

STATE OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF MEDICINE

**FILED**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DEPUTY CLERK  
CLERK **Angel Sanders**  
DATE **AUG 21 2012**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Petitioner,

vs.

CASE NO.: 2012-01089

LICENSE NO.: ME 78533

LAURA ELISE REINERTSON, M.D. ,

Respondent.

\_\_\_\_\_ /


**NOTICE OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR**

COMES NOW, the Petitioner, Department of Health, and corrects the scrivener's error contained in the Final Order filed on August 17, 2012, with rendition number DOH-12-1589-S-MQA as grounds therefore states:

1. The Final Order was filed with the incorrect Settlement Agreement attached.
2. The Final Order now contains the correct Settlement Agreement and remains nunc pro tunc to the filing date.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner hereby corrects the scrivener's error contained in the Final Order.

Respectfully submitted, on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2012.



Angel Sanders  
Deputy Agency Clerk  
Department of Health  
Central Records Unit  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C01  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

STATE OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF MEDICINE

Final Order No. DOH-12-1589-<sup>S</sup>  
FILED DATE **AUG 17 2012** -MQA  
Department of Health  
*[Signature]*  
Deputy Agency Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Petitioner,

vs.

DOH CASE NO.: 2012-01089  
LICENSE NO.: ME0078533

LAURA ELISE REINERTSON, M.D.,

Respondent.

\_\_\_\_\_ /

FINAL ORDER

THIS CAUSE came before the BOARD OF MEDICINE (Board) pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, on August 3, 2012, in Tampa, Florida, for the purpose of considering a Settlement Agreement (attached hereto as Exhibit A) entered into between the parties in this cause. The Settlement Agreement required Respondent to appear before the Board at the time the Settlement Agreement was considered. Upon request by the Respondent, the Board voted to waive her appearance at the meeting. Upon consideration of the Settlement Agreement, the documents submitted in support thereof, the arguments of the parties, and being otherwise full advised in the premises, the Board rejected the Settlement Agreement and offered a Counter Settlement Agreement which was accepted on the record by the parties. The Counter Settlement Agreement

incorporates the original Settlement Agreement with the following amendments:

1. The costs set forth in Paragraph 8 of the Stipulated Disposition shall be set at \$4,553.46.

2. The suspension set forth in Paragraph 9 of the Stipulated Disposition shall be amended to require that Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Florida shall be suspended until such time as the Board receives a favorable recommendation from PRN that Respondent is safe to practice medicine and the Board determines that Respondent is capable of practicing medicine with skill and safety.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Settlement Agreement as submitted be and is hereby approved and adopted in toto and incorporated by reference with the amendments set forth above. Accordingly, the parties shall adhere to and abide by all the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement as amended.

This Final Order shall take effect upon being filed with the Clerk of the Department of Health.

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DONE AND ORDERED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August,  
2012.

BOARD OF MEDICINE

Joseph E. Tootle for  
Joy A. Tootle, Executive Director  
For Jason J. Rosenberg, M.D., Chair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Final Order has been provided by **Certified Mail** to LAURA ELISE REINERTSON, M.D., 2925 Aventura Boulevard, Suite 302, Aventura, Florida 33180; to Martin Jaffee, Esquire, 8551 W. Sunrise Boulevard, Suite 300, Plantation, Florida 33322; by email to the Professionals Resource Network (PRN) at admin@flprn.org; and by interoffice delivery to Veronica Donnelly, Department of Health, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C-65, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3253 this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012.

ms. Reinertson, M.D.  
Aventura, FL

7011 2970 0003 1591 6965

Angel Sanders

**Deputy Agency Clerk**

Martin Jaffee, Esq.

7011 2970 0003 1591 8136

Rick Scott  
Governor



John H. Armstrong, M.D.  
State Surgeon General

## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 16, 2012

**TO:** Cassandra Pasley, BSN, J.D., Bureau Chief  
Health Care Practitioner Regulation

**FROM:** Joy A. Tootle, Executive Director  
Board of Medicine

**SUBJECT:** Delegation of Authority

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This is to advise you that I am out of the office on Thursday afternoon through close of business Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Joseph Lesho is delegated to serve as acting Executive Director for the Board of Medicine for Thursday afternoon, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Mr. Lesho can be reached at (850) 245-4134. Crystal Sanford is delegated to serve as acting Executive Director for the Board of Medicine for Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Ms. Sanford can be reached at (850) 245-4132. I will return back in the office on Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

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**Mission Statement:** To protect and promote the health of all residents and visitors in the state through organized state and community efforts, including cooperative agreements with counties.

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Division of Medical Quality Assurance • Board of Medicine  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C03 • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3253  
Phone: (850) 245-4131 • Fax: (850) 488-0596 • <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/medical/index.html>

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,**

**Petitioner,**

**v.**

**DOH Case No. : 2012-01089**

**LAURA ELISE REINERTSON, M.D.,**

**Respondent.**

---

**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

Laura Elise Reinertson, M.D., referred to as the "Respondent," and the Department of Health, referred to as the "Department", stipulate and agree to the following Settlement Agreement and to the entry of a Final Order of the Board of Medicine, referred to as the "Board," Incorporating the Stipulated Facts, Stipulated Conclusions of Law, Stipulated Disposition, and Standard Provisions in this matter.

Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating the practice of medicine pursuant to Section 20.43, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 456, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 458, Florida Statutes.

**STIPULATED FACTS**

1. At all times material hereto, Respondent was a licensed physician in the State of Florida having been issued license number ME 78533.
2. The Department charged Respondent, through an Administrative Complaint that was filed and properly served upon Respondent, with violations of

Chapter 458, Florida Statutes, and the rules adopted pursuant thereto. A true and correct copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

3. Respondent neither admits nor denies the allegations of fact contained in the Administrative Complaint for purposes of these proceedings only.

#### **STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

4. Respondent admits that, in her capacity as a licensed physician, she is subject to the provisions of Chapters 456 and 458, Florida Statutes, and the jurisdiction of the Department and the Board.

5. Respondent admits that the facts alleged in the Administrative Complaint, if proven, would constitute violations of Chapter 458, Florida Statutes, as alleged in the Administrative Complaint.

6. Respondent agrees that the Stipulated Disposition in this case is fair, appropriate, and acceptable to Respondent.

#### **STIPULATED DISPOSITION**

7. **Fine:** The Board of Medicine shall impose an administrative fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) against the license of Respondent, to be paid by Respondent to Payments, Department of Health, Compliance Management Unit, Bin C-76, P. O. Box 6320, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6320, within one-hundred eighty (180) days from the date Respondent's license is reinstated. **All fines shall be paid by cashiers check**

or money order. The Board office does not have the authority to change the terms of payment of any fine imposed by the Board.

**RESPONDENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF THE FINE IS HER LEGAL OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICING IF THE FINE IS NOT PAID AS AGREED TO IN THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, SPECIFICALLY: IF WITHIN 195 DAYS OF THE DATE RESPONDENT'S LICENSE IS REINSTATED, RESPONDENT HAS NOT RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE FINE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OFFICE, RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICE UNTIL SUCH WRITTEN CONFIRMATION IS RECEIVED BY RESPONDENT FROM THE BOARD.**

**8. Reimbursement Of Costs:** Pursuant to Section 456.072, Florida Statutes, Respondent agrees to pay the Department for any costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this case. Such costs exclude the costs of obtaining supervision or monitoring of the practice, the cost of quality assurance reviews, and the Board's administrative cost directly associated with Respondent's probation, if any. Such costs will include any costs incurred until a Final Order is entered. The agreed upon amount of Department costs to be paid in this case is *six thousand three hundred fourteen dollars and sixty-eight cents (\$6,314.68)*. Respondent will pay costs to Payments, Department of Health, Compliance Management Unit, Bin C-76, P. O. Box 6320, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6320,



within one-hundred eighty (180) days from the date Respondent's license is reinstated. All costs shall be paid by cashiers check or money order. Any post-Board costs, such as the costs associated with probation, are not included in this agreement.

**RESPONDENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF THE COSTS IS HER LEGAL OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICING IF THE COSTS ARE NOT PAID AS AGREED TO IN THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, SPECIFICALLY: IF WITHIN 195 DAYS OF THE DATE OF RESPONDENT'S LICENSE IS REINSTATED, RESPONDENT HAS NOT RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE COSTS NOTED ABOVE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OFFICE, RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICE UNTIL SUCH WRITTEN CONFIRMATION IS RECEIVED BY RESPONDENT FROM THE BOARD.**

9. **Suspension Language:** Respondent's license to practice medicine shall be suspended indefinitely until such time as she appears before the Board and demonstrates that she is capable of practicing medicine with reasonable skill and safety. Respondent shall submit to a mental and physical evaluation by an evaluator approved by the Professional Resource Network, referred to as "PRN", and comply with any recommendations made by PRN or the PRN-approved evaluator. Respondent's license shall remain suspended until PRN or the PRN-approved evaluator determines that Respondent is capable of practicing medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients. Respondent may present herself to the Board and prove she is capable of practicing

medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients. The Board retains jurisdiction in this matter to impose additional practice restrictions and may include a period of probation. The terms and condition of said practice restrictions or probation shall be determined as such time as Respondent's license to practice medicine is reinstated. However, the term of suspension shall be imposed prior to the Board considering Respondent's petition for reinstatement.

10. **Professional Resource Network:** Respondent shall participate and comply with PRN. Respondent shall enter into an aftercare contract with the PRN and shall cause the medical director of PRN to send the Board a copy of that aftercare contract. Respondent shall comply with all of the conditions of her aftercare contract with PRN. Respondent shall execute a release for PRN to authorize the PRN to release information and medical records (including psychiatric records and records relating to treatment for drug dependence and alcoholism) to the Board as needed to monitor the progress of Respondent in the PRN program. Respondent shall cause the director of PRN to report to the Board any problems that may occur with Respondent and any violations of Chapter 458, Florida Statutes, which occur within thirty (30) days of the occurrence of any problems or violations of the law. Violation of the PRN contract shall constitute a violation of the terms of the Final Order.

#### **STANDARD PROVISIONS**

11. **Appearance:** Respondent is required to appear before the Board at the meeting of the Board where this Settlement Agreement is considered.

12. **No force or effect until final order:** It is expressly understood that this Settlement Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and the Department. In this regard, the foregoing paragraphs (and only the foregoing paragraphs) shall have no force and effect unless the Board enters a Final Order Incorporating the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

13. **Addresses:** Respondent must keep current residence and practice addresses on file with the Board. Respondent shall notify the Board within ten (10) days of any changes of said addresses.

14. **Future Conduct:** In the future, Respondent shall not violate Chapter 456, 458 or 893, Florida Statutes, or the rules promulgated pursuant thereto, or any other state or federal law, rule, or regulation relating to the practice or the ability to practice medicine. Prior to signing this Settlement Agreement, Respondent shall read Chapters 456, 458 and 893 and the Rules of the Board of Medicine, at Chapter 64B8, Florida Administrative Code.

15. **Violation of terms considered:** It is expressly understood that a violation of the terms of this Settlement Agreement shall be considered a violation of a Final Order of the Board, for which disciplinary action may be initiated pursuant to Chapters 456 and 458, Florida Statutes.

16. **Purpose of Agreement:** Respondent, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, executes this Settlement Agreement. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Board to review and examine all investigative file materials concerning Respondent prior to or in

conjunction with consideration of the Settlement Agreement. Respondent agrees to support this Settlement Agreement at the time it is presented to the Board and shall offer no evidence, testimony or argument that disputes or contravenes any stipulated fact or conclusion of law. Furthermore, should this Settlement Agreement not be accepted by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Settlement Agreement and other documents and matters by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from further participation, consideration or resolution of these proceedings.

17. **No preclusion of additional proceedings:** Respondent and the Department fully understand that this Settlement Agreement and subsequent Final Order incorporating same will in no way preclude additional proceedings by the Board and/or the Department against Respondent for acts or omissions not specifically set forth in the Administrative Complaint attached as Exhibit A.

18. **Waiver of attorney's fees and costs:** Upon the Board's adoption of this Settlement Agreement, the parties hereby agree that with the exception of costs noted above, the parties will bear their own attorney's fees and costs resulting from prosecution or defense of this matter. Respondent waives the right to seek any attorney's fees or costs from the Department and the Board in connection with this matter.

19. **Waiver of further procedural steps:** Upon the Board's adoption of this Settlement Agreement, Respondent expressly waives all further procedural steps and expressly waives all rights to seek judicial review of or to otherwise

challenge or contest the validity of the Settlement Agreement and the Final Order of the Board Incorporating said Agreement.

*Remainder of this page intentionally left blank.*

SIGNED this 24 day of July, 2012.

  
LAURA ELISE REINERTSON, M.D.  
DOH Case Number 2012-01089

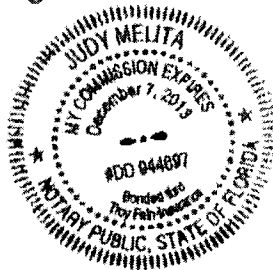
STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF Alachua

Before me personally appeared Laura Elise Reinertson, whose identity is known to me by FL drivers license (type of identification) and who, under oath, acknowledges that her signature appears above.

Sworn to and subscribed by Laura Elise Reinertson before me this 24 day of

July, 2012.



  
NOTARY PUBLIC (sign and print or stamp)

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012.

JOHN H. ARMSTRONG, MD  
State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health  
Florida Department of Health



BY: Alicia E. Adams, Esq.  
Assistant General Counsel  
Department of Health,  
Prosecution Services Unit

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,**

**Petitioner,**

**v.**

**CASE NO. 2012-01089**

**LAURA ELISE REINERTSON, M.D.,**

**Respondent.**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT**

Petitioner, Department of Health ("Petitioner" or the "Department"), by and through undersigned counsel, files this Administrative Complaint before the Board of Medicine (the "Board") against Respondent, Laura Elise Reinertson, M.D. ("Respondent"), and in support thereof alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating the practice of medicine pursuant to Chapters 20, 456, and 458, Florida Statutes (2011).
2. At all times material to this Complaint, Respondent was licensed to practice medicine in the State of Florida, having been issued license number ME 78533.
3. Respondent's address of record is 2925 Aventura Boulevard, Suite 302, Aventura, Florida 33180.



4. On or about the evening of January 23, 2012, Respondent was involved in a vehicular accident in Broward County, Florida.

5. On or about the evening of January 23, 2012, a Driving Under the Influence ("DUI") investigation was conducted by Deputy R.H. of the Broward County Sheriff's Office Breath Alcohol, Breath Testing ("BAT") unit of the Task Force for DUI with respect to Respondent.

6. Respondent was wearing scrubs and a white lab coat when Deputy R.H. began his DUI investigation on or about the evening of January 23, 2012.

7. During Deputy R.H.'s DUI investigation, Respondent informed Deputy R.H. that she had patients in the hospital who needed emergency care and that she needed to return calls and pages from the hospital because she was on call.

8. Upon the conclusion of the field sobriety exercises, Deputy R.H. placed Respondent under arrest for DUI.

9. On or about the evening of January 23, 2012, Respondent consented to two breath tests which returned results of 0.156g and 0.160g. The legal limit in Florida is 0.08g.

10. The Broward County Sheriff's Office charged Respondent with (i) DUI with alcohol; (ii) DUI with damage to the property of another person; (iii) DUI of unlawful breath alcohol level greater than 0.15g/210l; (iv) possession of an open container in a moving vehicle; and (v) failure to yield the right of way when turning left.

11. As of the date of this Administrative Complaint, no charges have been filed against Respondent by the county or state attorney's office.

12. The Professionals Resource Network ("PRN") is designated as the State of Florida's impaired practitioner program for the Board established to monitor the evaluation, care, and treatment of impaired physicians.

13. On or about February 13, 2012, the PRN contacted the Department, informing that PRN closed its file on Respondent due to her failure to contact them in compliance with correspondence PRN sent her after being notified of her January 2012, arrest for DUI.

14. On or about March 5, 2012, the Department issued an Order Compelling Examination, ordering Respondent to report for a mental and physical evaluation. On or about March 8, 2012, the Department issued a

Corrected Order Compelling Examination, correcting a scrivener's error in the first order.

15. On or about April 3, 2012, Respondent reported for an evaluation by Dr. I.J.A., M.D., F.A.P.A., a Department approved evaluator.

16. Dr. I.J.A. diagnosed Respondent with alcohol abuse, panic disorder without agoraphobia, and generalized anxiety disorder.

17. Dr. I.J.A. opined that Respondent is currently unsafe to practice medicine because she engaged in the practice of medicine being on call while intoxicated, and because of her self-reported misuse of alprazolam and her long term abuse of alcohol.

18. Alprazolam is prescribed to treat anxiety. According to Section 893.03(4), Florida Statutes, alprazolam is a Schedule IV controlled substance that has a low potential for abuse relative to the substances in Schedule III and has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. Abuse of alprazolam may lead to limited physical or psychological dependence relative to the substances in Schedule III.

19. Dr. I.J.A. opined that Respondent is an appropriate candidate for supervision by PRN.

20. Dr. I.J.A. opined that Respondent requires a period of structured treatment, partial hospitalization, and substance abuse treatment as an initial modality of care for her alcohol abuse.

21. Dr. I.J.A. further opined that Respondent requires mental health treatment by a psychiatrist for her anxiety disorder, which should be obtained on a regular basis from a local practitioner.

22. On or about April 13, 2012, PRN informed the Department that Respondent had not entered into a PRN monitoring/treatment contract.

#### COUNT ONE

23. Petitioner realleges and incorporates paragraphs 1 through 22 as if fully set forth herein.

24. Section 458.331(1)(s), Florida Statutes (2011), authorizes the Board to discipline a physician for being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to illness, a mental or physical condition, or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other material.

25. Respondent violated Section 458.331(1)(s), Florida Statutes, in one or more of the following ways:

- a. By being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to her abuse of alcohol;

- b. By being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to her misuse of prescription medication; and/or
- c. By being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to her panic and/or anxiety disorder.

Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated Section 458.331(1)(s), Florida Statutes (2011), by being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to illness, a mental or physical condition, and/or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other material.


WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board of Medicine enter an order imposing one or more of the following penalties: suspension of Respondent's license, restriction of practice, imposition of an administrative fine, issuance of a reprimand, placement of Respondent on probation, corrective action, refund of fees billed or collected, remedial education, and/or any other relief that the Board deems appropriate.

SIGNED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2012.

STEVEN L. HARRIS, M.D., M.Sc.  
Interim State Surgeon General  
Florida Department of Health

NICHOLAS W. ROMANELLO  
General Counsel  
Florida Department of Health

DANIEL HERNANDEZ  
Chief Legal Counsel  
Florida Department of Health



ALICIA E. ADAMS  
Assistant General Counsel  
Florida Bar No. 0065248  
DOH Prosecution Services Unit  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-65  
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(e) Alicia\_Adams@doh.state.fl.us

FILED  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DEPUTY CLERK  
CLERK Angel Sanders  
DATE APR 30 2012

PCP Date: April 27, 2012

PCP Members: Rafael Miguel, M.D.  
Elisabeth D. Tucker, M.D.  
Donald Mullins

### **NOTICE OF RIGHTS**

**Respondent has the right to request a hearing to be conducted in accordance with Section 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, to be represented by counsel or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoena and subpoena duces tecum issued on his or her behalf if a hearing is requested.**

### **NOTICE REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

**Respondent is placed on notice that Petitioner has incurred costs related to the investigation and prosecution of this matter. Pursuant to Section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes, the Board shall assess costs related to the investigation and prosecution of a disciplinary matter, which may include attorney hours and costs, on Respondent in addition to any other discipline imposed.**