

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

In the Matter of the Accusation
Against

Robert Bruce Morrison, M.D.

Physician's and Surgeon's
Certificate No. G33727

Respondent.

Case No. 800-2017-038982

DECISION

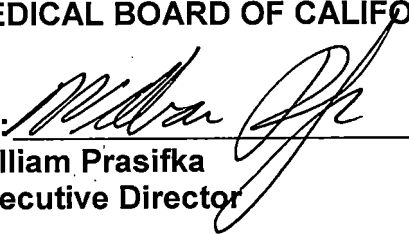
The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on

September 2, 2020.

IT IS SO ORDERED August 26, 2020.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By: 

William Prasifka
Executive Director

1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
2 E. A. JONES III
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 JOSHUA M. TEMPLET
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 267098
300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702
5 Los Angeles, CA 90013
Telephone: (213) 269-6688
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Attorneys for Complainant
7

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 **ROBERT BRUCE MORRISON, M.D.**
14 **361 Pine Tree Lane**
15 **Monrovia, CA 91016-2370**

16 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
17 **No. G 33727**

18 Respondent.

Case No. 800-2017-038982

OAH No. 2020070103

**STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
LICENSE AND ORDER**

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

21 **PARTIES**

22 1. William Prasifka (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of
23 California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this
24 matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, via Joshua M. Temple, Deputy Attorney General.

25 2. Robert Bruce Morrison, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by
26 attorney Kent Thomas Brandmeyer, 2 North Lake Avenue, Suite 820, Pasadena, CA 91101.

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

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

7 CONTINGENCY

8 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands
9 and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly
10 with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by
11 Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he
12 may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board
13 considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order,
14 the Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this
15 paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not
16 be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

17 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile
18 copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures
19 thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

20 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that
21 the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

22 ORDER

23 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 33727, issued
24 to Respondent Robert Bruce Morrison, M.D., is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

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

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ENDORSEMENT

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

DATED: July 9, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
E. A. JONES III
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

Joshua M. Templet
JOSHUA M. TEMPLET
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2017-038982

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

12
13 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:
14 **ROBERT BRUCE MORRISON, M.D.**
361 Pine Tree Lane
15 Monrovia, CA 91016
16 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
No. G 33727,
17
Respondent.

Case No. 800-2017-038982

A C C U S A T I O N

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20 **PARTIES**

21 1. Christine J. Lally (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity
22 as the Interim Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer
23 Affairs (Board).

24 2. On or about March 23, 1977, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's
25 Certificate No. G 33727 to Robert Bruce Morrison, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and
26 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought
27 herein and expired on October 31, 2019.

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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 2004 of the Code provides that the Board shall have the responsibility for the
6 enforcement of the disciplinary and criminal provisions of the Medical Practice Act.

7 5. Section 2227 of the Code authorizes the Board to take action against a licensee who
8 has been found guilty under the Medical Practice Act by revoking his or her license, suspending
9 the license for a period not to exceed one year, placing the licensee on probation and requiring
10 payment of costs of probation monitoring, or taking such other action as the Board deems proper.

11 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

12 6. Section 2234 of the Code states:

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

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

17 (b) Gross negligence.

18 (c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent
19 acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and
distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated
negligent acts.

20

21 7. Section 2266 of the Code states that the failure of a physician and surgeon to maintain
22 adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of services to their patients constitutes
23 unprofessional conduct.

24 8. Section 118 of the Code states:

25

26 (b) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license
27 issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by
28 order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written
consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed,
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

1 law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking
2 disciplinary action against the licensee on any such ground.

3

4 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

5 **(Gross Negligence)**

6 9. Respondent has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 33727 to
7 disciplinary action under Code sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by Code section 2234,
8 subdivision (b), in that he was grossly negligent in his care and treatment of Patient A.¹

9 10. On or about July 21, 2014, Patient A, a then 34-year-old established OB/GYN
10 patient, presented to Respondent with complaints of irregular bleeding. Respondent performed a
11 physical exam, ordered an ultrasound and lab work, and recommended that the patient return in a
12 few weeks. Respondent did not discuss or document a discussion with the patient regarding any
13 further description of her bleeding abnormality, including but not limited to the amount or
14 frequency.

15 11. On or about August 1, 2014, Patient A underwent a pelvic ultrasound that revealed a
16 uterus measuring 11.0 cm and a thickened endometrial canal, possibly with a polyp. Respondent
17 recommended that Patient A proceed with a dilation and curettage (D&C)² and hysteroscopy.³
18 Respondent did not discuss or document a discussion with Patient A regarding other treatment
19 options or the risks and benefits associated with those options.

20 12. On or about September 4, 2014, Patient A presented to Respondent for her pre-
21 operative exam. Respondent identified her pre-operative diagnosis as menometrorrhagia⁴ and
22 endometrial hyperplasia.⁵ At the conclusion of the examination, the documented plan was to
23 proceed with the D&C and hysteroscopy.

24 ¹ To protect the privacy of the patient involved, the patient's name has not been included in this
25 pleading. Respondent is aware of the identity of the patient.

26 ² Dilation and curettage is a procedure to remove tissue from inside the uterus.

27 ³ Hysteroscopy is the inspection of the inside of the uterine cavity using visualization instruments
28 through the vaginal opening. It is used to aid in diagnosis and minor surgical procedures.

⁴ Menometrorrhagia is a condition marked by abnormally heavy, prolonged, and irregular uterine
bleeding.

⁵ Endometrial hyperplasia is a condition in which the lining of the uterus becomes abnormally
thick.

1 D. Failing to perform or offer to perform an endometrial sampling prior to
2 performing an endometrial ablation.

3 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

4 **(Failure to Maintain Adequate and Accurate Records)**

5 17. Respondent has further subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.
6 G 33727 to disciplinary action under Code sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by Code section
7 2266, in that Respondent failed to maintain adequate and accurate records regarding his care and
8 treatment of Patient A, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 9 through 16, above.

9 **PRAYER**

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

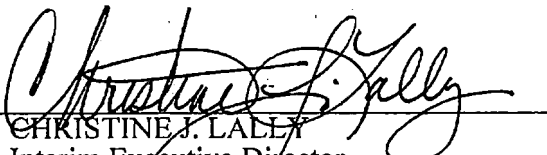
12 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 33727, issued
13 to Respondent, Robert Bruce Morrison, M.D.;

14 2. Revoking, suspending, or denying approval of the authority of Respondent, Robert
15 Bruce Morrison, M.D., to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

16 3. Ordering Respondent, Robert Bruce Morrison, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay
17 the Board the costs of probation monitoring; and

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

19
20 DATED: December 23, 2019


CHRISTINE J. LALLY
Interim Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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