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

In the Matter of the First Amended **Accusation Against:** 

Joseph Lochinvar Dinglasan, Sr., M.D.

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 32988

Respondent.

Case No.: 800-2019-056706

#### **DECISION**

The attached Stipulated Settlement 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 February 16, 2024.

IT IS SO ORDERED: January 19, 2024.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Laurie Rose Lubiano, J.D., Chair

Panel A

1	ROB BONTA		
2	Attorney General of California  JUDITH T. ALVARADO		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General REBECCA L. SMITH Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 179733 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6475 Facsimile: (916) 731-2117 Attorneys for Complainant		
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8	BEFORE THE  MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
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10	STATE OF C.	ALIFORNIA	
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12	In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-056706	
13	JOSEPH LOCHINVAR DINGLASAN, SR., M.D. 709 Bowcreek Drive	OAH No. 2022080822	
14		STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
15	Diamond Bar, CA 91765-1885		
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 32988,		
17	Respondent.		
18 19			
20	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
21	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
22	PARTIES		
23	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of		
24	California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this		
25	matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Rebecca L. Smith, Deputy		
26	Attorney General.		
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28	///		
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- 2. Joseph Lochinvar Dinglasan, Sr., M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Henry R. Fenton, whose address is 1990 South Bundy Drive, Suite 777, Los Angeles, California 90025.
- 3. On or about March 17, 2018, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 32988 to Respondent. The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-056706, and will expire on July 31, 2025, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 4. First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-056706 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The First Amended Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on May 23, 2023. Respondent filed his Notice of Defense contesting the First Amended Accusation.
- 5. A copy of First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-056706 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 First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-056706. 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 First Amended 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 understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-056706, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.
- 10. Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a prima facie case with respect to the charges and allegations in First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-056706, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, and that he has thereby subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate, No. A 32988 to disciplinary action.
- 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.
- 13. 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 First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-056706 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.

- 14. 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.
- 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. A 32988 issued to Respondent Joseph Lochinvar Dinglasan, Sr., M.D. is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions:

1. <u>CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - TOTAL RESTRICTION</u>. Respondent shall not order, prescribe, dispense, administer, furnish, or possess any controlled substances as defined in the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act.

Respondent shall not issue an oral or written recommendation or approval to a patient or a patient's primary caregiver for the possession or cultivation of marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section 11362.5.

If Respondent forms the medical opinion, after an appropriate prior examination and a medical indication, that a patient's medical condition may benefit from the use of marijuana, Respondent shall so inform the patient and shall refer the patient to another physician who, following an appropriate prior examination and a medical indication, may independently issue a medically appropriate recommendation or approval for the possession or cultivation of marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section 11362.5. In addition, Respondent shall inform the patient or the patient's primary caregiver that Respondent is prohibited from issuing a recommendation or approval for the possession or cultivation of marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient and that the patient or the patient's primary caregiver may not rely on Respondent's statements to legally possess or cultivate marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient. Respondent shall

fully document in the patient's chart that the patient or the patient's primary caregiver was so informed. Nothing in this condition prohibits Respondent from providing the patient or the patient's primary caregiver information about the possible medical benefits resulting from the use of marijuana.

- 2. <u>CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES SURRENDER OF DEA PERMIT</u>. Respondent is prohibited from practicing medicine until Respondent provides documentary proof to the Board or its designee that Respondent's DEA permit has been surrendered to the Drug Enforcement Administration for cancellation, together with any state prescription forms and all controlled substances order forms. Thereafter, Respondent shall not reapply for a new DEA permit without the prior written consent of the Board or its designee.
- 3. <u>EDUCATION COURSE</u>. Within sixty (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 forty (40) 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 sixty-five (65) hours of CME of which forty (40) hours were in satisfaction of this condition.
- 4. PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE). Within sixty (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 First Amended 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 fifteen (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. MONITORING - PRACTICE. Within thirty (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 and First Amended Accusation, and a proposed monitoring plan. Within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the Decision, First Amended Accusation, and proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a signed statement that the monitor has read the Decision and First Amended Accusation, 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 sixty (60) calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and continuing

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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 sixty (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 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 ten (10) calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, Respondent shall, within five (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 fifteen (15) calendar days. If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a replacement monitor within sixty (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.

6. PROHIBITED PRACTICE. During probation, Respondent is prohibited from serving as a Medical Director at any medical spas or any medical spa-like facilities not one-hundred percent (100%) owned by Respondent. During probation, Respondent shall limit his practice of medicine to two locations and maintain all necessary licenses and permits. After the effective date of this Decision, all patients being treated by Respondent shall be notified that Respondent is prohibited from serving as a Medical Director at any medical spas or any medical spa-like facilities not one-hundred percent (100%) owned by Respondent. Any new patients must be provided this notification at the time of their initial appointment.

Respondent shall maintain a log of all patients to whom the required oral notification was made. The log shall contain the: 1) patient's name, address and phone number; 2) patient's medical record number, if available; 3) the full name of the person making the notification; 4) the date the notification was made; and 5) a description of the notification given. Respondent shall keep this log in a separate file or ledger, in chronological order, shall make the log available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises at all times during business hours by the Board or its designee, and shall retain the log for the entire term of probation.

7. NOTIFICATION. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and First Amended 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>SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND ADVANCED PRACTICE</u>

  <u>NURSES.</u> During probation, Respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses.
  - 9. <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.

10. <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, and investigations, as applicable, in the amount of \$73,379.00 (seventy-three thousand three hundred seventy-nine dollars and no 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 thirty (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.

11. <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 ten (10) calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

#### 12. 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 thirty (30) calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

- 13. <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.
- 14. NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than thirty (30) calendar days and within fifteen (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 forty (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 eighteen (18) calendar months, Respondent shall successfully complete the Federation of State Medical Boards' 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.

- 15. <u>COMPLETION OF PROBATION</u>. Respondent shall comply with all financial obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than one hundred twenty (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.
- 16. <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

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be extended until the matter is final.

- LICENSE SURRENDER. 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 fifteen (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.
- PROBATION MONITORING COSTS. 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.
- FUTURE ADMISSIONS CLAUSE. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for 19. 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 First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-056706 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.

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#### ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Henry R. Fenton. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will

have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and 4 Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the 5 Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California. 6 Ť 11/09/23 DATED: 8 Respondent 10 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Joseph Lochinvar Dinglasan, Sr., M.D. the 11 terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and 12 Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content. 13 14 15 Attorney for Respondent 16 **ENDORSEMENT** 17 The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully 18

submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA Attorney General of California JUDITH T. ALVARADO Supervising Deputy Attorney General

Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant

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1	ROB BONTA	
2	Attorney General of California JUDITH T. ALVARADO Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General REBECCA L. SMITH	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 179733	
5	300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013	
6	Telephone: (213) 269-6475 Facsimile: (916) 731-2117	
7	Attorneys for Complainant	
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10	STATE OF C.	ALIFORNIA
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14		
15	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 32988,	
16	Respondent.	
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19	PARTIES	
20	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) brings this First Amended Accusation solely in his	
21	official capacity as the Interim Executive Director of the Medical Board of California,	
22	Department of Consumer Affairs (Board).	
23	2. On or about March 17, 2018, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate	
24	Number A 32988 to Joseph Lochinvar Dinglasan, Sr., M.D. (Respondent). That license was in	
25	full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31	
26	2023, unless renewed.	
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(JOSEPH LOCHINVAR DINGLASAN, SR., M.D.) FIRST AMENDED ACCUSATION NO. 800-2019-056706

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#### JURISDICTION

- 3. This First Amended 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

damages in excess of a cumulative total of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) with respect to any claim that injury or damage was proximately caused by the physician's and surgeon's error, negligence, or omission.

- (c) Investigating the nature and causes of injuries from cases which shall be reported of a high number of judgments, settlements, or arbitration awards against a physician and surgeon.
- 6. Section 2227 of the Code states:
- (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.
- (b) Any matter heard pursuant to subdivision (a), except for warning letters, medical review or advisory conferences, professional competency examinations, continuing education activities, and cost reimbursement associated therewith that are agreed to with the board and successfully completed by the licensee, or other matters made confidential or privileged by existing law, is deemed public, and shall be made available to the public by the board pursuant to Section 803.1.

#### STATUTORY PROVISIONS

#### 7. 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.
  - (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 not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.
  - (d) Incompetence.
- (e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
  - (f) Any action or conduct that would have warranted the denial of a certificate.
- (g) The failure by a certificate holder, in the absence of good cause, to attend and participate in an interview by the board. This subdivision shall only apply to a certificate holder who is the subject of an investigation by the board.

#### 8. Section 2051 of the Code states:

The physician's and surgeon's certificate authorizes the holder to use drugs or devices in or upon human beings and to sever or penetrate the tissues of human beings and to use any and all other methods in the treatment of diseases, injuries, deformities, and other physical and mental conditions.

#### 9. Section 2052 of the Code states:

- (a) Notwithstanding Section 146, any person who practices or attempts to practice, or who advertises or holds himself or herself out as practicing, any system or mode of treating the sick or afflicted in this state, or who diagnoses, treats, operates for, or prescribes for any ailment, blemish, deformity, disease, disfigurement, disorder, injury, or other physical or mental condition of any person, without having at the time of so doing a valid, unrevoked, or unsuspended certificate as provided in this chapter or without being authorized to perform the act pursuant to a certificate obtained in accordance with some other provision of law is guilty of a public offense, punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code, by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both the fine and either imprisonment.
- (b) Any person who conspires with or aids or abets another to commit any act described in subdivision (a) is guilty of a public offense, subject to the punishment described in that subdivision.
- (c) The remedy provided in this section shall not preclude any other remedy provided by law.

#### 10. Section 2264 of the Code states:

The employing, directly or indirectly, the aiding, or the abetting of any unlicensed person or any suspended, revoked, or unlicensed practitioner to engage in the practice of medicine or any other mode of treating the sick or afflicted which requires a license to practice constitutes unprofessional conduct.

#### 11. Section 2286 of the Code states:

It shall constitute unprofessional conduct for any licensee to violate, to attempt to violate, directly or indirectly, to assist in or abet the violation of, or to conspire to violate any provision or term of Article 18 (commencing with Section 2400), of the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act (Part 4 commencing with Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code), or of any rules and regulations duly adopted under those laws.

#### 12. Section 2400 of the Code states:

Corporations and other artificial legal entities shall have no professional rights, privileges, or powers. However, the Division of Licensing may in its discretion, after such investigation and review of such documentary evidence as it may require, and under regulations adopted by it, grant approval of the employment of licensees on a salary basis by licensed charitable institutions, foundations, or clinics, if no charge for professional services rendered patients is made by any such institution, foundation, or clinic.

#### 13. Section 2407 of the Code states:

A medical or podiatry corporation shall be subject to the provisions of Sections 2285 and 2415.

#### 14. Section 2408 of the Code states:

Except as provided in Sections 13401.5 and 13403 of the Corporations Code, each shareholder, director and officer of a medical or podiatry corporation, except an assistant secretary or an assistant treasurer, shall be a licensed person as defined in Section 13401 of the Corporations Code.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section or Sections 13401.5, 13403, 13406, and 13407 of the Corporations Code, a shareholder of a medical corporation which renders professional services may be a medical corporation which has only one shareholder who shall be a licensed person as defined in Section 13401 of the Corporations Code. The shareholder of the latter corporation may be an officer or director of the former corporation.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting a nonlicensed person from using the business titles of executive vice president, chief executive officer, executive secretary, or any other title denoting an administrative function within the professional corporation.

#### 15. Section 2410 of the Code, states:

A medical or podiatry corporation shall not do or fail to do any act the doing of which or the failure to do which would constitute unprofessional conduct under any statute or regulation now or hereafter in effect. In the conduct of its practice, it shall observe and be bound by such statutes and regulations to the same extent as a licensee under this chapter.

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- (a) Any physician and surgeon or any doctor of podiatric medicine, as the case may be, who as a sole proprietor, or in a partnership, group, or professional corporation, desires to practice under any name that would otherwise be a violation of Section 2285 may practice under that name if the proprietor, partnership, group, or corporation obtains and maintains in current status a fictitious-name permit issued by the Division of Licensing, or, in the case of doctors of podiatric medicine, the California Board of Podiatric Medicine, under the provisions of this section.
- (b) The division or the board shall issue a fictitious-name permit authorizing the holder thereof to use the name specified in the permit in connection with his, her, or its practice if the division or the board finds to its satisfaction that:
- (1) The applicant or applicants or shareholders of the professional corporation hold valid and current licenses as physicians and surgeons or doctors of podiatric medicine, as the case may be.
- (2) The professional practice of the applicant or applicants is wholly owned and entirely controlled by the applicant or applicants.
- (3) The name under which the applicant or applicants propose to practice is not deceptive, misleading, or confusing.
- (c) Each permit shall be accompanied by a notice that shall be displayed in a location readily visible to patients and staff. The notice shall be displayed at each place of business identified in the permit.
- (d) This section shall not apply to licensees who contract with, are employed by, or are on the staff of, any clinic licensed by the State Department of Health Services under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1200) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code or any medical school approved by the division or a faculty practice plan connected with that medical school.
- (e) Fictitious-name permits issued under this section shall be subject to Article 19 (commencing with Section 2421) pertaining to renewal of licenses.
- (f) The division or the board may revoke or suspend any permit issued if it finds that the holder or holders of the permit are not in compliance with the provisions of this section or any regulations adopted pursuant to this section. A proceeding to revoke or suspend a fictitious-name permit shall be conducted in accordance with Section 2230.
- (g) A fictitious-name permit issued to any licensee in a sole practice is automatically revoked in the event the licensee's certificate to practice medicine or podiatric medicine is revoked.
- (h) The division or the board may delegate to the executive director, or to another official of the board, its authority to review and approve applications for fictitious-name permits and to issue those permits.
- (i) The California Board of Podiatric Medicine shall administer and enforce this section as to doctors of podiatric medicine and shall adopt and administer regulations specifying appropriate podiatric medical name designations.

clinical social worker, marriage, family and child counselor, chiropractor or registered nurse may be a shareholder, director or officer of a medical corporation so long as such licensed persons own no more than 49% of the total shares issued by the medical corporation and the number of licensed persons owning shares in the medical corporation does not exceed the number of physicians owning shares in such a corporation, and a licensed physician may be a shareholder, director or officer of a podiatry corporation so long as such physician owns no more than 49% of the total shares issued by the podiatry corporation and the number of licensed physicians owning shares in the podiatry corporation does not exceed the number of podiatrists owning shares in such a corporation. A physician, psychologist, optometrist and registered nurse may also be a shareholder, director or officer in a podiatry corporation subject to the same numerical restrictions.

- (c) Each professional employee of the corporation who will practice medicine, podiatry, psychology, optometry, clinical social work, marriage, family and child counselling, chiropractic or nursing, whether or not a director, officer or shareholder, holds a valid license.
- (d) A physician and surgeon or podiatrist may be a shareholder, officer or director in more than one professional corporation.
- 22. California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1344 states as follows:
- (a) Unless a fictitious name permit is obtained pursuant to Section 2415 of the code, the name of a professional corporation shall be restricted to the name or surname of one or more of the present prospective or former shareholders who are physicians or podiatrists, as the case may be, for a medical or podiatry corporation.
- (b) When the applicant uses any fictitious, false or assumed name or any name other than the name or surname of one or more of the present, prospective or former shareholders, or any other words or names in addition to those of the shareholders, it shall obtain a permit pursuant to Section 2415 of the code. The fee required in Section 1352 shall accompany the fictitious name permit application.
- (c) A professional corporation with a majority of physicians and surgeons as shareholders, officers and directors shall not use the designations "Podiatry Corporation" or "Podiatry Corp." A corporation with a majority of podiatrists as shareholders, officers and directors shall not use the designation "Medical Corporation" or "Medical Corp."
- 23. California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1347 states as follows:
- (a) A professional corporation may perform any act authorized in its articles of incorporation or bylaws so long as that act is not in conflict with or prohibited by the Medical Practice Act, and where applicable the Psychology Licensing Law, the Optometry law, Physician Assistants Practice Act, the social worker licensing law and the marriage, family and child counselor licensing law or the Nursing Practice Act in the case of a corporation which has a licensed psychologist, optometrist or registered nurse as a shareholder, director or officer, or the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
- (b) A professional medical or podiatry corporation may enter into partnership agreements with other physicians and surgeons or podiatrists, as the case may be, practicing individually or in a group or with other medical or podiatry corporations.

symptoms of anxiety. It is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(1), and is a dangerous drug as defined in Code section 4022.

"Oxycodone" is an opioid analgesic medication that has a high potential for abuse. Oxycodone is commonly prescribed for moderate to severe chronic pain. It is a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(M), and a dangerous drug as defined in Code section 4022.

"Promethazine with codeine" is a cough syrup containing an antihistamine and opioid. It is a Schedule V controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11058, subdivision (c)(1), and is a dangerous drug as defined in Code section 4022.

## FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Aiding and Abetting Unlicensed Practice of Medicine)

- 29. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section 2264, subdivision (a), as defined by section 2052, subdivision (b) of the Code, and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1360, in that he aided and abetted the unlicensed practice of medicine. The circumstances are as follows:
- 30. During all times relevant to this First Amended Accusation, Respondent was the Medical Director of Eben Ezer Medical Clinic, a medical spa-like facility located at 21026 Golden Spring Drive in Diamond Bar, California 91789. K.S. (also known as M.K.) was the owner of Eben Ezer Medical Clinic. K.S. paid Respondent one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per month to serve as Medical Director of Eben Ezer Medical Clinic.
- 31. On or about August 13, 2021, J.L. and V.M., investigators with the Department of Consumer Affairs, Division of Investigations, Health Quality Investigation Unit (HQIU) performed an undercover operation (U.C.) wherein they visited Eben Ezer Medical Clinic to inquire about laser tattoo removal for V.M. The receptionist, who spoke little English, called K.S. on the phone and gave the phone to V.M. for a discussion. On the phone, V.M. stated to K.S. that she wanted to have a tattoo removed. K.S. asked V.M. to return for a consultation.
- 32. On or about August 26, 2021, J.L. and V.M. returned to Eben Ezer Medical Clinic. The receptionist told J.L. and V.M. that K.S. was not in the office. The receptionist called K.S. K.S. then spoke on the phone with V.M. K.S. told V.M. that she had not removed color tattoos

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before but would be willing to try. An appointment was scheduled for September 16, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. for consultation and treatment.

- 33. On or about September 16, 2021, V.M. called Eben Ezer Medical Clinic and rescheduled her appointment for September 30, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.
- 34. On or about September 30, 2021, J.L. and V.M. presented to Eben Ezer Medical Clinic for V.M.'s scheduled appointment with K.S. V.M. was provided with a patient information sheet to complete. Thereafter, K.S. took J.L. and V.M. into the consultation office to discuss the desired treatment, the price, and V.M.'s medical history. K.S. stated that the laser tattoo procedure would take approximately five treatments and cost \$150.00 per treatment. K.S. gave V.M. several documents to sign, including a Payment Policy form, a Physician-Patient Arbitration Agreement form, a Consent for Laser/Light Based Treatment form and Q-ny laser Care Instructions. K.S. explained the laser procedure to V.M. and J.L. K.S. stated that she would take a picture of the tattoo, apply a topical lidocaine on the targeted area, and proceed with the treatment. Following the consultation regarding the procedure, K.S. took V.M. and J.L. to "Laser Room 1." V.M. was not seen by Respondent or any physician or health care provider.
- 35. Once in "Laser Room 1," K.S. turned the machine on and prepared the laser attachments. She had topical lidocaine cream ready to apply on V.M. V.M. then asked K.S. to show her how the machine operated. K.S. explained that the laser would target the ink on V.M.'s skin and demonstrated it on herself. As K.S. was about to apply the topical lidocaine cream to V.M, J.L. instructed K.S. to stop and identified himself and V.M. as peace officers of the State of California. V.M. signaled to investigators waiting outside the building to come inside and assist. J.L. asked K.S. if she had a medical license in the state of California. K.S. responded that she did not have a medical license. In addition, J.L. then confirmed with K.S. that she was not licensed as a nurse practitioner, registered nurse or physician assistant. J.L. then placed K.S. under arrest for the unlicensed practice of medicine in violation of Business and Professions Code section 2052, subdivision (a).

- 36. The investigators confiscated the following items from "Laser Room 1:"
  - Respondent's Prescription No. 100965 of Lidocaine 23% / Tetracaine 7%
     Cream, Lot No. 112320@21, with an expiration date of May 23, 2021;
  - Two keys to LaserOptek Machine with two paper attachments;
  - Three LaserOptek attachments; and
  - Medical records of V.M.
- 37. At the time of transport to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Walnut Station, K.S. stated to J.L. and V.M. that Respondent trained her on the use of the laser and that he authorized her to use the laser for treatment.
- 38. Respondent aided and abetted the unlicensed practice of medicine by permitting K.S. to evaluate, recommend, and render treatment to V.M.
- 39. Respondent's acts and/or omissions set forth in paragraphs 30 through 38 above, whether proven individually, jointly, or in any combination thereof, constitute aiding and/or abetting of any unlicensed person to engage in the practice of medicine in violation of section 2264, as defined by section 2052, subdivision (b), of the Code, and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1360. Therefore, cause for discipline exists.

## SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Unprofessional Conduct)

- 40. By reason of the facts set forth in paragraph 30 through 39 above, Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Section 2234, subdivision (a), of the Code in that Respondent has engaged in unprofessional conduct by aiding and/or abetting unlicensed persons to engage in the practice of medicine or any other mode of treating the sick or afflicted, which requires a license to practice.
- 41. Respondent's acts and/or omissions as set forth in paragraphs 30 through 40 above, whether proven individually, jointly, or in any combination thereof, constitute Respondent's unprofessional conduct based upon his aiding and/or abetting unlicensed persons to engage in the practice of medicine or any other mode of treating the sick or afflicted, which requires a license to practice, pursuant to Section 2234, subdivision (a), of the Code.

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#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Participation and/or Affiliation with Medical Corporations Founded, Structured, Controlled, and/or Operated in Violation of the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act)

42. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under California Business and Professions Code section 2286; California Corporations Code section 13401; and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, sections 1344, subdivision (a), and 1347, subdivision (a), in that he participated and/or affiliated with medical corporations that were founded, structured, controlled, and/or operated in violation of rules and regulations related to the corporate practice of medicine by acting as medical director and facilitating the control and operation of medical spas by non-physicians and unlicensed persons. The circumstances are as follows:

## SUPREME BEAUTY LIFE AND SUPREME MEDICAL SPA:

43. On or about July 14, 2022, the Board received a complaint that Respondent was renting his medical license to Supreme Beauty Life / Orient Retreat Spa and being paid three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per month for use of his medical license. The complaint also stated that an unlicensed individual was performing laser procedures.

## Corporation and Licensing Information for Supreme Beauty Life:

- 44. Supreme Beauty Life is a California Corporation that performs spa services. The Statement of Information for Supreme Beauty Life filed with the California Secretary of State on March 18, 2022, reflects a principal address of 4970 Irvine Boulevard, Suite 101, Irvine, California 92620. Lina Tang was designated as chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and Director. Qingchuan Fei was designated as the secretary. Lina Tang and Qingchuan Fei are not licensed health care providers.
- 45. The Board of Barbering and Cosmetology issued a license to Supreme Beauty Life on November 10, 2022. Lina Tang was noted to be the chief executive officer and chief financial officer. Qingchuan Fei was noted to be the secretary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The previous Statement of Information filed with the California Secretary of State on November 16, 2021, had the principal address for the corporation as 4980 Barranca Parkway, Suite 170, Irvine, California 92604. The remainder of the corporate information was the same as that filed on March 18, 2022.

### Business Information for Orient Retreat Spa Irvine:

46. Orient Retreat Spa Irvine, a facial and body treatment spa, is a limited liability company registered with the California Secretary of State. The registration documents reflect the same principal address as Supreme Beauty Life and Lina Tang is named as manager and chief executive officer.

## Business and Corporate Information for Supreme Medical Spa:

- 47. On February 2, 2022, Supreme Medical Spa, located at 4970 Irvine Boulevard, Suite 101, Irvine, California 92620, was issued a business license by the City of Irvine. Respondent was noted to be the contact person and the business description was "medical spa procedures performed by doctors and physicians."<sup>2</sup>
- 48. Supreme Medical Spa, a medical spa, was a California Corporation.<sup>3</sup> On May 6, 2022, the Statement of Information for Supreme Medical Spa filed with the California Secretary of State, reflects a principal address of 4970 Irvine Boulevard, Suite 101, Irvine, California 92620, the same address as Supreme Beauty Life and Orient Retreat Spa Irvine. Respondent was designated as the chief executive officer and a director. Jiing T. Wang was designated as the secretary, chief financial officer, and a director.<sup>4</sup>

# Management Services Organization Agreement between Supreme Beauty Life and Supreme Medical Spa:

49. On or about April 4, 2022, Respondent executed a Management Services
Organization Agreement on behalf of Supreme Medical Spa whereby Supreme Beauty Life was
to manage the medical practices and provide administrative and management services to Supreme
Medical Spa. The agreement set forth that Supreme Medical Spa was to be solely responsible for
the medical diagnostic, therapeutic, and related professionals services delivered and for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The previous City of Irvine business license for Supreme Medical Spa was for the 4980 Barranca Parkway, Suite 170, Irvine, California 92604 location.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Respondent dissolved Supreme Medical Spa Corporation on December 10, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The previous Statement of Information filed with the California Secretary of State on June 30, 2021, had the principal address for the corporation as 4980 Barranca Parkway, Suite 170, Irvine, California 92604. The remainder of the corporate information was the same as that filed on May 6, 2022.

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staff. The agreement further set forth that in consideration of Supreme Beauty Life providing the premises, the supplies, the administrative and management services, the services of the staff, and licensing of equipment and furnishings, Supreme Medical Spa was to pay Supreme Beauty Life management fees. Medical records were deemed property of Supreme Medical Spa and all business records and information relating to the business and activities of Supreme Beauty Life and Supreme Medical Spa were agreed to be the property of Supreme Beauty Life.

## Fictitious Name Permits:

50. No fictitious name permits were issued by the Board for Supreme Beauty Life, Orient Retreat Spa, or Supreme Medical Spa.

## Respondent's Involvement at Supreme Beauty Life and Supreme Medical Spa:

On or about April 4, 2023, Respondent was interviewed by the Board regarding his involvement at Supreme Beauty Life and Supreme Medical Spa. Respondent stated that he was the medical director at Supreme Medical Spa for approximately three to six months in 2022. He stated that it was a high class med spa owned by a Chinese man and woman. The lady owner made his schedule. Respondent stated that while he was medical director, he would go to the facility once a week on Mondays. Respondent was paid by check and cash in the approximate amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) per month to be the medical director. Respondent did not invest in the business. Respondent did not have access to the bank accounts and he did not pay any employees or sign any checks. He did not have keys to the location. The owners made the decisions regarding equipment purchases and supplies. There was no delegation of services in place. Medical records were kept in a locked room by the owners. With respect to medications, Respondent's National Provider Identification (NPI) was used for ordering Botox. There were approximately 3 or 4 nurses that were hired by the owners. Supreme Medical Spa was managed by a nurse practitioner, whom Respondent did not know. Respondent did not perform consultations for new patients at Supreme Medical Spa. While Respondent worked at Supreme Medical Spa, injections were performed, including Botox, Juvederm, and Kybella. He stated that he did not perform any laser procedures and did not supervise any laser procedures, but believes

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that laser procedures were being performed there.

## Interview of Lina Tang, Chief Executive Officer of Supreme Beauty Life:

On or about March 7, 2023, HQIU Investigators C.S. and J.L. traveled to 4970 Irvine Boulevard, Irvine, California to interview Lina Tang. Inside the location, the Supreme Beauty Spa was to the right of the reception desk and the Med Spa was to the left of the reception desk. Ms. Tang stated that she was involved with the spa only, where massages and beauty treatments are offered. She stated that injections and medical procedures are not performed at the Supreme Beauty Spa. Ms. Tang stated that she has no knowledge of how the medical spa functions. She denied hiring any doctors or nurses or having any ownership of any medical spa. She suggested that Respondent be contacted to answer any questions regarding the medical spa. She stated that Respondent had limited attendance at the medical spa and Respondent's medical partner consulted with patients in person or by videoconference when Respondent was not available. Ms. Tang stated that she and her husband, Fei Qingchuan, hold the lease<sup>5</sup> and sublease to the medical spa.

## SECRET 21 SPA - SECRET 21 CORP.:

At the time of his interview with the Board, Respondent disclosed that he has been a consultant and medical director at Secret 21 Spa for approximately 2 years. He stated that he does not own the medical spa. He is paid \$1,000 a month by the owner, Linda Kim. Ms. Kim is not a health care provider. Respondent stated that he does not have control over the bank accounts and does not have a key for the location. Respondent stated that Ms. Kim does the hiring and orders all of the medical equipment for the location. There is one registered nurse that works at Secret 21 Spa. Respondent goes to the location once a week to sign and check the medical records. Secret 21 Spa uses Respondent's NPI to order medications.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ms. Tang provided the lease agreement between landlord Bcore Retail Northwood Town Center, LLC, assignor Orient Retreat Spa Irvine, LLC, and assignee Supreme Beauty Life for the premises located at 4970 Irvine Boulevard, Irvine, Suite 101-104, Irvine, California 92620. The lease agreement does not address Supreme Medical

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## Interview with Kate Houng Kim (Linda), Chief Executive Officer of Secret 21 Corp.:

- 54. On or about April 14, 2023, HQIU Investigator C.S. interviewed Kate Houg Kim (Linda) at Secret 21 Corp. Ms. Kim stated that she uses the name Linda. Ms. Kim stated that Respondent has been at Secret 21 for approximately one to two years. She does not have a written contract with Respondent. She stated that she has verbal agreements with Respondent but was unable to provide any specifics regarding the verbal agreements. She stated that she pays Respondent one hundred to six hundred dollars (\$100 to \$600) occasionally and that there is not a set monthly payment.
- 55. Ms. Kim stated she performs facials at Secret 21 and if a customer needs a medical procedure, she notifies Respondent. She stated that Respondent will then set up an appointment for a consultation with the patient. Ms. Kim stated that she sees Respondent once or twice every two or three months. She stated that most patients do not follow through with any procedures by Respondent. She stated that patients have complained to her that Respondent's hands shake and that they feel more comfortable with a younger doctor. She stated that she does not believe that Respondent performs any surgery and that he only performs Botox injections if and when a he has a patient who has agreed to be treated by him. Ms. Kim stated that there is occasionally a nurse at the location but she does not know where the nurse comes from. She believes that Respondent calls the nurse to the location. She does not know who supervises the nurse.

## Corporation Information for Secret 21 Corp.:

56. Secret 21 Corp. is a California Corporation located at 292 North Wilshire Avenue, Suite 1-3, Anaheim, California 92801. The Statement of Information for Secret 21 Corp. filed with the California Secretary of State on May 19, 2022, reflects that the business is a "medi spa service." Kate Hyoung Kim is designated as Secret 21 Corp.'s chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and director.

## Fictitious Name Permits:

57. No fictitious name permits were issued by the Board for Secret 21 Spa or Secret 21 Corp.

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58. Respondent's acts and/or omissions as set forth in paragraphs 42 through 57 above, whether proven individually, jointly, or in any combination thereof, constitute Respondent's participation in and/or affiliation with medical corporations that were founded, structured, controlled, and/or operated in violation of rules and regulations related to the corporate practice of medicine in violation of section 2286 of the Code; California Corporations Code section 13401; and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, sections 1344, subdivision (a), and 1347, subdivision (a).

#### FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Assisting in the Violation of Corporate Practice of Medicine Laws and Regulations)

59. By reason of the facts alleged above in Paragraphs 42 through 58, and the allegations contained in the Third Cause for Discipline, Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2286, 2234, subdivision (a), and 2410 of the Code, in that he acted as medical director and facilitated the control and operation of medical spas by non-physicians and unlicensed persons.

## FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Gross Negligence)

Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 2234, subdivision (b), 60. in that he engaged in gross negligence in the prescribing of controlled substances to Patients 1, 2, 3. and 4.6 The circumstances are as follows:

#### Patient 1:

61. On or about March 27, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 120 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) to Patient 1, a then 35-year-old female.<sup>7</sup> The MME was 180 mg per day. The prescription was filled by Patient 1 that same day at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> For privacy purposes, the patients in this First Amended Accusation are referred to as Patients 1, 2, 3, and ·4.

When a Board investigator requested Patients 1, 2, 3 and 4's medical records from Respondent, Respondent represented that he did not have any medical records for these patients.

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- 62. On or about June 7, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 90 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) to Patient 1. The MME was 135 mg per day. The prescription was filled by Patient 1 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about June 10, 2019.
- 63. The standard of care requires that when prescribing controlled substances, the prescribing physician must provide a safe initiation of the medication. Morphine milligram equivalents (MME), developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are values that represent the potency of an opioid dose relative to morphine. MME is intended to help clinicians make safe, appropriate decisions concerning opioid regimens. It is used as a gauge of the overdose potential of the amount of opioid prescribed. Higher dosages of opioids are associated with higher risk of overdose and death. Calculating the total daily dosage of opioids assists in minimizing the potential for prescription drug abuse/misuse and reducing the number of unintentional overdose deaths associated with pain medications. It is recommended that physicians proceed cautiously once the MME reaches 80 mg per day and to generally limit the MME to less than 90 MME per day.
- 64. Respondent committed an extreme departure from the standard of care in failing to safely prescribe controlled substances to Patient 1. The MME per day prescribed by Respondent was greater than 90 without any attempts to lower the MME or prescribe a different controlled substance with a lower MME if a controlled substance was absolutely necessary.

#### Patient 2:

- 65. On or about March 7, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 120 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) to Patient 2, a then 59-year-old male. The MME was 180 mg per day. The prescription was filled by Patient 2 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about March 8, 2019.
- 66. On or about April 8, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 120 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) to Patient 2. The MME was 180 mg per day. The prescriptions were filled by Patient 2 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about April 9, 2019.

- 67. On or about May 7, 2019, Respondent wrote a 22-day prescription for 90 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) and a 30-day prescription for 60 tablets of Carisoprodol (350 mg) to Patient 2. The MME for the Oxycodone was 135 mg per day. The prescriptions were filled by Patient 2 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about May 8, 2019.
- 68. On or about June 7, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 90 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) and a 30-day prescription for 60 tablets of Carisoprodol (350 mg) to Patient 2. The MME for the Oxycodone was 135 mg per day. The prescriptions were filled by Patient 2 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about June 10, 2019.
- 69. On or about July 7, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 90 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) and a 45-day prescription for 90 tablets of Carisoprodol (350 mg) to Patient 2. The MME for the Oxycodone was 135 mg per day. The prescriptions were filled by Patient 2 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about July 10, 2019.
- 70. Respondent committed an extreme departure from the standard of care in failing to safely prescribe controlled substances to Patient 2. The MME per day prescribed by Respondent was greater than 90 without any attempts to lower the MME or prescribe a different controlled substance with a lower MME if a controlled substance was absolutely necessary.

#### Patient 3:

- 71. On or about March 25, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 120 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) and a 30-day prescription for 60 tablets of Carisoprodol (350 mg) to Patient 3, a then 58-year-old male. The MME for the Oxycodone was 180 mg per day. The prescriptions were filled by Patient 3 that same day at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy.
- 72. On or about April 22, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 120 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) to Patient 3. The MME was 180 mg per day. The prescription was filled by Patient 3 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about April 29, 2019.
- 73. On or about May 29, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 90 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) and a 60-day prescription for 60 tablets of Valium (10 mg) to Patient 3. The MME for the Oxycodone was 135 mg per day. The prescriptions were filled that same day by Patient 3 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy.

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- 74. On or about September 23, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 90 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) to Patient 3. The MME was 135 mg per day. The prescription was filled by Patient 3 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about September 24, 2019.
- 75. On or about October 28, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 90 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) to Patient 3. The MME was 135 mg per day. The prescription was filled by Patient 3 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about November 1, 2019.
- 76. On or about November 25, 2019, Respondent wrote a 30-day prescription for 90 tablets of Oxycodone (30 mg) to Patient 3. The MME was 135 mg per day. The prescription was filled by Patient 3 at Woodland Hills Rx Pharmacy on or about December 2, 2019.
- 77. Respondent committed an extreme departure from the standard of care in failing to safely prescribe controlled substances to Patient 3. The MME per day prescribed by Respondent was greater than 90 without any attempts to lower the MME or prescribe a different controlled substance with a lower MME if a controlled substance was absolutely necessary.

#### Patient 4:

- 78. On or about March 8, 2022, Respondent surrendered his Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Certificate of Registration.
- 79. On or about April 12, 2022, Respondent wrote an electronic prescription for a 30-day supply of Promethazine-Codeine (6.25-10 mg/5 ml) oral solution to Patient 4, a then 29-year-old male. The prescription was filled by Patient 4 that same day at Wilshire La Jolla Pharmacy, Inc.
- 80. On or about May 26, 2022, Respondent wrote a prescription for a 12-day supply of Promethazine-Codeine (6.25-10 mg/5 ml) oral solution with 1 refill to Patient 4. The prescription was filled by Patient 4 that same day at Wilshire La Jolla Pharmacy, Inc.
- 81. On or about June 9, 2022, Respondent wrote a prescription for a 12-day supply of Promethazine-Codeine (6.25-10 mg/5 ml) oral solution with no refill to Patient 4. The prescription was filled by Patient 4 that same day at Wilshire La Jolla Pharmacy, Inc.
- 82. On or about July 8, 2022, Respondent wrote a prescription for a 12-day supply of Promethazine-Codeine (6.25-10 mg/5 ml) oral solution with 1 refill to Patient 4. The prescription was filled by Patient 4 that same day at Wilshire La Jolla Pharmacy, Inc.

- 83. The standard of care requires that when prescribing controlled substances, the prescribing physician have a valid and current DEA Certificate of Registration.
- 84. Respondent committed an extreme departure from the standard of care in prescribing Promethazine-Codeine to Patient 4 after he surrendered his DEA Certificate of Registration.
- 85. Respondent's acts and/or omissions set forth in paragraphs 62 through 84 above, whether proven individually, jointly, or in any combination thereof, constitute gross negligence in violation of section 2234, subdivision (b), of the Code. Therefore, cause for discipline exists.

## SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Repeated Negligent Acts)

- 86. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (c), of the Code, in that he engaged in repeated acts of negligence in the prescribing of controlled substances to Patients 1, 2, 3, and 4. The circumstances are as follows:
- 87. The allegations of the Fifth Cause for Discipline are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.
- 88. Each of the alleged acts of gross negligence set forth above in the Fifth Cause for Discipline is also a negligent act.

## SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Unprofessional Conduct - Failure to Cooperate in Board Investigation)

- 89. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (g), of the Code, in that he committed unprofessional conduct by failing to participate in the Board's interview during its investigation. The circumstances are as follows:
- 90. On September 8, 2022, Respondent was contacted by an HQIU investigator to schedule a Board interview relative to his care and treatment of Patients 1, 2, 3, and 4. On September 19, 2022, Respondent's attorney was contacted advising him of the request for an interview of Respondent at the Valencia field office. Respondent and his attorney would not agree to an interview being conducted at the Valencia field office.

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- On October 25, 2022, Respondent was personally served with an Investigational 91. Subpoena to Appear and Testify. That same day, a courtesy copy of the Investigational Subpoena was mailed to Respondent's attorney. On October 28, 2022, Respondent's attorney advised the investigator that Respondent will be asserting his 5th Amendment rights to all questions and would not attend the interview. Respondent did not appear for the interview.
- On March 13, 2023, Respondent was served with an Investigational Subpoena to 92. Appear and Testify by certified mail. That same day, a courtesy copy of the Investigational Subpoena was emailed to Respondent's attorney. On March 14, 2023, Respondent's attorney advised the investigator that Respondent asserts his Fifth Amendment privilege. Respondent did not appear for the interview.
- Respondent's acts and/or omissions as set forth in paragraphs 90 through 92, above, whether proven individually, jointly, or in any combination thereof, constitute unprofessional conduct by failing to participate in an interview by the Board during its investigation, pursuant to section 2234, subdivision (g), of the Code. Therefore, cause for discipline exists.

## 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:

- Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 32988, 1. issued to Respondent Joseph Lochinvar Dinglasan, Sr., M.D.;
- Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Joseph Lochinvar 2. Dinglasan, Sr., M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;
- Ordering Respondent Joseph Lochinvar Dinglasan, Sr., M.D., to pay the Board the 3. costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring; and

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3	MAY 2 3 2023  DATED:	JENNA JONES FOR
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