# These charges are only allegations which may be contested by the licensee in an administrative hearing.

# NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

#### IN THE MATTER

OF

# PETER SANCHEZ, M.D.

NOTICE OF REFERRAL PROCEEDING

Peter Sanchez, M.D.

#### PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

An adjudicatory proceeding will be held pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230(10)(p) and N.Y. State Admin. Proc. Act §§301-307 and 401. The proceeding will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Committee) on November 17, 2021, at 10:30 a.m., at the offices of the New York State Department of Health, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 510, Menands (Albany), NY 12204-2719,¹ or by video conference as directed by the Administrative Law Judge, and at such other adjourned dates, times and places as the committee may direct.

At the proceeding, evidence will be received concerning the allegations set forth in the Statement of Charges, which is attached. A stenographic record of the proceeding will be made and the witnesses at the proceeding will be sworn and examined.

You may appear in person at the proceeding, or by video conference if directed by the Administrative Law Judge, and may be represented by counsel who shall be an attorney admitted to practice in New York state. You may produce evidence or sworn testimony on your behalf. Such evidence or sworn testimony shall be strictly limited to evidence and testimony

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For GPS purposes, enter "Menands", not "Albany".

relating to the nature and severity of the penalty to be imposed upon the licensee. Where the charges are based on the conviction of state law crimes in other jurisdictions, evidence may be offered which would show that the conviction would not be a crime in New York State. The Committee also may limit the number of witnesses whose testimony will be received, as well as the length of time any witness will be permitted to testify.

If you intend to present sworn testimony, the number of witnesses and an estimate of the time necessary for their direct examination must be submitted to the New York State Department of Health, Division of Legal Affairs, Bureau of Adjudication, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway - Suite 510, Albany, NY 12204-2719, ATTENTION: HON. JAMES HORAN, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF ADJUDICATION (Telephone: (518-402-0748), (henceforth "Bureau of Adjudication") as well as the Department of Health attorney indicated below, no later than twenty days prior to the scheduled date of the Referral Proceeding, as indicated above.

Pursuant to the provisions of N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230(10)(p), you shall file a written answer to each of the charges and allegations in the Statement of Charges at least ten days prior to the date of the hearing. Any charge or allegation not so answered shall be deemed admitted. You may wish to seek the advice of counsel prior to filing such answer. You may also file a written brief and affidavits with the Committee. All such documents shall be filed with the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, and a copy shall be forwarded to the attorney for the Department of Health whose name appears below, at least ten days prior to the date of the hearing. Should the parties have objection(s) to proposed witnesses or documentary evidence, the party raising the objection(s) shall contact the Bureau of Adjudication at least three days prior to the hearing date to arrange for a pre-hearing conference with the Administrative Law Judge, prior to the hearing date.

Not later than ten days prior to the date of the hearing, you are required to file one copy of your proposed exhibits (if any) with the Bureau of Adjudication at the address indicated above, and a copy of all such documents/exhibits must be served on the same date on the Department of Health attorney indicated below. On the day of the hearing, you are also required to provide the original of such exhibits and three copies, for use by the Committee.

Pursuant to §301(5) of the State Administrative Procedure Act, the Department, upon reasonable notice, will provide at no charge a qualified interpreter of the deaf to interpret the proceedings to, and the testimony of, any deaf person. Pursuant to the terms of N.Y. State

Admin. Proc. Act §401 and 10 N.Y.C.R.R. §51.8(b), the Petitioner hereby demands disclosure of the evidence that the Respondent intends to introduce at the hearing, including the names of witnesses, a list of and copies of documentary evidence and a description of physical or other evidence which cannot be photocopied.

YOU ARE HEREBY ADVISED THAT THE ATTACHED CHARGES WILL BE MADE PUBLIC FIVE BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THEY ARE SERVED.

Department attorney: Initial here\_\_\_\_

The proceeding may be held whether or not you appear. Please note that requests for adjournments must be made in writing to the Bureau of Adjudication, at the address indicated above, with a copy of the request to the attorney for the Department of Health, whose name appears below, at least five days prior to the scheduled date of the proceeding. Adjournment requests are not routinely granted. Claims of court engagement will require detailed affidavits of actual engagement. Claims of illness will require medical documentation. Failure to obtain an attorney within a reasonable period of time prior to the proceeding will not be grounds for an adjournment.

The Committee will make a written report of its findings, conclusions as to guilt, and a determination. Such determination may be reviewed by the administrative review board for professional medical conduct.

THESE PROCEEDINGS MAY RESULT IN A
DETERMINATION THAT YOUR LICENSE TO PRACTICE
MEDICINE IN NEW YORK STATE BE REVOKED OR
SUSPENDED, AND/OR THAT YOU BE FINED OR
SUBJECT TO OTHER SANCTIONS SET OUT IN NEW
YORK PUBLIC HEALTH LAW §§230-a. YOU ARE URGED
TO OBTAIN AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN
THIS MATTER.

DATED:

New York, New York October 12, 2021

Henry Weintraub

Chief Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

Inquiries should be addressed to:

Deborah Beth Medows Senior Attorney Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct 90 Church Street New York, NY 10007 (212) 417-4389

# **EXHIBIT "A"**

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER

STATEMENT

OF

PETER SANCHEZ, M.D.

OF

**CHARGES** 

Peter Sanchez, M.D., the Respondent, was licensed to practice as a physician in New York State on or about October 3, 1988, by the issuance of license number 176400 by the New York State Education Department.

# **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

A. On or about June 11, 2021, the State of Florida Board of Medicine issued a Final Order concerning Respondent. The Final Order adopted, and incorporated by reference, a Settlement Agreement ("Florida Settlement") that was issued on or about March 15, 2021 and set costs at \$12,806.24. The Florida Settlement cited an Administrative Complaint, issued on or about November 21, 2016, the allegations of which Respondent neither admitted nor denied. The Administrative Complaint contained allegations that Respondent's care of five patients fell below the standard of care. Among other matters, the Respondent allegadly failed to meet the standard of care in that Respondent: inappropriately prescribed, or prescribed inappropriate and/or excessive quantities of controlled substances; failed to perform a complete history and physical examinations; failed to consult

with previous health care providers; failed to implement alternative treatment modalities outside from prescribing large quantities of controlled substances; failed to refer to appropriate specialists; failed perform physical examination findings to justify diagnoses; failed to refer to drug detoxication or counseling to treat addiction; failed to refer for psychiatric counseling for depression; failed to consider the use of alternative, less addictive medication; and failed to keep legible medical records that contained necessary information and justified the course of treatment.

The Florida Board issued: a reprimand; a fine of \$20,000; reimbursement of costs; courses in the following subjects: laws and rules, records, and drug prescribing; and continuing medical education relating to risk management.

- 1. The conduct described in Paragraph A would constitute misconduct under the laws of New York State, pursuant to the following sections of New York State

  Law:
- a. 1. N.Y. Education Law § 6530 (3) (Practicing the profession with negligence on more than one occasion), as alleged in the facts of:
  - i. Paragraph A.
- 2. N.Y. Education Law § 6530 (32) (Failure to maintain a record), as alleged in the facts of:
  - i. Paragraph A.

### SPECIFICATION OF CHARGE

## HAVING A DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(9)(d) by having his or her license to practice medicine revoked, suspended or having other disciplinary action taken, or having his or her application for a license refused, revoked or suspended or having voluntarily or otherwise surrendered his or her license after a disciplinary action was instituted by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, where the conduct resulting in the revocation, suspension or other disciplinary action involving the license or refusal, revocation or suspension of an application for a license or the surrender of the license would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state, namely N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530 (3) and (32), as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. The facts in Paragraph A.

DATE: October 12 2021 New York, New York

Henry Weintraub
Chief Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct