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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Aubrey Ancil King, M.D.

Case No. 800-2019-062209

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023

Respondent.

# ORDER CORRECTING CLERICAL ERROR IN "CONDITION 1. EDUCATION COURSE" PORTION OF DECISION

On its own motion, the Medical Board of California (hereafter "Board") finds that there is a clerical error in the "Condition 1. Education Course" portion of the Decision in the above-entitled matter and that such clerical error should be corrected so that Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements will conform to the Board's issued disciplinary order.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the requirements for the number of CME hours under Condition 1 is hereby corrected from 65 hours to 40 hours. The other terms and conditions in the disciplinary order dated August 16, 2023, remain unchanged.

August 30, 2023

Laurie Rose Lubiano, J.D., Chair

Panel A

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

Case No.: 800-2019-062209

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

**AUBREY ANCIL KING, M.D.** 

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023

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 September 15, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED: August 16, 2023.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Laurie Rose Lubiano, J.D., Chair Panel A

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1	ROB BONTA		
	Attorney General of California		
2	ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
3	CHRISTINE A. RHEE Deputy Attorney General		
4	State Bar No. 295656 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800		
5	San Diego, CA 92101		
6	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266		
7	Telephone: (619) 738-9455 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
8	Attorneys for Complainant	·	
9	BEFORE THE		
10	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
12		•	
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-062209	
		·	
14	AUBREY ANCIL KING, M.D. 154 A W FOOTHILL BLVD # 315	OAH No. 2023020366	
15	UPLAND CA 91786-3847	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023,		
17	Respondent.		
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20	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGR	EED by and between the parties to the above-	
21	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
22	<u>PARTIES</u>		
23	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Interim Executive Director of the Medical Board		
24	of California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in		
25	this matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Christine A. Rhee,		
26	Deputy Attorney General.		
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- 2. Respondent Aubrey Ancil King, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Joel Bruce Douglas, Esq., whose address is: 355 South Grand Ave., Ste. 1750 Los Angeles, CA 90071-1562.
- 3. On or about September 16, 1985, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023 to 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. 800-2019-062209, and will expire on September 30, 2023, unless renewed.

# **JURISDICTION**

- 4. Accusation No. 800-2019-062209 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 November 9, 2022. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A true and correct copy of Accusation No. 800-2019-062209 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. 800-2019-062209. 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. Having had the benefit of counsel, Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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### **CULPABILITY**

- 9. Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a prima facie case with respect to the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2019-062209 and that he has thereby subjected his license to disciplinary action
- 10. Respondent agrees that if he ever petitions for early termination or modification of probation, or if the Board ever petitions for revocation of probation, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2019-062209 shall be deemed true, correct, and fully admitted by Respondent for purposes of that proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving Respondent in the State of California.
- 11. 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**

12. 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.

# ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

13. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties in the above-listed matter.

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 14. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including copies of the signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures and, further, that such copies shall have the same force and effect as originals.

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

# **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023 issued to Respondent Aubrey Ancil King, M.D., is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for four (4) years following the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order on the following terms and conditions:

- 1. <u>EDUCATION COURSE</u>. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and on an annual basis thereafter, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for its prior approval educational program(s) or course(s) which shall not be less than 15 hours per year, for each year of probation. The educational program(s) or course(s) shall be aimed at correcting any areas of deficient practice or knowledge and shall be Category I certified. The educational program(s) or course(s) shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure. Following the completion of each course, the Board or its designee may administer an examination to test Respondent's knowledge of the course. Respondent shall provide proof of attendance for 65 hours of CME of which 15 hours were in satisfaction of this condition.
- 2. PRESCRIBING PRACTICES COURSE. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in prescribing practices approved in advance by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall provide the approved course provider with any information and documents that the approved course provider may deem pertinent. Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete the classroom component of the course not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment. Respondent shall successfully complete any other component of the course within one (1) year of enrollment. The prescribing

practices course shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

A prescribing practices course 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 course would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the course 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 course, or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

3. <u>MEDICAL RECORD KEEPING COURSE</u>. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in medical record keeping approved in advance by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall provide the approved course provider with any information and documents that the approved course provider may deem pertinent. Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete the classroom component of the course not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment. Respondent shall successfully complete any other component of the course within one (1) year of enrollment. The medical record keeping course shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

A medical record keeping course 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 course would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the course 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 course, or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

4. MONITORING - PRACTICE. Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval as a practice monitor, the name and qualifications of one or more licensed physicians and surgeons whose licenses are valid and in good standing, and who are preferably American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) certified. A monitor shall have no prior or current business or personal relationship with Respondent, or other relationship that could reasonably be expected to compromise the ability of the monitor to render fair and unbiased reports to the Board, including but not limited to any form of bartering, shall be in Respondent's field of practice, and must agree to serve as Respondent's monitor. Respondent shall pay all monitoring costs.

The Board or its designee shall provide the approved monitor with copies of the Decision(s) and Accusation(s), and a proposed monitoring plan. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of the Decision(s), Accusation(s), and proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a signed statement that the monitor has read the Decision(s) and Accusation(s), fully understands the role of a monitor, and agrees or disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan. If the monitor disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a revised monitoring plan with the signed statement for approval by the Board or its designee.

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and continuing throughout probation, Respondent's practice shall be monitored by the approved monitor. Respondent shall make all records available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises by the monitor at all times during business hours and shall retain the records for the entire term of probation.

If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a monitor within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine until a monitor is approved to provide monitoring responsibility.

The monitor(s) shall submit a quarterly written report to the Board or its designee which includes an evaluation of Respondent's performance, indicating whether Respondent's practices are within the standards of practice of medicine, and whether Respondent is practicing medicine

safely. It shall be the sole responsibility of Respondent to ensure that the monitor submits the quarterly written reports to the Board or its designee within 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, Respondent shall, within 5 calendar days of such resignation or unavailability, submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, the name and qualifications of a replacement monitor who will be assuming that responsibility within 15 calendar days. If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a replacement monitor within 60 calendar days of the resignation or unavailability of the monitor, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine until a replacement monitor is approved and assumes monitoring responsibility.

In lieu of a monitor, Respondent may participate in a professional enhancement program approved in advance by the Board or its designee that includes, at minimum, quarterly chart review, semi-annual practice assessment, and semi-annual review of professional growth and education. Respondent shall participate in the professional enhancement program at Respondent's expense during the term of probation.

5. 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.

6. <u>SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND ADVANCED PRACTICE</u>

<u>NURSES.</u> During probation, Respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses.

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- 7. <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.
- 8. <u>INVESTIGATION/ENFORCEMENT COST RECOVERY</u>. Respondent is hereby ordered to reimburse the Board its costs of investigation and enforcement, including, but not limited to, expert review, amended accusations, legal reviews, investigation(s), and subpoena enforcement, as applicable, in the amount of \$16,000.00 (sixteen thousand dollars and zero cents). Costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California. Failure to pay such costs shall be considered a violation of probation.

Payment must be made in full within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the Order, or by a payment plan approved by the Medical Board of California. Any and all requests for a payment plan shall be submitted in writing by Respondent to the Board. Failure to comply with the payment plan shall be considered a violation of probation.

The filing of bankruptcy by Respondent shall not relieve Respondent of the responsibility to repay investigation and enforcement costs, including expert review costs.

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

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27 28 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.

- INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE. 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.
- 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; and Quarterly Declarations.

- obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. This term does not include cost recovery, which is due within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the Order, or by a payment plan approved by the Medical Board and timely satisfied. 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 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 may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar year.
- 17. <u>FUTURE ADMISSIONS CLAUSE</u>. 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 action agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2019-062209 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 license.

## **ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Joel Bruce Douglas, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated

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1	Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be			
2	bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.			
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4	DATED: 0/26/2023 AUDIENTANCE KING VAD			
5	AUBREY ANGL KING, M.D.  Respondent			
6	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Aubrey Ancil King, M.D., the terms and			
7	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.			
8	l approve its form and content.			
9	for Jod Douglas			
10	DATED: 6-17-13 MOR RPLICE DOLIGIAS ESO -			
11	DATED: 6-17-13  JOEL BRUCE DOUGLAS, ESQ.  Attorney for Respondent  Attorney for Respondent			
12	ENDORSEMENT			
13	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully			
14	submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.			
15	DATED: Respectfully submitted,			
16	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California			
17	ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
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19	Oursement A. Dyrop			
20	CHRISTINE A. RHEE Deputy Attorney General			
21	Attorneys for Complainant			
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	12 STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER (800-2019-062209)			
	8. TIANTY LED RET ITEMENT WIND INSOUT PRIVATE CHARACTERS ASSETS			

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1	Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be			
2	bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical	bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.		
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5		EY ANCIL KING, M.D. dent		
6	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Aubrey Ancil King, M.D., the terms and			
7	conditions and other matters contained in the ab	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.		
8	I approve its form and content.			
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10		DDITCE DOLIGI AS ESO		
11	i   JOEL I Attorne	BRUCE DOUGLAS, ESQ. by for Respondent		
12	<u>ENDOR</u>	SEMENT		
13	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and I	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully		
14	submitted for consideration by the Medical Boa	rd of California.		
15	DATED: June 27, 2023	Respectfully submitted,		
16	6	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California		
17		ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
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19		CHRISTINE A. RHEE		
20		Deputy Attorney General  Attorneys for Complainant		
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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2019-062209

1	ROB BONTA	•	
2	Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General CHRISTINE A. RHEE		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 295656		
5	600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101		
6	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266		
7	Telephone: (619) 738-9455 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9	BEFORE THE		
10	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
12		ı	
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-062209	
14	AUBREY ANCIL KING, M.D.	ACCUSATION	
15	154 A. W. Foothill Blvd. # 315 Upland, CA 91786-3847		
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023,	,	
17	Respondent.		
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19			
20	<u>PAR'</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 September 16, 1985, the Medical Board issued Physician's and		
25	Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023 to Aubrey Ancil King, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's		
26	and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought		
27	herein and will expire on September 30, 2023, unless renewed.		
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#### **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 states, in pertinent part:
  - (a) A licensee whose matter has been heard by an administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel as designated in Section 11371 of the Government Code, or whose default has been entered, and who is found guilty, or who has entered into a stipulation for disciplinary action with the board, may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter:
    - (1) Have his or her license revoked upon order of the board.
  - (2) Have his or her right to practice suspended for a period not to exceed one year upon order of the board.
  - (3) Be placed on probation and be required to pay the costs of probation monitoring upon order of the board.
  - (4) Be publicly reprimanded by the board. The public reprimand may include a requirement that the licensee complete relevant educational courses approved by the board.
  - (5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as part of an order of probation, as the board or an administrative law judge may deem proper.
  - 5. Section 2234 of the Code, states, in pertinent part:

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:

- (b) Gross negligence.
- (c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent 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.
- (1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.
- (2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but

- (h) All costs recovered under this section shall be considered a reimbursement for costs incurred and shall be deposited in the fund of the board recovering the costs to be available upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (i) Nothing in this section shall preclude a board from including the recovery of the costs of investigation and enforcement of a case in any stipulated settlement.
- (j) This section does not apply to any board if a specific statutory provision in that board's licensing act provides for recovery of costs in an administrative disciplinary proceeding.

# FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Gross Negligence)

7. Respondent has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2234, subdivision (b), of the Code, in that he committed gross negligence in his care and treatment of Patient A and Patient B,<sup>1</sup> as more particularly alleged hereafter:

# Patient A

- 8. On or about September 6, 2019, Patient A saw Respondent, who was working in a locum tenens position as a psychiatrist at a behavioral health and child welfare agency. Respondent met with Patient A and Patient A's caregiver for approximately 90 minutes. Patient A, a 16-year-old male, reported experiencing temper outbursts manifesting verbally, irritability, anger, difficulty sleeping, difficulty concentrating, and anxiety. Respondent documented that there were no changes to Patient A's diagnoses and that his plan was to prescribe Remeron<sup>2</sup> and Concerta.<sup>3</sup>
- 9. On or about September 6, 2019, in a separate medical record, Respondent signed a document that stated that he recommended that Patient A take Remeron and Concerta to treat "[m]ajor depressive [dis]order, recurrent severe without psychotic features."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The names of the patients have been omitted to protect their privacy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Remeron, brand name for mirtazapine, is an anti-depressant which may be used off-label as a sedative.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Concerta, brand name for methylphenidate, is a stimulant used to treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder or narcolepsy. Methylphenidate is a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (d).

- 10. On or about October 2, 2019, Patient A and his mother saw Respondent for a follow-up appointment. Patient A reported feeling overwhelmed at school with anxiety, crying, and unhappiness. According to the mental status examination portion of the medical record, Patient A had visual hallucinations when agitated. Respondent documented that Patient A met criteria for dysthymic disorder and ADHD, predominantly the inattentive type. Respondent's treatment plan was to continue Remeron, increase Concerta to 36 mg, and add 50 mg of Zoloft.<sup>4</sup>
- 11. On or about October 30, 2019, Patient A and his mother saw Respondent for another follow-up appointment. Patient A reported experiencing verbal temper outbursts, irritability, depressed mood, fatigue, difficulty sleeping, and anxious distress. Respondent noted a change in Patient A's diagnoses to add bipolar disorder. His treatment plan was to continue Remeron and discontinue Zoloft and Concerta. Respondent also added 50 to 100 mg of Seroquel,<sup>5</sup> and 1 mg of Risperdal.<sup>6</sup> both taken at bedtime.
- 12. On or about October 30, 2019, in a separate medical record, Respondent signed a document that stated that he recommended that Patient A take Remeron, Seroquel, and Risperdal. According to the form, the medications were to treat Patient A's symptoms associated with depression, insomnia, and bipolar disorder.
- Respondent. Patient A reported to S.K., M.D., that there was difficulty in filling the prescriptions for Seroquel and Risperdal and that the medications were finally started two days prior. After starting Seroquel and Risperdal, Patient A experienced severe nasal congestion disrupting sleep and swollen hands. S.K., M.D., also noted that Patient A had a history of early exposure to domestic violence, physical abuse by family members, sexual molestation by an older child, and bullying at school. S.K., M.D., discontinued Remeron, Seroquel, and Risperdal, and prescribed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Zoloft, brand name for sertraline, is a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) and an anti-depressant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Seroquel, brand name for quetiapine, is an anti-psychotic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Rispderdal, brand name for risperidone, is an anti-psychotic.

clonidine<sup>7</sup> for insomnia with consideration to add an anti-depressant in the future.

- 14. Respondent committed gross negligence in his care and treatment of Patient A which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - a. Respondent prescribed psychotropic medication to Patient A without adhering to the ethical principles of beneficence and nonmaleficence by prescribing and changing multiple psychotropic medications over a short period of time without substantiating Patient A's diagnoses;
  - b. Respondent prescribed Patient A a stimulant medication without consideration for Patient A's past and current physical health;
  - c. Respondent failed to follow consensus guidelines for the safe initiation and monitoring for adverse effects when prescribing antipsychotic medications to Patient A; and
  - d. Respondent initiated two antipsychotic medications simultaneously in Patient A's treatment without valid justification.

## Patient B

15. On or about October 9, 2019, Patient B presented to Respondent for an hour-long appointment. Patient B, a 16-year-old female, presented to Respondent with depressed mood and anxiety. Patient B had a family history of bipolar depression, a personal history of depression, anxiety, two psychiatric hospitalizations in 2017 and March 2019, and a history of self-harm. Patient B had previously tried Adderall<sup>8</sup> and Concerta which were unhelpful. Patient B's current medications included 300 mg of Wellbutrin XR, <sup>9</sup> 5 mg of Abilify, <sup>10</sup> 100 mg of Neurontin. <sup>11</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Clonidine is a sedative and anti-hypertensive drug.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Adderall, brand name for mixed amphetamine salts, is a stimulant and a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (d).

<sup>9</sup> Wellbutrin XR, brand name buproprion, is an anti-depressant.

<sup>10</sup> Abilify, brand name for aripiprazole, is an anti-psychotic.

<sup>11</sup> Neurontin, brand name for gabapentin, is an anti-convulsant and nerve pain medication.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Trileptal, brand name oxcarbazepine, is an anti-convulsant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Invega, brand name for paliperidone, is an anti-psychotic.

# SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Repeated Negligent Acts)

25.

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18. Respondent has further subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate
No. G 56023 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2234,
subdivision (c), of the Code, in that he committed repeated negligent acts in his care and
treatment of Patient A and Patient B, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 8 through 17,
above, which are hereby incorporated by reference and re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.

## **PRAYER**

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

- 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 56023, issued to Respondent Aubrey Ancil King, M.D.;
- 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Aubrey Ancil King, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;
- 3. Ordering Respondent Aubrey Ancil King, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring; and
  - 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: NOV 0 9 2022

Executive Director

Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant