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

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2023-102986

12 **VENUS NAVARRO JULIAN, M.D.**
20011 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1002
13 Woodland Hills, CA 91364

**DEFAULT DECISION
AND ORDER**

[Gov. Code, §11520]

14 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
15 **No. A 41783,**

16 Respondent.

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19 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

20 1. On or about December 12, 2024, Complainant Reji Varghese, in his official capacity
21 as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs,
22 filed Accusation No. 800-2023-102986 against Venus Navarro Julian, M.D. (Respondent) before
23 the Medical Board of California.

24 2. On or about June 10, 1985, the Medical Board of California (Board) issued
25 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 41783 to Respondent. The Physician's and Surgeon's
26 Certificate expired on November 30, 2022, and has not been renewed. A copy of Respondent's
27 Certificate of Licensure is attached as **Exhibit A to the accompanying Evidence Packet.**

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1 3. Business and Professions Code section 118 states, in pertinent part:

2 (b) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license
3 issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by
4 order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written
5 consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed,
6 restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or
7 continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by
8 law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking
9 disciplinary action against the license on any such ground.

10 4. On or about December 12, 2024, Merlene Francis, an employee of the Complainant
11 Agency, served by Certified and First Class Mail a copy of the Accusation No. 800-2023-102986,
12 Statement to Respondent; Notice of Defense; Request for Discovery; and Discovery Statutes to
13 Respondent's address of record with the Board, which was and is 20011 Ventura Blvd., Suite
14 1002, Woodland Hills, CA 91364. A courtesy copy of the aforementioned documents was also
15 served by Certified and First Class Mail to Respondent's last known residence, which was and is
16 25861 Anderson Lane, Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381. A copy of the Accusation, the related
17 documents, and Declaration of Service are attached as **Exhibit B to the accompanying Evidence**
18 **Packet**, and are incorporated herein by reference.

19 5. On or about December 27, 2024, the aforementioned documents, served via Certified
20 Mail, were returned by the U.S. Postal Service marked "Return to Sender/Not Deliverable as
21 Addressed/Unable to Forward." On or about January 2, 2025, the aforementioned documents,
22 served via First Class Mail, were returned by the U.S. Postal Service marked "Return to
23 Sender/Unable to Forward." A copy of the envelopes returned by the post office are attached as
24 **Exhibit C to the accompanying Evidence Packet**. On or about January 8, 2025, the courtesy
25 copy, served on Respondent's residence, was marked by the U.S. Postal Service as
26 "Unclaimed/Return to Sender." A copy of the U.S. Postal Service Tracking History and a copy of
27 the envelope returned by the post office are attached as **Exhibit D to the accompanying**
28 **Evidence Packet**.

 6. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of
Government Code section 11505, subdivision (c).

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1 7. Government Code section 11506 states, in pertinent part:

2 (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent

3 files a notice of defense, and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts

4 of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall

 constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion

5 8. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon her of

6 the Accusation, and therefore waived her right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. 800-

7 2023-102986.

8 9. Additionally, on or about December 30, 2024, Respondent was sent a Courtesy

9 Notice of Default to her address of record, which included a copy of the Accusation and Notice of

10 Defense previously served on Respondent, advising her that if she failed to take action to file a

11 Notice of Defense by January 13, 2025, the Board would enter a Default Decision against her

12 license, which may be revoked without a hearing. (See **Exhibit E to the accompanying**

13 **Evidence Packet.**) The U.S. Postal Service attempted to deliver the Courtesy Notice of Default,

14 but the documents were forwarded. On or about January 13, 2025, the U.S. Postal Service

15 indicated that the forwarded documents were picked up at a postal facility by an individual. On

16 or around January 3, 2025, Respondent was also sent a Courtesy Notice of Default to her last

17 known address in Stevenson Ranch. The U.S. Postal Service attempted to deliver the Courtesy

18 Notice of Default to Respondent's last known address but indicated that service was refused on

19 January 6, 2025. On or around February 1, 2025, the U.S. Postal Service marked the documents

20 as "Unclaimed" and were returned to the sender. (See **Exhibit E to the accompanying Evidence**

21 **Packet.**)

22 10. Despite being served with the Accusation, and related documents, to her address of

23 record and her last known address, and being served with a Courtesy Notice of Default that

24 enclosed the Accusation and Notice of Defense form, Respondent failed to file a Notice of

25 Defense or give any notice to Complainant of her intent to contest the Accusation. **Exhibit F to**

26 **the accompanying Evidence Packet** is a declaration stating that no Notice of Defense has been

27 received or submitted.

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1 11. California Government Code section 11520 states, in pertinent part:

2 (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at the
3 hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express
4 admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence
without any notice to respondent.

5 12. **Exhibit G to the accompanying Evidence Packet** contains a Declaration of Morgan
6 Hawkins, M.D., declaring that Respondent failed to appear for her scheduled physical
7 examination. However, Dr. Hawkins declared that he reviewed materials regarding Respondent
8 and, based on his review, he found that Respondent has a physical illness that has impacted her
9 ability to practice safely.

10 13. **Exhibit H to the accompanying Evidence Packet** contains a Declaration of Robert
11 Feeley, M.D., declaring that Respondent failed to appear for her scheduled mental examination.

12 14. Section 125.3 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

13 (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, in any order issued in resolution of a
14 disciplinary proceeding before any board within the department or before the
15 Osteopathic Medical Board, upon request of the entity bringing the proceeding, the
16 administrative law judge may direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or
violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the
investigation and enforcement of the case.

17 15. **Exhibit I to the accompanying Evidence Packet** contains a Certification of Costs in
18 the amount of \$15,566.00 for the investigation and enforcement of the case. Based on the
19 Certification, the Board finds that the cost amount is reasonable.

20 16. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Board finds
21 Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further hearing and, based on
22 Respondent's express admissions by way of default and the evidence before it, contained in
23 Exhibits A through I, finds that the allegations in Accusation No. 800-2023-102986 are true.

24 **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

25 1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent VENUS NAVARRO JULIAN,
26 M.D. has subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 41783 to discipline.

27 2. A copy of the Accusation and the related documents and Declaration of Service are
28 attached here as Exhibit B.

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11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2023-102986

13 **VENUS NAVARRO JULIAN, M.D.**
20011 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1002
14 Woodland Hills, CA 91364

A C C U S A T I O N

15 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
No. A 41783,

16 Respondent.

17
18 **PARTIES**

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

22 2. On or about June 10, 1985, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's
23 Certificate Number A 41783 to Venus Navarro Julian, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and
24 Surgeon's Certificate expired on November 30, 2022, and has not been 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 118 of the Code states:

2 (a) The withdrawal of an application for a license after it has been filed with a
3 board in the department shall not, unless the board has consented in writing to such
4 withdrawal, deprive the board of its authority to institute or continue a proceeding
 against the applicant for the denial of the license upon any ground provided by law or
 to enter an order denying the license upon any such ground.

5 (b) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license
6 issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by
7 order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written
8 consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed,
9 restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or
 continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by
 law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking
 disciplinary action against the licensee on any such ground.

10 (c) As used in this section, "board" includes an individual who is authorized by
11 any provision of this code to issue, suspend, or revoke a license, and "license"
 includes "certificate," "registration," and "permit."

12 5. Section 2004 of the Code states:

13 The board shall have the responsibility for the following:

14 (a) The enforcement of the disciplinary and criminal provisions of the Medical
15 Practice Act.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

28 6. 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

1 certificates that do not permit them to practice medicine, such as, but not limited to,
2 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:

3 (a) Investigating complaints from the public, from other licensees, from health
4 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
5 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
6 shall otherwise provide timely disposition of the reports received pursuant to Section
805 and Section 805.01.

7 (b) Investigating the circumstances of practice of any physician and surgeon
where there have been any judgments, settlements, or arbitration awards requiring the
8 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
9 respect to any claim that injury or damage was proximately caused by the physician's
and surgeon's error, negligence, or omission.

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

12 STATUTORY PROVISIONS

13 7. Section 820 of the Code states:

14 Whenever it appears that any person holding a license, certificate or permit
15 under this division or under any initiative act referred to in this division may be
unable to practice his or her profession safely because the licentiate's ability to
16 practice is impaired due to mental illness, or physical illness affecting competency,
the licensing agency may order the licentiate to be examined by one or more
17 physicians and surgeons or psychologists designated by the agency. The report of the
examiners shall be made available to the licentiate and may be received as direct
18 evidence in proceedings conducted pursuant to Section 822.

19 8. Section 821 of the Code provides that the licentiate's failure to comply with an order
20 issued under section 820 shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the
21 licentiate's certificate or license.

22 COST RECOVERY

23 9. Section 125.3 of the Code states:

24 (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, in any order issued in resolution of a
25 disciplinary proceeding before any board within the department or before the
Osteopathic Medical Board, upon request of the entity bringing the proceeding, the
26 administrative law judge may direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or
violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the
27 investigation and enforcement of the case.

28 (b) In the case of a disciplined licensee that is a corporation or a partnership, the
order may be made against the licensed corporate entity or licensed partnership.

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
4 investigation and prosecution of the case. The costs shall include the amount of
5 investigative and enforcement costs up to the date of the hearing, including, but not
6 limited to, charges imposed by the Attorney General.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

10. On or about August 23, 2024, the Board issued an Order pursuant to Business and
Professions Code section 820 in Case No. 800-2023-102986, which required Respondent to
undergo mental and physical examinations, and to submit to biological testing, to determine
whether her ability to practice medicine safely is impaired due to a mental and/or physical illness.

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1 The Board's Order instructed that the mental and physical examinations shall be
2 conducted by September 23, 2024.

3 11. On or about September 3, 2024, Investigator J.L. contacted medical expert M.H.,
4 M.D. to perform a physical examination of Respondent. Dr. M.H. agreed to administer the
5 physical examination, to take place on September 23, 2024.

6 12. On or about September 5, 2024, Investigator J.L. contacted medical expert R.F., M.D.
7 to perform a mental examination of Respondent. Dr. R.F. agreed to administer the mental
8 examination virtually, to take place on September 19, 2024.

9 13. On or about September 10, 2024, Investigator J.L. sent Respondent a letter, by
10 certified and standard mail. The letter indicated that Respondent was scheduled to undergo a
11 physical examination on September 23, 2024, with Dr. M.H., and Respondent was scheduled to
12 undergo a virtual mental examination on September 19, 2024, with Dr. R.F. A copy of the
13 Board's Order compelling Respondent to undergo the examinations was included with the letter.

14 14. On or about September 25, 2024, Supervising Investigator E.C. contacted Drs. M.H.
15 and R.F. regarding their examinations of Respondent. Dr. M.H. indicated that Respondent failed
16 to show for her physical examination. Dr. R.F. indicated that Respondent failed to show for her
17 mental examination.

18 15. On or about September 26, 2024, Dr. M.H. submitted an expert report based on his
19 review of the case materials provided to him. Based on his review, Dr. M.H. found that
20 Respondent has a physical illness that has impacted her ability to practice safely. Dr. M.H.
21 recommended that Respondent undergo a mental health assessment to determine if she has a
22 concurrent mental illness. Dr. M.H. also indicated that it is unclear if oversight would benefit
23 Respondent since she failed to participate in the physical examination.

24 **CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

25 **(Failure to Obey Board Order Compelling Mental and Physical Examinations)**

26 16. By reasons of the facts set forth in paragraphs 10 through 15, above, Respondent is
27 subject to disciplinary action under Code section 821 in that Respondent failed to comply with an
28 order issued under Code section 820, by failing to undergo mental and physical examinations.

1 **PRAYER**

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

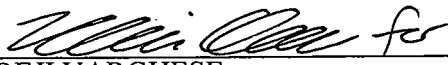
4 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 41783,
5 issued to Respondent Venus Navarro Julian, M.D.;

6 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Venus Navarro Julian,
7 M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

8 3. Ordering Respondent Venus Navarro Julian, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of the
9 investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation
10 monitoring; and

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

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13 DATED: DEC 12 2024


14 REJI VARGHESE
15 Executive Director
16 Medical Board of California
17 Department of Consumer Affairs
18 State of California
19 Complainant

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