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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2022-085729
John Thompson Owings, M.D. **648 Wilder Pl.** **Shreveport, LA 71104-4326** **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 44765** Respondent	**DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER** [Gov. Code §11520]

1. On July 7, 2022, an employee of the Medical Board of California ("Board"), served by Certified and First Class Mail a copy of the Accusation No. 800-2022-085729, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7 to John Thompson Owings, M.D. (Respondent)'s address of record with the Board, which was and is 648 Wilder Pl, Shreveport, LA 71104-4326. According to the U.S. Postal Service, the package was delivered to an individual at Respondent's address of record.

(Exhibit Package, Exhibit 1[1]: Accusation, the related documents, Declaration of Service, U.S. Postal Service track and confirm results.)

2. There was no response to the Accusation. On or about August 2, 2022, an employee of the Attorney General's Office sent a Courtesy Notice of Default, by certified mail, addressed to the Respondent at the above-stated address of record. The Courtesy Notice of Default advised Respondent of the service of the Accusation, provided him with an opportunity to file a Notice of Defense and request relief from default. There has been no response to the Courtesy Notice of Default. (Exhibit Package, Exhibit 2: Courtesy Notice of Default and Declaration of Service.)

3. Respondent has not responded to service of the Accusation or to the Notice of Default. He has not filed a Notice of Defense. As a result, Respondent has waived his right to a hearing on the merits to contest the allegations contained in the Accusation.

FINDINGS OF FACT

4. On July 7, 2022, Complainant William Prasifka, in his official capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board (Board) of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, filed Accusation No. 800-2022-085729 against Respondent before the Board.

5. On April 25, 1988, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 44765 to Respondent. The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is renewed and current, and will expire on May 31, 2023. However, the certificate is currently in suspended status based on full license restrictions pursuant to Business and Professions code section 2310(a). (Exhibit Package, Exhibit 3: License Certification.)

6. On July 7, 2022, Respondent was duly served with an Accusation, alleging causes for discipline against Respondent. A Courtesy Notice of Default was thereafter served on Respondent. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense.

7. The allegations of the Accusation are true as follows:

On July 26, 2021, a Consent Order placing Respondent's Louisiana medical license on indefinite suspension issued by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (Louisiana

[1] The evidence in support of this Default Decision and Order is separately contained in the "Exhibit Package" filed herewith.

Board) became effective. The Louisiana Board's Order states that Respondent was charged with and convicted of twenty counts of theft of government property, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C section 641, and one count of concealing and failing to disclose an event affecting a right to a Title II benefit, in violation of 42 U.S.C section 408(a) (4) in the United States Court for the Western District of Louisiana, each of which counts comprised a felony under Louisiana law. The charges were based on Respondent's acts of collecting Disability Insurance Benefits from 2012-2017, certifying monthly that he had no income, when in fact he was gainfully employed as a surgeon at the University of California-Davis from 2012-2013, then served as the Chief of Trauma and the Medical Director of University Health in Shreveport, Louisiana, from 2012-2017. Respondent was convicted of each count by unanimous jury verdict on February 1, 2019. On May 12, 2021, he was sentenced to 21 months in prison, to be followed by 2 years of supervised release, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of $200,434.70. (Exhibit Package, Exhibit 4: Certified copy of Consent Order issued by Louisiana Board)

8. The disciplinary action of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners against Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, constitutes cause for discipline pursuant to California Business and Professions Code sections 2305 and/or 141.

9. Respondent's license is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under Code section 2261 in that he suffered a criminal conviction on February 1, 2019, but knowingly made a false statement when he denied that he had suffered any criminal conviction, when he certified his application to renew his California Physician's and Surgeon's license in June 2021. (Exhibit Package, Exhibit 5: certified copy of license renewal application.)

10. The Board finds that pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, the costs of investigation and enforcement of the case prayed for in the Accusation total $3,376.25, based on the Certification of Costs. (Exhibit Package, Exhibit 6: Certification of Costs.)

11. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Board finds Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further hearing and, based on Respondent's express admissions by way of default and the evidence before it, contained in Exhibits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, finds that the allegations in Accusation No. 800-2022-085729 are true.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

The Board has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default and, pursuant to Government Code Section 11520, finds that Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further proceedings or hearing and, based on Respondent's admissions by way of default and on the evidence before the Board contained in the Exhibit Package, finds that the allegations in the Accusation are true and correct. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent John Thompson Owings, M.D. has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 44765 to discipline.

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, the costs of investigation and enforcement total $3,376.25.

ORDER

IT IS SO ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 44765, heretofore issued to Respondent John Thompson Owings, M.D., is revoked. Respondent is ordered to pay $3,376.25 in costs, payable to the Medical Board.

Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.

This Decision shall become effective on OCT 06 2022.

It is so ORDERED SEP 06 2022

William Prasifka, Executive Director
FOR THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2022-085729
John Thompson Owings, M.D. **648 Wilder Pl.** **Shreveport, LA 71104-4326** **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 44765,** Respondent.	**A C C U S A T I O N**

PARTIES

1. William Prasifka (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs (Board).

2. On April 25, 1988, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 44765 to John Thompson Owings, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein, until it was summarily suspended pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2310(c) on April 14, 2022, and will expire on May 31, 2023, unless renewed.

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JURISDICTION

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

A. Section 2227 of the Code provides in part that the Board may revoke, suspend for a period not to exceed one year, or place on probation, the license of any licensee who has been found guilty under the Medical Practice Act, and may recover the costs of probation monitoring.

B. Section 2305 of the Code provides, in part, that the revocation, suspension, or other discipline, restriction or limitation imposed by another state upon a license to practice medicine issued by that state, or the revocation, suspension, or restriction of the authority to practice medicine by any agency of the federal government, that would have been grounds for discipline in California under the Medical Practice Act, constitutes grounds for discipline for unprofessional conduct.

C. Section 141 of the Code provides:

> "(a) For any licensee holding a license issued by a board under the jurisdiction of a department, a disciplinary action taken by another state, by any agency of the federal government, or by another country for any act substantially related to the practice regulated by the California license, may be a ground for disciplinary action by the respective state licensing board. A certified copy of the record of the disciplinary action taken against the licensee by another state, an agency of the federal government, or by another country shall be conclusive evidence of the events related therein.
>
> "(b) Nothing in this section shall preclude a board from applying a specific statutory provision in the licensing act administered by the board that provides for discipline based upon a disciplinary action taken against the licensee by another state, an agency of the federal government, or another country."

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

4. Section 2261 of the Code states:

> Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document directly or indirectly related to the practice of medicine or podiatry which falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts, constitutes unprofessional conduct.

COST RECOVERY

5. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to 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, with failure of the licensee to comply subjecting the license to not being renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be included in a stipulated settlement.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Discipline, Restriction, or Limitation Imposed by Other Jurisdictions)

6. On July 26, 2021, a Consent Order placing Respondent's Louisiana medical license on indefinite suspension issued by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (Louisiana Board) became effective. The Louisiana Board's Order states that Respondent was charged with and convicted of twenty counts of theft of government property, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C section 641, and one count of concealing and failing to disclose an event affecting a right to a Title II benefit, in violation of 42 U.S.C section 408(a) (4) in the United States Court for the Western District of Louisiana, each of which counts comprised a felony under Louisiana law. The charges were based on Respondent's collecting Disability Insurance Benefits from 2012-2017, certifying monthly that he had no income, when in fact he was gainfully employed as a surgeon at the University of California-Davis from 2012-2013, then served as the Chief of Trauma and the Medical Director of University Health in Shreveport, Louisiana, from 2012-2017. Respondent was convicted of each count by unanimous jury verdict on February 1, 2019, and on May 12, 2021 was sentenced to 21 months in prison, to be followed by 2 years of supervised release, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of $200,434.70.

7. Respondent's conduct and the action of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, as set forth above, constitute cause for discipline pursuant to sections 2305 and/or 141 of the Code.

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SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct)

8. The allegations of paragraphs 6-7 above are incorporated by reference as if set out in full. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under Code section 2261 in that he suffered a criminal conviction as of May 12, 2021, but knowingly made a false statement when he denied that he had suffered any criminal conviction, when he certified his application to renew his California Physician's and Surgeon's license in June 2021.

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:

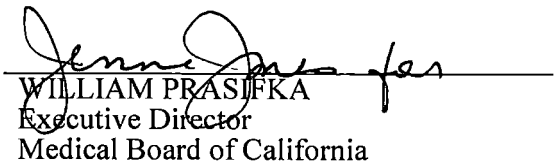
1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 44765, issued to John Thompson Owings, M.D.;

2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of John Thompson Owings, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

3. Ordering John Thompson Owings, 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: JUL 07 2022



WILLIAM PRASIFKA
Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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