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

| In the Matter of the Accusation Against:             | )                          |
|--|----------------------------|
| MARCELLA MARIA WILSON, M.D.                          | ) File No. 800-2015-014789 |
| Physician's and Surgeon's<br>Certificate No. G 59275 | )<br>)<br>)                |
| Respondent   | )<br>)<br>)                |

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 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 May 4, 2018.

IT IS SO ORDERED April 5, 2018.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Bv:

Kristina D. Lawson, J.D., Chair

Panel B

| 1  | Xavier Becerra  |                                       |  |
|----|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 2  | Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ   | •                                     |  |
| 3  | Supervising Deputy Attorney General MICHAEL J. YUN  |                                       |  |
| 4  | Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 292587  |                                       |  |
|    | 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800   |                                       |  |
| 5  | San Diego, CA 92101<br>P.O. Box 85266   | i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i |  |
| 6  | San Diego, CA 92186-5266<br>Telephone: (619) 738-9453   |                                       |  |
| 7  | Facsimile: (619) 645-2061   |                                       |  |
| 8  | Attorneys for Complainant   |                                       |  |
| 9  | ,   |                                       |  |
| 10 | BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA         |                                       |  |
| 11 |   |                                       |  |
| 12 | STATE OF  | ALIFORNIA                             |  |
| 13 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against:  | Case No. 800-2015-014789              |  |
| 14 | MARCELLA MARIA WILSON, M.D.   | OAH No. 2017101060                    |  |
| 15 | 4060 4th Avenue, Suite 445<br>San Diego, CA 92103   | STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND             |  |
| 16 | Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate   | DISCIPLINARY ORDER                    |  |
| 17 | No. G 59275,  |                                       |  |
| 18 | Respondent.   | ,                                     |  |
| 19 | IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-                       |                                       |  |
| 20 | entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:   |                                       |  |
| 21 | PARTIES   |                                       |  |
| 22 | 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board               |                                       |  |
| 23 | of California. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this |                                       |  |
| 24 | matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Michael J. Yun, Deput   |                                       |  |
| 25 | Attorney General.   |                                       |  |
| 26 | 2. Respondent Marcella Maria Wilson, M.D. (respondent) is represented in this                     |                                       |  |
| 27 | proceeding by attorney Robert W. Frank, Esq., whose address is: 110 West A Street, Suite 1200     |                                       |  |
| 28 | San Diego, CA 92101.  |                                       |  |
|    |   |                                       |  |

3. On or about December 8, 1986, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59275 to Marcella Maria Wilson, 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. 800-2015-014789, and will expire on June 30, 2018, unless renewed.

# **JURISDICTION**

4. Accusation No. 800-2015-014789 was filed before the Medical Board of California, and is currently pending against respondent. A true and correct copy of Accusation No. 800-2015-014789 and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on respondent on August 28, 2017. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2015-014789 is attached as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.

# **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and fully understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2015-014789. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and fully 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 Accusation; 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, having been fully advised of same by her attorney of record Robert W. Frank, Esq.
- 7. Respondent, having the benefit of counsel, hereby voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth and/or referenced above.

# **CULPABILITY**

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 800-2015-014789, agrees that her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59275 is

subject to discipline, and agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

9. Respondent agrees that if an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation is filed against her before the Medical Board of California, or if she ever petitions for early termination or modification of probation, in any proceeding before the Medical Board of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2015-014789 shall be deemed true, correct and fully admitted by respondent for purposes of any such proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving respondent in the State of California.

# **CONTINGENCY**

- 10. The parties agree that this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be submitted to the Board for its consideration in the above-entitled matter and, further, that the Board shall have a reasonable period of time in which to consider and act on this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order after receiving it. By signing this stipulation respondent fully understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind this stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it.
- and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved and adopted by 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 Settlement and Disciplinary Order, 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 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 Board, in its discretion, does not approve and adopt this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, with the exception of this paragraph, it shall not become effective, shall be of no evidentiary value whatsoever, and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto. Respondent further agrees that should the Board reject this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for any reason, respondent will assert no claim that the Board, or any member thereof, was

prejudiced by its/his/her review, discussion and/or consideration of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order or of any matter or matters related hereto.

# ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

- 12. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties in the above-entitled matter.
- 13. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including copies of the signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures and, further, that copies shall have the same force and effect as originals.
- 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree the Board may, without further notice to or opportunity to be heard by respondent, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

# **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

# A. PUBLIC REPRIMAND

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that respondent Marcella Maria Wilson, M.D., Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59275, shall be and is hereby Publicly Reprimanded pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 2227, subdivision (a)(4). This Public Reprimand, which is issued in connection with respondent's dishonest act, as set forth in Accusation No. 800-2015-014789, is as follows:

You committed an act involving dishonesty which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon and engaged in general unprofessional conduct on or about May 19, 2014, as more fully set forth in Accusation No. 800-2015-014789, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

# B. 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

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(CCR) section 1358.1. 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. The professionalism program shall be at respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure. Failure to participate in and successfully complete the program requirements as outlined above shall constitute unprofessional conduct and be grounds for further disciplinary action.

# **ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 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 No. G 59275. I fully understand that, after signing this stipulation, I may not withdraw from it, that it shall be submitted to the Medical Board of California for its consideration, and that the Board shall have a reasonable period of time to consider and act on this stipulation after receiving it. By entering into this stipulation, I fully understand that, upon formal acceptance by the Board, I shall be publicly reprimanded by the Board and shall be required to comply with all of the terms and conditions of the Disciplinary Order set forth above. I also fully understand that any failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the Disciplinary Order set forth above shall constitute unprofessional conduct and will subject my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59275 to further disciplinary action. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED:

1/26/18

Marcella Maria Wilson, M.D.

MARCELLA MARIA WILSON, M.D. Respondent

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| 1.  | I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Marcella Maria Wilson, M.D. the terms          |  |  |
|-----|--|--|--|
| 2   | and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary |  |  |
| 3   | Order. I approve its form and content.   |  |  |
| 4   | DATED: 1-26-18   |  |  |
| 5   | ROBERT W. FRANK, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent  |  |  |
| 6   |  |  |  |
| 7   | <u>ENDORSEMENT</u>   |  |  |
| 8   | The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully              |  |  |
| 9   | submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.                                |  |  |
| 10  | Dated: 1/26/2018 Respectfully submitted,   |  |  |
| 11  | XAVIER BECERRA   |  |  |
| 12  | Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General        |  |  |
| 13  | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  |  |  |
| 14  | Michaely   |  |  |
| 15  | MICHAEL J. YUN Deputy Attorney General   |  |  |
| 16  | Attorneys for Complainant  |  |  |
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# Exhibit 1

Accusation No. 800-2015-014789

| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7 | XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General MICHAEL J. YUN Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 292587 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9453 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 | FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA SACRAMENTO <u>August 28 2017</u> BY: K. Varag Analyst |  |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 8                               | Attorneys for Complainant  | ·   |  |
| 9                               |  |   |  |
| 10                              | BEFORE THE   |   |  |
| 11                              | MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS   |   |  |
| 12                              | STATE OF CALIFORNIA  |   |  |
| 13                              | In the Matter of the Accusation Against:   | Case No. 800-2015-014789  |  |
| 14                              | MARCELLA MARIA WILSON, M.D.  | ACCUSATION  |  |
| 15                              | 4060 4th Avenue, Suite 445<br>San Diego, CA 92103  |   |  |
| 16<br>17                        | Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate<br>No. G 59275,  |   |  |
| 18                              | Respondent.  |   |  |
| 19                              |  | •   |  |
| 20                              | Complainant alleges:   |   |  |
| 21                              | PAR  | <u>TIES</u>   |  |
| 22                              | 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official   |   |  |
| 23                              | capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California.   |   |  |
| 24                              | 2. On or about December 8, 1986, the Medical Board (Board) issued Physician's and  |   |  |
| 25                              | Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59275 to Marcella Maria Wilson, M.D. (respondent). The   |   |  |
| 26                              | Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the  |   |  |
| 27                              | charges brought herein and will expire on June 30, 2018, unless renewed.   |   |  |
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ACCUSATION (800-2015-014789)

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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 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 2234 of the Code, states, in pertinent part:

"The board 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 the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.
- "(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.

# FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Dishonest Act)

- 6. Respondent has subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59275 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2234, subdivision (e), of the Code, in that she has committed an act involving dishonesty or corruption which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon, as more particularly alleged herein:
- 7. On or about June 19, 2015, the Medical Board of California's (Board) Central Complaint Unit (CCU) received a complaint from M.K., M.D. (Dr. M.K.) regarding respondent. Dr. M.K. alleged that respondent engaged in theft and forgery. Dr. M.K. provided the following information to CCU, in summary:
  - "Respondent and I have shared an office for the past 20 years. In 2014, respondent stole a blank prescription from me without my knowledge or consent. Respondent forged my signature using my signature stamp without my knowledge or consent. Respondent used the forged prescription to be excused from her mandatory test for tuberculosis. I confronted respondent in early 2015. Respondent admitted to perhaps having found a blank prescription which she used to "doodle." I again confronted

respondent in front of Dr. M.C. and Office Manager D.R. During this meeting, respondent admitted to the theft, the forgery, and submitting the prescription to her employer to be excused from tuberculosis testing."

- 8. Along with the complaint, Dr. M.K. provided a copy of two emails he received from respondent. In the emails, respondent denied stealing "pads" or forging Dr. M.K.'s signature. Respondent admitted to "doodling art" on Dr. M.K.'s prescription pad that respondent alleged she found in her drawer.
- 9. On or about July 2, 2015, CCU referred this case to the San Diego District Office of the Health Quality Investigation Unit (HQIU), an investigative arm of the California Department of Consumer Affairs and the Board, for further investigation.
- 10. On or about July 13, 2015, this case was assigned to HQIU Investigator J.P. (Inv. J.P.).
- 11. On or about August 13, 2015, Inv. J.P. interviewed M.C., M.D. (Dr. M.C.), an officemate of respondent and Dr. M.K., regarding Dr. M.C.'s interactions with respondent. Dr. M.C. provided Inv. J.P. the following information, in summary:

"I have been a psychiatrist for approximately 26 years and have known and worked with respondent for the past 13 years. Respondent and I work in the same office but work independently of each other. We do not share patients. Until about a year ago, I had not noticed any issues or problems with respondent. Around that time, Dr. M.K. asked me if I was in possession of any of his prescription pads. Through Dr. M.K., I became aware of respondent using one of Dr. M.K.'s prescription pads to be excused from a Tuberculosis test requirement at her other place of employment, UPAC. In March, Dr. M.K. wanted to have a formal meeting with office assistant D.R., respondent, and me. Initially during the meeting, we spoke with respondent regarding paying rent and helping with office supplies. During this meeting, respondent stated she was doodling on the prescription pad of Dr. M.K."

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12. On or about August 13, 2015, Inv. J.P. also interviewed Dr. M.K. who provided him the following information, in summary:

"I have been a psychiatrist for 36 years. I have been at my current location for the past 15 years. Dr. M.C., respondent, and I all share the same office space. We each work independently of each other. I first met respondent while she was doing her residency at University of California San Diego ("UCSD"). I was her supervisor. After respondent graduated, she approached me and discussed sharing an office space. I agreed and signed a lease with respondent for an office space. Recently, I became aware of respondent sending a fax to one of her employers on my prescription pad with my signature stamp. The note was regarding respondent being excused from Tuberculosis testing requirements. I did not authorize respondent to write the note, use my prescription pad, or use my signature stamp. The signature stamps are locked up, but respondent does have access to them. Theld a meeting with Dr. M.C., respondent, and D.R. During the meeting, respondent admitted to using my prescription pad to "doodle." Respondent denied forging my signature."

13. On or about August 13, 2015, Inv. J.P. also interviewed D.R. who provided him the following information, in summary:

"I have worked for Dr. M.K. for approximately 27 years. I have known Dr. M.C. for about 10 years. I have known respondent for about 15 years. I do the same work for all three doctors. In December 2014, I came to the office and conducted my morning tasks. One of the tasks is to turn on the fax machine and sort through the faxes. I determine to whom the faxes belong and place the faxes in the appropriate doctor's box. During this routine, I found a confirmation page on the fax machine. The confirmation page was the prescription pad of Dr. M.K. with a hand written note about excusing respondent from Tuberculosis testing. The prescription pad had Dr. M.K.'s stamp signature. I recognized the handwriting as belonging to respondent. I thought the prescription was odd due to Dr. M.K. being out of town at this time. When, Dr. M.K. returned to the office, I showed him the confirmation fax page

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containing his prescription pad, the hand written note, and his signature. Dr. M.K. held a meeting with Dr. M.C., respondent, and me. During the meeting, respondent stood at the doorway the whole time. When Dr. M.K. asked respondent about the prescription pad, she admitted having had possession of Dr. M.K.'s prescription pad."

- 14. On or about September 8, 2015, Inv. J.P. received a copy of the Fax Transmittal Cover Sheet containing a copy of a prescription pad belonging to Dr. M.K. In the heading section at the top of the prescription pad were the pre-printed name, address, and the medical license number of Dr. M.K. Below the heading and next to "NAME" where a patient's name would be was the inscribed name of respondent, "Marcella Wilson, M.D." The note on the prescription stated that the "patient has been [...] medically cleared," that her "past PPD's [were] reviewed," and that they were "all negative." The handwritten notes reiterated at the bottom: "Medically Cleared." The signature at the bottom of the prescription pad below the handwritten notes was that of Dr. M.K.'s stamped signature. The fax message indicated that there was an error and that the destination did not receive the communication.
- 15. On or about April 5, 2017, Inv. J.P. conducted a subject interview of respondent at the San Diego District Field Office of HQIU. The interview of audio recorded. During the interview, respondent admitted to writing the handwritten notes on Dr. M.K.'s prescription pad described above. She also admitted to using Dr. M.K.'s signature stamp that was used to sign the prescription note at the bottom of the prescription page.
- 16. During the same interview, respondent stated she needed a PPD (purified protein derivative) test results for her employer organization, called "UPAC." She admitted she sent the prescription note via fax to UPAC. However, she stated she had tried to get a hold of Dr. M.K. to get his permission, but that she was unable to get a hold of him and that is why she faxed it to UPAC without his permission. Respondent alleged she contacted UPAC afterwards and told them that they could not use the note until she got authorization from Dr. M.K.

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# SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Unprofessional Conduct)

Respondent has further subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59275 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2234, subdivisions (a) and (e), of the Code, in that she has engaged in conduct which breaches the rules or ethical code of the medical profession, or conduct which is unbecoming a member in good standing of the medical profession, and which demonstrates an unfitness to practice medicine, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 6 through 16, above, which are hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

# **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:

- Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59275, issued to 1. respondent Marcella Maria Wilson, M.D.;
- 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of respondent Marcella Maria Wilson, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants, pursuant to section 3527 of the Code, and advanced practice nurses;
- 3. Ordering respondent Marcella Maria Wilson, M.D. to pay the Medical Board of California the costs of probation monitoring, if placed on probation; and
  - 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

August 28, DATED:

**Executive Director** 

Medical Board of California

State of California

Complainant

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