Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

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In The Matter of:

TULIO ROBERTO ORTEGA, M.D (Certificate No. MD.08886R),

No. 09-I-728

CONSENT ORDER

The above-entitled proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") following the receipt of apparently reliable information which indicated that Tulio Roberto Ortega, M.D. ("Dr. Ortega"), a physician who at all times material to the facts and matters alleged herein is licensed to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, but engaged in the practice of medicine in the state of New York, had his license to practice medicine in the state of New York suspended by the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct ("the New York Board") for two years on October 30, 2008, with such suspension being stayed subject to Dr. Ortega complying with certain terms and conditions.

Predicated upon the foregoing information, the Investigating Officer assigned by the Board with respect to this matter has determined that reasonable cause exists for recommending that a formal Administrative Complaint be filed against Dr. Ortega, charging him with violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§37:1285A, (29).¹

Pursuant to La. R.S. §37:1285A(29), the Board may suspend, revoke, or impose probation or other restrictions on the license of an individual licensed to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana as a result of: (29) (t)he refusal of a licensing authority of another state to issue or renew a license, permit, or certificate to practice medicine in that state or the revocation, suspension, or other restriction imposed on a license, permit, or certificate issued by such licensing authority which prevents or restricts practice in that state, or the surrender of a license, permit, or certificate issued by another state when criminal or administrative charges are pending or threatened against the holder of such license, permit or certificate.

Dr. Ortega acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information, and as evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Ortega acknowledges that the reported information could provide the Investigating Officer with probable cause to pursue formal administrative proceedings against him for violation of the Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§37:1285(A)(29) and, further, that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing would establish grounds under the Act for the suspension, revocation or imposition of such other terms, conditions or restrictions on his license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana as the Board might deem appropriate.

Recognizing his right to have administrative adjudication of such charges, at which time he would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence on his own behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made and to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§49:955-965, Dr. Ortega, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to notice of charges, formal adjudication and written decision and pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D) consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Moreover, by his subscription hereto, Dr. Ortega also waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951, et seg. or which otherwise may be afforded to him by law to contest his agreement to or the force and effect of this document in any court or other forum or body relating to the matters referred to herein. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Ortega also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto to present this Consent Order to the Board for its consideration and to fully disclose to and discuss with the Board the nature and results of the investigation and he waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Furthermore, Dr. Ortega expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to pursue an Administrative Complaint against him or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such Complaint should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order.

Based upon the information provided, the Board has concluded that the public interest would be properly protected and served by allowing Dr. Ortega to maintain his license subject to appropriate specified terms, conditions and restrictions. In consideration of this finding, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Investigating Officer, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to insure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter by consent. Accordingly, in consideration of the foregoing, and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285 and La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D);

IT IS ORDERED that the license of Tulio Roberto Ortega, M.D., to engage in the practice of medicine in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. MD.08886R, is hereby SUSPENDED for 24 months with such suspension having commenced on October 30, 2008, however, the suspension is hereby STAYED and Dr. Ortega's continuing exercise of rights and privileges there under shall be conditioned

upon his acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms, conditions and restrictions:

- 1. Practice in Louisiana Satisfaction of Terms and Conditions Imposed on His License by the New York Board. Dr. Ortega shall successfully complete the terms and conditions imposed upon his New York medical license by the New York Board and/or any subsequent order that may be issued by the New York Board, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. Notice of Relocation to Louisiana and Personal Appearance Before Board. In the event that Dr. Ortega should ever decide to relocate to Louisiana for the purpose of practicing medicine he shall contact the Board at least sixty (60) days in advance of his return to Louisiana to arrange an appearance before the Board or its designee at its next regularly scheduled meeting. At such meeting Dr. Ortega shall demonstrate his compliance with the 2008 Consent Agreement and Order authorized by the New York Board and this Order and he shall discuss with the Board his intended plans for the practice of medicine in this state.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions set forth by this Order by Dr. Ortega shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Ortega's license to practice medicine in this state, or for such other action as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a PUBLIC RECORD.

Signed in New Orleans, Louisiana, and effective on this _____ day of Jebruary. 2010.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: Mark H. Dawson, M.D.

Vice President

Acknowledgement and Consent Follows on Next Page

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSENT

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Notary Public (Signature & Seal)	,		
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DOLORES I GIÁRRIZZO	r /		
INDUSES I BURKEDAL			

DOLORES L. GIARRIZZO
Notary Public State of New York
No. 016/6010042
Qualified in Orleans County
Commission Expires July 6