MEDICAL BOARD
OF CALIFORNIA
Protecting consumers by advancing high quality, safe medical care.

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Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California | Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency | Department of Consumer Affairs

October 24, 2019

Thomas K. Ciesla, M.D.
1301 20th St., Ste. 212
Santa Monica, CA 90404

RE: Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G9703
Case No. 800-2017-029951

Public Letter of Reprimand

An investigation by the Medical Board of California revealed that you prescribed two benzodiazepine medications to an elderly patient with an increased risk of falls and adverse complications. In addition, your handwritten medical records on the patient were illegible, failed to document any discussions with the patient on the use and risks of benzodiazepines when combined with other medications, the need to avoid alcohol while on the medications, and lacked documentation of informed consent for the medications prescribed.

These actions constitute a violation of California B&P Code sections 2234(c), repeated negligent acts, and 2266, failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records.

Pursuant to the authority of the California Business and Professions Code section 2233, you are hereby issued this Public Letter of Reprimand by the Medical Board of California.

Kimberly Kirchmeyer
Executive Director