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

ln	the	Matter	of the	e Acc	usat	ion /	<b>Aga</b> i	inst	::
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Mark Leonard Goldstein, M.D.

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34310

Respondent.

Case No. 800-2021-075444

#### **DECISION**

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

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on July 17, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED July 10, 2023.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Reji Varghese

**Executive Director** 

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i	Rob Bonta	·			
2	Attorney General of California JUDITH T. ALVARADO				
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General MARSHA E. BARR-FERNANDEZ				
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 200896				
5	300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013				
6	Telephone: (213) 269-6249 Facsimile: (916) 731-2117				
7	Attorneys for Complainant				
8	BEFOR MEDICAL BOARD				
9	DEPARTMENT OF CO STATE OF C				
10	STATE OF CA	ADITORNA			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2021-075444			
12	MARK LEONARD GOLDSTEIN, M.D.	STIPULATED SURRENDER OF			
13	23101 Sherman Place, Suite 410 West Hills, CA 91307-2026	LICENSE AND ORDER			
14	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.				
15	G 34310				
16	Respondent.				
17					
18	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGR	EED by and between the parties to the above-			
19	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:				
20	PART	TIES			
21	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Ir	terim Executive Director of the Medical Board			
22	of California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in				
23	this matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Marsha E. Barr-				
24	Fernandez, Deputy Attorney General.				
25	2. MARK LEONARD GOLDSTEIN, M	I.D. (Respondent) is representing himself in this			
26	proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel.				
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3. On or about June 24, 1977, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34310 to MARK LEONARD GOLDSTEIN, 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. 800-2021-075444 and expired on October 31, 2021.

#### **JURISDICTION**

4. Accusation No. 800-2021-075444 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 June 2, 2023. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2021-075444 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

#### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2021-075444. Respondent also has carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and 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 be represented by counsel, at his own expense; 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.

#### **CULPABILITY**

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 800-2021-075444, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34310 for the Board's formal acceptance.

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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. 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 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 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 Order:

#### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34310, issued to Respondent MARK LEONARD GOLDSTEIN, 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 Order.

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- 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 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. 800-2021-075444 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 \$2,118.00 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. 800-2021-075444 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 Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED:	June 22, 2023	Mark Leonard Woldstein MD		
		MARK LEONARD GOLDSTEIN, M.D. Respondent		
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### **ENDORSEMENT** The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs. June 22, 2023 DATED: Respectfully submitted, ROB BONTA Attorney General of California JUDITH T. ALVARADO Supervising Deputy Attorney General Marsha C. Barr-Fernandez MARSHA E. BARR-FERNANDEZ Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant LA2023601206

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2021-075444

1	ROB BONTA				
. 2	Attorney General of California JUDITH T. ALVARADO Supervising Deputy Attorney General MARSHA E. BARR-FERNANDEZ				
3					
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 200896 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013				
5					
6	Telephone: (213) 269-6249 Facsimile: (916) 731-2117				
7	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. 800-2021-075444			
13	MARK LEONARD GOLDSTEIN, M.D. 23101 Sherman Place, Suite 410	ACCUSATION			
14	West Hills, CA 91307-2026				
15	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34310,	·			
16	Respondent.				
17					
18	PAR				
19	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as				
20	the Interim Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer				
21	Affairs (Board).				
22	2. On or about June 24, 1977, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate				
23	Number G 34310 to Mark Leonard Goldstein, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's				
24	Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and				
25	expired on October 31, 2021.				
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27	///				
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(MARK LEONARD GOLDSTEIN, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2021-075444

#### **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 2004 of the Code states:

The board shall have the responsibility for the following:

- (a) The enforcement of the disciplinary and criminal provisions of the Medical Practice Act.
  - (b) The administration and hearing of disciplinary actions.
- (c) Carrying out disciplinary actions appropriate to findings made by a panel or an administrative law judge.
- (d) Suspending, revoking, or otherwise limiting certificates after the conclusion of disciplinary actions.
- (e) Reviewing the quality of medical practice carried out by physician and surgeon certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the board.
  - (f) Approving undergraduate and graduate medical education programs.
- (g) Approving clinical clerkship and special programs and hospitals for the programs in subdivision (f).
  - (h) Issuing licenses and certificates under the board's jurisdiction.
  - (i) Administering the board's continuing medical education program.
- 5. Section 2220 of the Code states:

Except as otherwise provided by law, the board may take action against all persons guilty of violating this chapter. The board shall enforce and administer this article as to physician and surgeon certificate holders, including those who hold certificates that do not permit them to practice medicine, such as, but not limited to, retired, inactive, or disabled status certificate holders, and the board shall have all the powers granted in this chapter for these purposes including, but not limited to:

- (a) Investigating complaints from the public, from other licensees, from health care facilities, or from the board that a physician and surgeon may be guilty of unprofessional conduct. The board shall investigate the circumstances underlying a report received pursuant to Section 805 or 805.01 within 30 days to determine if an interim suspension order or temporary restraining order should be issued. The board shall otherwise provide timely disposition of the reports received pursuant to Section 805 and Section 805.01.
- (b) Investigating the circumstances of practice of any physician and surgeon where there have been any judgments, settlements, or arbitration awards requiring the physician and surgeon or his or her professional liability insurer to pay an amount in

#### Section 2237 of the Code states:

- (a) The conviction of a charge of violating any federal statutes or regulations or any statute or regulation of this state, regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances, constitutes unprofessional conduct. The record of the conviction is conclusive evidence of such unprofessional conduct. 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.
- (b) Discipline may be ordered 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 the 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.

#### 10. Section 2238 of the Code states:

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

#### 11. Section 490 of the Code states:

- (a) In addition to any other action that a board is permitted to take against a licensee, a board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a board may exercise any authority to discipline a licensee for conviction of a crime that is independent of the authority granted under subdivision (a) only if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the licensee's license was issued.
- (c) A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action that a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a conviction may be taken 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 the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code.
- (d) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the application of this section has been made unclear by the holding in *Petropoulos* v. *Department of Real Estate* (2006) 142 Cal.App.4th 554, and that the holding in that case has placed a significant number of statutes and regulations in question, resulting in potential harm to the consumers of California from licensees who have been convicted of crimes. Therefore, the Legislature finds and declares that this section establishes an independent basis for a board to impose discipline upon a licensee, and that the amendments to this section made by Chapter 33 of the Statutes of 2008 do not constitute a change to, but rather are declaratory of, existing law.

#### **REGULATORY PROVISIONS**

- 12. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1360, states:
- (a) For the purposes of denial, suspension or revocation of a license pursuant to Section 141 or Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the code, a crime, professional misconduct, or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a person holding a license if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of a person holding a license to perform the functions authorized by the license in a manner consistent with the public health, safety or welfare. Such crimes, professional misconduct, 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 state or federal law governing the applicant's or licensee's professional practice.
- (b) In making the substantial relationship determination required under subdivision (a) for a crime, the board shall consider the following criteria:
  - (1) The nature and gravity of the crime;
  - (2) The number of years elapsed since the date of the crime; and
  - (3) The nature and duties of the profession.

#### **COST RECOVERY**

- 13. Section 125.3 of the Code states:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, in any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before any board within the department or before the Osteopathic Medical Board, upon request of the entity bringing the proceeding, the administrative law judge may 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.
- (b) In the case of a disciplined licensee that is a corporation or a partnership, the order may be made against the licensed corporate entity or licensed partnership.
- (c) A certified copy of the actual costs, or a good faith estimate of costs where actual costs are not available, signed by the entity bringing the proceeding or its designated representative shall be prima facie evidence of reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution of the case. The costs shall include the amount of investigative and enforcement costs up to the date of the hearing, including, but not limited to, charges imposed by the Attorney General.
- (d) The administrative law judge shall make a proposed finding of the amount of reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution of the case when requested pursuant to subdivision (a). The finding of the administrative law judge with regard to costs shall not be reviewable by the board to increase the cost award. The board may reduce or eliminate the cost award, or remand to the administrative law judge if the proposed decision fails to make a finding on costs requested pursuant to subdivision (a).

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distribution in the United States; (b) unapproved new drugs under Title 21 United States Code sections 32l(p) and 355(a); and (c) brought into the United States in violation of Title 21 United States Code sections 331(c) (receipt in interstate commerce and the proffered delivery for pay or otherwise of a misbranded drug) and 331(d) (introduction into interstate commerce of an unapproved new drug).

- 17. In March 2009, a Special Agent from the FDA's Office of Criminal Investigations ("FDA-OCI") visited HOC and spoke with the office manager who said she could not remember purchasing drugs from the supplier under investigation, and only purchased drugs from "approved distributors."
- 18. After the visit from the FDA-OCI, HOC continued buying illegal foreign market drugs from Montana Healthcare Solutions. From June 2008 through October 2010, HOC purchased over \$1,000,000 of drugs from Montana Healthcare Solutions. Respondent was aware that HOC was purchasing and administering drugs from Montana Healthcare Solutions, but Respondent denied knowing that the drugs were illegal. In October 2010, Montana Healthcare Solutions was acquired by Canada Drugs, Ltd. ("Canada Drugs"). On April 13, 2018, Canada Drugs pleaded guilty to illegal sales of misbranded and counterfeit prescription drugs that were unapproved in the United States.
- 19. Many of the invoices from Montana Healthcare Solutions indicated that the drugs were meant for foreign markets, such as Turkey or countries within the European Union, and some of the invoices identified the drugs by different names. For instance, an invoice dated March 17, 2011, addressed to Respondent and handled in the ordinary course by the HOC office manager, listed one of the items purchased as "Altuzan (bevacizumab) (known as Avastin in the U.S.) (Refrigerated) Turkey- 400mg/16ml 1 vial." The invoice provided that the product would be shipped to HOC at its Van Nuys office. The drug "Altuzan" was not approved by the FDA, and was not listed with the FDA as a drug meant for commercial distribution in the United States.

	20.	HOC's last purchase from Montana HealthCare Solutions was on October 20, 2011.
ln Fe	bruary	2012, Montana Healthcare Solutions sent a notification addressed to Respondent and
faxed	to the	HOC office stating that some of the Avastin it had shipped to Respondent during the
perio	d of O	ctober 5, 2011 to October 21, 2011, likely consisted of counterfeit Avastin that did no
conta	in the	medicine's active ingredient, bevacizumab.

- 21. On or about February 8, 2021, in the case of *United States of America v. Mark Goldstein*, United States District Court for the Central District of California case number 2:21-cr-00026-JLS, Respondent was charged with violating Title 18 United States Code section 545 (receiving prescription drugs imported contrary to law) and Title 21 United States Code sections 331(c) and 333(a)(1) (receipt of misbranded drugs in interstate commerce and proffered delivery thereof for pay).
- 22. On or about April 21, 2021, Respondent was convicted, by way of a plea of guilty, of the crime of receipt in interstate commerce of a misbranded drug and delivery or proffered delivery therefore for pay, a misdemeanor, in violation of Title 21 United States Code sections 331(a) and 333(a)(1), as charged in Count 2 (two) of the Information.
- 23. Respondent was sentenced on April 21, 2021, to a term of one (1) year probation, with terms and conditions. Respondent was ordered to pay to the United States a special assessment of \$25.00, a fine in the amount of \$250,000.00, and to comply with standard conditions of supervised release.

#### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Conviction of a Violation of Federal Statutes or Regulations Regulating Dangerous Drugs or Controlled Substances)

- 24. Respondent Mark Leonard Goldstein, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2237 and 2238 of the Code, in that Respondent was convicted of a violation of Federal statutes or regulations regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances. The circumstances are as follows:
- 25. The facts and allegations set forth in the First Cause for Discipline are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 1 (Dishonest and Corrupt Acts) 2 26. Respondent Mark Leonard Goldstein, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under 3 section 2234, subdivisions (a) and (e), in that Respondent engaged in dishonest and corrupt acts. 4 The circumstances are as follows: 5 27. The facts and allegations set forth in the First and Second Causes for Discipline are 6 incorporated by reference as if fully set forth. 7 **PRAYER** 8 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, 9 and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision: 10 Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number G 34310, 11 issued to Respondent Mark Leonard Goldstein, M.D.; 12 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Mark Leonard Goldstein, 13 M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; 14 3. Ordering Respondent Mark Leonard Goldstein, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of 15 the investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation 16 monitoring; 17 Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 4. 18 19 JUN 0 2 2023 DATED: 20 21 Interim Executive Director Medical Board of California 22 Department of Consumer Affairs State of California 23 Complainant 24 25 LA2023601206 Goldstein Accusation.docx 26 27 28