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12955 Aquilla Road
Chardon, OH 44120

OHIO STATE MEDICAL BOARD

MAR 20 2000

State Medical Board of Ohio
77 South High Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43266-0315

To Whom It May Concern,

The following concise but complete summary serves as my personal explanation for the YES answer to question number-1 on the reverse side of my Biennial License Renewal Application:

My identification number is 35042867-R. I have been privileged to hold a medical license in good standing in the State of Ohio since July, 1977.

In the summer of 1998, I was involved in a most unfortunate chain of events, summarized as follows:

(1) By profession, I am an obstetrician/gynecologist.

(2) During the month of July, 1998, a young male was observed smashing the right front passenger window from my late model automobile with a rock 3 inches in diameter. The assailant proceeded to take the rock and smash the electronics and dashboard, doing extensive damage to the interior of the car.

In addition, it was later noted that the individual stole my video camera and case, including the priceless and irreplaceable documentation of my 4-day visit to Disney World with my 3-1/2 year old daughter and wife.

The total cost of damages incurred exceeded \$7,000.00

This incident occurred in broad day light, at about 2:30 p.m., with my car parked at the rear entrance of my medical/surgical facility on Shaker Blvd in Cleveland. Eye witnesses reported the young male performing the above acts, climbing the chain-link fence with the black camera bag, falling to the road and running from the scene into the surrounding neighborhood.

A police report was promptly filed with the Cleveland Police. Detectives searched the auto for prints, took photographs and filed a report.

No individual was ever apprehended for this crime.

NOTE: This is the 5th time my personal automobile has been damaged over the course of the past 15 years while parked at clinic facilities, with damages totalling nearly \$20,000.00

This assault against my personal property and theft of something important, irreplaceable, priceless and dear to me made me exceedingly angry.

(3) With the window of my automobile smashed, glass everywhere and my car destroyed, I decided to drive the car to the dealership for immediate assessment and repair. My wife sat in the seat directly behind me.

(4) Approximately 5 miles from the clinic, we became involved in a most unfortunate incident with a full-size work van with dark smoked windows.

The van and a small pickup truck were involved in some sort of disagreement at a red light. I promptly passed the van, which aggressively pursued me for as yet unknown reasons. The driver and the front seat passenger blurted numerous expletives at myself and my wife, spat through the broken window into my car and threatened to kill me. The driver attempted to run me off the road over the curb and into a telephone pole. I simply maintained my position in the center lane of a five-lane roadway.

The van continued to pursue me aggressively committing numerous traffic violations. I attempted to plug my cell phone into the electrical dash outlet to contact the police but was unsuccessful due to damage to the dash. In the process I lacerated my hand on the shattered glass fragments.

At the next intersection, the individual came within inches of my drivers side, again threatening me with bodily harm. He was positioned in a "non-existent lane" clearly marked with double yellow lines and cross hatched yellow lines as they continued to threaten me.

I continued to drive forward amidst the rather heavy traffic. The van driver proceeded through the oncoming turn lane and attempted to block my forward movement at the red light. The door on the passenger side began to open. Fearing an imminent attack I exited the car to insure the safety of

my wife. A brief altercation followed. I was assaulted by the white male in the front seat of the van. (He spit not only in my face but directly into my mouth. This act was unprovoked on my part.) I broke a window on the passenger side of the van, the dark smoked window behind the passenger door. The records indicate there were 4 aggressive, young males in this van, apparently three with criminal records including assault and battery.

The Police departments of Lyndhurst and Beachwood were on the scene within seconds.

I was arrested and charged with assault.

I promptly sought legal advice in this matter, with the firm of:

Zipkin, Fink, & Whiting Co., L.P.A.

Two Commerce Park Square, Suite 106

23220 Chagrin Blvd.

Beachwood, OH 44122 (216)-514-6400; Fax (216)-514-6406

I was represented in the legal proceedings by Lewis Zipkin and William P. Campbell.

On the advice of my attorneys, I decided to plead guilty to misdemeanor assault, 5th degree. I chose this course of action to avoid any adverse publicity which a trial may have created. This seemed to be the prudent course to follow to minimize any negative impact on my practice. The facts in this case clearly substantiate the following findings:

- (a) There were no injuries to any individuals involved in this incident, except a few minor superficial laceration.
- (b) No medical care was sought by any of the individuals involved in this altercation.
- (c) No individual suffered any short-term or long-term sequelae from this incident.
- (d) Restitution on my part was prompt and complete.
- (e) No jail time was ordered by the Judge. One year probation was ordered by the judge.

The probation period extended from October, 1998 through October, 1999.

My probation officer in the Probation Department of the Court of Common Pleas was:

Mr. Miguel A Quinones

Marion Building, 6th floor,

1276 West Third Street

Cleveland, OH 44113 (216)-443-5537 Fax(216)-443-5390

Probation attendance and completion of all required tasks was perfect. I was released from probation in October, 1999.

Following this incident, I sought professional evaluation to understand my uncharacteristic response under these very trying circumstances. I spoke professionally with a psychiatrist over the next 6 weeks to further explore this incident and to insure that nothing like this would ever happen again. After this series of discussion and counseling it was decided that no further professional advice was needed.

My attorney recently notified me that with no prior record this minor offense should unquestionably be expunged. I am not eligible to apply for expungement until one year after my final discharge from probation. My attorney expect this will occur in October/November, 2000. I will send to the Medical Board the letter documenting this expected expungement upon receipt from the Court.

I deeply regret my involvement in this unfortunate chain of events. As I stand back from the event I wish I would have responded to being assaulted in a more reserved manner. However, I did respond to defend myself. I am glad no one was injured. My wife and I are glad this incident is behind us. This event, other than being rather costly and very stressful to my family and myself, had no influence whatsoever on my medical surgical specialized gynecological practice. It had no impact whatsoever on my medical career. No staff member or patient is aware of this event. No individual outside the involved parties, the law enforcement officers, the court officials, the professional counselors and my family are aware that this incident took place.

I certainly hope this minor offense has no bearing on my medical licensure. I have held this license in good standing for nearly 23 years. I have an unblemished medical record. Other than traffic-related matters, I have never been involved with the legal justice system for any matter whatsoever.

I am the sole provider and owner in a well-established and important medical/surgical facility in Cleveland. I have the full support of medical professionals in the community in which I practice. I am the sole provider of financial support to my wife, my daughter, and the 15 employees who

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work with me to provide state-of-the-art medical services at our outpatient facility. I look forward to my continued unblemished medical license provided by the State Medical Board of Ohio.

This letter provides you with my written authorization to speak to either William Campbell and/or Miguel Quinones about this unfortunate matter. I am glad this matter is behind me so that I can focus on my important responsibilities as father, husband, physician and medical researcher. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

OHIO STATE MEDICAL BOARD

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Sincerely yours,



Martin D. Ruddock, MD

March 15th, 2000

Chardon, OH