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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:)	
DAVID E. SOSIN, M.D.)	Case No. 8002013000597
Physician's and Surgeon's)	
Certificate No. G 13099)	
Respondent.)	
)	

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on <u>December 2, 2016.</u>

IT IS SO ORDERED November 3, 2016.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By: Michelle Bholat, M.D., Chair

Panel B

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California JUDITH T. ALVARADO Supervising Deputy Attorney General TAN N. TRAN Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 197775 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-6793 Facsimile: (213) 897-9395 Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA		
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2013-000597	
12	David E. Sosin, M.D.	OAH No. 2015120974	
13	13362 Newport Avenue, Suite A Tustin, CA 92780	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
14	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G13099,		
15	Respondent.		
16	Kespondent.		
17			
18	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGE	REED by and between the parties to the above-	
19	entitled proceedings that the following matters as	re true:	
20	<u>PARTIES</u>		
21	1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant	1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board	
22	of California. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this		
23	matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Tan N. Tran, Deputy		
24	Attorney General.		
25	2. Respondent DAVID E. SOSIN, M.D. ("Respondent") is represented in this		
26	proceeding by attorney Scott A. Martin, whose address is: PIVO, HALBREICH, MARTIN &		
27	WILSON, LLP, 525 North Cabrillo Park Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92701.		
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3. On or about April 19, 1967, the Medical Board of California issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G13099 to DAVID E. SOSIN, 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. 800-2013-000597, and will expire on October 31, 2016, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 800-2013-000597 was filed before the Medical Board of California (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on July 1, 2015. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2013-000597 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2013-000597. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

9. Respondent does not contest that at an administrative hearing, complainant could establish a *prima facie* case with respect to the charges and allegations contained in Accusation

No. 800-2013-000597, and that he has thereby subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G13099 to disciplinary action.

10. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to discipline and he 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 his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his 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 Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and 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 the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

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DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G13099 issued to David E. Sosin, 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.

1. <u>CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - PARTIAL RESTRICTION</u>. During the first three years of probation, for any prescription for controlled substances as listed in Schedule(s) II and III of the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act, Respondent shall, within five business days after issuing said prescription(s), forward said patient(s)' medical record to the Board or its Designee. Said medical record(s) shall show all the following: 1) the name and address of patient; 2) the date; 3) the character and quantity of controlled substances involved; and 4) the indications and diagnosis for which the controlled substances were furnished.

Although Respondent has never previously prescribed or recommended medical marijuana for any patient, it is nonetheless ordered that Respondent shall not issue an oral or written recommendation or approval to a patient or a patient's primary caregiver for the possession or cultivation of marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section 11362.5. If Respondent forms the medical opinion, after an appropriate prior examination and medical indication, that a patient's medical condition may benefit from the use of marijuana, Respondent shall so inform the patient and shall refer the patient to another physician who, following an appropriate prior examination and medical indication, may independently issue a medically appropriate recommendation or approval for the possession or cultivation of marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section 11362.5. In addition, Respondent shall inform the patient or the patient's primary caregiver that Respondent is prohibited from issuing a recommendation or approval for the possession or cultivation of marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient and that the patient or the patient's primary caregiver may not rely on Respondent's statements to legally possess or cultivate marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient. Respondent shall fully document in the patient's chart that the patient or the patient's primary caregiver was so informed. Nothing in this condition prohibits Respondent

from providing the patient or the patient's primary caregiver information about the possible medical benefits resulting from the use of marijuana.

2. <u>CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES- MAINTAIN RECORDS AND ACCESS TO</u>

<u>RECORDS AND INVENTORIES</u>. Respondent shall maintain a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed by Respondent, and any recommendation or approval which enables a patient or patient's primary caregiver to possess or cultivate marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section 11362.5, during probation, showing all the following: 1) the name and address of patient; 2) the date; 3) the character and quantity of controlled substances involved; and 4) the indications and diagnosis for which the controlled substances were furnished.

Respondent shall keep these records in a separate file or ledger, in chronological order. All records and any inventories of controlled substances shall be available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises by the Board or its designee at all times during business hours and shall be retained for the entire term of probation.

- 3. <u>EDUCATION COURSE</u>. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and 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 40 hours per year, for each 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. Respondent shall provide proof of attendance for 65 hours of CME of which 40 hours were in satisfaction of this condition.
- 4. <u>PRESCRIBING PRACTICES COURSE</u>. Within 60 calendar days of the effective 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), 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. The prescribing practices course shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

A prescribing practices course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the 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.

5. MEDICAL RECORD KEEPING COURSE. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in medical record keeping equivalent to the Medical Record Keeping Course offered by the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program, University of California, San Diego School of Medicine (Program), 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. The medical record keeping course shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

A medical record keeping course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the 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.

6. 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. 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.

A professionalism program taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the 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.

7. <u>CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAM</u>. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a clinical training or educational program equivalent to the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program (PACE) offered at the University of California - San Diego School of Medicine ("Program"). Respondent shall successfully complete

the Program not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment unless the Board or its designee agrees in writing to an extension of that time.

The Program shall consist of a Comprehensive Assessment program comprised of a two-day assessment of Respondent's physical and mental health; basic clinical and communication skills common to all clinicians; and medical knowledge, skill and judgment pertaining to Respondent's area of practice in which Respondent was alleged to be deficient, and at minimum, a 40 hour program of clinical education in the area of practice in which Respondent was alleged to be deficient and which takes into account data obtained from the assessment, Decision(s), Accusation(s), and any other information that the Board or its designee deems relevant. Respondent shall pay all expenses associated with the clinical training program.

Based on Respondent's performance and test results in the assessment and clinical education, the Program will advise the Board or its designee of its recommendation(s) for the scope and length of any additional educational or clinical training, treatment for any medical condition, treatment for any psychological condition, or anything else affecting Respondent's practice of medicine. Respondent shall comply with Program recommendations.

At the completion of any additional educational or clinical training, Respondent shall submit to and pass an examination. Determination as to whether Respondent successfully completed the examination or successfully completed the program is solely within the program's jurisdiction.

If Respondent fails to enroll, participate in, or successfully complete the clinical training program within the designated time period, 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. The Respondent shall not resume the practice of medicine until enrollment or participation in the outstanding portions of the clinical training program have been completed. If the Respondent did not successfully complete the clinical training program, the Respondent shall not resume the practice of medicine until a final decision has been rendered on the accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period.

8. MONITORING - PRACTICE. 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 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(s) and Accusation(s), and a proposed monitoring plan. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of the Decision(s). Accusation(s), and proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a signed statement that the monitor has read the Decision(s) and Accusation(s), 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 with the signed statement for approval by the Board or its designee.

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and continuing throughout probation, Respondent's practice 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, 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 of medicine, and whether Respondent is practicing medicine

safely. 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 calendar 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 of medicine 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.

STANDARD CONDITIONS

9. <u>NOTIFICATION</u>. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, the Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and 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.

10. SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS. During probation, Respondent is

Travel or Residence Outside California

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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 thirty (30) calendar days.

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

- 14. <u>INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE</u>. Respondent shall be available in person upon request 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.
- 15. 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 while on probation 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 (2) years. Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

Periods of 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.

- 16. <u>COMPLETION OF PROBATION</u>. Respondent shall comply with all financial obligations (e.g., restitution, 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.
- 17. <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, or 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.
- 18. <u>LICENSE SURRENDER</u>. Following the effective date of this Decision, if
 Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy
 the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request to surrender his or her license.
 The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in
 determining 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 Board or its
 designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject
 to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the
 application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.
- 19. <u>PROBATION MONITORING COSTS</u>. Respondent shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar year.

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ACCEPTANCE

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I have carefully road the above Stipulated Settlen	nent and Disciplinary Order and have fully
discussed it with my attornoy, Scott A. Martin. I under	stand the stipulation and the effect it will
have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I ont	er into this Stipulated Settlement and
Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intellig	ently, and agree to be bound by the
Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California	9
DATED: 66/11e DAVIDE, SOS Respondent	SIN, M.D.
I have read and fully discussed with Respondent	DAVID B. SOSIN, M.D. the terms and
conditions and other matters contained in the above Sti	ipulated Scallement and Disciplinary Order
I approve its form and content.	
DATED:	
SCOTT A. MA Attorney for Re	ARTIN ispondant
ENDORSEME	<u>ent</u>
The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Discipl	inary Ordor is hereby respectfully
submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of C	California.
Dated: R	espectfully submitted,
Ä Jt	AMALA D. MARRIS ttomey General of California JOITH T. ALVARADO upervising Deputy Attorney General
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TANN. TRAN
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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ACCEPTANCE

2 E	ACCIPIANCE			
	I have enrefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fall			
	discussed it with my amorney, Scott A. Martin. I understand the stipe alson and the effect it wil.			
<u>.</u>	has even my Physiclam's and Surgeon's Certificate. Lenter into this 80 abused Scalement and			
Š	Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and deres to be bound by the			
ř,	Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.			
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¥ .	DAVID E. SOSIN, M.D. Respondent			
1:	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent DAVID F. SCSIN, M.D. the terms and			
	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlemen; and Disciplinary Orde			
	Lapprove its form and confent.			
1.1	DATHED: June 6,2016 LONALULANDEN SCOTT A. MARTIN Attorney for Respondent			
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is.	ENDORSEMENT			
13	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully			
18	submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.			
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20	Duted: 6/7/16 Respectfully submitted.			
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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2013-000597

FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA 1 KAMALA D. HARRIS SACRAMENTO July 1 20 15 Attorney General of California K. FIRDAYS 2 JUDITH T. ALVARADO **ANALYST** Supervising Deputy Attorney General 3 TAN N. TRAN Deputy Attorney General 4 State Bar No. 197775 California Department of Justice 5 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-6793 6 Facsimile: (213) 897-9395 7 Attorneys for Complainant 8 BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA 9 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 Case No. 800-2013-000597 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: 12 ACCUSATION David E. Sosin, M.D. 13362 Newport Avenue, Suite A 13 Tustin, CA 92780 14 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G13099, 15 Respondent. 16 17 18 Complainant alleges: **PARTIES** 19 Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official 20 capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer 21 22 Affairs (Board). On or about April 19, 1967, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's 23 2. Certificate Number G13099 to David E. Sosin, 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 2.5 herein and will expire on October 31, 2015, unless renewed. 26 27 /// 28 ///

(DAVID E. SOSIN, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2013-000597

JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
 - 4. Section 2004 of the Code states:

"The board shall have the responsibility for the following:

- "(a) The enforcement of the disciplinary and criminal provisions of the Medical Practice Act.
 - "(b) The administration and hearing of disciplinary actions.
- "(c) Carrying out disciplinary actions appropriate to findings made by a panel or an administrative law judge.
- "(d) Suspending, revoking, or otherwise limiting certificates after the conclusion of disciplinary actions.
- "(e) Reviewing the quality of medical practice carried out by physician and surgeon certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the board.
 - "(f) Approving undergraduate and graduate medical education programs.
- "(g) Approving clinical clerkship and special programs and hospitals for the programs in subdivision (f).
 - "(h) Issuing licenses and certificates under the board's jurisdiction.
 - "(i) Administering the board's continuing medical education program."
- 5. 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.
 - 6. Section 2234 of the Code, states:

"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:

(DAVID E. SOSIN, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2013-000597

- 7. Section 2242 of the Code states:
- "(a) Prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing dangerous drugs as defined in Section 4022 without an appropriate prior examination and a medical indication, constitutes unprofessional conduct.
- "(b) No licensee shall be found to have committed unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this section if, at the time the drugs were prescribed, dispensed, or furnished, any of the following applies:
- "(1) The licensee was a designated physician and surgeon or podiatrist serving in the absence of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be, and if the drugs were prescribed, dispensed, or furnished only as necessary to maintain the patient until the return of his or her practitioner, but in any case no longer than 72 hours.
- "(2) The licensee transmitted the order for the drugs to a registered nurse or to a licensed vocational nurse in an inpatient facility, and if both of the following conditions exist:
- "(A) The practitioner had consulted with the registered nurse or licensed vocational nurse who had reviewed the patient's records.
- "(B) The practitioner was designated as the practitioner to serve in the absence of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be.
- "(3) The licensee was a designated practitioner serving in the absence of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be, and was in possession of or had utilized the patient's records and ordered the renewal of a medically indicated prescription for an amount not exceeding the original prescription in strength or amount or for more than one refill.
- "(4) The licensee was acting in accordance with Section 120582 of the Health and Safety Code."
- 8. Section 2266 of the Code states: The failure of a physician and surgeon to maintain adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of services to their patients constitutes unprofessional conduct.

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9. Section 725 of the Code states:

- "(a) Repeated acts of clearly excessive prescribing, furnishing, dispensing, or administering of drugs or treatment, repeated acts of clearly excessive use of diagnostic procedures, or repeated acts of clearly excessive use of diagnostic or treatment facilities as determined by the standard of the community of licensees is unprofessional conduct for a physician and surgeon, dentist, podiatrist, psychologist, physical therapist, chiropractor, optometrist, speech-language pathologist, or audiologist.
- "(b) Any person who engages in repeated acts of clearly excessive prescribing or administering of drugs or treatment is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than six hundred dollars (\$600), or by imprisonment for a term of not less than 60 days nor more than 180 days, or by both that fine and imprisonment.
- "(c) A practitioner who has a medical basis for prescribing, furnishing, dispensing, or administering dangerous drugs or prescription controlled substances shall not be subject to disciplinary action or prosecution under this section.
- "(d) No physician and surgeon shall be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to this section for treating intractable pain in compliance with Section 2241.5."
 - 10. Section 2052 of the Code states:
- "(a) Notwithstanding Section 146, any person who practices or attempts to practice, or who advertises or holds himself or herself out as practicing, any system or mode of treating the sick or afflicted in this state, or who diagnoses, treats, operates for, or prescribes for any ailment, blemish, deformity, disease, disfigurement, disorder, injury, or other physical or mental condition of any person, without having at the time of so doing a valid, unrevoked, or unsuspended certificate as provided in this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act], or without being authorized to perform the act pursuant to a certificate obtained in accordance with some other provision of law, is guilty of a public offense, punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code, by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both the fine and either

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FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Gross Negligence)

- 13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (b), of the Code for the commission of acts or omissions involving gross negligence in the care and treatment of patient M.C. ("patient" or "M.C.")¹ The circumstances are as follows:
- 14. Respondent, a psychiatrist, began treating the patient on or about December 3, 2009. After this initial psychiatric evaluation, Respondent diagnosed the patient with ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder). During the first year of treatment, Respondent started the patient on Vyvanse (a long acting pro-drug version of Adderall), and also began to prescribe dextroamphetamine, Adderall, and Ritalin, which are all stimulants used to treat ADHD. ²
- 15. As treatment began to progress, the patient revealed his marital problems to Respondent, and the patient claimed that his wife was an alcoholic with serious behavioral problems. By 2011, about one year after the patient had started treatment with Respondent, the patient's marital issues appeared to become the focus of the treatment. During this time period, Respondent became aware that the patient had begun medicating his wife, unbeknownst to her, by placing Lexapro (an antidepressant) in her food.³
- 16. Despite learning what the patient was doing, Respondent did not seem to take active steps to stop this dangerous/illegal behavior by the patient, nor did Respondent immediately cease treatment of the patient. Instead, Respondent continued to treat the patient until about July 2013,⁴ for almost another two years, not only providing psychiatric evaluation/therapy, but also prescribing to the patient other drugs such as Crestor (a cholesterol-lowing medication),

¹ The patient is identified by initial to protect his privacy.

² Records indicate that Respondent seemed to leave it up to the patient to modify his stimulant regime to a very great extent during this time.

³ Records indicate that Respondent was apprised of this dangerous behavior. There is one note on November 9, 2011, in which Respondent wrote/warned the patient that it is illegal to "share meds..." Records of continuing treatment and subsequent discussions with Respondent revealed that Respondent may have "collaborated" with the patient to continue this behavior, in what may have been an ill-advised attempt to "help" the patient's wife and to "save" the patient's marriage.

Respondent stated that he terminated his treatment of the patient in July of 2013, primarily because he felt "threatened" by the patient's wife, not because he felt that his treatment of the patient was substandard.

(DAVID E. SOSIN, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2013-000597

(DAVID E. SOSIN, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2013-000597

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