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7 **BEFORE THE**
8 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
10 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2023-100344

12 **MICHAEL STEVEN LOOSE, M.D.**
13 **1028 Coombsville Road**
Napa, CA 94558

A C C U S A T I O N

14 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
15 **No. G 84055,**

16 Respondent.

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18 **PARTIES**

19 1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as
20 the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs
21 (Board).

22 2. On or about August 8, 1997, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's
23 Certificate Number G 84055 to Michael Steven Loose, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and
24 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought
25 herein and will expire on April 30, 2027, 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 (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

4. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Board deems proper.

5. Section 2220 of the Code states:

Except as otherwise provided by law, the board may take action against all persons guilty of violating this chapter. The board shall enforce and administer this article as to physician and surgeon certificate holders, including those who hold certificates that do not permit them to practice medicine, such as, but not limited to, retired, inactive, or disabled status certificate holders, and the board shall have all the powers granted in this chapter for these purposes including, but not limited to:

(a) Investigating complaints from the public, from other licensees, from health care facilities, or from the board that a physician and surgeon may be guilty of unprofessional conduct. The board shall investigate the circumstances underlying a report received pursuant to Section 805 or 805.01 within 30 days to determine if an interim suspension order or temporary restraining order should be issued. The board shall otherwise provide timely disposition of the reports received pursuant to Section 805 and Section 805.01.

(b) Investigating the circumstances of practice of any physician and surgeon where there have been any judgments, settlements, or arbitration awards requiring the physician and surgeon or his or her professional liability insurer to pay an amount in damages in excess of a cumulative total of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) with respect to any claim that injury or damage was proximately caused by the physician's and surgeon's error, negligence, or omission.

1 (c) Investigating the nature and causes of injuries from cases which shall be
2 reported of a high number of judgments, settlements, or arbitration awards against a
3 physician and surgeon.

4 6. Section 2266 of the Code states: The failure of a physician and surgeon to maintain
5 adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of services to their patients for at least
6 seven years after the last date of service to a patient constitutes unprofessional conduct.

7 7. Section 2234 of the Code states:

8 The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with
9 unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional
10 conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

11 (a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or
12 abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

13 (b) Gross negligence.

14 (c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more
15 negligent acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a
16 separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute
17 repeated negligent acts.

18 (1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically
19 appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single
20 negligent act.

21 (2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or
22 omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but
23 not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the
24 licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure
25 constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.

26 (d) Incompetence.

27 (e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption that is
28 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and

1 surgeon.

2 (f) Any action or conduct that would have warranted the denial of a certificate.

3 "..."

4 **COST RECOVERY**

5 8. Section 125.3 of the Code states:

6 (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, in any order issued in resolution of a
7 disciplinary proceeding before any board within the department or before the
8 Osteopathic Medical Board, upon request of the entity bringing the proceeding, the
9 administrative law judge may direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or
10 violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the
11 investigation and enforcement of the case.

12 (b) In the case of a disciplined licensee that is a corporation or a partnership, the
13 order may be made against the licensed corporate entity or licensed partnership.

14 (c) A certified copy of the actual costs, or a good faith estimate of costs where
15 actual costs are not available, signed by the entity bringing the proceeding or its
16 designated representative shall be prima facie evidence of reasonable costs of
17 investigation and prosecution of the case. The costs shall include the amount of
18 investigative and enforcement costs up to the date of the hearing, including, but not
19 limited to, charges imposed by the Attorney General.

20 (d) The administrative law judge shall make a proposed finding of the amount
21 of reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution of the case when requested
22 pursuant to subdivision (a). The finding of the administrative law judge with regard to
23 costs shall not be reviewable by the board to increase the cost award. The board may
24 reduce or eliminate the cost award, or remand to the administrative law judge if the
25 proposed decision fails to make a finding on costs requested pursuant to subdivision
26 (a).

27 (e) If an order for recovery of costs is made and timely payment is not made as
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1 directed in the board's decision, the board may enforce the order for repayment in any
2 appropriate court. This right of enforcement shall be in addition to any other rights
3 the board may have as to any licensee to pay costs.

4 (f) In any action for recovery of costs, proof of the board's decision shall be
5 conclusive proof of the validity of the order of payment and the terms for payment.

6 (g)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the board shall not renew or
7 reinstate the license of any licensee who has failed to pay all of the costs ordered
8 under this section.

9 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the board may, in its discretion,
10 conditionally renew or reinstate for a maximum of one year the license of any
11 licensee who demonstrates financial hardship and who enters into a formal agreement
12 with the board to reimburse the board within that one-year period for the unpaid
13 costs.

14 (h) All costs recovered under this section shall be considered a reimbursement
15 for costs incurred and shall be deposited in the fund of the board recovering the costs
16 to be available upon appropriation by the Legislature.

17 (i) Nothing in this section shall preclude a board from including the recovery of
18 the costs of investigation and enforcement of a case in any stipulated settlement.

19 (j) This section does not apply to any board if a specific statutory provision in
20 that board's licensing act provides for recovery of costs in an administrative
21 disciplinary proceeding.

22 **DEFINITIONS**

23 9. Wegovy is a prescription medication used with a reduced calorie diet and increased
24 physical activity for weight management and lowering heart disease. It is a dangerous drug as
25 defined in section 4022 of the Business and Professions Code. Wegovy requires a physician's
26 prescription, but it not scheduled by the DEA.

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1 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

2 **PATIENT 1**

3 10. From September 14, 2022, through August 3, 2023, Respondent was Patient 1's
4 treating physician. Patient 1, was a then 19-year-old female during the period of treatment. In
5 June 2023, Patient 1 house-sat at Respondent's residence, while still his patient.

6 **PATIENT 2**

7 11. Patient 2 was a 26-year-old female, who commenced treating with Respondent on
8 May 2, 2018. In October 2024, Respondent instigated a sexual relationship with Patient 2 that
9 lasted through December 2024.

10 12. During this same time period – October 2024 through December 2024 – Respondent
11 exchanged sexually explicit photographs with Patient 2.

12 13. On January 31, 2023, Respondent prescribed Wegovy 2.4 mg injection to Patient 2 as
13 an initial dose in the absence of any documented medical evaluation of Patient 2's weight-related
14 condition.

15 14. Based on the illegibility of Respondent's handwritten notes pertaining to Patient 2's
16 examinations and treatment, Respondent failed to keep adequate and accurate records for Patient
17 2.

18 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

19 **(Unprofessional Conduct: Gross Negligence)**

20 15. Paragraphs 11 through 14 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

21 16. Respondent Michael Steven Loose, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under
22 section 2234, subd. (b), of the Code, in that Respondent committed gross negligence during the
23 care and treatment of Patient 2.

24 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

25 **(Unprofessional Conduct: Repeated Negligent Acts)**

26 17. Paragraphs 10 through 14 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.
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1 18. Respondent Michael Steven Loose, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under
2 section 2234, subd. (c), of the Code, in that Respondent committed repeated negligent acts in the
3 care and treatment of Patient 1 and Patient 2.

4 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

5 **(Inadequate and Inaccurate Record Keeping)**

6 19. Paragraph 14 is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

7 20. Respondent Michael Steven Loose, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under
8 section 2266 of the Code in that Respondent failed to keep adequate and accurate medical records
9 for Patient 2.

10 **DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS**

11 21. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent Michael
12 Steven Loose, M.D., Complainant alleges that on or about April 1, 2011, in a prior disciplinary
13 action titled In the Matter of the Accusation Against Michael Steven Loose, M.D. before the
14 Medical Board of California, in Case Number 12-2008-195029, Respondent's license was placed
15 on three (3) years' probation for conviction of an alcohol related felony. That decision is now
16 final and is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

17 **PRAYER**

18 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
19 and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision:

20 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number G 84055,
21 issued to Respondent Michael Steven Loose, M.D.;

22 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Michael Steven Loose,
23 M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

24 3. Ordering Respondent Michael Steven Loose, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of the
25 investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation
26 monitoring; and

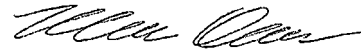
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4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: JUL 31 2026



for

REJI VARGHESE
Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant