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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	)	
George T. Craig, M.D.	)	**Case No. 800-2017-033223**
Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G8597	)	
Respondent	)	

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 February 19, 2020

IT IS SO ORDERED February 12, 2020

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By: _____
Christine J. Lally
Interim Executive Director

XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
MATTHEW M. DAVIS
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
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Attorneys for Complainant

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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against: **GEORGE T. CRAIG, M.D.** **St. Mary Medical Center** **16051 Kasota Road #100** **Apple Valley, CA 92307** **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597,** Respondent.	Case No. 800-2017-033223 OAH No. 2019080660 **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. Christine J. Lally (Complainant) is the Interim Executive Director of the Medical Board of California (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Giovanni F. Mejia, Deputy Attorney General.

2. George T. Craig, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Robert W. Frank, Esq., whose address is: 110 West A Street, Suite 1200, San Diego, CA 92101.

3. On or about May 28, 1963, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597 to George T. Craig, M.D. (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. 800-2017-033223 and will expire on June 30, 2020, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 800-2017-033223 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 December 18, 2018. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2017-033223 is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2017-033223. Respondent also has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, 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 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 does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a prima facie case with respect to all of the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2017-033223. Respondent further admits that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597 is subject to Board action under section 822 of the Business and Professions Code

and hereby surrenders his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597 for the Board's formal acceptance.

9. Respondent agrees that if he ever petitions for reinstatement of his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597, or if an accusation or petition to revoke probation is ever filed against him before the Board, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2017-033223 shall be deemed true, correct, and fully admitted by Respondent for the purposes of any such proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving Respondent in the State of California or elsewhere.

10. 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. G 8597 without further notice to, or opportunity to be heard by, Respondent.

CONTINGENCY

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

12. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order shall be subject to approval by the executive director on behalf of the Board. The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order shall be submitted to the executive director for her 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 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

13. The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and 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 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 her discretion, approve and adopt this Stipulated Surrender of License and 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 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 Order or of any matter or matters related hereto.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

14. This Stipulated Surrender of License and 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.

15. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and 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.

16. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the executive director of the Board may, without further notice or opportunity to be heard by Respondent, issue and enter the following Order on behalf of the Board:

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ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597, issued to Respondent George T. Craig, 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. With respect to the action that has been taken herein pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 822, any future reinstatement of Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597 shall be governed by the procedures contained in Article 12.5 of Chapter 1 of Division 2 of the California Business and Professions Code. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 823.)

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. 800-2017-033223 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

5. 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. 800-2017-033223 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.

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ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney Robert W. Frank, Esq. 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: 29 January 2020

GEORGE T. CRAIG, M.D.
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent George T. Craig, M.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: 2-4-20

ROBERT W. FRANK, ESQ.
Attorney for 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: 2/4/2020

Respectfully submitted,

XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
MATTHEW M. DAVIS
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

GIOVANNI F. MEJIA
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2017-033223

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Attorneys for Complainant

FILED
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
SACRAMENTO Dec. 18 20 18
BY _____ ANALYST

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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against: **George T. Craig, M.D.** 16051 Kasota Road #100 Apple Valley, CA 92307 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597,** Respondent.	Case No. 800-2017-033223 **ACCUSATION**

Complainant alleges:

PARTIES

1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs ("Board").

2. On or about May 28, 1963, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597 to Respondent George T. Craig, 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 and will expire on June 30, 2020, 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 unless otherwise indicated.

4. 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."

5. Section 820 of the Code states:

"Whenever it appears that any person holding a license, certificate or permit under this division [division 2 of the Code, entitled "Healing Arts"] 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."

6. 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.

"..."

FIRST CAUSE FOR ACTION

(Mental or Physical Illness Affecting Competency)

7. Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 8597 is subject to Board action pursuant to section 822 of the Code in that his ability to practice medicine safely is impaired because he is mentally ill, or physical ill affecting competency, as more particularly alleged hereinafter:

8. On one or more occasions since January 1, 2012, Respondent engaged in conduct including, but not limited to, striking walls, desks, or other objects, throwing medical instruments or other objects, physical aggression directed toward medical professionals, patients or hospital staff persons, or angry verbal outbursts while working as a physician and surgeon in a medical facility.

9. On one or more occasions since January 1, 2012, Respondent broke sterile technique in the course of rendering care or treatment to a patient including, but not limited to, reusing or

attempting to reuse soiled bandages or other non-sterile wound dressings, throwing sterile instruments or objects, or coming into contact with non-sterile objects in the midst of a procedure.

10. In an incident occurring in or around February 2015, a registered nurse alerted Respondent that he needed to issue one or more orders into a hospital's computer system prior to commencing a surgical procedure for a patient. Respondent told the nurse that he did not know how to issue such orders and asked the nurse if she could do it for him. The nurse responded that she could not put in such orders. Respondent approached the nurse, entering what she understood to be her personal space, with his fists clenched and proceeded to berate the nurse in front of the patient and his family. The nurse felt threatened by Respondent's actions.

11. In an incident occurring in or around February 2016, Respondent was working at a hospital and yelling to a hospital staff person about surgery times. In an attempt to distract Respondent, a registered nurse, who was sitting in a rolling office chair, asked Respondent about an injury to the registered nurse's finger. Respondent grabbed one of the registered nurse's wrists pulled his arm above his head, and pulled the nurse about six feet. The registered nurse yelled in pain and asked Respondent to release his arm. Respondent eventually let go of the registered nurse's wrist and walked down a hallway while cursing and punching the wall.

12. In an incident occurring in or around May 2016, Respondent struck a hospital patient receiving medical care or treatment from Respondent in the thigh. Two surgical assistants immediately, or shortly thereafter, went to a supervisor's office to report the incident. After the surgical assistants left the supervisor's office, Respondent approached one of the surgical assistants, backed her into the wall and began yelling at her. Eventually, a "Code Gray", indicating a combative or potentially combative person, was called at the facility in response to Respondent's conduct. Respondent walked away after additional hospital staff responded to the "Code Gray."

13. In an incident occurring in or around May 2017, Respondent, while working at a hospital, slapped another patient on one of the patient's thighs. Respondent then stated to a surgical technician also attending to the patient words to the effect that Respondent had just

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punched another patient and that that was what Respondent was famous for. The surgical technician immediately, or shortly thereafter, reported the incident to a supervisor.

14. On or about May 24, 2017, the Board's Central Compliant Unit ("CCU") received a report, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 805 (the "805 Report"), from a health care facility in or around Apple Valley, California. The 805 Report stated, among other things, that, after evaluating concerns about Respondent's care of patients, the facility had in May 2017 summarily limited Respondent's privileges to surgical assist only, with no consulting or admitting privileges, and that Respondent had subsequently voluntarily relinquished all clinical privileges except for surgical assist privileges.

15. In or around July 2018, R.H., M.D. ("Dr. H."), a physician and surgeon board certified in Geriatric Medicine, Internal Medicine and Hospice and Palliative Medicine, conducted an independent medical examination of Respondent. Based on the examination, Dr. H. opined, among other things, that Respondent is unable to practice medicine safely due to a mental or physical condition and that permitting Respondent to continue to practice medicine will endanger the public health, safety or welfare.

16. In or around July 2018, T.F., Ph.D. ("Dr. F.") a psychologist board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology, performed an independent neuropsychological examination of Respondent. Based on the examination, Dr. F. opined, among other things, that Respondent is unable to practice medicine safely due to a mental condition and that permitting Respondent to continue to practice medicine will endanger the public health, safety or welfare.

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 No. G 8597, issued to Respondent George T. Craig, M.D.;

2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent George T. Craig, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

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3. Ordering Respondent George T. Craig, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the Board the costs of probation monitoring; and

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

DATED: December 18, 2018

KIMBERLY KIRCHMEYER
Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant