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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Alan Samuel Coit, M.D.

Case No. 800-2017-039603

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34181

Respondent

## **DECISION**

The attached Stipulation of the Parties Re: Order Imposing License Restrictions 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 <u>July 2, 2021</u>.

IT IS SO ORDERED June 4, 2021.

**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA** 

Ronald H. Lewis, M.D., Chair

Panel A

2	Attorney General of Camornia ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ		•			
2	Supervising Deputy Attorney General					
3	KAROLYN M. WESTFALL					
1	Deputy Attorney General	,	:			
4	State Bar No. 234540 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800	·				
5	San Diego, CA 92101	•				
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6	San Diego, CA 92186-5266	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
7	Telephone: (619) 738-9465 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		:			
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0	Attorneys for Complainant	•				
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10	BEFOR		•			
10	MEDICAL BOARD					
11	DEPARTMENT OF CO		·			
10	STATE OF C.	ALIFORNIA	•			
12						
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2017-039603				
14	ALAN SAMUEL COIT, M.D.	OAH No. 2020090370				
	35900 Bob Hope Drive, #172	*				
15	Rancho Mirage, CA 92270-1766	STIPULATION OF THE R				
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.	ORDER IMPOSING LICE RESTRICTIONS AND OF				
17	G 34181					
17	Respondent.	[Bus. & Prof. Code § 822(d	)].			
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19	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGR	EED by and between the parti	es to the above-			
20	entitled proceedings that the following matters are	true				
}	chemical proceedings that the following matters are	· itue.	·			
21	PART	<u>TIES</u>				
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, by Karolyn M. Westfall,					
- 1						
25	Deputy Attorney General.	•				
26	2. Respondent Alan Samuel Coit, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding					
27	by attorney Jeffrey G. Keane, Esq., whose address is: 74770 Highway 111, Suite 201, Indian					
28	Wells, CA 92210.					
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3. On or about June 13, 1977, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34181 to 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. 800-2017-039603, and will expire on May 31, 2021, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 4. Accusation No. 800-2017-039603 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 July 28, 2020. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2017-039603 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.
  - 6. Section 822 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

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:

(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.

#### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 7. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2017-039603. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with his counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Order.
- 8. 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

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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.

9. Having the benefit of counsel, Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

# FACTUAL BASIS FOR ORDER IMPOSING LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

- 10. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a *prima facie* case establishing that Respondent is able to practice medicine safely, but suffers from a benign essential tremor that precludes him from performing circumcisions and other surgical procedures. Complainant has received no reported adverse outcomes.
- 11. Having the benefit of counsel, Respondent agrees to the issuance of an Order Imposing License Restrictions pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 822, subdivision (d) immediately restricting his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34181 as detailed in the Order, below.

### **CONTINGENCY**

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

- 13. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 14. 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 Order:

#### **ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent Alan Samuel Coit's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34181, shall be and is hereby restricted pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 822, subdivision (d), as follows:

Respondent is prohibited from performing circumcisions or other surgical procedures.

- VIOLATION OF ORDER. Failure to fully comply with this Order Imposing License Restrictions by Respondent shall constitute unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary action.
- 2. <u>REINSTATEMENT</u>. If Respondent should ever apply for removal of the license restriction described above, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2017-039603 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent. Such reinstatement shall be governed by California Business and Professions Code sections 822 and 823.

#### **ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Jeffrey G. Keane, 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 Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED:

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ALAN SAMUEL COIT, M.D.

Respondent

1	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Alan Samuel Coit, M.D., the terms and				
2	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Order. I approve				
3	its form and content.				
4	DATED: 2.10-21 AM /Sleave				
5	JEFFREY G. KEANE, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent				
6					
7	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>				
8	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for				
9	consideration by the Medical Board of California.				
10	2/10/21				
11	DATED: Respectfully submitted,				
12	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California				
13	ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General				
14	(C. Mico Fall				
15	Karolyn M. Westfall				
16	Deputy Attorney General  Attorneys for Complainant				
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# Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2017-039603

1 2 3 4 5 6	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General KAROLYN M. WESTFALL Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 234540 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9465					
7	Facsimile: (619) 645-2061	•				
8	Attorneys for Complainant					
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10	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA					
11	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA					
12	SIAILOFC	ALIFORNIA				
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2017-039603		:		
14	ALAN SAMUEL COIT, M.D.	ACCUSATION				
15	35900 Bob Hope Drive, #172 Rancho Mirage, CA 92270-1766					
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate	, 				
1	No. G 34181	·				
17	Respondent.					
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19		•		. :		
20	<u>PARTIES</u>			÷		
21	1. William Prasifka (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity					
22	as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs					
23	(Board).			•		
24	2. On or about June 13, 1977, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's					
25	Certificate No. G 34181 to Alan Samuel Coit, 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 will expire on May 31, 2021, unless renewed.					
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(ALAN SAMUEL COIT, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2017-039603

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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.
  - 4. 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.

#### **SECTION 822 CAUSE FOR ACTION**

## (Mental Illness and/or Physical Illness Affecting Competency)

- 5. Respondent is subject to action under section 822 of the Code, in that his ability to practice medicine safely is impaired due to a mental illness and/or physical illness affecting competency, as more particularly alleged hereinafter:
- 6. Respondent has owned and operated a general pediatrics medical clinic since approximately 1978.
- 7. In and around 2002, Respondent was diagnosed with an essential tremor, a neurological disorder that causes involuntary and rhythmic shaking.
- 8. On or about December 21, 2017, the Board received a complaint that Respondent suffers from a severe hand tremor and is unable to perform medical exams appropriately.
- 9. On or about February 27, 2018, an investigator for the Board made an unannounced visit to Respondent's medical clinic. During this interaction, the investigator noted Respondent

was experiencing subtle hand tremors. Respondent informed the investigator that he was not under the care of a doctor at that time for the tremors, but that he takes Inderal 40 mg each day that he prescribes to himself.

- 10. On or about April 26, 2018, Respondent voluntarily submitted to a physical evaluation from Board-appointed physician R.H., M.D. (Dr. R.H.). During this examination, Respondent informed Dr. R.H. that he performs approximately six (6) circumcisions each month, and denied his tremors interfere with his practice of medicine. After a lengthy examination and a review of records, Dr. R.H. concluded, among other things, that Respondent suffers from an incurable essential tremor that precludes him from performing circumcisions safely. Dr. R.H. further opined that Respondent should be prohibited from performing any surgical procedures, but found that he is otherwise able to practice pediatric medicine safely.
- 11. On or about May 10, 2019, an investigator for the Board made another unannounced visit to Respondent's medical clinic. During this interaction, the investigator noted Respondent was experiencing subtle hand tremors.
- 12. On or about December 12, 2019, Respondent was evaluated by Y.B., M.D., Ph.D. (Dr. Y.B.) at the Movement Disorders Clinic at UCLA Medical Center. During this examination, Respondent informed Dr. Y.B. that he has noted a gradual worsening of his hand tremors since 2016, and that they affect some of his work activities, including holding the otoscope.

#### 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:

- I. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 34181, issued to Respondent, Alan Samuel Coit, M.D.;
- 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent, Alan Samuel Coit, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Inderal (name brand for propranolol) is a beta blocker medication that can be used to treat tremors, and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.