

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

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

MARNA LOU GEISLER, M.D.

**Physician's and Surgeon's
Certificate No. G 46927**

Respondent.

Case No. 800-2023-098449

DECISION

**The attached STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND ORDER
is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of
California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.**

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on April 2, 2024. IT

IS SO ORDERED March 26, 2024.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA



**Reji Varghese,
Executive Director**

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 JUDITH T. ALVARADO
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 MARSHA E. BARR-FERNANDEZ
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 200896
300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702
5 Los Angeles, CA 90013
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Attorneys for Complainant
7

8 **BEFORE THE**
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
10 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2023-098449

12 **MARNA LOU GEISLER, M.D.**
2990 South Sepulveda Blvd Ste 202
13 Los Angeles, CA 90064-3973

**STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
LICENSE AND ORDER**

14 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
15 **No. G 46927,**

16 Respondent.

17 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
18 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of
21 California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this
22 matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Marsha E. Barr-Fernandez,
23 Deputy Attorney General.

24 2. Marna Lou Geisler, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney
25 Tom McAndrews, whose address is: 1230 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 450, Manhattan Beach, CA
26 90266-2436.

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1 3. On or about February 1, 1982, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate
2 No. G 46927 to Respondent. That license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the
3 charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2023-098449 and will expire on May 31, 2025, unless
4 renewed.

5 **JURISDICTION**

6 4. Accusation No. 800-2023-098449 was filed before the Board, and is currently
7 pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were
8 properly served on Respondent. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2023-098449 is attached as
9 Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

10 **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

11 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the
12 charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2023-098449. Respondent also has carefully read,
13 fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License
14 and Order.

15 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a
16 hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine
17 the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right
18 to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of
19 documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other
20 rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

21 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and
22 every right set forth above.

23 **CULPABILITY**

24 8. Respondent understands that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2023-
25 098449, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon her Physician's and
26 Surgeon's Certificate.

27 9. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of
28 further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual

1 basis for the charges in the Accusation and that those charges constitute cause for discipline.
2 Respondent hereby gives up her right to contest that cause for discipline exists based on those
3 charges.

4 10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation she enables the Board to issue
5 an order accepting the surrender of her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate without further
6 process.

7 **RESERVATION**

8 11. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this
9 proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Medical Board of California or other
10 professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or
11 civil proceeding.

12 **CONTINGENCY**

13 12. Business and Professions Code section 2224, subdivision (b), provides, in pertinent
14 part, that the Medical Board "shall delegate to its executive director the authority to adopt a ...
15 stipulation for surrender of a license."

16 13. Respondent understands that, by signing this stipulation, she enables the Executive
17 Director of the Board to issue an order, on behalf of the Board, accepting the surrender of her
18 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 46927 without further notice to, or opportunity to be
19 heard by, Respondent.

20 14. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be subject to the
21 approval of the Executive Director on behalf of the Board. The parties agree that this Stipulated
22 Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be submitted to the Executive Director for his
23 consideration in the above-entitled matter and, further, that the Executive Director shall have a
24 reasonable period of time in which to consider and act on this Stipulated Surrender of License and
25 Disciplinary Order after receiving it. By signing this stipulation, Respondent fully understands
26 and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind this stipulation prior to the
27 time the Executive Director, on behalf of the Medical Board, considers and acts upon it.

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15. The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be null and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved and adopted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board, except for this paragraph, which shall remain in full force and effect. Respondent fully understands and agrees that in deciding whether to approve and adopt this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, the Executive Director and/or the Board may receive oral and written communications from its staff and/or the Attorney General's Office. Communications pursuant to this paragraph shall not disqualify the Executive Director, the Board, any member thereof, and/or any other person from future participation in this or any other matter affecting or involving Respondent. In the event that the Executive Director on behalf of the Board does not, in his discretion, approve and adopt this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, with the exception of this paragraph, it shall not become effective, shall be of no evidentiary value whatsoever, and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto. Respondent further agrees that should this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order be rejected for any reason by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board, Respondent will assert no claim that the Executive Director, the Board, or any member thereof, was prejudiced by its/his/her review, discussion and/or consideration of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order or of any matter or matters related hereto.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

16. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties in the above-entitled matter.

17. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License 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.

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

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 46927, issued to Respondent Marna Lou Geisler, M.D., is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

1. The surrender of Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.

2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a Physician and Surgeon in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.

3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board her pocket license and, if one was issued, her wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.

4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked or surrendered license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2023-098449 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

5. Respondent shall pay the agency its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$20,436.25 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.

6. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2023-098449 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

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1 ACCEPTANCE

2 I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully
3 discussed it with my attorney, Tom McAndrews. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will
4 have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of
5 License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the
6 Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

7
8 DATED: 1/31/2024



9 MARNA LOU GEISLER, M.D.
Respondent

10 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Marna Lou Geisler, M.D. the terms and
11 conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I
12 approve its form and content.

13 DATED: February 2, 2024



14 TOM MCANDREWS
Attorney for Respondent

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16 ENDORSEMENT

17 The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted
18 for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

19 DATED: February 2, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

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

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24 MARSHA E. BARR-FERNANDEZ
Deputy Attorney General
25 Attorneys for Complainant

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27 LA2023603689
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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2023-098449

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 JUDITH T. ALVARADO
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 MARSHA E. BARR-FERNANDEZ
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 200896
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8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
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11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2023-098449

13 **Marna Lou Geisler, M.D.**
2990 South Sepulveda Blvd Ste 202
Los Angeles, CA 90064-3973

A C C U S A T I O N

14 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
15 **No. G 46927,**

16 Respondent.

17 **PARTIES**

18 1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as
19 the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs
20 (Board).

21 2. On or about February 1, 1982, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate
22 Number G 46927 to Marna Lou Geisler, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's
23 Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will
24 expire on May 31, 2025, unless renewed.

25 **JURISDICTION**

26 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following
27 laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise
28 indicated.

1 4. Section 2004 of the Code states:

2 The board shall have the responsibility for the following:

3 (a) The enforcement of the disciplinary and criminal provisions of the Medical
4 Practice Act.

5 (b) The administration and hearing of disciplinary actions.

6 (c) Carrying out disciplinary actions appropriate to findings made by a panel or
an administrative law judge.

7 (d) Suspending, revoking, or otherwise limiting certificates after the conclusion
8 of disciplinary actions.

9 (e) Reviewing the quality of medical practice carried out by physician and
surgeon certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the board.

10 (f) Approving undergraduate and graduate medical education programs.

11 (g) Approving clinical clerkship and special programs and hospitals for the
12 programs in subdivision (f).

13 (h) Issuing licenses and certificates under the board's jurisdiction.

14 (i) Administering the board's continuing medical education program.

15 5. Section 2220 of the Code states:

16 Except as otherwise provided by law, the board may take action against all
17 persons guilty of violating this chapter. The board shall enforce and administer this
18 article as to physician and surgeon certificate holders, including those who hold
19 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:

20 (a) Investigating complaints from the public, from other licensees, from health
21 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.

22 (b) Investigating the circumstances of practice of any physician and surgeon
23 where there have been any judgments, settlements, or arbitration awards requiring the
24 physician and surgeon or his or her professional liability insurer to pay an amount in
25 damages in excess of a cumulative total of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) with
26 respect to any claim that injury or damage was proximately caused by the physician's
and surgeon's error, negligence, or omission.

27 (c) Investigating the nature and causes of injuries from cases which shall be
28 reported of a high number of judgments, settlements, or arbitration awards against a
physician and surgeon.

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1 (c) A certified copy of the actual costs, or a good faith estimate of costs where
2 actual costs are not available, signed by the entity bringing the proceeding or its
3 designated representative shall be prima facie evidence of reasonable costs of
investigation and prosecution of the case. The costs shall include the amount of
investigative and enforcement costs up to the date of the hearing, including, but not
limited to, charges imposed by the Attorney General.

4 (d) The administrative law judge shall make a proposed finding of the amount
5 of reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution of the case when requested
6 pursuant to subdivision (a). The finding of the administrative law judge with regard
7 to costs shall not be reviewable by the board to increase the cost award. The board
may reduce or eliminate the cost award, or remand to the administrative law judge if
the proposed decision fails to make a finding on costs requested pursuant to
subdivision (a).

8 (e) If an order for recovery of costs is made and timely payment is not made as
9 directed in the board's decision, the board may enforce the order for repayment in any
10 appropriate court. This right of enforcement shall be in addition to any other rights
the board may have as to any licensee to pay costs.

11 (f) In any action for recovery of costs, proof of the board's decision shall be
conclusive proof of the validity of the order of payment and the terms for payment.

12 (g) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the board shall not renew or
13 reinstate the license of any licensee who has failed to pay all of the costs ordered
under this section.

14 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the board may, in its discretion,
15 conditionally renew or reinstate for a maximum of one year the license of any
16 licensee who demonstrates financial hardship and who enters into a formal agreement
with the board to reimburse the board within that one-year period for the unpaid
costs.

17 (h) All costs recovered under this section shall be considered a reimbursement
18 for costs incurred and shall be deposited in the fund of the board recovering the costs
to be available upon appropriation by the Legislature.

19 (i) Nothing in this section shall preclude a board from including the recovery of
20 the costs of investigation and enforcement of a case in any stipulated settlement.

21 (j) This section does not apply to any board if a specific statutory provision in
22 that board's licensing act provides for recovery of costs in an administrative
disciplinary proceeding.

23 FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

24 12. On or about May 26, 2023 and June 5, 2023, the Board received complaints that
25 Respondent appeared to have a mental and/or physical illness which may be affecting her ability
26 to practice medicine safely. The Board initiated an investigation of Respondent based upon the
27 complaints.

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13. During the Board's investigation, it was determined that Respondent had been involved in an alcohol-related traffic accident in approximately February 2023. The Respondent underwent a three-week residential detoxification and treatment program in Los Angeles County in March 2023, and a two-week inpatient followed by a two-week residential alcohol and drug rehabilitation program in Riverside County in May and June 2023. It was also determined that beginning in July 2023, Respondent began participating in an intensive outpatient treatment program and attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.

14. As part of the Board's investigation, Respondent underwent a mental examination by a Board-appointed psychiatrist. Respondent reported that she had retired and had not seen patients since before her traffic accident, primarily because of vision problems, including cataracts, poor depth perception, and a hole in one retina, the combination of which make performing parts of the physical exam and driving difficult. Following a review of Respondent's medical records and completion of the mental examination, the Board-appointed psychiatrist concluded that Respondent suffers from a mental illness that impacts her ability to safely engage in the practice of medicine, to wit, Respondent meets the diagnostic criteria for alcohol use disorder.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Inability to Practice Medicine Safely Due to a Mental and/or Physical Illness)

15. Respondent Marna Lou Geisler, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under section 822 of the Code in that Respondent's ability to practice medicine safely is impaired due to mental and physical illness affecting competency. The circumstances are as follows:

16. The facts and allegations set forth in Paragraphs 12 through 14 above are incorporated herein as if fully set forth.

PRAAYER

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 Number G 46927,
issued to Respondent Marna Lou Geisler, M.D.;

1 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Marna Lou Geisler, M.D.'s
2 authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

3 3. Ordering Respondent Marna Lou Geisler, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of the
4 investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation
5 monitoring; and,

6 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

7
8 DATED: JAN 17 2024

JENNA JONES FOR

REJI VARGHESE
Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

13 LA2023603689