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

In the Matter of the Second Amended)
Accusation Against:)
)
)
Khristine Eroshevich, M.D.) Case No. 17-2009-197998
)
Physician's and Surgeon's)
Certificate No. C 37980)
)
Respondent)
·	_)

DECISION

The attached Proposed Stipulation 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 March 30, 2012.

IT IS SO ORDERED: March 2, 2012.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Shelton Duruisseau, Ph.D., Chair

Panel A

1	Kamala D. Harris		
2	Attorney General of California E. A. JONES III		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 71375		
4	California Department of Justice 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702		
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2543		
6	Facsimile: (213) 897-9395 Attorneys for Complainant		
7		ORE THE	
8	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
9	STATE OF	CALIFORNIA	
10	In the Matter of the Second Amended	Case No. 17-2009-197998	
11	Accusation Against:	OAH No. 2011080397	
12	KHRISTINE EROSHEVICH, M.D. 3656 Avenida Del Sol	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND	
13	Studio City, CA 91604-4020	DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
14	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C		
15	37980		
16	Respondent		
17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
18	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
19	<u>PA</u>	RTIES	
20	1. Linda K. Whitney (Complainant) is	s the Executive Director of the Medical Board of	
21	California. She brought this action solely in he	er official capacity and is represented in this matter	
22	by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the	State of California, by E. A. Jones III, Supervising	
23	Deputy Attorney General.		
24	2. Respondent Khristine Eroshevich,	M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this	
25	proceeding by attorney Bradley Wm. Brunon,	whose address is: 12100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite	
26	1960, Los Angeles, CA 90025		
27	3. On or about May 8, 1978, the Med	ical Board of California issued Physician's and	
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Surgeon's Certificate No. C 37980 to Khristine Eroshevich, 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 Second Amended Accusation No. 17-2009-197998 and will expire on November 30, 2013, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Second Amended Accusation No. 17-2009-197998 was filed before the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs (Board), and is currently pending against Respondent. The Second Amended Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on October 12, 2011. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the original Accusation. A copy of Second Amended Accusation No. 17-2009-197998 is attached as Exhibit A and is incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Second Amended Accusation No. 17-2009-197998. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 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 Second Amended 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 admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in the First and Sixth Causes for Discipline in Second Amended Accusation No. 17-2009-197998.

- 9. Respondent agrees that if she ever petitions for early termination or modification of probation, or if the Board ever petitions for revocation of probation, all of the charges and allegations contained in Second Amended Accusation No. 17-2009-197998 shall be deemed true, correct and fully admitted by Respondent for purposes of that proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving Respondent in the State of California.
- 10. Respondent agrees that her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

RESERVATION

11. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Medical Board of California or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

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 her counsel. 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 Settlement 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.
- 13. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including 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

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the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 37980 issued to Respondent Khristine Eroshevich, M.D. (Respondent) is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions.

- ACTUAL SUSPENSION As part of probation, Respondent is suspended from the 1. practice of medicine for 90 days beginning the forty-fifth (45th) day after the effective date of this decision.
- EDUCATION COURSE Within one year of the effective date of this Decision, and 2. on an annual basis thereafter, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for its prior approval educational program(s) or course(s) which shall not be less than 25 hours per year, for each year of probation starting in the second year of probation. The educational program(s) or course(s) shall be aimed at correcting any areas of deficient practice or knowledge and shall be Category I certified. The educational program(s) or course(s) shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure. Following the completion of each course, the Board or its designee may administer an examination to test Respondent's knowledge of the course. Starting with the second year of probation, Respondent shall provide proof of attendance for 50 hours of continuing medical education of which 25 hours were in satisfaction of this condition.
- PRESCRIBING PRACTICES COURSE Within 60 calendar days of the effective 3. date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in prescribing practices equivalent to the Prescribing Practices Course at the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program, University of California, San Diego School of Medicine (Program), at Respondent's expense, approved in advance by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall provide the Program with any information and documents that the Program may deem pertinent. Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete the classroom component of the course not later than six

(6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment. Respondent shall successfully complete any other component of the course within one (1) year of enrollment. Failure to successfully complete the course during the first 6 months of probation is a violation of probation.

A prescribing practices course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Second Amended Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

4. PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE) Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a professionalism program, that meets the requirements of Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1358.

Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete that program. Respondent shall provide any information and documents that the program may deem pertinent. Respondent shall successfully complete the classroom component of the program not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment, and the longitudinal component of the program not later than the time specified by the program, but no later than one (1) year after attending the classroom component.

A professionalism program taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Second Amended Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the program would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the program been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the program or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

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PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of 5. this Decision, and on whatever periodic basis thereafter may be required by the Board or its designee, Respondent shall undergo and complete a psychiatric evaluation (and psychological testing, if deemed necessary) by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist, who shall consider any information provided by the Board or designee and any other information the psychiatrist deems relevant, and shall furnish a written evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Psychiatric evaluations conducted prior to the effective date of the Decision shall not be accepted towards the fulfillment of this requirement. Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychiatric evaluations and psychological testing.

Respondent shall comply with all restrictions or conditions recommended by the evaluating psychiatrist within 15 calendar days after being notified by the Board or its designee.

6. MEDICAL EVALUATION AND TREATMENT Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and on a periodic basis thereafter as may be required by the Board or its designee, Respondent shall undergo a medical evaluation by a Board-appointed physician who shall consider any information provided by the Board or designee, and any other information the evaluating physician deems relevant, and shall furnish a medical report to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall provide the evaluating physician any information and documentation that the evaluating physician deems pertinent.

Following the evaluation, Respondent shall comply with all restrictions or conditions recommended by the evaluating physician within 15 calendar days after being notified by the Board or its designee. If Respondent is required by the Board or its designee to undergo medical treatment, Respondent shall, within 30 calendar days of the requirement notice, submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval the name and qualifications of a California licensed treating physician of Respondent's choice. Upon approval of the treating physician, Respondent shall within 15 calendar days undertake medical treatment and shall continue such treatment until further notice from the Board or its designee.

The treating physician shall consider any information provided by the Board or its designee or any other information the treating physician may deem pertinent prior to commencement of

treatment. Respondent shall have the treating physician submit quarterly reports to the Board or its designee indicating whether or not the Respondent is capable of practicing medicine safely. Respondent shall provide the Board or its designee with any and all medical records pertaining to treatment that the Board or its designee deems necessary.

If, prior to the completion of probation, Respondent is found to be physically incapable of resuming the practice of medicine without restrictions, the Board shall retain continuing jurisdiction over Respondent's license, and the period of probation shall be extended until the Board determines that Respondent is physically capable of resuming the practice of medicine without restrictions. Respondent shall pay the cost of the medical evaluation(s) and treatment.

7. MONITORING - PRACTICE/BILLING Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval as a practice and billing monitor(s), the name and qualifications of one or more licensed physicians and surgeons whose licenses are valid and in good standing, and who are preferably American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) certified. A monitor shall have no prior or current business or personal relationship with Respondent, or other relationship that could reasonably be expected to compromise the ability of the monitor to render fair and unbiased reports to the Board, including, but not limited to, any form of bartering, shall be in Respondent's field of practice, and must agree to serve as Respondent's monitor. Respondent shall pay all monitoring costs.

The Board or its designee shall provide the approved monitor with copies of the Decision and Second Amended Accusation, and a proposed monitoring plan. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of the Decision, Second Amended Accusation, and proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a signed statement that the monitor has read the Decision and Second Amended Accusation, fully understands the role of a monitor, and agrees or disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan. If the monitor disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a revised monitoring plan with the signed statement.

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and continuing throughout probation, Respondent's practice and billing shall be monitored by the approved monitor.

Respondent shall make all records available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises by the monitor at all times during business hours, and shall retain the records for the entire term of probation.

If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a monitor within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, the Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine until a monitor is approved to provide monitoring responsibility.

The monitor(s) shall submit a quarterly written report to the Board or its designee which includes an evaluation of Respondent's performance, indicating whether Respondent's practices are within the standards of practice for medicine and billing, and whether Respondent is practicing medicine safely and billing appropriately. It shall be the sole responsibility of Respondent to ensure that the monitor submits the quarterly written reports to the Board or its designee within 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, Respondent shall, within 5 calendar days of such resignation or unavailability, submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, the name and qualifications of a replacement monitor who will be assuming that responsibility within 15 calendar days. If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a replacement monitor within 60 days of the resignation or unavailability of the monitor, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall cease the practice until a replacement monitor is approved and assumes monitoring responsibility.

In lieu of a monitor, Respondent may participate in a professional enhancement program equivalent to the one offered by the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine, that includes, at minimum, quarterly chart review, semi-annual practice assessment, and semi-annual review of professional growth and education. Respondent shall participate in the professional enhancement program at Respondent's expense during the term of probation.

8. NOTIFICATION Within seven days of the effective date of this Decision, the Respondent shall provide a true copy of the Decision and Second Amended Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine, including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15 calendar days.

This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

- 9. <u>SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS</u> During probation, Respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants.
- 10. <u>OBEY ALL LAWS</u> Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments and other orders.
- 11. <u>QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS</u> Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.

Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

12. GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS

Compliance with Probation Unit

Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation unit and all terms and condition of this Decision.

Address Changes

Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Board informed of Respondent's business and residence addresses, email addresses (if available) and telephone number. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Board or its designee. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business

and Professions Code section 2021(b).

Place of Practice

Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine in Respondent's or patient's place of residence, unless the patient resides in a skilled nursing facility or other similar licensed facility.

License Renewal

Respondent shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's license.

Travel or Residence Outside California

Respondent shall immediately inform the Board, or its designee, in writing, of travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than 30 calendar days.

In the event Respondent should leave the jurisdiction of California to reside or practice Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

- 13. <u>INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD, OR ITS DESIGNEE</u> Respondent shall be available in person for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.
- 14. NON PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 15 calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than 30 calendar days and within 15 calendar days of Respondent's return to practice. Non-practice is defined as any period of time Respondent is not practicing medicine in California as defined in Business and Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least 40 hours in a calendar month in direct patient care, clinical activity or teaching or other activity as approved by the Board. All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-practice. Practicing medicine in another state of the United States or Federal jurisdiction while on probation with the medical licensing authority of that state or jurisdiction shall not be considered non-practice. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall

not be considered as a period of non-practice.

In the event Respondent's period of non-practice exceeds 18 calendar months, Respondent shall successfully complete a clinical training program that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's "Manual of Model Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two years.

Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

Periods non- practice will relieve Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws and General Probation Requirements.

- 15. <u>COMPLETION OF PROBATION</u> Respondent shall comply with all financial obligations (e.g., probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.
- 16. <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u> Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, Petition to Revoke Probation, or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
- 17. <u>LICENSE SURRENDER</u> Following the effective date of this Decision, if
 Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy
 the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request the voluntary surrender of
 Respondent's license. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to
 exercise its discretion whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed
 appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender,
 Respondent shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the

1	Board or its designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no		
2	longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical		
3	license, the application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.		
4	18. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS Respondent shall pay the costs associated		
5	with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which		
6	may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of		
7	California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar		
8	year.		
9	<u>ACCEPTANCE</u>		
10	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully		
11	discussed it with my attorney, Bradley Wm. Brunon. I understand the stipulation and the effect it		
12	will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and		
13	Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the		
14	Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.		
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18	DATED:		
19	KHRISTINE EROSHEVICH, M.D. Respondent		
20	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Khristina Freshevich, M.D. the terms and		
21	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Khristine Eroshevich, M.D. the terms and		
22	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order I approve its form and content.		
23	r approve its form and content.		
24			
25	DATED:		
26	BRADLEY Wm. BRUNON		
27	Attorney for Respondent		
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2	ENDORSEMENT	
3	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully	
4	submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer	
5	Affairs.	
6	Dated: $1/(2/12)$ Respectfully submitted,	
7	Dated: $l/(q/12)$ Respectfully submitted, KAMALA D. HARRIS	
8	Attorney General of California	
9	7/10	
10	E. A. JONES III Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
11	Attorneys for Complainant	
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Exhibit A

Second Amended Accusation No. 17-2009-197998

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California	FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
2	E. A. JONES III	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA SACRAMENTO OCTOBER (2 20)	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 71375	BY: MONTALBOND ANALYST	
4	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013		
5	Telephone: (213) 897-2543 Facsimile: (213) 897-9395		
6	Attorneys for Complainant		
7	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA		
8	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
9			
10	In the Matter of the Second Amended Accusation Against:	Case No. 17-2009-197998	
11	Vidicernie Examp Engeneracu M D	Second Amended	
12	KHRISTINE ELAINE EROSHEVICH, M.D. 501 South Beverly Drive, 3rd Floor Beverly Hills, CA 90212	A C C U S A T I O N	
13	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.		
14	C37980		
15			
16	Respondent.		
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18	Complainant alleges:		
19	PARTIES		
20	Linda K. Whitney (Complainant) brings this Second Amended Accusation solely in		
21	her official capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of		
22	Consumer Affairs.		
23	2. On or about May 8, 1978, the Medical Board of California issued Physician's and		
24	Surgeon's Certificate Number C37980 to Khristine Elaine Eroshevich, M.D. (Respondent). The		
25	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate will expire, unless renewed, on November 30, 2013.		
26	JURISDICTION		
27	3. This Second Amended Accusation is brought before the Medical Board of California		
28	(Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section		
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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 division, may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter:
 - "(1) Have his or her license revoked upon order of the division.
- "(2) Have his or her right to practice suspended for a period not to exceed one year upon order of the division.
- "(3) Be placed on probation and be required to pay the costs of probation monitoring upon order of the division.
 - "(4) Be publicly reprimanded by the division.
- "(5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as part of an order of probation, as the division 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 division 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 2234 of the Code states:

"The Division of Medical Quality¹ shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

"(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting

¹ References to the Division of Medical Quality are deemed to refer to the Medical Board of California pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2002.

the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act].

- "(b) Gross negligence.
- "(c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.
- "(1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.
- "(2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.
 - "(d) Incompetence.
- "(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
 - "(f) Any action or conduct which would have warranted the denial of a certificate."
- 6. 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."

- 7. Labor Code section 4628 provides as follows:
- "(a) Except as provided in subdivision (c), no person, other than the physician who signs the medical-legal report, except a nurse performing those functions routinely performed by a nurse, such as taking blood pressure, shall examine the injured employee or participate in the nonclerical preparation of the report, including all of the following:
 - (1) Taking a complete history.
 - (2) Reviewing and summarizing prior medical records.

(3) Composing and drafting the conclusions of the report.

- "(b) The report shall disclose the date when and location where the evaluation was performed; that the physician or physicians signing the report actually performed the evaluation; whether the evaluation performed and the time spent performing the evaluation was in compliance with the guidelines established by the administrative director pursuant to paragraph (5) of subdivision (j) of Section 139.2 or Section 5307.6 and shall disclose the name and qualifications of each person who performed any services in connection with the report, including diagnostic studies, other than its clerical preparation. If the report discloses that the evaluation performed or the time spent performing the evaluation was not in compliance with the guidelines established by the administrative director, the report shall explain, in detail, any variance and the reason or reasons therefor.
- "(c) If the initial outline of a patient's history or excerpting of prior medical records is not done by the physician, the physician shall review the excerpts and the entire outline and shall make additional inquiries and examinations as are necessary and appropriate to identify and determine the relevant medical issues.
- "(d) No amount may be charged in excess of the direct charges for the physician's professional services and the reasonable costs of laboratory examinations, diagnostic studies, and other medical tests, and reasonable costs of clerical expense necessary to producing the report. Direct charges for the physician's professional services shall include reasonable overhead expense.
- "(e) Failure to comply with the requirements of this section shall make the report inadmissible as evidence and shall eliminate any liability for payment of any medical-legal expense incurred in connection with the report.
- "(f) Knowing failure to comply with the requirements of this section shall subject the physician to a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each violation to be assessed by a workers' compensation judge or the appeals board. All civil penalties collected under this section shall be deposited in the Workers' Compensation Administration Revolving Fund.

- "(g) A physician who is assessed a civil penalty under this section may be terminated, suspended, or placed on probation as a qualified medical evaluator pursuant to subdivisions (k) and (l) of Section 139.2.
- "(h) Knowing failure to comply with the requirements of this section shall subject the physician to contempt pursuant to the judicial powers vested in the appeals board.
- "(i) Any person billing for medical-legal evaluations, diagnostic procedures, or diagnostic services performed by persons other than those employed by the reporting physician or physicians, or a medical corporation owned by the reporting physician or physicians shall specify the amount paid or to be paid to those persons for the evaluations, procedures, or services. This subdivision shall not apply to any procedure or service defined or valued pursuant to Section 5307.1.
- "(j) The report shall contain a declaration by the physician signing the report, under penalty of perjury, stating:

'I declare under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this report and its attachments, if any, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, except as to information that I have indicated I received from others. As to that information, I declare under penalty of perjury that the information accurately describes the information provided to me and, except as noted herein, that I believe it to be true.'

The foregoing declaration shall be dated and signed by the reporting physician and shall indicate the county wherein it was signed.

- "(k) The physician shall provide a curriculum vitae upon request by a party and include a statement concerning the percent of the physician's total practice time that is annually devoted to medical treatment."
- 8. Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 49.8 provides as follows:

"A medical evaluation concerning a claim for psychiatric injury (whether specific

or cumulative in nature) shall not be completed by a QME[²] in less than one hour of face to face time. One hour is considered the minimum allowable face to face time for an uncomplicated evaluation. The evaluator shall state in the evaluation report the amount of face to face time actually spent with the injured worker and explain in detail any variance below the minimum amount of face to face time stated in this regulation."

- 9. Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 49 provides in pertinent part as follows:
 - "(b) Face to Face time. "Face to face time" means only that time the evaluator is present with an injured worker. This includes the time in which the evaluator performs such tasks as taking a history, performing a physical examination or discussing the worker's medical condition with the worker. Face to face time excludes time spent on research, records review and report writing. Any time spent by the injured worker with clinical or clerical staff who perform diagnostic or laboratory tests (including blood tests or x-rays) or time spent by the injured worker in a waiting room or other area outside the evaluation room is not included in face to face time."
 - 10. Penal Code section 118, subdivision (a), provides as follows:

"Every person who, having taken an oath that he or she will testify, declare, depose, or certify truly before any competent tribunal, officer, or person, in any of the cases in which the oath may by law of the State of California be administered, willfully and contrary to the oath, states as true any material matter which he or she knows to be false, and every person who testifies, declares, deposes, or certifies under penalty of perjury in any of the cases in which the testimony, declarations, depositions, or certification is permitted by law of the State of California under penalty of perjury and willfully states as true any material matter which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of perjury.

"This subdivision is applicable whether the statement, or the testimony, declaration, deposition, or certification is made or subscribed within or without the State of California."

² Qualified Medical Examiner.

11. Section 2236 of the Code states as follows:

- "(a) The conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred.
- "(b) The district attorney, city attorney, or other prosecuting agency shall notify the Division of Medical Quality of the pendency of an action against a licensee charging a felony or misdemeanor immediately upon obtaining information that the defendant is a licensee. The notice shall identify the licensee and describe the crimes charged and the facts alleged. The prosecuting agency shall also notify the clerk of the court in which the action is pending that the defendant is a licensee, and the clerk shall record prominently in the file that the defendant holds a license as a physician and surgeon.
- "(c) The clerk of the court in which a licensee is convicted of a crime shall, within 48 hours after the conviction, transmit a certified copy of the record of conviction to the board. The division may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of a crime in order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is of an offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
- "(d) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction after a plea of nolo contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section and Section 2236.1. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred."

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonest.Acts)

12. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (e), of the Code in that she engaged in dishonest acts by making false statements in a psychiatric report and billing statement regarding a workers compensation claimant. The circumstances are as follows:

Claimant T.P.

A. On or about September 11, 2006, workers compensation claimant T.P. was

scheduled for an October 12, 2006, psychiatric evaluation with Respondent. The evaluation was subsequently rescheduled to November 2, 2006.

- B. On or about November 2, 2006, claimant T.P. presented to Respondent's office for a psychiatric evaluation. An employee of Respondent, K. Cahoon, an unlicensed and/or non-certified history taker, met with the claimant and took a psychiatric history. A colleague of Respondent, John A. Cahman, Ph.D., met with the claimant and performed a mental status exam. The claimant did not meet with Respondent face to face at any time.
- C. On or about November 2, 2006, Respondent signed a Preliminary Report regarding claimant T.P. in which Respondent stated, "The above named patient was examined by me." This statement was false since in truth and fact, Respondent did not examine the patient.
- D. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent provided a 38 page report, entitled "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry," regarding claimant T.P. to the State Compensation Insurance Fund. Respondent declared under penalty of perjury as follows: "I, Khristine Eroshevich, M.D., Ph.D., personally took the pertinent history of the applicant and performed the psychiatric examination." This statement was false since in truth and fact, Respondent did not personally take the history nor personally perform the psychiatric examination of claimant T.P. Respondent in the same report also declared under penalty of perjury that "[A]ll tests were administered, scored and interpreted by me (unless otherwise indicated)." This statement was false since in truth and fact, Respondent did not administer any of the tests. Respondent signed the name of John A. Cahman, Ph.D. to the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. without the authorization of John A. Cahman, Ph.D.
- E. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent billed the State Compensation Insurance Fund for an Initial Complex Psychiatric Evaluation. On the billing statement was written the following: "This report constitutes an ML 103 Complex Med-Legal Evaluation. Over four hours were spent in interviewing the applicant and preparing this report....This is a psychiatric evaluation." This billing statement was false since in truth and fact

Respondent did not interview the applicant, claimant T.P.

F. On or about August 28, 2007, Respondent issued a supplemental report, under penalty of perjury, in connection with her evaluation of claimant T.P., in which she admitted that, contrary to her November 23, 2006, statement under penalty of perjury, John A. Cahman, Ph.D. performed the clinical interview of claimant T.P. and that K. Cahoon "assisted in obtaining information" from the claimant, which information was reviewed by John A. Cahman, Ph.D. with claimant T.P.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Creation of a False Record)

- 13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2261 of the Code in that she knowingly made and/or signed documents (i.e., a psychiatric report and related documents) directly or indirectly related to the practice of medicine which falsely represented the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts. The circumstances are as follows:
 - A. The facts and circumstances set forth in paragraph 12 above are incorporated here as if fully set forth.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonest Acts)

- 14. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (e), of the Code in that she engaged in dishonest acts by committing perjury within the meaning of Penal Code section 118, subdivision (a). The circumstances are as follows:
 - A. The facts and circumstances set forth in paragraph 12.A. through 12.D. above are incorporated here as if fully set forth.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Gross Negligence)

- 15. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (b), of the Code in that she was grossly negligent in performing evaluations of two individuals. The circumstances are as follows:
 - A. The facts and circumstances set forth in paragraph 12 above are incorporated

here as if fully set forth.

- B. On or about November 2, 2006, and thereafter, Respondent was grossly negligent when she failed to conduct a face-to-face psychiatric examination of claimant T.P. in connection with her "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry," regarding claimant T.P.
- C. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent was grossly negligent when she authored the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. without first having conducted a face-to-face psychiatric examination of claimant T.P.
- D. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent was grossly negligent when she signed under penalty of perjury the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. in which she declared that she had personally examined claimant T.P. when in fact she had not.
- E. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent was grossly negligent when she signed the name of John A. Cahman, Ph.D. to the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. without the authorization of John A. Cahman, Ph.D.
- F. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent was grossly negligent when she billed for services that she did not personally perform in connection with the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. and overstated the quantity of time spent in rendering those services.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Repeated Negligent Acts)

- 16. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (c), of the Code in that she engaged in repeated negligent acts in performing evaluations of two individuals. The circumstances are as follows:
 - A. The facts and circumstances set forth in paragraph 12 above are incorporated here as if fully set forth.
 - B. On or about November 2, 2006, and thereafter, Respondent was negligent when she failed to conduct a face-to-face psychiatric examination of claimant T.P. in connection

with her "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry," regarding claimant T.P.

- C. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent was negligent when she authored the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. without first having conducted a face-to-face psychiatric examination of claimant T.P.
- D. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent was negligent when she signed under penalty of perjury the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. in which she declared that she had personally examined claimant T.P. when in fact she had not.
- E. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent was negligent when she signed the name of John A. Cahman, Ph.D. to the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. without the authorization of John A. Cahman, Ph.D.
- F. On or about November 23, 2006, Respondent was negligent when she billed for services that she did not personally perform in connection with the "Qualified Medical Evaluation: Psychiatry" regarding claimant T.P. and overstated the quantity of time spent in rendering those services.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Conviction of a Crime)

- 17. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2236 of the Code in that she was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon. The circumstances are as follows:
 - A. On or about November 21 and 24, 2006, Respondent wrote a prescription for C.U. for a controlled substance, an opiate, specifically, hydrocodone and acetaminophen (Vicodin) 5/500 mg tablets, quantity 50. Respondent called the prescription in to Unipharma Pharmacy in Los Alamitos, California. Respondent subsequently picked up the prescription from the pharmacy that same day. In truth and fact, C.U. was not and had never been a patient of Respondent and had never sought such medications from Respondent. The birth date provided to Unipharma in connection with the prescription for C.U. was also false. The birth date provided by Respondent in connection with the

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prescriptions was the same as her husband's birth date.

- B. On or about March 13, 2009, in the case of *People of the State of California v. Khristine Eroshevich, et al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BA353907, Respondent was charged in Count 7 of a felony complaint with obtaining a prescription for controlled substances, opiates, by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation in violation of Health and Safety Code section 11173, subdivision (a), a felony, which conduct occurred on or between October 17, 2006, and November 24, 2006.
- C. On or about October 30, 2009, in the case of *People of the State of California v*. *Khristine Eroshevich, et al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BA353907, after a preliminary hearing, Respondent was held to answer on Count 7 of the felony complaint referenced above.
- D. On or about December 11, 2009, in the case of *People of the State of California* v. *Khristine Eroshevich, et al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BA353907, an Information was filed realleging the allegations in Count 7 of the Felony Complaint referred to above.
- E. On or about October 28, 2010, in the case of *People of the State of California v. Khristine Eroshevich, et al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BA353907, Respondent was convicted by jury of the allegation in Count 7 of the Information that Respondent unlawfully prescribed a controlled substance, an opiate, namely, Hydrocodone (Vicodin), on November 24, 2006, by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact in violation of Health and Safety Code section 11173, subdivision (a), a felony.
- F. On or about January 6, 2011, in the case of *People of the State of California v. Khristine Eroshevich, et al.*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BA353907, Count 7 was reduced to a misdemeanor and Respondent was sentenced in Count 7 to one year of summary probation and ordered to pay certain fines and fees totaling \$170.00.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 1 (Unprofessional Conduct) 2 18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234 of the Code in that he 3 engaged in unprofessional conduct. The circumstances are as follows: 4 The facts and circumstances set forth in paragraphs 12 through 17 above are 5 incorporated here as if fully set forth. 6 PRAYER 7 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, 8 and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision: 9 Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number C37980, 10 issued to Khristine Elaine Eroshevich, M.D. 11 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Khristine Eroshevich, M.D.'s authority 12 to supervise physician assistants, pursuant to section 3527 of the Code; 13 Ordering Khristine Eroshevich, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the Medical 3. 14 Board of California the costs of probation monitoring; 15 Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 4. 16 17 18 DATED: <u>October 12, 2011</u> 19 LINDA K. WHITNEY **Executive Director** 20 Medical Board of California Department of Consumer Affairs 21 State of California Complainant 22 23 LA2011503116 50959009.docx 24 25 26 27 28