximately \$4,820,955.00 in claims for Family PACT diagnostic testing services and prescriptions drugs to Medi-Cal for Family PACT patients referred by the Los Angeles Community Clinic, and were paid approximately \$3,309,477.00.

# 19. Respondent's Overt Acts in Furtherance of Healthcare Fraud Conspiracy:

On or about April 12, 2018, Defendant S. submitted to Medi-Cal a false and fraudulent claim for Family PACT services which was provided to a patient by Respondent. On or about April 4, 2019, Respondent signed a diagnostic laboratory requisition form, ordering tests for a false patient.

# 20. Respondent's Indictment and Conviction:

On or about September 12, 2019, the United States Attorney's Office, Central District of California, filed an indictment in the matter of the *United States of America v. Keyvan Amiri-Khorheh*, Case No. 2:19-cr-00530-AB-2. Respondent was charged with six counts violating various statutes of the United States Code, including violating 18 U.S.C. § 1349, Conspiracy to Commit Healthcare Fraud; 18 U.S.C. § 1347, Healthcare Fraud; 18 U.S.C. § 2. Aiding and Abetting and Causing an Act to be Done; 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(7), Criminal Forfeiture (Federal health care offense); 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1), Criminal Forfeiture; and 18 U.S.C. § 2461(c), Criminal Forfeiture.

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- 21. On or about January 12, 2022, in the matter of the *United States v. Keyvan Amiri-Khorheh*, Case No. 2:19-cr-00530-AB-2, Respondent pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit Health Care Fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1349, 1347.
- 22. Respondent was committed to custody of the Bureau of Prisons for a term of six (6) months. After the term of imprisonment, Respondent will be released to the U.S. Probation Office and serve twelve (12) months of home detention.

# FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Conviction of an Offense Substantially Related to the Qualifications, Functions, or Duties of a Physician and Surgeon)

23. Respondent has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 55422 to disciplinary action under sections 2222, and 2234, as defined by 2236, subdivision (a), of the Code, in that Respondent was convicted of an offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a Physician and Surgeon, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 10 through 22, above, which are hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

# SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Dishonesty and/or Corrupt Acts)

24. Respondent has further subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 55422 to disciplinary action under sections 2222, 2227, and 2234, as defined by section 2234, subdivision (e), of the Code, in that he has committed acts of dishonesty or corruption, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 10 through 23, above, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

# THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (General Unprofessional Conduct)

25. Respondent has further subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.

A 55422 to disciplinary action under sections 2222, and 2234, of the Code, in that he engaged in conduct which breaches the rules or ethical code of the medical profession, and which