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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Thick Gong Wing Chow, M.D. Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 29113 Respondent.	Case No. 800-2025-115155

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 AUG 0 5 2025.

IT IS SO ORDERED JUL 2 9 2025.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Reji Varghese
Executive Director

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
EDWARD KIM
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
TRINA L. SAUNDERS
Deputy Attorney General
State Bar No. 207764
300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Telephone: (213) 269-6516
Facsimile: (916) 731-2117
E-mail: Trina.Saunders@doj.ca.gov
Attorneys for Complainant

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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against: **Thick Gong Wing Chow, M.D.** **817 S. Vermont Avenue** **Los Angeles, California 90005** **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 29113** Respondent.	Case No. 800-2025-115155 **STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND ORDER**

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

PARTIES

1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Trina L. Saunders, Deputy Attorney General.

2. Thick Gong Wing Chow, M.D. (Respondent) is representing himself in this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel.

3. On or about March 21, 1975, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 29113 to Respondent. That license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2025-115155 and will expire on September 30, 2025, if it is not renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 800-2025-115155 was filed before the Board and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent. Respondent, who is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, has chosen not to file a Notice of Defense. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2025-115155 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2025-115155. Respondent also has carefully read and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.

6. 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 be represented by counsel, at his own expense; 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.

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

CULPABILITY

8. Respondent understands that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2025-115155, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for taking action upon his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.

9. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation and that those charges constitute cause for taking action. Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest that cause for action exists based on those charges.

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

CONTINGENCY

11. Business and Professions Code section 2224, subdivision (b), provides, in pertinent part, that the Medical Board "shall delegate to its executive director the authority to adopt a ... stipulation for surrender of a license."

12. Respondent understands that, by signing this stipulation, he enables the Executive Director of the Board to issue an order, on behalf of the Board, accepting the surrender of his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A29113 without giving Respondent further notice to, or opportunity to be heard.

13. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Director on behalf of the Board. The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be submitted to the Executive Director for his consideration in the above-entitled matter and, further, that the Executive Director shall have a reasonable period of time in which to consider and act on this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order after receiving it. By signing this stipulation, Respondent fully understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind this stipulation prior to the time the Executive Director, on behalf of the Medical Board, considers and acts upon it.

14. The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be null and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved and adopted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board, except for this paragraph, which shall remain in full force and effect. Respondent fully understands and agrees that in deciding whether or not to

approve and adopt this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, the Executive Director and/or the Board may receive oral and written communications from its staff and/or the Attorney General's Office. Communications pursuant to this paragraph shall not disqualify the Executive Director, the Board, any member thereof, and/or any other person from future participation in this or any other matter affecting or involving respondent. In the event that the Executive Director on behalf of the Board does not, in his discretion, approve and adopt this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, with the exception of this paragraph, it shall not become effective, shall be of no evidentiary value whatsoever, and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto. Respondent further agrees that should this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order be rejected for any reason by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board, Respondent will assert no claim that the Executive Director, the Board, or any member thereof, was prejudiced by its/his/her review, discussion and/or consideration of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order or of any matter or matters related hereto.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

15. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties in the above-entitled matter.

16. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, including copies of the signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures and, further, that such copies shall have the same force and effect as originals.

17. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree the Executive Director of the Board may, without giving Respondent further notice or opportunity to be heard, issue and enter the following Order on behalf of the Board:

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 29113, issued to Respondent Thick Gong Wing Chow, M.D., is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

1. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a physician and surgeon in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.

2. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board his pocket license and, if one was issued, his wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.

3. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked or surrendered license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2025-115155 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

4. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2025-115155 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED: July 27, 2025

THICK GONG WING CHOW, M.D.
Respondent

///

///

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 23, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
EDWARD KIM
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

Trina L. Saunders

TRINA L. SAUNDERS
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

LA2025602373
Stipulated Surrender of License and Order - MBC.docx

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2025-115155

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
EDWARD KIM
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
TRINA L. SAUNDERS
Deputy Attorney General
State Bar No. 207764
300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Telephone: (213) 269-6516
Facsimile: (916) 731-2117
E-mail: Trina.Saunders@doj.ca.gov
Attorneys for Complainant

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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against: **Thick Gong Wing Chow, M.D.** **817 S. Vermont Avenue** **Los Angeles, California 90005** **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate** **No. A 29113** Respondent.	Case No. 800-2025-115155 **ACCUSATION**

PARTIES

1. Reji Varghese (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 or about March 21, 1975, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 29113 to Thick Gong Wing Chow (Respondent). That license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on September 30, 2025, if not renewed.

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.

4. Section 2004 of the Code states:

The board shall have the responsibility for the following:

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

(b) The administration and hearing of disciplinary actions.

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

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

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

(f) Approving undergraduate and graduate medical education programs.

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

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

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

5. 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 certificates that do not permit them to practice medicine, such as, but not limited to, 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:

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

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

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

6. Section 2227 of the Code states:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. Section 820 of the Code states:

Whenever it appears that any person holding a license, certificate or permit 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 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 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 evidence in proceedings conducted pursuant to Section 822.

8. Section 822 of the Code states:

If a licensing agency determines that its licentiate's ability to practice his or her profession safely is impaired because the licentiate is mentally ill, or physically ill affecting competency, the licensing agency may take action by any one of the following methods:

(a) Revoking the licentiate's certificate or license.

(b) Suspending the licentiate's right to practice.

(c) Placing the licentiate on probation.

(d) Taking such other action in relation to the licentiate as the licensing agency in its discretion deems proper.

The licensing section shall not reinstate a revoked or suspended certificate or license until it has received competent evidence of the absence or control of the condition which caused its action and until it is satisfied that with due regard for the public health and safety the person's right to practice his or her profession may be safely reinstated.

CAUSE FOR ACTION

(Mental Impairment)

9. Respondent is subject to an action under section 822 of the Code in that his ability to practice medicine is impaired due to mental illness. The circumstances are as follows:

10. On or about February 9, 2025, the Board received an anonymous complaint alleging that Respondent may be experiencing cognitive issues affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. The complaint alleged that Respondent appears confused, provides incorrect information and struggles to understand basic concepts as to whether a patient has enough refills, and the differences between medications with similar names.

11. During the course of the Board investigation into the allegations, Respondent voluntarily agreed to undergo a physical evaluation and mental evaluation by Board-approved evaluators.

12. On or about May 27, 2025, the Board received a report from the independent medical examiner retained to conduct a physical examination of Respondent. Following review of Respondent's medical records and items related to the Board's investigation, and after conducting a physical examination of Respondent, the examiner determined that Respondent suffers from mild cognitive impairment with primitive reflexes. As a result of Respondent's physical impairment, the examiner determined that Respondent was unable to practice medicine safely.

13. On or about May 27, 2025, the Board also received a report from the independent mental evaluator retained to conduct a mental examination of Respondent. The report detailed that the examiner reviewed Respondent's medical records, items related to the Board's investigation, Respondent's Mini Mental Status Exam (MMSE), Respondent's performance on

various psychometric tests, including, the Rey 15-Item Memorization Test (RMT), and the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory-III (MCMI-III), and the examiner's face-to-face mental status examination of Respondent. Based upon the information gathered from the various sources (clinical interview, psychological testing, direct observations, and records), the examiner determined that Respondent met the criteria for a diagnosis of Major Neurocognitive Disorder, Unspecified Etiology. He also found evidence of significant cognitive decline in complex attention and learning/memory and opined that Respondent's condition was unlikely to improve significantly even with treatment interventions, and as a result, Respondent was mentally impaired and unable to safely practice medicine.

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 29113 issued to Respondent Thick Gong Wing Chow, M.D.;

2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Thick Gong Wing Chow, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

3. Ordering Respondent Thick Gong Wing Chow, M.D. to pay the Board the costs of probation monitoring if placed on probation; and

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

DATED: JUL 21 2025

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

LA2025602373
Accusation - Medical Board.docx