PODIATRIC MEDICAL BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:)	Case No: 500-2020-000972
LISA N. NELMS, D.P.M.)	
Doctor of Podiatric Medicine))	
License No. E-4325 Respondent.	,)	

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted by the Podiatric Medical Board of the Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, as its Decision in the above-entitled matter.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on May 18, 2023.

DATED May 11, 2023.

PODIATRIC MEDICAL BOARD

Brian Naslund Executive Officer

	{				
1	ROB BONTA				
2	Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL				
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General TRINA L. SAUNDERS				
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 207764				
5	California Department of Justice 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702				
6	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6516				
7	Facsimile: (916) 731-2117 Attorneys for Complainant				
8					
9	BEFORE THE				
10	PODIATRIC MEDICAL BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS				
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 500-2020-000972			
13	LISA N. NELMS, D.P.M.	0000 1101 200 2020 000 72			
14	1031 Miramonte Drive, Unit 6	STIPULATED SURRENDER OF			
	Santa Barbara, CA 93109	LICENSE AND ORDER			
15	Podiatrist License No. D.P.M. 4325,				
16	Respondent.				
17					
18	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AG	REED by and between the parties to the above-			
19	entitled proceedings that the following matters are	e true:			
20	PART	TIES .			
21	Brian Naslund (Complainant) is the E	xecutive Officer of the Podiatric Medical Board			
22	(Board). He brought this action solely in his offic	ial capacity and is represented in this matter by			
23	Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of Calif	ornia, by Trina L. Saunders, Deputy Attorney			
24	General.				
25	2. Lisa N. Nelms, D.P.M. (Respondent) is representing herself in this proceeding and				
26	has chosen not to exercise her right to be represented by counsel.				
27					
28	1				

3. On or about March 8, 2001, the Board issued Podiatrist License No. DPM 4325 to Respondent. That license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 500-2020-000972 and will expire on August 31, 2024, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 500-2020-000972 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 January 12, 2023. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 500-2020-000972 is attached as Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 500-2020-000972. Respondent also has carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her 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 her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her 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. 500-2020-000972, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon her Podiatrist License.
- 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 discipline.

Respondent hereby gives up her right to contest that cause for discipline exists based on those charges.

10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation she enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of her Podiatrist License without further process.

CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her 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 Surrender and Disciplinary 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.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Podiatrist License No. DPM 4325, issued to Respondent Lisa N. Nelms, D.P.M., is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

1. The surrender of Respondent's Podiatrist License and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.

28 | ///

///

- 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a doctor of podiatric medicine in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board her pocket license and, if one was issued, her wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.
- 4. 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. 500-2020-000972 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.
- 5. Respondent shall pay the agency its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$15,298 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.
- 6. 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. 500-2020-000972 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 Podiatrist License. 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 Podiatric Medical Board.

DATED: 3.28.23

IASA N) NELMŞ, D.P.M

Respondent

ENDORSEMENT The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Podiatric Medical Board of the Department of Consumer Affairs. Respectfully submitted, ROB BONTA Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL Supervising Deputy Attorney General Trina L. Saunder's Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant LA2022601133 Nelms - Stipulated Surrender - SDAG Reviewed.docx

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 500-2020-000972

1	ROB BONTA				
2	Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL				
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General TRINA L. SAUNDERS				
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 207764				
5	California Department of Justice 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702				
6	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6516				
7	Facsimile: (916) 731-2117 Attorneys for Complainant				
8	BEFOR	E THE			
9	PODIATRIC MEDICAL BOARD				
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
11					
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 500-2020-000972			
13	LISA N. NELMS, DPM				
14	1031 Miramonte Drive, Unit 6 Santa Barbara, CA 93109	ACCUSATION			
15	Doctor of Podiatrist Medicine License				
16	No. 4325,				
17	Respondent.				
18					
19					
20	PARTIES				
.21	1. Brian Naslund (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as				
22	the Executive Officer of the California Podiatric Medical Board (Board).				
23	2. On March 8, 2001, the Board issued Podiatrist License Number DPM 4325 to Lisa N				
24	Nelms, DPM (Respondent). That license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the				
25	charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2024, unless renewed.				
26	// //	, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -,			
27					
28					

(LISA N. NELMS, DPM) ACCUSATION CASE NO. 500-2020000972

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 2222 of the Code states:

The California Board of Podiatric Medicine shall enforce and administer this article as to doctors of podiatric medicine. Any acts of unprofessional conduct or other violations proscribed by this chapter are applicable to licensed doctors of podiatric medicine and wherever the Medical Quality Hearing Panel established under Section 11371 of the Government Code is vested with the authority to enforce and carry out this chapter as to licensed doctors of podiatric medicine.

The California Board of Podiatric Medicine may order the denial of an application or issue a certificate subject to conditions as set forth in Section 2221, or order the revocation, suspension, or other restriction of, or the modification of that penalty, and the reinstatement of any certificate of a doctor of podiatric medicine within its authority as granted by this chapter and in conjunction with the administrative hearing procedures established pursuant to Sections 11371, 11372, 11373, and 11529 of the Government Code. For these purposes, the California Board of Podiatric Medicine shall exercise the powers granted and be governed by the procedures set forth in this chapter.

- 5. Section 2229 of the Code makes public protection the Board's highest priority.
- 6. Section 2497 of the Code states:
- (a) The board may order the denial of an application for, or the suspension of, or the revocation of, or the imposition of probationary conditions upon, a certificate to practice podiatric medicine for any of the causes set forth in Article 12 (commencing with Section 2220) in accordance with Section 2222.
- (b) The board may hear all matters, including but not limited to, any contested case or may assign any such matters to an administrative law judge. The proceedings shall be held in accordance with Section 2230. If a contested case is heard by the board itself, the administrative law judge who presided at the hearing shall be present during the board's consideration of the case and shall assist and advise the board.
- 7. Section 2234 requires that the Board take action against any licensee charged with unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to:
 - "(b) Gross negligence.
 - (c) Repeated negligent acts.

1	8. Section 2266 of the Code provides that failure to maintain adequate and accurate			
2	medical records pertaining to patient care provided by the licensee constitutes unprofessional			
3	conduct.			
4	COST RECOVERY			
5	9. Section 2497.5 of the Code states:			
6	(a) The board may request the administrative law judge, under his or her			
7	proposed decision in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the board, to direct any licensee found guilty of unprofessional conduct to pay to the board a sum not to exceed the actual and reasonable costs of the investigation and prosecution of the case.			
8				
9	(b) The costs to be assessed shall be fixed by the administrative law judge and			
10	Il and the second to the secon			
11	assessed, not to exceed the actual and reasonable costs of the investigation and prosecution of the case.			
12 [.]	(c) When the payment directed in the board's order for payment of costs is not			
13	made by the licensee, the board may enforce the order for payment by bringing an action in any appropriate court. This right of enforcement shall be in addition to any other rights the board may have as to any licensee directed to pay costs.			
14				
15	(d) In any judicial action for the recovery of costs, proof of the board's decision shall be conclusive proof of the validity of the order of payment and the terms for payment.			
16 17	(e)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the board shall not renew or reinstate the license of any licensee who has failed to pay all of the costs ordered under this section.			
18	(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the board may, in its discretion,			
19	conditionally renew or reinstate for a maximum of one year the license of any licensee who demonstrates financial hardship and who enters into a formal agreement			
20	with the board to reimburse the board within one year period for those unpaid costs.			
21 22	(f) All costs recovered under this section shall be deposited in the Board of Podiatric Medicine Fund as a reimbursement in either the fiscal year in which the costs are actually recovered or the previous fiscal year, as the board may direct.			
23	FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE			
24	(Gross Negligence: Failure to Document Prescriptions for Controlled Substances)			
25	10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234(b), of the Code, in			
26	that she was grossly negligent in his care and treatment of Patient A.1 The circumstances are as			
27	follows:			
28	The subject patient is referred to herein as Patient A to preserve patient confidentiality.			
- 11	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

² The facts outline the treatment Patient A received, as documented by Respondent in Patient A's medical records, unless otherwise indicated.

During a May 3 2017, home visit local dressings were changed.

47.

home health and clinic.

- 80. On August 16, 2019, Respondent noted that Patient A was not getting regular dressing changes. Respondent applied local care and compression
- 81. On September 16, 2019, Respondent noted that Patient A had a private home health nurse. Respondent applied local dressings and applied compression.
- 82. On October 16, 2019, Respondent charted that compression and dressings were applied.
- 83. On October 26, 2019, Respondent applied local wound care and prescribed Keflex and pain medications. Respondent noted that Patient A requested 90 Norco tablets rather than 60, due to increased pain.
- 84. On December 19, 2019, Respondent indicated that Patient A was doing better after his discharge from the hospital. Patient A was noted to have an individual that comes by his home three times per week to help him. Respondent noted having further discussions with Patient A, who was requesting pain pills. She noted that someone must be taking them especially since Patient A was in the hospital.
- 85. During the Board's investigation into Respondent's care and treatment of Patient A, a CURES report detailing the dates of April 5, 2016 through May 28, 2020, was run. The CURES report details that hydrocodone 7.5mg was repeatedly prescribed to Patient A, by Respondent. Prescriptions for 60 tablets were noted to be a 10-day supply and those for 90 tablets were listed as 15-day supplies.
- 86. Per the CURES report, in 2017, Respondent prescribed hydrocodone 7.5 mg which was dispensed as follows: On November 18th 60 tablets; and December 22nd 60 tablets.
- 87. Per the CURES report, in 2018, Respondent prescribed hydrocodone 7.5 mg which was dispensed as follows: January 14th 60 tablets; February 8th 60 tablets; February 24th 60 tablets; March 31st 60 tablets; May 1st 60 tablets; May 29th 60 tablets; June 29th 60 tablets; July 25th 60 tablets; August 24th 60 tablets; September 21st 60 tablets; October 5th 60 tablets; November 6th 60 tablets; November 6th 60 tablets.
- 88. Per the CURES report, in 2019, Respondent prescribed hydrocodone 7.5 mg which was dispensed as follows: January 3rd 60 tablets; January 17th 60 tablets; February 28th 60