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Via Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

Mary E. Froelich, M.D. 107 Ragsdale Road Jamestown, NC 27282

Dear Dr. Froelich:

The North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") has concluded its inquiry regarding your treatment of Patient A. As a result of this review, the Board voted to issue you this public letter of concern.

In 1994, you began treating Patient A, a student at North Carolina State University, who had a long history of psychiatric illnesses and substance abuse. You were in your residency at the time you began treating Patient A. You continued treating Patient A after she moved from Raleigh to the North Carolina mountains. You provided medications by mail or Federal Express to Patient A. However, you did not conduct periodic tests to ensure that Patient A was not abusing her prescription medication or taking illicit drugs. Your documentation of your treatment of Patient A may be inadequate, particularly after 1999.

In November 2007 Patient A was taken by the police for an emergency psychiatric evaluation. You were not the psychiatrist who evaluated Patient A at that time; however, you were aware of the evaluation. Patient A was not hospitalized following the psychiatric evaluation but was unable to return to Raleigh for an appointment with you. Thereafter, on December 27, 2007 Patient A was found dead from combined drug toxicity.

The Board notes that you have been licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina for seventeen years, since 1993. You are board-certified in general psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry. You specialize in child and adolescent psychiatry, in particular, diagnosis and treatment of ADHD and other childhood mental orders. The Board notes that this is the first time it has had occasion to make an inquiry with regard to your practice. The Board has never received any complaints about, nor has it had cause to investigate, your child and adolescent psychiatry practice. The Board further notes that your current practice does not involve treatment of patients like Patient A.

However, the Board is concerned that your treatment of Patient A and medical records may have been below the acceptable and prevailing standards. The Board strongly encourages you to attend continuing medical education courses on medical record keeping and proper prescribing of controlled substances and notes that you have enrolled in intensive courses in this regard.

Mary E. Froelich, M.D. March 1, 2011 Page Two

The Board cautions you that any repetition of practices that form the basis of this letter may lead to the commencement of formal disciplinary proceedings against your license to practice medicine, wherein this public letter of concern may be entered into evidence as aggravation.

This public letter of concern shall become a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and shall be subject to public inspection and dissemination pursuant to the provisions thereof.

Additionally, it will be reported to the Federation of State Medical Boards. It will not be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank or the Healthcare Integrity and Practitioner Data Bank.

Sincerely,

Janice E. Huff, M.D.

Board President

JEH/BB/bjs

Consent and Waiver

| I, Mary E. Froelich, M.D., would like to resolve this matter without the need for more |
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| formal proceedings and consent and agree to the Board's issuance of a public letter of concern in |
| resolution of my current matter. |
| Consented and agreed to this the 23 day of February, 2011. |
| Mary E. Froelich, M.D. |
| |
| State of North Carolina |
| County of Guilford |
| I, <u>Tava M. Keaten</u> , a Notary Public for <u>Yorkin</u> County and State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that Mary E. Froelich, M.D. personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument. |
| Witness my hand and official sea this the 23rd day of 9ermany, 2011. |
| OFFICIAL SEAL Notary Public, North Carolina COUNTY OF YADKIN TARA M. KEATON My Commission Expires 12 27 204 (SEAL) My Commission Expires: December 27,2014 |