

BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

IN A MATTER INVOLVING

GREGORY HSU, D.O., LIC. #702,

Respondent.

)
) CASE NO. MA 1005004

NV STATE BOARD OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

SEP 08 2010

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

FILED

I. PARTIES

This Settlement Agreement and Order ("Agreement and Order") is made by and between Paul Edwards, Esq., Investigative Board Member ("Mr. Edwards" or "Investigative Board Member") for the Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine ("the Board") through the Board's Counsel/Executive Director, Dianna Hegeduis, Esq., and Gregory Hsu, D.O. ("Dr. Hsu") through his counsel, Christopher Rigler, Esq. (collectively referred to as "the Parties").

II. RECITALS

As a preamble to this Agreement, the Parties agree to the following:

- A. WHEREAS, the Board, through the Investigative Board Member, ascertained certain information regarding litigation filed against Dr. Hsu. The information was ascertained as a result of the Board's staff due diligence in investigating its applicants/licenseses.
- B. WHEREAS, the Investigative Board Member ("IBM") has alleged as follows:
 - (1) Re: patient "J.C." Suit was filed against the physician and served in March 2009. The IBM has alleged that the physician did not timely report the commencement of the lawsuit to the Board, i.e., within 45 days of the event.
 - (2) Re: patient "J.F." Suit was filed against the doctor in July 2006 and the matter was dismissed in September 2006. The IBM has alleged that the physician did not timely report the commencement or the dismissal of the lawsuit, i.e., within 45 days of the events.
 - (3) Additionally, the physician responded "no" to the questions about medical malpractice cases in the 2007 and 2010 renewal applications when the proper responses should have been "yes" because of the lawsuits. The IBM has alleged these are violations of NRS chapter 633 as discussed hereinafter.
- C. WHEREAS, NRS 633.527(1) states that a licensed "osteopathic physician **shall report** to the Board: (a) any action for malpractice against the osteopathic physician not later than 45 days after the osteopathic physician receives service of a summons and complaint for the action; (b) any claim for malpractice against the osteopathic physician that is submitted to arbitration or mediation not later than 45 days after the claim is submitted to arbitration or mediation; (c) any settlement, award, judgment or other disposition or any action or claim described in paragraphs (a) or (b) not later than 45 days after the settlement, award, judgment or other disposition; and (d) any sanctions imposed against the osteopathic physician that are reportable to the National Practitioner Data Bank not later than 45 days after the sanctions are imposed. NRS 633.527(2) states that should the Board find "that an osteopathic physician has violated

any provision of this section, **the Board may impose a fine of not more than \$5,000 against the osteopathic physician for each violation, in addition to any other fines or penalties permitted by law.** (Emphasis added.) This statute was added to the law in 2003. By the use of the word "shall" by the Nevada State Legislature in this statute, the Legislature intended to mandatorily require all osteopathic physicians to report any of the four (4) events mentioned in the statute.

- D. NRS 633.131(1) defines "unprofessional conduct" as including "willfully making a false . . . statement . . . in applying for a license to practice osteopathic medicine or in applying for renewal of a license to practice osteopathic medicine." Pursuant to NRS 633.511(1), "unprofessional conduct" is a ground for initiating a formal disciplinary proceeding; and such discipline may include public reprimands, the suspension or revocation of the license to practice osteopathic medicine in the State of Nevada, and an assessment of a fine not to exceed \$5,000 per violation.
- E. WHEREAS, NRS 622.400(1) states that a "regulatory body, [such as this Board] may recover from a person reasonable attorney's fees and costs that are incurred by the regulatory body as part of its investigative, administrative and disciplinary proceedings against the person if the regulatory body" either enters a final order or enters into a settlement agreement.
- F. WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to settle this matter, rather than requiring the Board to file a formal disciplinary complaint and/or prove their allegations.
- G. WHEREAS, the parties understand that this Agreement will be signed by the respective parties and will then be offered to the Board for the entire Board's approval at the next Board meeting, with the recommendation of the Investigating Board Member that this matter be settled. The Agreement shall not become effective until it has been approved by a majority of the Board and endorsed by a representative member of the Board.
- H. WHEREAS, Dr. Hsu understands that the Board is free to accept or reject this Agreement and, if rejected by the Board, a disciplinary complaint may be filed and a hearing scheduled. The Board members who review this matter for approval of this Agreement may be the same members who ultimately hear the disciplinary complaint if this Agreement is not approved by the Board. Dr. Hsu hereby agrees to waive any rights he might have to challenge the impartiality of the Board to hear the disciplinary complaint, based on prior knowledge obtained by the Board through consideration of this Agreement, if after review by the Board, this Agreement is rejected. Furthermore, if the Board does not accept the Agreement, it shall be regarded as null and void.
- I. WHEREAS, Dr. Hsu acknowledges that the Board will retain jurisdiction over this matter until all terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement and Order have been met to the satisfaction of the Board.
- J. WHEREAS, Dr. Hsu acknowledges that the Board had a reasonable basis to believe that the statutes and/or regulations regulating the practice of Osteopathic Medicine in the State of Nevada may have been violated.
- K. WHEREAS, in order to resolve the matter prior to it becoming a disciplinary proceeding and to save further costs and expenses, Dr. Hsu has elected to enter into this Agreement to resolve this matter, and this matter only.
- L. WHEREAS, Dr. Hsu acknowledges that once accepted by the Board, this Agreement and all associated documentation become a matter of public record (with the exception of medical information related to any patient).
- M. WHEREAS, Dr. Hsu has had the opportunity to obtain the advice from competent counsel of his choice concerning the terms and conditions of this Agreement and the execution thereof. No coercion has been exerted upon Dr. Hsu, nor have any promises

been made other than those reflected in this Agreement. Dr. Hsu freely and voluntarily entered into this agreement, motivated only by a desire to resolve the issues addressed herein. Dr. Hsu has executed this Agreement only after a careful reading of it and a full understanding of all its terms.

- N. WHEREAS, Dr. Hsu is fully aware of his rights to contest the charges pending against him. These rights include: representation by an attorney at his own expense, the right to a public hearing on any charges or allegations filed, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses called to testify against him, the right to present evidence on his own behalf, the right to compulsory process to secure the attendance of such witnesses, the right to testify on his own behalf, the right to receive written findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting the decision on the merits of the complaint and the right to obtain judicial review of the Board's decision. Should the Board accept this Agreement, Dr. Hsu voluntarily waives these rights.
- O. WHEREAS, this Agreement and Order contains a complete description of the agreement between the parties and it supersedes any previous agreements between the parties. All material representations, understandings and promises of the parties are contained in this Agreement. Any modifications must be set forth in writing, signed by all the parties, and approved by the Board.

III. TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT

- A. Dr. Hsu acknowledges that the failure to report allegations are true, and each such act is a violation of NRS chapter 633 for which discipline is permissible under Nevada law. In exchange for the Board not pursuing an administrative action on the non-reporting allegations or the inaccurate renewal applications/unprofessional conduct allegations, and Dr. Hsu not pursuing subsequent reviews by the appropriate appellate Courts, the parties have agreed to resolve the current matter, and only this matter. Dr. Hsu will henceforth insure that all lawsuits involving him will be timely and accurately reported to the Board, and the failure to do so may result in the Board bringing a disciplinary action against the osteopathic medical license issued by the Board to Dr. Hsu. If any lawsuit is not reported to the Board, such will be in violation of this agreement as well as the applicable statutes. **ADDITIONALLY, THE BOARD ACKNOWLEDGES, AND THE PARTIES DO HEREBY AGREE, THAT A DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL NOT AND HAS NOT BEEN FILED BY THE BOARD; AND THAT THE PARTIES HAVE SIMPLY AGREED TO AN ADMINISTRATIVE FINE BEING ASSESSED SOLELY TO RESOLVE THE NON-REPORTING ISSUE.** The Board waives all other claims and/or allegations regarding any alleged inaccurate renewal applications.
- B. Dr. Hsu agrees to pay the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) as the fine imposed for having violated NRS chapter 633. This sum **includes** all fees and costs incurred by the Board up to and including the approval of this settlement agreement by the Board at its next scheduled board meeting pursuant to NAC 633.470(2)(b)(6). Such amount shall be payable upon execution of this agreement.
- C. Should Dr. Hsu fail to satisfy and pay the indebtedness of \$1,500.00 in a timely manner as discussed herein, Dr. Hsu understands and agrees that he will be considered in default of this Agreement, and this agreement will be null and void, with the Respondent receiving credit for payments made to date. The Board may take whatever action it deems appropriate, including but not limited to reducing the balance to judgment pursuant to NRS chapter 353C.

- D. The Respondent, Dr. Hsu, agrees to bear his own fees and costs, including the fees and expenses of his own attorney(s) if applicable.
- E. This Agreement and Order shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon each of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, personal representatives, assigns and successors in interest of each party.
- F. This Agreement and Order shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Nevada.
- G. This settlement agreement consists of five (5) pages and embodies the entire agreement between the Board and the osteopathic physician. It may not be altered, amended or modified without the express consent of the parties, and any subsequent alteration, amendment, or modification shall be in writing and subject to approval by the Board.
- H. In consideration for the execution of this Agreement, Dr. Hsu hereby releases and forever discharges the State of Nevada, the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, and the Nevada Attorney General's Office (as counsel for the Board), and each of their representatives, investigators, and employees, in their individual and representative capacity (collectively the State Agencies) from any and all manner of actions, causes of actions, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims, and demands whatsoever known or unknown, in law and in equity, that he may have had, now has, may have had, or claim to have against any and all of the persons and entities named in this paragraph arising out of, or by reason of, the investigation of the allegations raised herein, and other matters relating thereto.
- I. Dr. Hsu, for himself, his heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby indemnifies and holds harmless the State of Nevada, the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, the Attorney General's office and each of their members, agents and employees in their individual and representative capacities against any and all claims, suits, demands, actions, debts, damages, costs, charges, and expenses, including court costs and attorney's fees against any persons or entities as well as all liability, losses, and damages of any nature whatsoever that the persons and entities named in this paragraph shall have or may at any time sustain or suffer by reason of this investigation, this settlement or its administration.
- J. This document may be prepared in multiple counterparts. Each counterpart, whether it be originally typed, a carbon, photocopy, facsimile or other type of copy, shall be deemed an original hereof if executed by each of the Parties hereto.
- K. LASTLY, by executing this agreement, Physician hereby expressly, knowingly, and intentionally waive the 21-working days notice requirement pursuant to Nevada's Open Meeting Laws and acknowledges that this Agreement shall be on the agenda for the Board's approval in the month of September, 2010 and that upon payment of the fine mentioned above, an order of fulfillment will be scheduled for approval by the Board in the month of October, 2010.

GREGORY HSU, D.O.

By: _____

Osteopathic Physician

Dated: _____

7/29/10

JOHN COTTON & ASSOCIATES

By: _____

Christopher Rigler, Esq., Bar # 10730

Dated: _____

8/06/10

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

1 NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
2 OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

3 BY: *D. Paul Edwards*
4 Paul Edwards, Esq.
Investigating Board Member
5 Dated: 8/17/10

By _____
6 Dianna Hegehuis, Executive Director -
Board Counsel
Dated: _____

7 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

8 On this the _____ day of _____, 2010, the said GREGORY HSU,
9 D.O., personally appeared before me, a notary public, and signed the above document, freely
10 and voluntarily, under no duress.

11 _____
Notary Public

12 **ORDER OF THE BOARD**

13 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

14 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that should Dr. Hsu fail to comply with any terms or
15 conditions of this Agreement, Dr. Hsu will be in breach of this Agreement; and this Agreement
16 will be null and void. The Board may take whatever action it deems appropriate, including but
17 not limited to proceeding with the administrative action against Dr. Hsu. Should this
18 Agreement become null and void by Dr. Hsu's failure to comply with terms or conditions of
19 this Agreement, the Board may not only pursue an administrative action against Dr. Hsu, but
20 the Board may also seek the maximum fees, fines, and costs.

21 DATED this _____ day of _____, 2010.

22 NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
23 OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

24 BY: _____
25 Dr. Daniel K. Curtis, President of the Board
26
27
28

BY: [Signature]
Paul Edwards, Esq.
Investigating Board Member

By [Signature]
Dianna Hegeduis, Executive Director -
Board Counsel

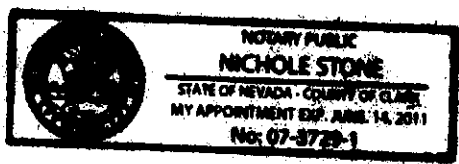
Dated: _____

Dated: 8-25-10

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On this the 29 day of July, 2010, the said GREGORY HSU, D.O., personally appeared before me, a notary public, and signed the above document, freely and voluntarily, under no duress.

[Signature]
Notary Public



ORDER OF THE BOARD

IT IS SO ORDERED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that should Dr. Hsu fail to comply with any terms or conditions of this Agreement, Dr. Hsu will be in breach of this Agreement; and this Agreement will be null and void. The Board may take whatever action it deems appropriate, including but not limited to proceeding with the administrative action against Dr. Hsu. Should this Agreement become null and void by Dr. Hsu's failure to comply with terms or conditions of this Agreement, the Board may not only pursue an administrative action against Dr. Hsu, but the Board may also seek the maximum fees, fines, and costs.

DATED this 7 day of September, 2010.

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

BY: [Signature]
Dr. Daniel K. Curtis, President of the Board

BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

IN A MATTER INVOLVING)
GREGORY HSU, D.O., LIC. #702,)
Respondent.)

CASE NO. MA 1005004 NV STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

SEP 08 2010

FILED

WRITTEN NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an order was entered regarding the Settlement Agreement in the above-referenced matter and a copy of the same is attached hereto.

DATED THIS 8th day of September, 2010.

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

By *Dianna Hegeduis*

Dianna Hegeduis, Executive Director – Board Counsel
901 American Pacific Dr., # 180
Henderson, NV 89014

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on the 8th day of September, 2010, I served a copy of the foregoing notice, with attached Settlement Agreement/Order, upon the respective parties to this matter by depositing a true copy thereof in the U.S. mail, addressed to them at their last known address on file with the Board, postage thereon prepaid.

Michelle Jones
An employee of the NEVADA STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine
901 American Pacific Drive Unit 180 • Henderson, NV 89014
(702) 732-2147