

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

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

Michael Edward Gold, M.D.

**Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate
No. G 47870**

Case No.: 800-2023-096234

Respondent.

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 6, 2026.

IT IS SO ORDERED: January 7, 2026.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

 **MD.**

**Veling Tsai, M.D., Chair
Panel A**

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 ROBERT W. LINCOLN
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 316290
600 West Broadway, Suite 1800
5 San Diego, CA 92101
Telephone: (619) 738-9453
6 Facsimile: (916) 732-7920
E-mail: Robert.Lincoln@doj.ca.gov
7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

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

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

13 **MICHAEL EDWARD GOLD, M.D.**
2021 Santa Monica Blvd., #525E Santa
14 Monica, CA 90404

15 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.**
16 **G 47870**

Respondent.

Case No. 800-2023-096234

OAH No. 2025040845

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

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

20 **PARTIES**

21 1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of
22 California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this
23 matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Robert W. Lincoln, Deputy
24 Attorney General.

25 2. Respondent Michael Edward Gold, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this
26 proceeding by attorney Kevin D. Cauley, Esq., whose address is: 35 North Lake Avenue, Suite
27 710, Pasadena, CA 91101-4185.

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3. On or about July 1, 1982, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 47870 to Michael Edward Gold, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2023-096234, and will expire on May 31, 2026, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 800-2023-096234 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on February 19, 2025. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.

5. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2023-096234 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2023-096234. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with his counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.

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

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

9. Respondent acknowledges the fact that, if adopted by the Board, the Board will report this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) and Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) and publicly post such enforcement action, and Respondent hereby waives any and all objections thereto.

1 **CULPABILITY**

2 10. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation
3 No. 800-2023-096234, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his
4 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.

5 11. Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a prima facie case
6 or factual basis for the charges in the Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up his right
7 to contest those charges.

8 12. Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, complainant could
9 establish a prima facie case with respect to the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-
10 2023-096234, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, and that he has
11 thereby subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate, No. G 47870 to disciplinary action.

12 13. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to
13 discipline and agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the
14 Disciplinary Order below.

15 **CONTINGENCY**

16 14. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Medical Board of California.
17 Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Medical
18 Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and
19 settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the
20 stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek
21 to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails
22 to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary
23 Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal
24 action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having
25 considered this matter.

26 15. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to
27 be an integrated writing representing the complete, final and exclusive embodiment of the
28 agreement of the parties in this above entitled matter.

16. 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 Accusation No. 800-2023-096234 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.

17. 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.

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

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 47870 issued to Respondent MICHAEL EDWARD GOLD, M.D., is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for seven (7) years from the effective date of the Decision on the following terms and conditions:

1. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - ABSTAIN FROM USE. Respondent shall abstain completely from the personal use or possession of controlled substances as defined in the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act, dangerous drugs as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4022, and any drugs requiring a prescription. This prohibition does not apply to medications lawfully prescribed to Respondent by another practitioner for a bona fide illness or condition.

Within 15 calendar days of receiving any lawfully prescribed medications, Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee of the: issuing practitioner's name, address, and telephone number; medication name, strength, and quantity; and issuing pharmacy name, address, and telephone number.

2. ALCOHOL - ABSTAIN FROM USE. Respondent shall abstain completely from the use of products or beverages containing alcohol.

1 3. BIOLOGICAL FLUID TESTING. Respondent shall immediately submit to
2 biological fluid testing, at Respondent's expense, upon request of the Board or its designee.
3 “Biological fluid testing” may include, but is not limited to, urine, blood, breathalyzer, hair
4 follicle testing, or similar drug screening approved by the Board or its designee. Prior to
5 practicing medicine, Respondent shall contract with a laboratory or service approved in advance
6 by the Board or its designee that will conduct random, unannounced, observed, biological fluid
7 testing. The contract shall require results of the tests to be transmitted by the laboratory or
8 service directly to the Board or its designee within four hours of the results becoming available.
9 Respondent shall maintain this laboratory or service contract during the period of probation.

10 A certified copy of any laboratory test result may be received in evidence in any
11 proceedings between the Board and Respondent.

12 If Respondent fails to cooperate in a random biological fluid testing program within the
13 specified time frame, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to
14 immediately cease the practice of medicine. The Respondent shall not resume the practice of
15 medicine until the final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation is
16 effective. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within 30
17 days of the notification to cease practice. If the Respondent requests a hearing on the accusation
18 and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the Respondent with a hearing within
19 30 days of the request, unless the Respondent stipulates to a later hearing. If the case is heard by
20 an Administrative Law Judge alone, he or she shall forward a Proposed Decision to the Board
21 within 15 days of submission of the matter. Within 15 days of receipt by the Board of the
22 Administrative Law Judge’s proposed decision, the Board shall issue its Decision, unless good
23 cause can be shown for the delay. If the case is heard by the Board, the Board shall issue its
24 decision within 15 days of submission of the case, unless good cause can be shown for the delay.
25 Good cause includes, but is not limited to, non-adoption of the proposed decision, requests for
26 reconsideration, remands and other interlocutory orders issued by the Board. The cessation of
27 practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period.
28

1 If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within 15 days of the
2 issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide Respondent with a hearing
3 within 30 days of such a request, the notification of cease practice shall be dissolved.

4 4. PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE). Within 60 calendar days of
5 the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a professionalism program, that
6 meets the requirements of Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1358.1.
7 Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete that program. Respondent shall
8 provide any information and documents that the program may deem pertinent. Respondent shall
9 successfully complete the classroom component of the program not later than six (6) months after
10 Respondent's initial enrollment, and the longitudinal component of the program not later than the
11 time specified by the program, but no later than one (1) year after attending the classroom
12 component. The professionalism program shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in
13 addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

14 A professionalism program taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the
15 Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board
16 or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the program would have
17 been approved by the Board or its designee had the program been taken after the effective date of
18 this Decision.

19 Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its
20 designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the program or not later
21 than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

22 5. PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION. Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of
23 this Decision, and on whatever periodic basis thereafter may be required by the Board or its
24 designee, Respondent shall undergo and complete a psychiatric evaluation (and psychological
25 testing, if deemed necessary) by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist, who shall
26 consider any information provided by the Board or designee and any other information the
27 psychiatrist deems relevant, and shall furnish a written evaluation report to the Board or its
28 designee. Psychiatric evaluations conducted prior to the effective date of the Decision shall not

1 be accepted towards the fulfillment of this requirement. Respondent shall pay the cost of all
2 psychiatric evaluations and psychological testing.

3 Respondent shall comply with all restrictions or conditions recommended by the evaluating
4 psychiatrist within 15 calendar days after being notified by the Board or its designee.

5 6. PSYCHOTHERAPY. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision,
6 Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval the name and
7 qualifications of a California-licensed board certified psychiatrist or a licensed psychologist who
8 has a doctoral degree in psychology and at least five years of postgraduate experience in the
9 diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders. Upon approval, Respondent shall
10 undergo and continue psychotherapy treatment, including any modifications to the frequency of
11 psychotherapy, until the Board or its designee deems that no further psychotherapy is necessary.

12 The psychotherapist shall consider any information provided by the Board or its designee
13 and any other information the psychotherapist deems relevant and shall furnish a written
14 evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall cooperate in providing the
15 psychotherapist with any information and documents that the psychotherapist may deem
16 pertinent.

17 Respondent shall have the treating psychotherapist submit quarterly status reports to the
18 Board or its designee. The Board or its designee may require Respondent to undergo psychiatric
19 evaluations by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist. If, prior to the completion of
20 probation, Respondent is found to be mentally unfit to resume the practice of medicine without
21 restrictions, the Board shall retain continuing jurisdiction over Respondent's license and the
22 period of probation shall be extended until the Board determines that Respondent is mentally fit
23 to resume the practice of medicine without restrictions.

24 Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychotherapy and psychiatric evaluations.

25 7. MEDICAL EVALUATION AND TREATMENT. Within 30 calendar days of the
26 effective date of this Decision, and on a periodic basis thereafter as may be required by the Board
27 or its designee, Respondent shall undergo a medical evaluation by a Board-appointed physician
28 who shall consider any information provided by the Board or designee and any other information

1 the evaluating physician deems relevant and shall furnish a medical report to the Board or its
2 designee. Respondent shall provide the evaluating physician with any information and
3 documentation that the evaluating physician may deem pertinent.

4 Following the evaluation, Respondent shall comply with all restrictions or conditions
5 recommended by the evaluating physician within 15 calendar days after being notified by the
6 Board or its designee. If Respondent is required by the Board or its designee to undergo medical
7 treatment, Respondent shall within 30 calendar days of the requirement notice, submit to the
8 Board or its designee for prior approval the name and qualifications of a California licensed
9 treating physician of Respondent's choice. Upon approval of the treating physician, Respondent
10 shall within 15 calendar days undertake medical treatment and shall continue such treatment until
11 further notice from the Board or its designee.

12 The treating physician shall consider any information provided by the Board or its designee
13 or any other information the treating physician may deem pertinent prior to commencement of
14 treatment. Respondent shall have the treating physician submit quarterly reports to the Board or
15 its designee indicating whether or not the Respondent is capable of practicing medicine safely.
16 Respondent shall provide the Board or its designee with any and all medical records pertaining to
17 treatment that the Board or its designee deems necessary.

18 If, prior to the completion of probation, Respondent is found to be physically incapable of
19 resuming the practice of medicine without restrictions, the Board shall retain continuing
20 jurisdiction over Respondent's license and the period of probation shall be extended until the
21 Board determines that Respondent is physically capable of resuming the practice of medicine
22 without restrictions. Respondent shall pay the cost of the medical evaluation(s) and treatment.

23 8. SOLO PRACTICE PROHIBITION. Respondent is prohibited from engaging in the
24 solo practice of medicine. Prohibited solo practice includes, but is not limited to, a practice
25 where: 1) Respondent merely shares office space with another physician but is not affiliated for
26 purposes of providing patient care, or 2) Respondent is the sole physician practitioner at that
27 location.

1 If Respondent fails to establish a practice with another physician or secure employment in
2 an appropriate practice setting within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision,
3 Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of
4 medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. The Respondent shall not resume
5 practice until an appropriate practice setting is established.

6 If, during the course of the probation, the Respondent's practice setting changes and the
7 Respondent is no longer practicing in a setting in compliance with this Decision, the Respondent
8 shall notify the Board or its designee within five (5) calendar days of the practice setting change.

9 If Respondent fails to establish a practice with another physician or secure employment in an
10 appropriate practice setting within 60 calendar days of the practice setting change, Respondent
11 shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within
12 three (3) calendar days after being so notified. The Respondent shall not resume practice until an
13 appropriate practice setting is established.

14 9. CLINICAL DIAGNOSTIC EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS: Within thirty (30)
15 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and on whatever periodic basis thereafter as
16 may be required by the Board or its designee, Respondent shall undergo and complete a clinical
17 diagnostic evaluation, including any and all testing deemed necessary, by a Board-appointed
18 board certified physician and surgeon. The examiner shall consider any information provided by
19 the Board or its designee and any other information he or she deems relevant, and shall furnish a
20 written evaluation report to the Board or its designee.

21 The clinical diagnostic evaluation shall be conducted by a licensed physician and surgeon
22 who holds a valid, unrestricted license, has three (3) years' experience in providing evaluations of
23 physicians and surgeons with substance abuse disorders, and is approved by the Board or its
24 designee. The clinical diagnostic evaluation shall be conducted in accordance with acceptable
25 professional standards for conducting substance abuse clinical diagnostic evaluations. The
26 evaluator shall not have a current or former financial, personal, or business relationship with
27 Respondent within the last five (5) years. The evaluator shall provide an objective, unbiased, and
28 independent evaluation. The clinical diagnostic evaluation report shall set forth, in the

1 evaluator's opinion, whether Respondent has a substance abuse problem, whether Respondent is a
2 threat to himself or herself or others, and recommendations for substance abuse treatment,
3 practice restrictions, or other recommendations related to Respondent's rehabilitation and ability
4 to practice safely. If the evaluator determines during the evaluation process that Respondent is a
5 threat to himself or herself or others, the evaluator shall notify the Board within twenty-four (24)
6 hours of such a determination.

7 In formulating his or her opinion as to whether Respondent is safe to return to either part-
8 time or full-time practice and what restrictions or recommendations should be imposed, including
9 participation in an inpatient or outpatient treatment program, the evaluator shall consider the
10 following factors: Respondent's license type; Respondent's history; Respondent's documented
11 length of sobriety (i.e., length of time that has elapsed since Respondent's last substance use);
12 Respondent's scope and pattern of substance abuse; Respondent's treatment history, medical
13 history and current medical condition; the nature, duration and severity of Respondent's
14 substance abuse problem or problems; and whether Respondent is a threat to himself or herself or
15 the public.

16 For all clinical diagnostic evaluations, a final written report shall be provided to the Board
17 no later than ten (10) days from the date the evaluator is assigned the matter. If the evaluator
18 requests additional information or time to complete the evaluation and report, an extension may
19 be granted, but shall not exceed thirty (30) days from the date the evaluator was originally
20 assigned the matter.

21 The Board shall review the clinical diagnostic evaluation report within five (5) business
22 days of receipt to determine whether Respondent is safe to return to either part-time or full-time
23 practice and what restrictions or recommendations shall be imposed on Respondent based on the
24 recommendations made by the evaluator. Respondent shall not be returned to practice until he or
25 she has at least thirty (30) days of negative biological fluid tests or biological fluid tests indicating
26 that he or she has not used, consumed, ingested, or administered to himself or herself a prohibited
27 substance, as defined in section 1361.51, subdivision (e), of Title 16 of the California Code of
28 Regulations.

1 Clinical diagnostic evaluations conducted prior to the effective date of this Decision shall
2 not be accepted towards the fulfillment of this requirement. The cost of the clinical diagnostic
3 evaluation, including any and all testing deemed necessary by the examiner, the Board or its
4 designee, shall be borne by the licensee.

5 Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine until notified by the Board or its
6 designee that he or she is fit to practice medicine safely. The period of time that Respondent is
7 not practicing medicine shall not be counted toward completion of the term of probation.

8 Respondent shall undergo biological fluid testing as required in this Decision at least two (2)
9 times per week while awaiting the notification from the Board if he or she is fit to practice
10 medicine safely.

11 Respondent shall comply with all restrictions or conditions recommended by the examiner
12 conducting the clinical diagnostic evaluation within fifteen (15) calendar days after being notified
13 by the Board or its designee.

14 10. VIOLATION OF PROBATION CONDITION FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSING
15 LICENSEES . Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of
16 probation.

17 A. If Respondent commits a major violation of probation as defined by section
18 1361.52, subdivision (a), of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, the Board shall take
19 one or more of the following actions:

20 (1) Issue an immediate cease-practice order and order Respondent to undergo a clinical
21 diagnostic evaluation to be conducted in accordance with section 1361.5, subdivision (c)(1), of
22 Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, at Respondent's expense. The cease-practice
23 order issued by the Board or its designee shall state that Respondent must test negative for at least
24 a month of continuous biological fluid testing before being allowed to resume practice. For
25 purposes of determining the length of time a Respondent must test negative while undergoing
26 continuous biological fluid testing following issuance of a cease-practice order, a month is
27 defined as thirty calendar (30) days. Respondent may not resume the practice of medicine until
28 notified in writing by the Board or its designee that he or she may do so.

1 (2) Increase the frequency of biological fluid testing.

2 (3) Refer Respondent for further disciplinary action, such as suspension, revocation, or
3 other action as determined by the Board or its designee.

4 B. If Respondent commits a minor violation of probation as defined by section
5 1361.52, subdivision (c), of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, the Board shall take
6 one or more of the following actions:

7 (1) Issue a cease-practice order;

8 (2) Order practice limitations;

9 (3) Order or increase supervision of Respondent;

10 (4) Order increased documentation;

11 (5) Issue a citation and fine, or a warning letter;

12 (6) Order Respondent to undergo a clinical diagnostic evaluation to be conducted in
13 accordance with section 1361.5, subdivision (c)(1), of Title 16 of the California Code of
14 Regulations, at Respondent's expense;

15 (7) Take any other action as determined by the Board or its designee.

16 C. Nothing in this Decision shall be considered a limitation on the Board's authority
17 to revoke Respondent's probation if he or she has violated any term or condition of probation. If
18 Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and the
19 opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was
20 stayed. If an Accusation, or Petition to Revoke Probation, or an Interim Suspension Order is filed
21 against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter
22 is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

23 11. NOTIFICATION. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, the
24 Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the
25 Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to
26 Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine,
27 including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief
28 Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to

1 Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15
2 calendar days.

3 This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

4 12. SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND ADVANCED PRACTICE
5 NURSES. During probation, Respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants and
6 advanced practice nurses.

7 13. OBEY ALL LAWS. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules
8 governing the practice of medicine in California and remain in full compliance with any court
9 ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.

10 14. INVESTIGATION/ENFORCEMENT COST RECOVERY. Respondent is hereby
11 ordered to reimburse the Board its costs of investigation and enforcement, including, but not
12 limited to, expert review, amended accusations, legal reviews, investigation(s), and subpoena
13 enforcement, as applicable, in the amount of \$27,678.00 (twenty-seven thousand six hundred
14 seventy-eight dollars and zero cents). Costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California.
15 Failure to pay such costs shall be considered a violation of probation.

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

20 The filing of bankruptcy by respondent shall not relieve respondent of the responsibility to
21 repay investigation and enforcement costs, including expert review costs (if applicable).

22 15. QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations
23 under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been
24 compliance with all the conditions of probation.

25 Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end
26 of the preceding quarter.

27 16. GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS.

28 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 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

17. INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE. Respondent shall be available in person upon request for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.

18. NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 15 calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than 30 calendar days and within 15 calendar days of Respondent's return to practice. Non-practice is defined as any period of time Respondent is not practicing medicine as defined in Business and

1 Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least 40 hours in a calendar month in direct
2 patient care, clinical activity or teaching, or other activity as approved by the Board. If
3 Respondent resides in California and is considered to be in non-practice, Respondent shall
4 comply with all terms and conditions of probation. All time spent in an intensive training
5 program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-
6 practice and does not relieve Respondent from complying with all the terms and conditions of
7 probation. Practicing medicine in another state of the United States or Federal jurisdiction while
8 on probation with the medical licensing authority of that state or jurisdiction shall not be
9 considered non-practice. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a
10 period of non-practice.

11 In the event Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation exceeds 18 calendar
12 months, Respondent shall successfully complete the Federation of State Medical Board's Special
13 Purpose Examination, or, at the Board's discretion, a clinical competence assessment program
14 that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's "Manual of Model
15 Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

16 Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two (2) years.

17 Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

18 Periods of non-practice for a Respondent residing outside of California will relieve
19 Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the
20 exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws;
21 General Probation Requirements; Quarterly Declarations; Abstain from the Use of Alcohol and/or
22 Controlled Substances; and Biological Fluid Testing.

23 19. COMPLETION OF PROBATION. Respondent shall comply with all financial
24 obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the
25 completion of probation. This term does not include cost recovery, which is due within 30
26 calendar days of the effective date of the Order, or by a payment plan approved by the Medical
27 Board and timely satisfied. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate
28 shall be fully restored.

1 20. VIOLATION OF PROBATION. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition
2 of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the
3 Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and
4 carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, or Petition to Revoke Probation,
5 or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have
6 continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until
7 the matter is final.

8 21. LICENSE SURRENDER. Following the effective date of this Decision, if
9 Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy
10 the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request to surrender his or her license.
11 The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in
12 determining whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate
13 and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, Respondent
14 shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the Board or its
15 designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject
16 to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the
17 application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.

18 22. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS. Respondent shall pay the costs associated
19 with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which
20 may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of
21 California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar
22 year.

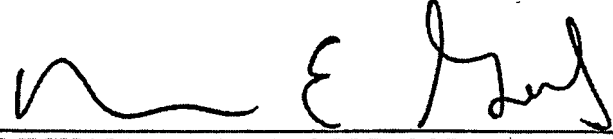
23 23. FUTURE ADMISSIONS CLAUSE. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for
24 a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care
25 licensing action agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in
26 Accusation No. 800-2023-096234 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by
27 Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or
28 restrict license.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Kevin D. Cauley, Esq. 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 Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED:

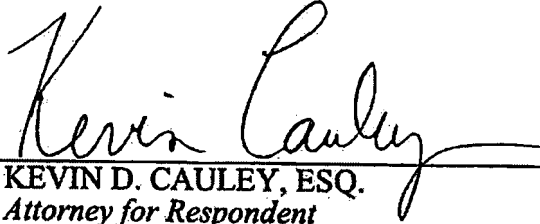
11/14/2025


MICHAEL EDWARD GOLD, M.D.
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Michael Edward Gold, M.D., the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED:

November 14, 2025


KEVIN D. CAULEY, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.

DATED: _____

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

ROBERT W. LINCOLN
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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Respondent

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DATED: _____

KEVIN D. CAULEY, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.

DATED: November 14, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

/s/ Robert W. Lincoln

ROBERT W. LINCOLN
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2023-096234

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 ROBERT W. LINCOLN
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 316290
600 West Broadway, Suite 1800
5 San Diego, CA 92101
P.O. Box 85266
6 San Diego, CA 92186-5266
Telephone: (619) 738-9453
7 Facsimile: (619) 645-2012
E-mail: Robert.Lincoln@doj.ca.gov
8 *Attorneys for Complainant*

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

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2023-096234

13 **Michael Edward Gold, M.D.**
14 **2021 Santa Monica Boulevard, #525E**
Santa Monica, CA 90404

OAH No.

ACCUSATION

15 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
16 **No. G 47870,**

Respondent.

17
18
19 **PARTIES**

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

23 2. On or about July 1, 1982, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's
24 Certificate No. G 47870 to Michael Edward Gold, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and
25 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought
26 herein and will expire on May 31, 2026, unless renewed.

27 ///

28 ///

1 **JURISDICTION**

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

5 4. Section 2227 of the Code states:

6 (a) A licensee whose matter has been heard by an administrative law judge of
7 the Medical Quality Hearing Panel as designated in Section 11371 of the Government
8 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:

9 (1) Have his or her license revoked upon order of the board.

10 (2) Have his or her right to practice suspended for a period not to exceed one
11 year upon order of the board.

12 (3) Be placed on probation and be required to pay the costs of probation
monitoring upon order of the board.

13 (4) Be publicly reprimanded by the board. The public reprimand may include a
14 requirement that the licensee complete relevant educational courses approved by the
board.

15 (5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as part of an order of
16 probation, as the board or an administrative law judge may deem proper.

17 (b) Any matter heard pursuant to subdivision (a), except for warning letters,
18 medical review or advisory conferences, professional competency examinations,
19 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.

20 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

21 5. Section 2234 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

22 The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with
23 unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional
conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

24 (a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or
25 abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

26 "..."

27 (f) Any action or conduct that would have warranted the denial of a certificate.

28 "..."

1 6. Section 2236 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

2 (a) The conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications,
3 functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct
4 within the meaning of this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act]. The record
of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction
occurred.

5 “...”

6 (d) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction after a plea of nolo contendere is
7 deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section and Section 2236.1.
The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction
occurred.

8
9 7. Section 2239 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

10 (a) The use or prescribing for or administering to himself or herself, of any
11 controlled substance; or the use of any of the dangerous drugs specified in Section
4022, or of alcoholic beverages, to the extent, or in such a manner to be dangerous or
12 injurious to the licensee, or to any other person or to the public, or to the extent that
such use impairs the ability of the licensee to practice medicine safely or more than
13 one misdemeanor or any felony involving the use, consumption or self-administration
of any of the substances referred to in this section, or any combination thereof,
14 constitutes unprofessional conduct. The record of the conviction is conclusive
evidence of such unprofessional conduct.

15 “...”

16 8. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1360, states:

17 For the purposes of denial, suspension or revocation of a license, certificate or
18 permit pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the code, a crime
or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or
19 duties of a person holding a license, certificate or permit under the Medical Practice
Act if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of a person
20 holding a license, certificate or permit to perform the functions authorized by the
license, certificate or permit in a manner consistent with the public health, safety or
welfare. Such crimes or acts shall include but not be limited to the following:
21 Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the
violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of the Medical Practice Act.

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1 **COST RECOVERY**

2 9. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the
3 administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of
4 the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and
5 enforcement of the case, with failure of the licensee to comply subjecting the license to not being
6 renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be
7 included in a stipulated settlement.

8 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

9 10. On or about August 23, 2022, officers from the Los Angeles Police Department –
10 West Traffic Division were dispatched to northbound Allenford Avenue near Sunset Boulevard
11 following a report of an overturned vehicle.

12 11. Officer #1 arrived on scene at approximately 9:17 p.m. and observed an overturned
13 Audi sedan, later identified as Respondent's vehicle, and a damaged SUV parked nearby.

14 12. A witness had observed Respondent walking near the accident site and throw a near-
15 empty bottle of Smirnoff vodka onto the lawn of a property.

16 13. A fire captain on scene identified Respondent for the officer. The officer approached
17 Respondent, observing that Respondent had watery eyes, an unsteady gait, and the odor of
18 alcohol emanating from his person.

19 14. Respondent was unable to perform Field Sobriety Tests, and the officer arrested him
20 for violation of Vehicle Code section 23152(a), a misdemeanor count of driving under the
21 influence.

22 15. Respondent was transported by another officer to the Van Nuys Jail, where he
23 performed breath tests. The breath tests indicated that Respondent had a blood alcohol content
24 (BAC) of 0.155% and 0.138%.

25 16. Officer #2 observed a blood draw taken from Respondent upon booking into the Van
26 Nuys Jail, at approximately 12:25 a.m. The results of the blood draw indicated that Respondent
27 had a BAC of approximately 0.173%.

17. On or about September 13, 2022, Respondent was charged in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 2AR01545, with one misdemeanor violation of Vehicle Code section 23152(a), driving under the influence of alcohol, and one misdemeanor violation of Vehicle Code section 23152(b), driving a vehicle with BAC greater than 0.08%.

18. On or about February 1, 2023, Respondent pled no contest to driving a vehicle with a BAC greater than 0.08%.

19. Respondent was sentenced to 36 months of summary probation; payment of various fines, fees, and victim restitution; and completion of a DUI First Offender program and a victim impact program.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Conviction of a Substantially Related Crime)

20. Respondent has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 47870 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2236, of the Code, and California Code of Regulations, title 16 section 1360, in that he has been convicted of an offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 10 through 19, above, and incorporated herein fully by reference.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Use of Alcoholic Beverages to the Extent, or in Such a Manner, as to be Dangerous or Injurious to Himself, Another Person, or the Public)

21. Respondent has further subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 47870 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2239, subdivision (a), of the Code, in that he has used alcoholic beverages to the extent, or in such a manner, as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or the public as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 10 through 20, above, and incorporated herein fully by reference.

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PRAYER

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

1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 47870, issued to Respondent Michael Edward Gold, M.D.;

2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Michael Edward Gold, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

3. Ordering Respondent Michael Edward Gold, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring; and

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

DATED: FEB 19 2025


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

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