

MQAC CASE REVIEW DISPOSITION

Commission Meeting RCM Presentations

Respondent: Murphy, Colleen

Case Number: 2011-160845

Date Presented: <u>4-5-12</u>	RCM: <u>Harvey</u>	License#: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MD / <input type="checkbox"/> PA
Panel Chair: <u>Ruiz</u>	Staff Attorney:	MQAC Clerk: <u>KRAMER</u>

PANEL A	Andison, Brantner, Burger, Clower, Concannon, Cullen, Elders, Green, Johnson, Pattison, Winslow
<u>PANEL B</u>	Cvitanovic, Dore , Gotthold , Harder, Harvey, Hensley, Hopkins, Marsh, Ruiz, Sen <u>Burger</u>

A. REQUEST FOR LEGAL ACTION : ☐ Summary Suspension ☐ Summary Action ☐ Practice Restriction

<input type="checkbox"/> Statement of Charges	<input type="checkbox"/> Statement of Allegations /Stipulation to Informal Disposition
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawal of SOC	<input type="checkbox"/> SOA/STID for Voluntary Surrender
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Decision on Application: (Denied)	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawal of SOA
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Decision on Application (Granted with conditions)	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Correction

Alleged Violations—RCW 18.130.180:

<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Moral turpitude	<input type="checkbox"/> (10) Aiding and abetting	<input type="checkbox"/> (19) Treating by secret methods
<input type="checkbox"/> (2) Misrepresentation of facts	<input type="checkbox"/> (11) Violation of rules	<input type="checkbox"/> (20) Betrayal of patient privilege
<input type="checkbox"/> (3) False advertising	<input type="checkbox"/> (12) Practice beyond scope	<input type="checkbox"/> (21) Rebating
<input type="checkbox"/> (4) Incompetence	<input type="checkbox"/> (13) Misrepresentation or fraud	<input type="checkbox"/> (22) Interference with investigation
<input type="checkbox"/> (5) Out of state action	<input type="checkbox"/> (14) Failure to supervise	<input type="checkbox"/> (23) Current drug/alcohol misuse
<input type="checkbox"/> (6) Illegal use of drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> (15) Public health risk	<input type="checkbox"/> (24) Sexual contact/patient abuse
<input type="checkbox"/> (7) Violated state or federal law	<input type="checkbox"/> (16) Unnecessary or inefficacious drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> (25) Acceptance of more than nominal gratuity
<input type="checkbox"/> (8) Failure to cooperate	<input type="checkbox"/> (17) Criminal conviction	
<input type="checkbox"/> (9) Failure to comply	<input type="checkbox"/> (18) Criminal abortion	

Other Violations of Relevant State or Federal Law or RCW 18.130.170: _____

☐ Mental Impairment ☐ Physical Impairment

B. CLOSED AFTER INVESTIGATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application investigation only - Panel decides to grant without conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> A7-Mistaken identity
<input type="checkbox"/> A1-Care rendered was within standard of care	<input type="checkbox"/> A8-No jurisdiction
<input type="checkbox"/> A2-Complainant withdrew	<input type="checkbox"/> A11- No whistleblower
<input type="checkbox"/> A3- Unique closure (Panel must explain)	<input type="checkbox"/> A12-Risk minimal, not likely to reoccur
<input type="checkbox"/> A5-Evidence does not support a violation	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Misconduct : RCW 18.130.062 No standard of care MQAC retain / Refer to Secretary non clinical

OTHER EXPLANATIONS (Legal Review, Return to Investigation)

1)

2)

GUIDE FOR CLOSURE CODES

September 2011

Code	Closure	Description
	Application	Decision to grant an unrestricted license.
A-1	Care rendered was within standard of care	The evidence establishes that the respondent met or exceeded the standard of care.
A-2	Complainant withdrew complaint	The complainant withdrew the complaint, and the complainant's testimony is necessary to meet the burden of proof.
A-3	Unique closure (Panel must explain)	Any concerns regarding Respondent have been resolved through corrective action, license revocation, and suspension, death of respondent or other circumstances. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (explain): _____ _____ _____
A-5	Evidence does not support a violation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The evidence is not sufficient to establish by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence that Respondent violated any UDA provision. This includes situations in which the investigator was unable to obtain all material evidence.
A-7	Mistaken Identity	The case opened under the wrong respondent's name.
A-8	No Jurisdiction	Respondent is not licensed in Washington, has never been licensed in Washington, and is not applying for a license in Washington.
A-11	No Whistleblower Release	Complainant would not sign a whistleblower release AND the release of complainant's identity is necessary to prove a UDA violation.
A-12	Risk Minimal- Not likely to Reoccur	There is sufficient evidence that Respondent violated the UDA, but the evidence indicates that: (a) the violation is not likely to reoccur and (b) closure poses no more than a minimal risk to the public.

zdan guideclosecode revised mlf 0914-2011

Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Susan Harvey [harvsm1@comcast.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 7:34 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: Re: CPEP assessment

mike.

1 - Attorney Work Product - RCW 42.56.290 - Drafts, notes, memoranda, statements, records or research reflecting the opinions or mental impressions of an attorney or attorney's ag

Susan
Sent from my iPad

On Mar 9, 2012, at 10:43 AM, "Farrell, Michael (DOH)" <Michael.Farrell@DOH.WA.GOV> wrote:

Hi Susan:

1 - Attorney Work Product - RCW 42.56.290 - Drafts, notes, memoranda, statements, records or research reflecting the opinions or mental impressions of an attorney or attorney's ag

Please let me know your thoughts.

Thanks.

Mike

Michael L. Farrell

Legal Unit Manager

Medical Quality Assurance Commission

Department of Health

16201 E. Indiana, Suite 1500

Spokane, WA 99216

phone: 509.329.2186

fax: 509.329.2167

e-mail: Michael.Farrell@doh.wa.gov

The Medical Quality Assurance Commission promotes patient safety and enhances the integrity of the profession through licensing, discipline, rule-making and education.

All messages to and from the Medical Commission may be disclosed to the public.

MQAC online and Provider Credential Search:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/mqac/default.htm>

Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Susan Harvey [harvsm1@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 1:18 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH); Heye, George (DOH); Heye, George (DOH); O'Neal, Kim (ATG)
Subject: RE: Amended Final Report for CPEP Client Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

1 - Attorney Work Product - RCW 42.56.290 - Drafts, notes, memoranda, statements, records or research reflecting the opinions or mental impressions of an attorney or att...

Susan

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH) [mailto:Michael.Farrell@DOH.WA.GOV]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 9:56 AM
To: Harvey, Susan (DOH); Heye, George (DOH); Heye, George (DOH); O'Neal, Kim (ATG)
Subject: FW: Amended Final Report for CPEP Client Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.
Importance: High

To all: I just received this report from CPEP amending the prior report on Dr. Murphy. I am sitting in an airport right now and have not read it. Let me know if you have any concerns.

From: Christopher Leo [mailto:CLeo@cpepdoc.org]
Sent: Thu 3/15/2012 8:43 AM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: Amended Final Report for CPEP Client Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

Mr. Farrell,

Please find the Amended Final Report and the accompanying letter for Dr. Colleen Mary Murphy.

This Report and letter supersedes the previous versions sent to you on March 8, 2012.

Best Regards,

Christopher Leo
Sr. Case Coordinator, Assessment Services

CPEP, THE CENTER FOR PERSONALIZED EDUCATION FOR PHYSICIANS

- **COMPETENCE ASSESSMENT AND EDUCATION PROGRAM**
- **CLINICAL PRACTICE REENTRY PROGRAM**
- **QUALITY REVIEW PROGRAM**
- **PROBE - PROFESSIONAL, PROBLEM-BASED ETHICS PROGRAM**
- **SEMINARS IN DOCUMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

7351 Lowry Boulevard, Suite 100
Denver, CO 80230
P: 303.577.3232 ext. 212
F: 303.577.3241
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Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Christopher Leo [CLeo@cpepdoc.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 8:44 AM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: Amended Final Report for CPEP Client Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.
Attachments: Amended Final Report Letter 2875M.pdf; Report FINAL - AMENDED 2875M.pdf

Importance: High

Mr. Farrell,

Please find the Amended Final Report and the accompanying letter for Dr. Colleen Mary Murphy.

This Report and letter supersedes the previous versions sent to you on March 8, 2012.

Best Regards,

Christopher Leo
Sr. Case Coordinator, Assessment Services

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Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Christopher Leo [CLeo@cpepdoc.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 3:51 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: CPEP Assessment Report for Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.
Attachments: Ref Org Thank You Ltr 2875M.pdf; Final Letter 2875M.pdf; Report FINAL 2875M.pdf
Importance: High

Dear Mr. Farrell,

I have attached the above-named physician's CPEP Assessment Report, the accompanying letter, and a letter addressed to you. Hard copies of these documents will be provided upon request.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or if these documents should be shared with another party at your organization.

Best Regards,

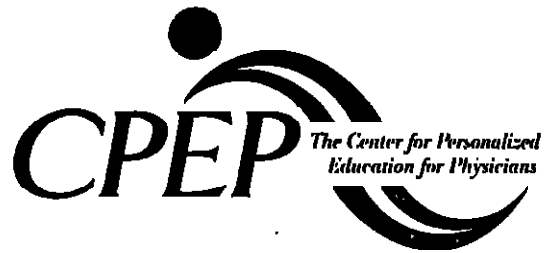
Christopher Leo
Sr. Case Coordinator, Assessment Services

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March 8, 2012

Michael Farrell
State of Washington
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
16201 E. Indiana, Ste. 1500
Spokane, WA 99216

Sent via e-mail to: michael.farrell@doh.wa.gov

Dear Mr. Farrell:

Thank you for referring Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D., to the CPEP Assessment program. Enclosed is a completed Assessment Report for Dr. Murphy, who has concurrently been mailed the Report.

It has been CPEP's pleasure to participate in the assessment of this physician, and we look forward to hearing from you in the future, either about this participant or any others who should have need for a comprehensive assessment.

If you would like to discuss the results of the Assessment, or the recommendations therein, please contact Paul Price, Assessment Services Manager at 303-577-3232, ext 219.

Sincerely,

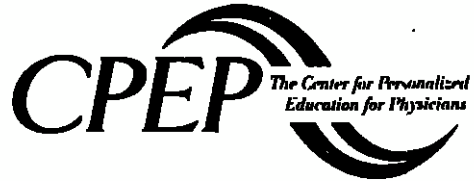
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Leo", written over a horizontal line.

Christopher Leo
Sr. Case Coordinator, Assessment Services

Enclosure

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March 8, 2012

Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.
2811 Illianna Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99517

Sent via electronic mail to: drcolleen@gci.net

Dear Dr. Murphy:

Enclosed is your final CPEP Assessment Report.

Per your release, one (1) copy of the Report has been forwarded to Michael Farrell at the State of Washington Medical Quality Assurance Commission (MQAC).

Thank you for participating in our program. Feel free to contact Paul Price, Assessment Services Manager at 303-577-3232, ext 219, if we can be of further assistance.

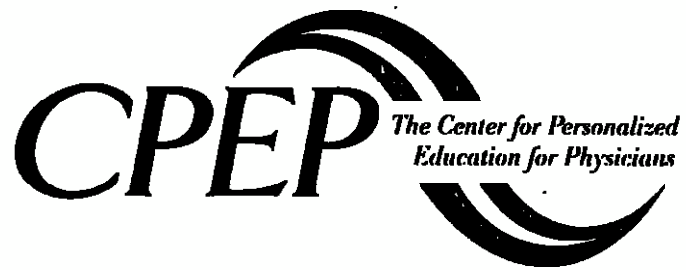
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Leo", is written over the name Christopher Leo.

Christopher Leo
Sr. Case Coordinator, Assessment Services

Enclosure

cc: Michael Farrell, MQAC



ASSESSMENT REPORT

For

Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

January 30 – 31, 2012

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**7351 Lowry Boulevard, Suite 100
Denver, Colorado 80230
Phone: 303-577-3232
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Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

I. Assessment Findings and Recommendations

A. Background

CPEP, the Center for Personalized Education for Physicians, designed this Assessment for Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D., to evaluate her practice of obstetrics. The CPEP Medical Director and staff reviewed information that the Washington State Medical Quality Assurance Commission (Commission) and Dr. Murphy provided for the Assessment. According to Dr. Murphy, there were previous concerns regarding her obstetric patient care with adverse actions placed on her license and denial of hospital obstetric privileges. The Commission denied her application for a license in 2011. The Commission referred Dr. Murphy to CPEP to complete a clinical skills Assessment as part of her appeal to the Commission to reconsider her license application. Dr. Murphy states that, from her CPEP Assessment, she hopes to gain licensure in Washington. Dr. Murphy has not practiced obstetrics since December 2008. She maintains an active gynecology practice in Alaska.

Dr. Murphy has not practiced obstetrics since 2008; therefore, CPEP did not request charts for review during this Assessment.

B. Assessment Findings

During this Assessment, Dr. Murphy demonstrated medical knowledge that was broad, detailed, and up-to-date. Her clinical judgment and reasoning were good. Dr. Murphy's communication skills were excellent with simulated patients (SPs) and good with peers. Her documentation for the SP encounters was adequate.

The educational needs identified in this Assessment are listed in *Section III: Assessment Findings*.

In the health information submitted, no health conditions were identified that should interfere with Dr. Murphy's medical practice.

Dr. Murphy's scores on the cognitive function screening test were largely normal. On the five major indices, attention/mental control, reasoning/calculation, memory, spatial processing and reaction time, her scores were average relative to her age and education. While a more detailed analysis of the subtests which comprise these indices indicated difficulties in a few select tests of attention/memory and mental arithmetic, most of Dr. Murphy's scores were in the average and above-average ranges. The neuropsychologist who reviewed Dr. Murphy's test results opined that no further neuropsychological testing was warranted.

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

C. Recommendations

During this Assessment, Dr. Murphy did well overall and demonstrated minimal educational needs. CPEP recommends that Dr. Murphy review the educational topics identified as part of her ongoing professional development.

Limitations

CPEP's findings are based upon the performance of the participant during the Assessment process. No direct observation of the participant in the procedural setting occurs. Therefore, conclusions address only whether the participant possesses the knowledge and judgment necessary to perform, without predicting actual behavior. CPEP is unable to evaluate whether a participant possesses the technical skills required in a procedural setting. Such concerns need to be addressed through direct observation of the participant's abilities by peer professionals. Concerns about complication rates should be addressed through comparison with published data.

II. Personalization of Assessment Process

An Associate Medical Director oversees the Assessment to ensure that the process is reflective of the participant's particular practice and that the results accurately reflect the participant's performance. Selection of testing modalities varies with each Assessment, using specific components from the table below that are determined to be appropriate for each participant's practice.

The table below outlines the processes and test modalities typically used in an Assessment and how each modality contributes to an Assessment.

Assessment Components	Pertinence to ACGME Core Competencies						
	Medical Knowledge	Patient Care	Practice-based Learning	Communication Skills	Professionalism	Systems-based Practice	Other
Pre-Assessment Components							
Telephone Interview with Participant				•	•		
Written Intake Questionnaire			•	•	•	•	
Participant Practice Profile					•	•	
Participant Education, Training and Professional Activities			•		•	•	
Referral Source Information, if available		•		•	•		
Assessment Components May Include the Following							
Clinical Interviews	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Simulated Patient Encounters	•	•		•	•		
Simulated Patient Encounter Note Analysis/Documentation Exercise	•	•		•	•		
Fetal Monitor Strip (FMS) Interpretation	•	•					

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

Health Information Review							•
Cognitive Function Screen							•
Observations of Participant Behavior				•	•		•

Dr. Murphy's Assessment is personalized in the following manner:

Patient Charts: Because Dr. Murphy has not practiced obstetrics since 2008, CPEP did not request charts for review during this Assessment.

- **Clinical Interviews:** Three clinical interviews were conducted by board-certified obstetrician-gynecologists. The consultants based the interviews on hypothetical cases and topic-based discussions. Please see *Appendix II: Clinical Content of the Assessment* for a list of cases/topics addressed during these clinical interviews.
- **Simulated Patient Encounters:** The exercise included three 20-minute interviews with SPs. The SP cases were selected to represent conditions typically seen in the participant's specialty setting, and included a patient presenting for a hysterectomy, a patient with a pelvic mass, and a patient with nervousness and irritability.
- **Simulated Patient Documentation exercise:** The exercise included dictating medical notes of each interview with an SP.
- **Fetal monitor strip (FMS) interpretation:** The exercise included 12 FMS tracings for which a written description, interpretation and course of action were requested.

III. Assessment Findings

A. **Medical Knowledge and Patient Care**

The CPEP findings of Dr. Murphy's Medical Knowledge and Patient Care are based on clinical interviews, an SP documentation exercise, and results of written testing. Please refer to *Appendix II: Clinical Content of the Assessment* for a detailed list of the cases and topics addressed during the clinical interviews.

1. **Medical Knowledge**

During this Assessment, Dr. Murphy demonstrated a fund of knowledge in the field of obstetrics that was broad, detailed and up-to-date.

Dr. Murphy adequately described an appropriate initial evaluation for patients in early pregnancy, including options for genetic screening. She was knowledgeable regarding dating of pregnancy and estimating fetal size. Overall, Dr. Murphy did well in discussions related to possible fetal illnesses or anomalies. She accurately defined intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR) and correctly discussed possible causes, monitoring of the growth restricted fetus, indications for delivery and potential complications. However, the consultant disagreed with Dr.

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

Murphy's discussion of the prognosis of a fetus with omphalocele and her assertion that this is always a lethal anomaly.

Dr. Murphy adequately discussed the types of twin pregnancy and associated risks. She was familiar with the recommendations for antenatal fetal surveillance in twin and other high-risk pregnancies and correctly listed the criteria for normal and abnormal tests.

Dr. Murphy performed well in discussions related to infections during pregnancy, including group B streptococcus, genital herpes, cytomegalovirus, hepatitis B, and toxoplasmosis. She adequately discussed the diagnosis and management of chorioamnionitis.

With a few exceptions, Dr. Murphy demonstrated an adequate fund of knowledge regarding the management of medical illness during pregnancy. In discussions related to pre-existing and gestational diabetes, Dr. Murphy accurately described the diagnostic criteria, management, and potential complications. However, the consultant disagreed with her proposal to follow hemoglobin A1c levels during pregnancy. In addition, Dr. Murphy did not specifically mention shoulder dystocia as a potential complication for patients with gestational diabetes. While Dr. Murphy was knowledgeable regarding the diagnosis and management of thrombophilias in the pregnant patient, she was not familiar with measurement of anti-factor Xa for monitoring of enoxaparin dosage. Her discussion of interventions for maternal substance abuse during pregnancy and potential fetal and neonatal risks was satisfactory.

Dr. Murphy performed well during discussions of the indications, contraindications and risks of labor induction as well as predictors of successful vaginal delivery after induction. She adequately discussed the diagnosis and management of preterm labor, placenta previa, chronic marginal placental abruption, and pre-eclampsia. Dr. Murphy was knowledgeable regarding current recommendations for the use of antihypertensive medications in the peripartum period and the guidelines for elective cesarean section. She knew the indications, contraindications and potential risks of forceps and vacuum-assisted delivery and accurately described the techniques for their use. She adequately discussed the management of a fetus with breech presentation and the contraindications and potential complications of vaginal birth after cesarean section. Dr. Murphy was familiar with the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development standardized nomenclature for cardiotocography. Dr. Murphy performed well on the written fetal monitoring strip (FMS) interpretation exercise.

The list below includes the educational needs discussed above as well as additional limited educational needs that were identified during the Assessment.

Educational Needs – Medical Knowledge

- Omphalocele: Prognosis and management;
- Diabetes in pregnancy:
 - Recommendations for monitoring of blood glucose and hemoglobin A1c;
 - Risks for, and significance of, shoulder dystocia;
- Monitoring of anti-Factor Xa in patients treated with enoxaparin.

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

2. Clinical Judgment and Reasoning

Dr. Murphy's clinical judgment and reasoning, as demonstrated during this Assessment, were good. When presented with hypothetical cases, she gathered adequate clinical information in a logical and organized fashion.

During her clinical interviews, Dr. Murphy demonstrated the ability to formulate thorough and well-structured differential diagnoses for a number of conditions, including oligohydramnios, polyhydramnios, and IUGR. In a number of hypothetical cases, including a patient with painful uterine bleeding at 26 weeks gestation and a diabetic woman with significant vaginal bleeding after a prolonged labor and delivery of a large baby, Dr. Murphy appropriately recognized the potential for serious illness.

In discussions with the consultants, Dr. Murphy demonstrated an awareness of the potential complications of a number of obstetrical interventions and appeared to understand the importance of avoiding iatrogenesis. She adequately discussed the technique for preventing fetal neck and adrenal injury during breech extractions, the safe use of the vacuum and forceps during delivery, avoidance of the use of scalp electrodes in the presence of maternal herpes infection, and situations in which labor induction or a trial of labor after cesarean section would be contraindicated. She also demonstrated an understanding of the importance of practicing evidence-based medicine; she adequately discussed the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology guidelines for elective labor induction, trial of labor after cesarean section, and cesarean section for large babies. In topic-based and hypothetical case discussions, she appropriately referred to the recommendations for the treatment of chorioamnionitis and the management of infants born to hepatitis B infected mothers.

As charts were not reviewed for this Assessment, CPEP is unable to comment about Dr. Murphy's application of this knowledge in actual patient care.

Educational Needs – Clinical Judgment and Reasoning

- None identified.

3. Patient Care Documentation

Dr. Murphy's patient care documentation was evaluated solely on the basis of notes written at CPEP.

a. Review of Documentation – Simulated Patient (SP) Encounter Notes

Dr. Murphy was asked to document a progress note for each SP encounter.

Dr. Murphy's notes were in a history and physical format. In the history, Dr. Murphy consistently included a presenting complaint, history of present illness, past medical history,

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

family history, and targeted review of systems. She inconsistently included a medication list, allergies, and history of tobacco and alcohol use. She omitted a history of illicit substance use.

Dr. Murphy consistently included physical exams that were appropriately targeted. She consistently indicated an assessment, with a discussion of her clinical thinking. Dr. Murphy included plans and documented patient education in all three notes. She recorded a prescription in one note, including the name, dose, and instructions, but did not record the number to be dispensed or the number of refills authorized. Timing for follow-up was indicated in two notes.

Overall, Dr. Murphy's SP documentation was adequate. She demonstrated that she understood most of the components of acceptable single encounter patient documentation.

Educational Needs – Documentation

- Consistent inclusion of all the appropriate elements of a single visit encounter note, including medications, allergies, history of substance use, and timing for follow-up;
- Thorough documentation of prescriptions, including amount to be dispensed and number of refills authorized.

B. Practice-based Learning

Dr. Murphy provided CPEP with documentation of 206.85 hours of continuing medical education (CME) activities in the past 36 months. Based on information that Dr. Murphy provided to CPEP, Dr. Murphy appeared to be selecting CME activities that were pertinent to the field of obstetrics. It was not clear how much, if any, of this CME was evidence-based as CPEP did not request the data in this format. She did describe a variety of medical information resources, including the use of medical content Internet sites.

Educational Needs – Practice-based Learning

- None identified.

C. Communication Skills

1. Physician-Patient Communication Evaluation

Dr. Murphy exhibited a number of positive communication behaviors when conducting SP interviews. She was professional in manner and appearance and exhibited a friendly, confident demeanor. Dr. Murphy knocked, introduced herself, addressed the SPs by name and maintained excellent eye contact. She conducted the interviews in a logical, conversational manner that included open and closed questions. Dr. Murphy allowed the SPs to talk and ask questions without interruptions. She utilized imaginary anatomy charts on the wall and her education was concise and logical. She conducted thorough exams, described what she would do during a pelvic exam and reported her findings. The SPs rated her empathy from high to exceptional and all indicated that they would return to her.

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

The communications consultant opined that Dr. Murphy demonstrated excellent physician-patient communication skills during this exercise.

2. Inter-Professional Communication Skills

Dr. Murphy's communication skills were consistently professional throughout the Assessment, both with the consultants and CPEP staff.

Educational Needs

Physician-Patient Communication Skills

- None identified.

Inter-Professional Communication Skills

- None identified.

D. Professionalism

Nothing that transpired during this Assessment raised questions about Dr. Murphy's professionalism.

E. Systems-based Practice

The Assessment yielded inadequate data upon which to accurately comment on Dr. Murphy's awareness of the larger context and system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value.

F. Other

1. Review of Health Information

Dr. Murphy submitted a copy of a history and physical exam conducted in December 2011. Review of this documentation did not reveal any conditions that should affect Dr. Murphy's medical practice.

2. Cognitive Function Screen

Dr. Murphy's scores on the cognitive function screening test were largely normal. On the five major indices, attention/mental control, reasoning/calculation, memory, spatial processing and reaction time, her scores were average relative to her age and education. While a more detailed analysis of the subtests which comprise these indices indicated difficulties in a few select tests of attention/memory and mental arithmetic, most of Dr. Murphy's scores were in the average and above average ranges. The neuropsychologist who reviewed Dr. Murphy's test results opined that no further neuropsychological testing was warranted.

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

3. Observations of Behavior and Additional Considerations


Dr. Murphy was pleasant and cooperative toward CPEP staff and clinical consultants, and conducted herself in a professional manner throughout the Assessment. She submitted all the required documentation in a timely manner.

Dr. Murphy appeared open to the Assessment process. She appeared to be a caring and experienced physician.

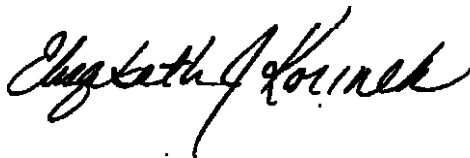
IV. Signatures

The Assessment Report reflects the effort and analysis of CPEP's Medical Director, Associate Medical Directors, and administrative staff. The electronic signatures below authenticate the content of this Assessment Report dated this 8th day of March, 2012.

CPEP Representatives



Patricia Kelly, M.D.
Associate Medical Director



Elizabeth J. Korinek, M.P.H.
Chief Executive Officer

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

Appendix I

Participant Background: Review of Education, Training, Professional Activities, and Practice Profile

CPEP obtained this information from conversations with and documents provided by Dr. Murphy.

Education		
<u>School</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Years Attended</u>
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI	B.S.	1973 – 1977
Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, MI	M.D.	1977 – 1981

Post-Graduate / Residency Training	
<u>Specialty/Institution</u>	<u>Dates Attended</u>
Family Medicine Internship, St. John Hospital, Detroit, MI	1981 – 1982
Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency, Good Samaritan Medical Center, Phoenix, AZ	1984 – 1987
Galloway Fellowship, Gynecologic Oncology, Sloan-Kettering Hospital, New York, NY	September – October 1986

Certifications		
<u>Certifying Body</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Certification Period</u>
American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology	*2011	Maintenance of Certification
*Dr. Murphy was originally certified in 1989; most recent recertification exam in 2011.		

Licensure	
<u>Licensing State(s)</u>	<u>Status</u>
Alaska	Active*
Michigan	Inactive
*Suspended in 2005.	

Practice History	
<u>Years/Description/Location</u>	
2001 – Present: Obstetrician and Gynecologist, solo practice, Colleen Murphy, M.D., FACOG, Corp., Anchorage, AK	
1999 – 2001: Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Alaska Women's Health Services, Anchorage, AK	
June – July 1999: Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Gallup Native Medical Center, Gallup, NM	
1998 – 1999: Obstetrics and Gynecology Consultant, Alaska Native Health Consortium, Statewide, AK	
1987 – 1999: Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage, AK	

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

1982 – 1984: Pediatrician, Chief of Pediatrics, National Health Service Corps, Truk State Hospital, Micronesia

Active Hospital Privileges

<u>Name/Location</u>	<u># of Beds</u>	<u>Trauma</u>	<u>ICU</u>
Alaska Regional Hospital, Anchorage, AK	250	*	15

*Dr. Murphy did not provide this information.

Current Practice Profile

Dr. Murphy works four days per week, sees approximately 12 patients per day in the office, maintains an average inpatient census of two to three, and is on call 30 days per month.

Commonly Encountered Diagnoses

Gynecology exam with Pap, contraception, sexually transmitted disease screen, menorrhagia, obesity, unwanted pregnancy, symptomatic menopause, pelvic pain, urinary symptoms, tobacco abuse, depression, vaginitis

Inpatient Procedures (monthly volume)

Total vaginal hysterectomy (1-2), sling (1), posterior repair (0-1), hysteroscopy (0-1), laparoscopy (0-1)

Outpatient Procedures (monthly volume)

Medical abortion (6), surgical abortion (4), intrauterine device (8), Implanon (2), colposcopy (2), endometrial biopsy (3), incision and drainage (2), skin biopsy (2) polypectomy (2)

Continuing Education

Dr. Murphy reported earning a total of 231.85 hours of CME credit in the previous 36 months. Dr. Murphy submitted a list of specific CME activities.

Continuing Education

Dr. Murphy reported earning a total of 206.85 hours of CME credit in the previous 36 months. Dr. Murphy submitted a list of specific CME activities.

(The remainder of this page is intentionally blank.)

Appendix II

Clinical Content of the Assessment

A. Patient Charts Reviewed

Dr. Murphy has not practiced obstetrics since 2008; therefore, CPEP did not request charts for review during this Assessment.

B. Clinical Interviews

The clinical consultants were board-certified obstetrician-gynecologists. The consultants based the discussion on hypothetical case scenarios and other topics.

Hypothetical Case Discussions

The consultants presented hypothetical cases for discussion. The following list describes the cases and outlines the topics covered during the discussion.

- **Primiparous woman at 40 weeks gestation with pre-eclampsia and an unfavorable cervix:**
 - Labor induction.
- **27 year-old woman with prolonged labor:**
 - Predictors of successful vaginal delivery;
 - Vacuum-assisted delivery:
 - Technique;
 - Indications;
 - Risks.
- **36 year-old woman with diabetes and postpartum hemorrhage:**
 - Risk factors for postpartum hemorrhage;
 - Management;
 - Use of the Bakri balloon.
- **33 year-old woman at seven weeks gestation:**
 - Routine prenatal testing;
 - Genetic screening.
- **39 year-old woman at eight weeks gestation:**
 - Risks and benefits of chorionic villus sampling versus amniocentesis.

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- **17 year-old woman exposed to varicella at 7 months gestation:**
 - Evaluation;
 - Treatment.
- **33 year-old woman with painless vaginal bleeding at 26 weeks gestation:**
 - Potential causes;
 - Evaluation;
 - Management of placenta previa;
 - Considerations for delivery.
- **33 year-old woman with painful vaginal bleeding at 26 weeks gestation:**
 - Potential causes;
 - Management.
- **28 year-old woman with preterm labor at 30 weeks gestation:**
 - Evaluation;
 - Management;
 - Premature rupture of membranes:
 - Diagnosis;
 - Management.
- **40 year-old woman with early pregnancy:**
 - Risk of chromosomal abnormalities;
 - Options for genetic screening.

Topic-based Discussions

In addition to the case discussions, the consultants pursued further discussion of the following topics.

- **IUGR:**
 - Definition;
 - Causes of symmetric IUGR;
 - Causes of asymmetric IUGR;
 - Diagnosis;
 - Monitoring;
 - Estimation of fetal weight;
 - Common neonatal complication;
 - Considerations for intrapartum management.

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

- **Oligohydramnios:**
 - Potential causes;
 - Diagnosis;
 - Prognosis;
 - Management.
- **Polyhydramnios:**
 - Potential causes;
 - Diagnosis.
- **Induction of labor:**
 - Indications;
 - Contraindications;
 - Potential complications.
- **Estimating gestation age:**
 - Ultrasound;
 - Fetal heart tones and movement.
- **Fetal heart rate tracings:**
 - Definitions of Category 1, 2 and 3 tracings;
 - Management of the fetus with a Category 2 tracing.
- **Isoimmunization:**
 - Pathophysiology;
 - Common antibodies;
 - Management;
 - Screening;
 - Monitoring;
 - Indications for determining paternal karyotype.
- **Vaginal birth after cesarean section:**
 - Contraindications;
 - Non-recurring indications for cesarean section;
 - Predictors of success;
 - Risks;
 - Signs of uterine rupture.
- **Antenatal surveillance:**
 - Non-stress testing:
 - Indications;
 - Reliability;
 - Contraction stress testing:
 - Indications;

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- Scoring;
 - Biophysical profile:
 - Indications;
 - Components;
 - Scoring.
- **Group B streptococcal (GBS) infection:**
 - Screening;
 - Potential risks to neonate;
 - Treatment of bacteruria;
 - Treatment of the patient in labor with unknown GBS status.
- **Herpes genitalis infection:**
 - Management during pregnancy;
 - Antibody measurement.
- **Chorioamnionitis:**
 - Diagnosis;
 - Treatment.
- **Cytomegalovirus infection:**
 - Risk to subsequent pregnancies;
 - Risks to fetus.
- **Toxoplasma infection:**
 - Management during pregnancy.
- **Maternal Hepatitis B infection:**
 - Diagnosis;
 - Treatment of the newborn.
- **Pre-eclampsia:**
 - Diagnosis;
 - Treatment;
 - Indications for labor induction;
 - Indications for cesarean section.
- **Macrosomia:**
 - Indications for cesarean section.
- **Chronic marginal placental abruption:**
 - Diagnosis;
 - Management.

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

- **Placenta previa:**
 - Decreased incidence as pregnancy progresses.
- **Failure to progress in labor:**
 - Definition;
 - Indications for cesarean section.
- **Forceps-assisted delivery:**
 - Indications;
 - Potential risks.
- **Breech presentation:**
 - Mauriceau maneuver;
 - Use of Piper's forceps;
 - Reduction of a nuchal arm;
 - Indications for cesarean section.
- **Management of the pregnant woman with pre-existing diabetes mellitus:**
 - Initial evaluation;
 - Genetic counseling;
 - Potential fetal anomalies;
 - Fetal surveillance.
- **Gestational diabetes:**
 - Diagnosis;
 - Fetal surveillance.
- **Twin pregnancy:**
 - Potential complications;
 - Fetal surveillance;
 - Indications for cesarean section.
- **Management of the pregnant woman with substance abuse.**
- **Thrombophilias during pregnancy:**
 - Management of Factor V Leiden deficiency;
 - Monitoring of Lovenox therapy.
- **Omphalocele:**
 - Prognosis;
 - Management.
- **Antenatal and postpartum depression:**
 - Use of antidepressants during pregnancy and lactation;

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

- Treatment options;
- Diagnosis.

C. Fetal Monitor Strip Interpretation

Task #1

Define five terms used in FMS interpretation:

- Dr. Murphy correctly defined all terms, with the exception of marked variability.

Task #2

Provide a description, interpretation, and course of action for 12 FMSs:

- Descriptions/Interpretations:
 - The consultant agreed with Dr. Murphy's diagnoses and interpretations in 11 of the 12 tracings:
 - In one tracing, the consultant opined that Dr. Murphy arrived at a diagnosis of pre-eclampsia somewhat prematurely;
 - Dr. Murphy's differential diagnoses were thorough and inclusive;
- Plans:
 - Dr. Murphy's plans were correct for all tracings;
 - Dr. Murphy recommended appropriately aggressive intervention when the FMSs indicated that the fetus was in peril and was judiciously conservative when the tracings indicated that the fetus was stable.

Overall, Dr. Murphy performed well in the FMS interpretation exercise.

(The remainder of this page is intentionally blank.)

Appendix III

Description of Evaluation Tools

Selection of the testing modalities varies with each Assessment, using the specific components that are determined to be appropriate for each participant's situation.

Structured Clinical Interviews

Clinical Interviews are oral evaluations of the physician-participant conducted by physician-consultants in the same specialty area. Each consultant is certified through a Board recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties. The interview is conducted in the presence of the Associate Medical Director. The consultant asks about patient care management based on charts submitted by the participant and hypothetical case scenarios. Radiologic studies or videotapes of surgical procedures may also be used in the interview process. These ninety-minute oral interviews are used to evaluate the physician-participant's medical knowledge, clinical judgment, and peer communication skills.

Note: On occasion, physician-participants are unable to provide charts from their practice, either because they have not been in practice for a number of years or because the facility at which they work is unable or unwilling to release them. In these situations, hypothetical case scenarios are used as the basis for the interviews.

Multiple-Choice Examination

Physician-participants may be given a timed multiple-choice examination. The examinations are provided by the Post-Licensure Assessment System (PLAS) and scored by the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME).

Technical Skills Assessment

Anesthesiologist physician-participants may complete a series of simulated airway management scenarios using a high fidelity simulator. The scenarios are designed to test both technical and non-technical skills.

Physician-participants performing laparoscopic surgery may participate in the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery Program, which includes a multiple choice exam and a performance based manual skills exam.

Electrocardiogram (ECG) Interpretation

Physician-participants whose practice includes reading ECG tracings are presented with eleven ECG tracings and asked to provide an interpretation and course of action for each.

Fetal Monitor Strip Interpretation

Physician-participants providing obstetric care in their practice are asked to read twelve fetal monitor strips and provide an interpretation and course of action for each strip.

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

Physician-Patient Communication Evaluation

Effective communication and formation of therapeutic physician-patient relationships are assessed through the use of Simulated Patient (SP) encounters. The physician-participant conducts patient interviews in an exam-room setting. The patient cases are selected based on the physician-participant's specialty area. Both the SPs and the physician-participant evaluate the interaction. The patient encounters are videotaped and analyzed by a communication consultant.

Patient Care Documentation

Physician-participants are asked to submit redacted copies of patient charts. The charts are reviewed for documentation legibility, content, consistency and accuracy. The physician's attention to pertinent medical details is noted.

Review of Documentation – Simulated Patient Encounter Progress Notes

Following the Simulated Patient (SP) encounters, the physician-participant is asked to document each interaction in a chart note. The physician may hand-write the notes on plain lined paper provided by CPEP, dictate the notes, or use templates that he brings from his practice. Radiologists who do not typically interact with patients in their professional roles are given a documentation exercise using digitally reproduced radiographic images.

Cognitive Function Screen

MicroCog™, a computer-based assessment of cognitive skills, is a screening test to help determine which physician-participants should be given a complete neuropsychological work-up. The test is viewed as a *screening instrument only* and is not diagnostic.

This screening test does not require proficiency with computers; a proctor is available to answer questions about test instructions. Test performance or expected test performance can be impacted by a number of factors, including normal aging and background. A neuropsychologist analyzes the test results, taking these factors into account.

Review of Health Information

The physician-participant is asked to submit the findings from a recent physical examination as well as hearing and vision screens. If indicated, program staff requests information related to specific health concerns.

Appendix IV

CPEP Educational Recommendations: Explanations and Implications

Physician performance on a CPEP Assessment falls along a broad spectrum. Often, for both the physician involved and the referring organization, the critical questions are, "What does this mean" and "How do I/we move forward from here?" CPEP provides direction through the Educational Recommendations that are provided in the Assessment Report.

While the educational activities that would benefit a physician are very specific to that individual, CPEP Educational Recommendations fall into three broad categories.

- *Independently address educational needs*

No physician is expected to perform perfectly during an Assessment, and no physician knows everything. Some physicians who participate in an Assessment demonstrate minimal or limited educational needs, which we believe they should be able to address independently through self-study, continuing medical education, and other resources. We recommend that these physicians incorporate these topics into their ongoing professional education activities. Although CPEP does not use the terms "pass" or "fail," if thinking along those terms, it is reasonable to consider that an individual receiving this recommendation has "passed" the Assessment.

The wording used to convey this in an Assessment Report is typically similar to the following: "CPEP believes that Dr. Smith should have the resources to address these educational needs independently, without the benefit of an Educational Intervention. All professionals have a responsibility for self-directed, ongoing learning and Dr. Smith should continue to make this a part of his work."

- *Residency or residency-like setting*

On the other end of the spectrum, some physicians demonstrate educational needs that are of a quantity or quality such that CPEP believes that they are not equipped with the resources to address their educational needs while they continue to practice. CPEP recommends that these physicians address their educational needs in a residency or residency-like setting. Our opinion is that it would not be safe for this physician to practice independently; they are in need of the structure and rigor of an academic setting to provide an intensive and highly supervised educational experience. As stated previously, CPEP does not use the terms "pass" or "fail." However, it is reasonable to consider that an individual receiving this recommendation has "failed" the Assessment.

CPEP acknowledges that residency positions may be difficult for practicing physicians to secure; therefore, the wording residency-like setting is intended to suggest that other situations may be acceptable, such as a voluntary position in a training setting, a fellowship, or other such situation in which the physician can benefit from learning in a formal training or educational setting. To

Assessment Report
Colleen Mary Murphy, M.D.

further clarify, a recommendation that an individual address their educational needs in a training setting does not necessarily indicate that the equivalent of a full residency be completed; the specific needs of the physician will vary and the training might range from one year or longer.

The wording used in an Assessment Report to convey such a recommendation will be similar to the following: "Because of the extent of the deficiencies identified, CPEP believes that Dr. Smith should retrain in a residency or residency-like setting. CPEP does not believe that Dr. Smith demonstrated the ability to remain in independent practice while attempting to remediate his clinical skills."

- *Structured Educational Intervention*

In the middle of the spectrum are those participants who demonstrate educational needs that CPEP believes should be addressed with external structure, oversight, and/or some level of supervision. These physicians should be able to address their educational needs while they continue or return to practice.

The Educational Recommendations in the Assessment Report will read something comparable to: "CPEP recommends that Dr. Smith participate in structured, individualized education to address the identified areas of need." Physician-participants and referring organizations have found value in CPEP Education Services, through which we provide expertise in developing specific and clear educational objectives, structure in the educational process, and a means by which integration and implementation of new learning and approaches can be demonstrated. CPEP Education Services are available, if desired and requested by the physician participant or referring organization, and would include development of an Educational Intervention Plan (a detailed learning contract) and ongoing support, monitoring, and oversight during the course of the physician's educational process. Please contact CPEP Education Services for additional information.

Note: Although this document refers to physicians, CPEP conducts Assessments and Educational Interventions for physician assistants, advanced practice nurses, podiatrists, and the above is applicable to all healthcare providers that are evaluated by CPEP.

Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: David Shoup [shoup@tindall-law.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 11:41 AM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Cc: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D.
Subject: RE: Dr. Murphy

Yes, she has completed it.

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH) [mailto:Michael.Farrell@DOH.WA.GOV]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 9:53 AM
To: David Shoup
Cc: O'Neal, Kim (ATG)
Subject: RE: Dr. Murphy

Hi David:

Can you give a status report on Dr. Murphy? Has she completed her CPEP evaluation?

Thanks.

Mike

Michael L. Farrell
Legal Unit Manager
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
Department of Health
16201 E. Indiana, Suite 1500
Spokane, WA 99216
phone: 509.329.2186
fax: 509.329.2167
e-mail: Michael.Farrell@doh.wa.gov

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All messages to and from the Medical Commission may be disclosed to the public.

MQAC online and Provider Credential Search:
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsga/mqac/default.htm>

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2011 4:06 PM
To: 'David Shoup'
Cc: Patty Taylor; Rebeca Rosales; O'Neal, Kim (ATG)
Subject: RE: Dr. Murphy

David:

The status conference is designed to have the parties agree on a hearing date. You will want to tell the judge that Dr. Murphy is going to undergo an assessment at CPEP, and that will take a couple of months. The judge should set the hearing date accordingly.

I am copying Kim O'Neal, Assistant Attorney General, on this message, as she will represent the Commission at the hearing and will attend the status conference on January 3.

Mike

Michael L. Farrell
Legal Unit Manager
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
Department of Health
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Spokane, WA 99216
phone: 509.329.2186
fax: 509.329.2167
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From: David Shoup [mailto:shoup@tindall-law.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2011 3:51 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Cc: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D.; Patty Taylor; Rebeca Rosales
Subject: Dr. Murphy

Mike –

I just received a scheduling order that set a status conference for Jan. 3 at 10:30 Washington time. As you know, Dr. Murphy is scheduled to attend CPEP for two days toward the end of January. Therefore I'm not sure of the purpose of the conference.

Dr. Murphy has asked that I represent her. Please let me know (1) if the status conference will go forward, (2) how I could call in for the conference. If it is to go forward, I will submit a notice of appearance.

Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Regards, David Shoup

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Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D. [drcolleen@gci.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 3:52 PM
To: David Shoup
Cc: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: Fw: CPEP report

See below

Thanks

----- Original Message -----

From: Christopher Leo
To: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D.
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 2:19 PM
Subject: RE: CPEP report

Hi, Dr. Murphy,

Tomorrow is the four week mark, and we quote eight – 10 weeks. I don't see why this Report couldn't be delivered closer to the eight-week mark, but I can't make any guarantees.

Thanks for your patience.

Christopher

From: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D. [mailto:drcolleen@gci.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 3:51 PM
To: Christopher Leo; David Shoup
Subject: CPEP report

Still awaiting
Will contact CPEP (Christopher Leo)
Dear Chris; see below from WA State

Can we get a copy of the assessment report? Depending on what it says, we can either grant Dr. Murphy an unrestricted license or offer her a restricted license pending the completion of an education plan."

----- Original Message -----

From: David Shoup
To: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D.
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 10:49 AM
Subject: FW: Dr. Murphy

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH) [mailto:Michael.Farrell@DOH.WA.GOV]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 10:45 AM
To: David Shoup
Cc: O'Neal, Kim (ATG)
Subject: RE: Dr. Murphy

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Cc: Patty Taylor; Rebeca Rosales; O'Neal, Kim (ATG)
Subject: RE: Dr. Murphy

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I am copying Kim O'Neal, Assistant Attorney General, on this message, as she will represent the Commission at the hearing and will attend the status conference on January 3.

Mike

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Dr. Murphy has asked [REDACTED] I represent her. Please let me know (1) if the status conference will go forward, (2) how I could call in for the conference. If it is to go forward, I will submit a notice of appearance.

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Regards, David Shoup

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Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D. [drcolleen@gci.net]
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 3:42 PM
To: Ashley Eller; "mailto:drcolleen"@gci.net; Farrell, Michael (DOH); David Shoup
Subject: Re: WA State Hearing schedule

Thank you!

Colleen Murphy, MD

----- Original Message -----

From: Ashley Eller
To: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D.
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 1:47 PM
Subject: RE: WA State Hearing schedule

Hi Dr Murphy,

I received all of your information this afternoon. Christopher Leo will be in touch shortly to give you all of the details on what happens next. Please don't hesitate to call if you have additional questions.

Ashley

From: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D. [mailto:drcolleen@gci.net]
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 12:00 PM
To: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D.; michael.farrell@doh.wa.gov; David Shoup
Cc: Ashley Eller
Subject: Re: WA State Hearing schedule

Daer David,

I spoke with Mr Farell today.
He gave me his direct mailing address.
I am faxing in the forms today for the CPEP evaluation with deposit.
Thank you.

Colleen Murphy, MD

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ADJUDICATIVE SERVICE UNIT

In the matter of:

COLLEEN M. MURPHY, MD
Credential No. MD.MD.60236731

Master Case No. M2011-1510

Respondent.

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

David H. Shoup of the firm TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP, P.C., hereby enters his appearance for and on behalf of respondent in the above-entitled matter and requests that copies of all pleadings and documents be served upon said attorneys at 508 W. Second Avenue, Third Floor, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

DATED in Anchorage, Alaska this 27th day of December, 2011.

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP, P.C.
Attorneys for Respondent.

By:


David H. Shoup
Alaska Bar No. 8711106

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP, P.C.
508 WEST 2ND AVENUE, THIRD FLOOR
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 278-8833
FAX (907) 278-8636

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2
3 I hereby certify that on the 27th day
4 of December, 2011, a true and correct copy
5 of the foregoing was sent to the following via:

6 ☒ Mail ☐ Hand Delivered ☐ Fax ☐ Email

7 8 9 10 11 12	Adjudicative Service Unit: PO Box 47879 Olympia, WA 98504-7879 310 Israel Road SE Tumwater, WA 98501 PH: 360/238-4670 Fax: 360/586-2171	Assistant Attorney General Klm O'Neal, AAG Office of Attorney General P.O. Box 40100 Olympia, WA 98504-0100 PH: 360/586-2747 Fax: 360/664-0229	Rep for Settlement Purposes: Michael Farrell, Staff Attorney Dept. Of Health P.O. Box 47866 Olympia, WA 98504-7866 PH: 509/329-2186
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	Presiding Officer: Frank Lockhart P.O. Box 47879 Olympia, WA 98504-7879 PH: 360/238-4677	Disciplinary Manager Dani Newman Dept. Of Health P.O. Box 47866 Olympia, WA 98504-7866 PH: 360/238-2764	

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By: 
Tindall Bennett & Shoup, P.C.

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP, P.C.
508 WEST 2ND AVENUE, THIRD FLOOR
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 98501
(907) 278-8533
FAX (907) 278-8536

Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Patty Taylor [taylor@tindall-law.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2011 6:03 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: Colleen Murphy
Attachments: _1227165102_001.pdf

Mr. Farrell:

Here is a copy of the Entry of Appearance for Mr. Shoup, sent in today.

Thank you,

Patty Taylor
Assist. to David H. Shoup
TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP

CONFIDENTIALITY: This communication, including attachments, is for exclusive use of the addressee(s) and may contain proprietary, confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, copying, disclosure, or distribution or the taking of any action in reliance upon this information is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately at 907-278-8533 and delete this communication and destroy all copies.

To comply with IRS regulations, we advise you that any discussion of Federal tax issues in this e-mail was not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used by you, (i) to avoid any penalties imposed under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) to promote, market or recommend to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2011 9:50 AM
To: 'Sharon Miller'
Subject: RE: Colleen Murphy, MD

Hi Sharon:

Great. Let me know if you have any questions about the materials.

Mike

Michael L. Farrell
Legal Unit Manager
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
Department of Health
16201 E. Indiana, Suite 1500
Spokane, WA 99216
phone: 509.329.2186
fax: 509.329.2167
e-mail: Michael.Farrell@doh.wa.gov

The Medical Quality Assurance Commission promotes patient safety and enhances the integrity of the profession through licensing, discipline, rule-making and education.

All messages to and from the Medical Commission may be disclosed to the public.

MQAC online and Provider Credential Search:
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsga/mqac/default.htm>

From: Sharon Miller [mailto:smiller@cpepdoc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2011 9:30 AM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: RE: Colleen Murphy, MD

Hi Mike,

I received 5 messages with pdf attachments. I have not yet opened each attachment but I don't think there will be a problem. Thank you.

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH) [mailto:Michael.Farrell@doh.wa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2011 5:19 PM
To: Sharon Miller
Cc: David Shoup
Subject: Colleen Murphy, MD

This is the fifth e-mail regarding Colleen Murphy, MD. This is the last e-mail message. You should have the entire file.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Mike

Michael L. Farrell

Legal Unit Manager
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
Department of Health
16201 E. Indiana, Suite 1500
Spokane, WA 99216
phone: 509.329.2186
fax: 509.329.2167
e-mail: Michael.Farrell@doh.wa.gov

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MQAC online and Provider Credential Search:
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsga/mqac/default.htm>

Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: David Shoup [shoup@tindall-law.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2011 3:35 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: RE: Dr. Colleen Murphy.

Thanks. I also forwarded one additional document today.

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH) [mailto:Michael.Farrell@DOH.WA.GOV]
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2011 7:28 AM
To: David Shoup
Subject: RE: Dr. Colleen Murphy.

David:

Thanks. I'll e-mail them over to CPEP today.

Mike

From: David Shoup [mailto:shoup@tindall-law.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2011 3:19 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Cc: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D.
Subject: Dr. Colleen Murphy.

Mike – It's fine for the documents to go to the organization. I have no objection.

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To comply with IRS regulations, we advise you that any discussion of Federal tax issues in this e-mail was not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used by you, (i) to avoid any penalties imposed under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) to promote, market or recommend to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: David Shoup [shoup@tindall-law.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2011 3:29 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: FW: Dr. Murphy--second message
Attachments: Murphy file part 4.pdf

From: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D. [mailto:drcolleen@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2011 5:12 PM
To: David Shoup
Subject: Fw: Dr. Murphy--second message

Make sure he includes this attachment

----- Original Message -----

From: David Shoup
To: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D.
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 3:08 PM
Subject: FW: Dr. Murphy--second message

From: Rebeca Rosales
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 10:09 AM
To: David Shoup
Subject: FW: Dr. Murphy--second message

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH) [mailto:Michael.Farrell@DOH.WA.GOV]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 9:57 AM
To: Rebeca Rosales
Subject: Dr. Murphy--second message

David:

This is the second e-mail message with attachments for Dr. Murphy's assessment at CPEP.

Mike

Michael L. Farrell
Legal Unit Manager
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
Department of Health
16201 E. Indiana, Suite 1500
Spokane, WA 99216
phone: 509.329.2186
fax: 509.329.2167
e-mail: Michael.Farrell@doh.wa.gov

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MQAC online and Provider Credential Search:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsga/mqac/default.htm>

Farrell, Michael (DOH)

From: Susan Harvey [harvsm1@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 1:31 PM
To: Farrell, Michael (DOH)
Subject: RE: Dr. Murphy

It appeared to me her issues were decisions concerning OB, not surgery. I admit I did not read every word of all the depositions so I am not 100% sure.

susan

From: Farrell, Michael (DOH) [mailto:Michael.Farrell@DOH.WA.GOV]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 9:29 AM
To: Harvey, Susan (DOHi)
Subject: Dr. Murphy
Importance: High

Hi Susan:

CPEP called me this morning to ask about the scope of the assessment of Colleen Murphy, MD. They want to know if the scope is just OB, or is it Gyn and surgery as well. Please let me know your thoughts.

Thanks.

Mike

Michael L. Farrell
Legal Unit Manager
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
Department of Health
16201 E. Indiana, Suite 1500
Spokane, WA 99216
phone: 509.329.2186
fax: 509.329.2167
e-mail: Michael.Farrell@doh.wa.gov

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All messages to and from the Medical Commission may be disclosed to the public.

MQAC online and Provider Credential Search:
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsga/mqac/default.htm>

Elliott, Betty (DOH)

From: Dr. Colleen Murphy M.D. [drcolleen@gci.net]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 5:56 PM
To: Elliott, Betty (DOH)
Subject: Summary of current practice
Attachments: Jobdocs Resume 2.doc

Dear Ms. Elliot,

Here you go: (as written in resume for USAJOBS website)

Medical Director of solo practice OB-GYN practice since 8/10. Supervise 2 full time employees: a medical assistant & front desk manager. Have utilized customizable EMR (Soapware) & telephonic notification system (Teltrax) since 8/10. Do all medical coding & contract with a billing service. Electronic billing results in >95% collection ratio since 8/10. Provide full spectrum women's health services: 1.) Preventive health care for ages 12 to 100. Accept Medicaid & Medicare. Active in Breast & Cervical Cancer Health Check Program as screener & consultant. Risk evaluation with Gail Index (breast cancer), Reynold's score (lipids), and FRAX calculator (osteoporosis). 2.) Primary care services: manage mild hypertension, lipid abnormalities, thyroid disease, urinary tract infections, respiratory infections, glucose intolerance, depression, osteoporosis, obesity and provide immunizations (HPV, flu, TdAP, pneumovax). 3.) Contraceptive services: tubal ligations, IUS (Mirena & Paragard), Implanon (company speaker), Depo-Provera, Nuva Ring, patches, oral & emergency contraception. Was the former Leader of the Alaska Emergency Contraception Project 1998 to 2005. 4.) Medication abortion to 9 weeks GA (served as a speaker for the Medical Abortion Education Project with the American Medical Women's Association through 2005). Provide IPAS Aspiration abortion through 12 weeks GA. National Abortion Federation certified clinic. 5.) Pap smear evaluation & treatment: HPV hi risk testing, Colposcopy, office based LEEP & cryotherapy, referral to local GYN oncology with co-management as needed. Volunteer on advisory board & serve as a colposcopy consultant to Municipality of Anchorage Reproductive Health Clinic since 1999. Served as consultant developing statewide Pap smear guidelines 1993 to 2009. 6.) Infertility services: Perform evaluation & treatment, including sonohysterogram, hysterosalpingogram, Clomid, Femara, intrauterine insemination, & referral for male factor infertility. Act as satellite clinic for Seattle Reproductive Medicine in co-managing in-vitro fertilization candidates. 7.) Benign gynecology: STD testing & Rx, office based ultrasound scanning, vulvovaginal, endometrial biopsies & medical management of menorrhagia (GnRH agonist w/ add back, Mirena, oral hormones). Refer as needed for uterine artery embolization. Perform outpatient hysteroscopy & ablation (Thermachoice). Vaginal, laparoscopic, abdominal hysterectomy performed. Incontinence evaluation & treatment with physical therapy, medical management, & surgery prn (transvaginal slings and anterior repairs). Prolapse disorders managed with pessary or vaginal surgery. Menopausal care & medical management. 8.) Obstetrics: low and high risk: ambulatory services only through 14 weeks GA, in-office ultrasound & interpretation, in-office IPAS D&C for Sab, Ectopic management with methotrexate or surgery.

Thank you

Colleen M. Murphy, MD, FACOG

----- Original Message -----

From: Elliott, Betty (DOH)
To: drcolleen@gci.net
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 9:16 AM

Regarding your application: I have had my medical consultant review your file and he had a question:

- (1) He would like a brief summary of your current practice

*Betty Elliott, Licensing Manager
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
WA State Department of Health
243 Israel Rd SE, Tumwater WA 98501*

Elliott, Betty (DOH)

From: Elliott, Betty (DOH)
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 10:17 AM
To: 'drcolleen@gci.net'

Regarding your application: I have had my medical consultant review your file and he had a question:

(1) He would like a brief summary of your current practice

*Betty Elliott , Licensing Manager
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
WA State Department of Health
243 Israel Rd SE, Tukwila WA 98150
Email: betty.elliott@doh.wa.gov
Phone: 360 236-2766
Fax Number: 360 236-2795
Web Address: www.doh.wa.gov/medical*

"The Department of Health works to protect and improve the health of the people of Washington State"

Case View Screen [update]

Case Status	2011-160845 (PUBLIC: Internal) Intake	Date Created	10/05/2011	Audit Entry Items Documents Notes Master Cases Participants Add Master Case Timeline History
Respondent ID	997298	Date Received	10/04/2011	
Respondent	Colleen Mary Murphy	How Received	Application Process	
Credential	MD.MD.60236731	Receiving Board	COMMISSION	
Address	Colleen Mary Murphy Public <input type="radio"/> Mail <input type="radio"/>	Receiving Profession	Physician And Surgeon License	
	Colleen Mary Murphy 2811 Iliamna Ave Anchorage, AK 99517-1217	Receiving Department	Case Intake	
		Received By	Cynthia R Hamilton	
		Alleged Issues	Failure to Meet Licensing Board Reporting Requirements	
		Case Nature	Failure to Meet Licensure Application Requirements	
Complainant ID	854138			
Complainant	Medical Quality Assurance Commission			
Comments:				

- Action Items
- Resolution
- Participants
- Priority History
- HIPDB Reports
- TimeTracker

Action Items [add] [add group]

Type	Assigned To	Activity	Track Time	Due Effective	Completed	Order Signed	Created ▼	User
Intake	Case Intake, Hamilton, Cynthia R		[add]	10/05/2011	10/05/2011		10/05/2011	Hamilton, Cynthia R
Target:	Colleen Mary Murphy							
Warning:	Warning Type:	CASE PENDING						
	Warning Effective Date:	10/05/2011						
	Suppress License Print:	NO						
	Warning:	2011-160845						
Case Status:	Status Changed To:	Intake						
Action Info:	Complaint Source	Application Response						
	Possible Imminent Danger?	No						
	Single Complaint							
	Process Coordination Needed?	No						

Credential View Screen

Colleen Mary Murphy
Address:

Public ☐ Mail

Colleen Mary Murphy
2811 Illiamna Ave
Anchorage, AK 99517-1217

ID 997298
Warnings
SSN/FEIN 3 - DOH Licensee Social ...
Contact Standing Living
Contact Type INDIVIDUAL
Birth Date 08/10/1955
Public File YES
Mailing List
US Citizen No
Email: drcolleen@gci.net

Contact
Audit
Enforcement View
Cont. Edu
Documents
Owned By/Key Mgmt
Exams
Experience
Notes
Schools
Librarian
Other State License
Online Information

Comments:

Physician And Surgeon License [form letter]

Credential # MD.MD.60236731
Application Date 06/29/2011
Effective Date
Expiration Date
First Issuance Date
Last Date Of Contact 08/22/2011
CE Due Date 08/10/2016

Credential Status PENDING (06/30/2011)
Status Reason INITIAL APPLICATION IN PROCESS
Amount Due \$0.00
Date Last Activity 8/22/2011 4:45:03 PM
Last Updated by Murphy, Catrina
Certificate Sent Date

Audit
Documents
Verification
Workflow
Key Mgmt
Fees
Notes
Print Docs
Comp. Audit
Renewal
License Status History

Comments:

- Supervises
- User Defined License Data
- Workflow

Supervises [update] [Show All]

No active Supervises Data.

2011-160845



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

April 18, 2012

David Shoup
Tindall Bennett & Shoup PC
508 W 2nd Ave 3rd Floor
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Colleen M. Murphy, MD
Master Case No. M2011-1510

Dear Mr. Shoup:

Enclosed please find Declaration of Service by Mail and Notice and Order for Withdrawal of Notice of Decision on Application dated April 12, 2012.

Any questions regarding the terms and conditions of the Order should be directed to Dani Newma, Disciplinary Manager at (360) 236-2764.

Sincerely,

Michelle Singer, Adjudicative Clerk
Adjudicative Clerk Office
PO Box 47879
Olympia, WA 98504-7879

cc: Colleen M. Murphy, MD, Respondent
Kim O'Neal, AAG
Dani Newman, Disciplinary Manager
Michael Farrell, Legal Unit

Enclosure



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ADJUDICATIVE SERVICE UNIT**

In the Matter of:)	
)	Master Case No. M2011-1510
COLLEEN M. MURPHY)	
Credential No. MD60236731)	DECLARATION OF SERVICE
Respondent.)	BY MAIL
)	
)	

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the state of Washington, that the following is true and correct:

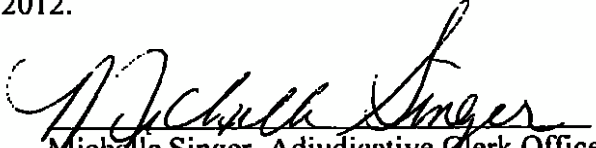
On April 18, 2012, I served a true and correct copy of the Notice and Order for Withdrawal of Notice of Decision on Application, signed by the Panel Chair on April 12, 2012, by placing same in the U.S. mail by 5:00 p.m., postage prepaid, on the following parties to this case:

David Shoup
Tindall Bennett & Shoup PC
508 W 2nd Ave 3rd Floor
Anchorage, AK 99501

Colleen M. Murphy, MD
2811 Illiamna Ave
Anchorage, AK 99517-1217

Kim O'Neal, AAG
Office of the Attorney General
PO Box 40100
Olympia, WA 98504-0100

DATED: This 18th day of April, 2012.


Michelle Singer, Adjudicative Clerk Office
Adjudicative Clerk

cc: Dani Newman, Case Manager
Michael Farrell, Legal Unit

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the License to Practice
as a Physician and Surgeon of

COLLEEN M. MURPHY, MD
License No. MD60236731

Respondent.

No. M2011-1510


**NOTICE AND ORDER FOR
WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF
DECISION ON APPLICATION**

1. FACTS AND NOTICE

1.1 On or about October 28, 2011, the Medical Quality Assurance Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Decision on Application against Respondent.

1.2 Based on further review of the matter on April 5, 2012, the Commission determined that the Notice of Decision of Application should be withdrawn. The Commission voted to grant Respondent an unrestricted license to practice as a physician and surgeon in the state of Washington.

DATED: April 12, 2012


MICHAEL L. FARRELL, WSBA # 16022
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STAFF ATTORNEY

2. ORDER

Based on this Notice, the Commission hereby orders that the Notice of Decision on Application is withdrawn.

DATED: April 12, 2012.

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION


LINDA RUIZ, PANEL CHAIR

NOTICE AND ORDER FOR WITHDRAWAL OF
NOTICE OF DECISION ON APPLICATION
NO. M2011-1510

PAGE 1 OF 1

RECEIVED

JAN 03 2012

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ADJUDICATIVE SERVICE UNIT

In the matter of:

COLLEEN M. MURPHY, MD
Credential No. MD.MD.60236731

Respondent.

Master Case No. M2011-1510

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

David H. Shoup of the firm TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP, P.C., hereby enters his appearance for and on behalf of respondent in the above-entitled matter and requests that copies of all pleadings and documents be served upon said attorneys at 508 W. Second Avenue, Third Floor, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

DATED in Anchorage, Alaska this 27th day of December, 2011.

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP, P.C.
Attorneys for Respondent.

By:

David H. Shoup

Alaska Bar No. 8711106

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP, P.C.
508 WEST 2ND AVENUE, THIRD FLOOR
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

(907) 278-8633
FAX (907) 278-8638

1
2
3 I hereby certify that on the 27th day
4 of December, 2011, a true and correct copy
5 of the foregoing was sent to the following via:

6 ☒ Mail ☐ Hand Delivered ☐ Fax ☐ Email

7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	Adjudicative Service Unit: PO Box 47879 Olympia, WA 98504-7879 310 Israel Road SE Tumwater, WA 98501 PH: 360/236-4670 Fax: 360/586-2171	Assistant Attorney General Kim O'Neal, AAG Office of Attorney General P.O. Box 40100 Olympia, WA 98504-0100 PH: 360/586-2747 Fax: 360/664-0229	Rep for Settlement Purposes: Michael Farrell, Staff Attorney Dept. Of Health P.O. Box 47866 Olympia, WA 98504-7866 PH: 509/329-2186
	Presiding Officer: Frank Lockhart P.O. Box 47879 Olympia, WA 98504-7879 PH: 360/236-4677	Disciplinary Manager Dani Newman Dept. Of Health P.O. Box 47866 Olympia, WA 98504-7866 PH: 360/236-2764	

By: 

Tindall Bennett & Shoup, P.C.

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP, P.C.
808 WEST 2ND AVENUE, THIRD FLOOR
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 278-8633
FAX (907) 278-8638

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

LAWYERS

508 WEST 2ND AVENUE, SUITE 300

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12/27

US POSTAGE

\$00.43



ZIP 99501
041L10206808

Rep for Settlement Purposes:
Michael Farrell, Staff Attorney
Dept. Of Health
P.O. Box 47866
Olympia, WA 98504-7866

98504-7866



Bondurant, Debra A (DOH)

From: Bradley, Carolyn (DOH)
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2011 2:07 PM
To: Bondurant, Debra A (DOH)
Subject: RE: Akpamgbo - request for extension

So you added the note in "Comments"? That looks perfect. ☺

From: Bondurant, Debra A (DOH)
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2011 10:28 AM
To: Bradley, Carolyn (DOH)
Subject: FW: Akpamgbo - request for extension

This is what I added to the "SOA Served/Awaiting Response";

RECEIVED

MAR 06 2012

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

COLLEEN M. MURPHY, M.D.
Application No. MD.MD.60236731,

Applicant.

Master Case No. M2011-1510

PREHEARING ORDER NO. 1:
ORDER RESETTING
PREHEARING CONFERENCE

A prehearing conference in this matter was originally scheduled for June 1, 2012. However, a scheduling conflict has arisen that requires setting a new date.

Pursuant to WAC 246-11-290(2)(b), the Presiding Officer has RESCHEDULED the prehearing conference to **May 30, 2012, at 1:00 p.m.** The parties were notified by the Adjudicative Service Unit and agreed to the new date.

Dated this 1 day of March, 2012.


FRANK LOCKHART, Health Law Judge
Presiding Officer

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I declare that today I served a copy of this document upon the following parties of record:

DAVID SHOUP, ATTORNEY AT LAW AND KIM O'NEAL, AAG by mailing a copy properly addressed with postage prepaid.

DATED AT OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 2nd DAY OF MARCH, 2012.


Michelle Singer
Adjudicative Service Unit

cc: DANI NEWMAN
MICHAEL FARRELL

For more information, visit our website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hearings>.

PREHEARING ORDER NO. 1:
ORDER RESETTING
PREHEARING CONFERENCE

Page 1 of 1

Master Case No. M2011-1510

RECEIVED

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ADJUDICATIVE SERVICE UNIT

DEC 23 2011

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

COLLEEN M. MURPHY, MD
Credential No. MD.MD.60236731

Respondent.

)
) Master Case No. M2011-1510
)
) SCHEDULING ORDER/
) NOTICE OF STATUS
) CONFERENCE AND
) PROTECTIVE ORDER

The Respondent requested a hearing in this matter. In accordance with RCW 34.05.419, an adjudicative proceeding has been commenced.

Pursuant to WAC 246-11-070, an attorney wishing to represent a party must submit a Notice of Appearance.

This matter is set for a status conference:

TIME: 10:30 a.m.
DATE: January 3, 2012

This conference will be convened by telephone. At least two working days before the scheduled conference, each party must provide its telephone contact number to the Adjudicative Service Unit.

The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Presiding Officer, the parties, and their representatives are attached. If the telephone number on the attached contact list is correct, no further action is required.

The case schedule will be set during this status conference. A Scheduling Order/Notice of Hearing will be served on all parties following this status conference.

The status conference may be recorded. This status conference date may be changed or canceled at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. **You must participate in the telephone status conference.** If you do not, a default will be entered. This means your credential may be revoked, suspended or denied without further input from you.

Any request to change the date or time of the status conference must be made in writing, at least two working days before the scheduled conference with a copy to the opposing party.

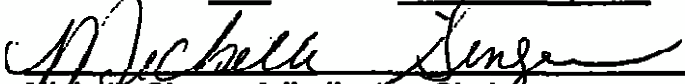
You are hereby notified that this adjudicative proceeding is being conducted to make a determination regarding the Statement of Charges.

This scheduling order may be vacated under the following conditions:

- 1) Upon receipt by the Adjudicative Service Unit of an order disposing of the case (e.g. Stipulation and Agreed Order signed by the parties and the disciplining authority) or
- 2) Upon receipt by the Adjudicative Service Unit of an Amended Statement of Charges

This scheduling order is mandatory on all parties.

DATED THIS 22nd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2011


Michelle Singer, Adjudicative Clerk
Adjudicative Clerk Office

PROTECTIVE ORDER

This protective order prohibits the release of health care information outside of these proceedings. Unless required by law, anyone involved in these proceedings must keep confidential and not disclose health care information obtained through these proceedings. Health care information includes information in any form "that identifies or can readily be associated with the identity of a patient and directly relates to the patient's health care". RCW 70.02.010.

DATED THIS 22nd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2011


John Kuntz, Review Judge
Presiding Officer

ADJUDICATIVE SERVICE UNIT:

PO Box 47879
Olympia, WA 98504-7879
310 Israel Road SE
Tumwater, WA 98501
Phone: (360) 236-4670
Fax: (360) 586-2171

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Frank Lockhart
PO Box 47879
Olympia, WA 98504-7879
Phone: (360) 236-4677

PARTIES:

Respondent's counsel:
Pro se

Respondent:

Colleen M. Murphy, MD
2811 Iliamna Ave
Anchorage, AK 99517
Phone: (907) 243-1939

Assistant Attorney General:

Kim O'Neal, AAG
Office of the Attorney General
PO Box 40100
Olympia, WA 98504-0100
Phone: (360) 586-2747
Fax: (360) 664-0229

Disciplinary Manager:

Dani Newman
Department of Health
PO Box 47866
Olympia, WA 98504-7866
Phone: (360) 236-2764

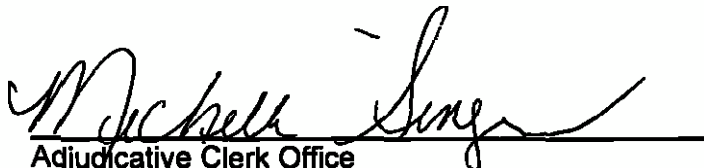
Representative for settlement purposes:

Michael Farrell, Staff Attorney
Department of Health
PO Box 47866
Olympia, WA 98504-7866
Phone: (509) 329-2186

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I declare that today, at Olympia, Washington, I served a copy of this document upon the following parties of record: Colleen M. Murphy, Respondent; and Kim O'Neal, AAG; by mailing a copy properly addressed with postage prepaid.

DATED THIS 22nd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2011.


Adjudicative Clerk Office

c: Dani Newman, Disciplinary Manager
Michael Farrell, Legal Unit

For information on the hearing process please visit our website at www.doh.wa.gov/hearings

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)- TITLE II

Persons with a disability, as defined under the ADA, requiring accommodations, are requested to contact the Adjudicative Service Unit, PO Box 47879, Olympia, WA 98504-7879 a minimum of seven (7) days before an event they wish to attend.

Telephone (360) 236-4677 FAX (360) 586-2171 TDD (360) 664-0064

REQUEST FOR HEARING

Colleen M. Murphy, MD
2811 Iliamna Ave
Anchorage, AK 99517-1217

No. M2011-1510

FILED
NOV 07 2011
Adjudicative Clerk

ADJ
AKA
LEGAL

Request for Hearing

☒ I disagree with the Notice of Decision regarding my application, and I request a hearing. I am contesting the decision because: (attach additional pages if needed)

the Alaska State Medical Board has
not proceeded with disciplinary action.

The quality of peer review at Providence
Alaska Medical Center was based on
the locality rule, admittedly not
following the national standard of care
despite board certification requirements in Bylaws.

Representation Information

☒ I will be represented by an attorney. (Your attorney must file a notice of appearance with the Adjudicative Clerk Office.)

Request for Interpreter at Hearing

☐ I request that a qualified interpreter be appointed to interpret for me and/or for my witness(es) at hearing for the following language(s):

☐ I request that a qualified interpreter be appointed to interpret for me and/or for my witness(es) at hearing, due to hearing or speech impairment, for the following language(s):

Return this form to with a copy of the Notice of Decision of Application to:

Adjudicative Clerk Office
Department Of Health
PO Box 47879
Olympia, WA 98504-7879

Dated:

10/31/11

Signature:

Colleen Murphy

Applicant

Notice of Decision on Application

FILED

OCT 31 2011

Adjudicative Clerk

October 28, 2011

Colleen M. Murphy, MD
2811 Iliamna Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517

Re: Application No. MD.MD.60236731

Dear Dr. Murphy:

Thank you for your application for a license to practice as a physician and surgeon in the state of Washington. Following review of your application file, the Medical Quality Assurance Commission (Commission) has decided to deny your application.

Basis for this Decision. The Commission based its decision on the following facts.

You are a physician board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology. On April 6, 2005, the Alaska Regional Hospital summarily suspended your obstetrical privileges.

On July 7, 2005, based on the suspension of your privileges at Alaska Regional Hospital, the Alaska State Medical Board issued an order suspending your license to practice medicine in the state of Alaska. Based on the suspension of your medical license, Alaska Regional Hospital and Providence Alaska Medical Center suspended your privileges at those hospitals. On July 14, 2005, the Board issued an Accusation alleging that your actions in five cases constituted professional incompetence, gross negligence or repeated negligent conduct.

On September 14, 2005, following a hearing, an administrative law judge issued a Decision on Summary Suspension finding that the prosecutor did not establish a failure to meet the standard of care or professional incompetence. The judge recommended that the Alaska State Medical Board vacate the order of summary suspension and address the issues raised in the case in the context of a complete hearing on the merits.

On February 22, 2006, Providence Alaska Medical Center granted you gynecological privileges, but denied you obstetrical privileges. Following a hearing in March 2006, Providence granted you obstetrical privileges and required five precepted vaginal births after cesarean and five precepted operative vaginal deliveries.

On June 19, 2006, you entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Alaska State Medical Board. The MOA imposed sanctions against your license, including (1) a one-year period of probation, (2) a requirement to comply with conditions of practice of

ORIGINAL

Providence Alaska Medical Center, (3) a requirement that you notify the Chief of Staff and Administrator of any hospital at which you have privileges of the terms of your probation and provide a copy of the MOA, (4) a requirement to notify the Board's representative immediately of obtaining hospital privileges at any hospital, (5) a requirement to report in person to the Board to allow review of your compliance with probation, and (6) obey all laws pertaining to your license in this state or any other state. On July 14, 2006, the Alaska State Medical Board adopted the MOA.

On August 9, 2006, Alaska Regional Hospital denied you obstetrical privileges. In December 2006, Alaska Regional Hospital granted you gynecological privileges.

On March 21, 2007, you entered into a Stipulation and Consent Order with the Michigan Board of Medicine in which you were restricted from practicing medicine in the state of Michigan until you provided verification that your Alaska license had been reinstated. You subsequently allowed your Michigan license to lapse.

On May 26, 2007, the Alaska State Medical Board terminated your probation. Providence then granted you unrestricted privileges in obstetrics and gynecology.

On December 8, 2009, Providence suspended your privileges in obstetrics and gynecology. On October 6, 2010, Providence made a final decision to permanently revoke your clinical staff privileges and medical staff membership According to an Adverse Action Report to the National Practitioner Data Bank, this action was based on nine cases, including three delayed obstetrical intervention cases, inappropriate vaginal delivery of a large premature breach-positioned infant through an unproven pelvis, inappropriate pain management, alcohol on call, failure or refusal to comply with the spirit of a proctoring program, and poor professional communications/interactions with patients and staff.

Based on Section 18.130.055(1)(b) of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW), the Commission decided to deny your application subject to conditions based on acts defined as unprofessional conduct under RCW 18.130.180(4), which provides in part:

RCW 18.130.180 Unprofessional Conduct

The following conduct, acts, or conditions constitute unprofessional conduct for any license holder under the jurisdiction of this chapter:

- (4) Incompetence, negligence, or malpractice which results in injury to a patient or which creates an unreasonable risk that a patient may be harmed. ...

Your Right to a Hearing. If you disagree with this decision, you may request a hearing by completing the enclosed Request for Hearing form and sending it to the Department of Health, Adjudicative Clerk Office, at the following address:

Adjudicative Clerk Office
Department Of Health
PO Box 47879
Olympia, WA 98504-7879

Your request must be in writing, state your basis for contesting the decision, and include a copy of this Notice of Decision on Application.

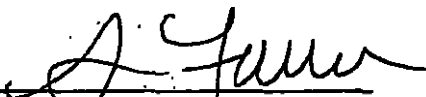
The Adjudicative Clerk Office must receive your completed Request for Hearing within 28 days of the date this Notice was sent to you or your Request for Hearing will not be considered and you will not be entitled to a hearing. If the Adjudicative Clerk Office does not receive your Request for Hearing by January 13, 2011 the decision to deny your application will be final.

What Happens at a Hearing? If you decide to present your application to a hearing panel, you will have the burden of proving, more probably than not, that you are qualified for licensure under the Uniform Disciplinary Act (RCW 18.130), Chapter 18.71 RCW, and the rules adopted by the Commission.

Your Right to an Interpreter at Hearing. You may request an interpreter to translate at the hearing if English is not your primary language or the primary language of any of any witness who will testify at hearing. You may also request interpretive assistance if you or any witness has a hearing or speech impairment.

Questions? Please call me at (509) 329-2186 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


MICHAEL FARRELL, WSBA #16022
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STAFF ATTORNEY

Enclosure

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I declare that today, October 28, 2011, at Olympia, Washington, I served a copy of this document by mailing a copy properly addressed with postage prepaid to the applicant at the following address:

Colleen M. Murphy, MD
2811 Iliamna Ave
Anchorage, AK 99517-1217

Dated:

October 28, 2011

Signature:

Debra Bondurant
Debra Bondurant, Legal Secretary

Notice of Decision on Application

October 28, 2011

Colleen M. Murphy, MD
2811 Illiamna Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517

Re: Application No. MD.MD.60236731

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STAFF ATTORNEY

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Anchorage, AK 99517-1217

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Signature: Debra Bondurant
Debra Bondurant, Legal Secretary

REQUEST FOR HEARING

Colleen M. Murphy, MD
2811 Illiamna Ave
Anchorage, AK 99517-1217

No. M2011-1510

Request for Hearing

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Adjudicative Clerk Office
Department Of Health
PO Box 47879
Olympia, WA 98504-7879

Dated: _____

Signature: _____, Applicant



AMA Physician Profile

Name and Mailing Address:

COLLEEN MARY MURPHY MD
4100 LAKE OTIS PKWY
ANCHORAGE AK 99508-5229

Primary Office Address:

SAME AS MAILING ADDRESS

Phone: 1-907-770-5432

Birthdate: 08/10/1955

Physician's Major Professional Activity: OFFICE BASED PRACTICE

Practice Specialties Self Designated by the Physician*:

Primary Specialty: OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Secondary Specialty: UNSPECIFIED

*Self-Designated Practice Specialties/Areas of Practice (SDPS) listed on the AMA Physician Profile do not imply "recognition" or "endorsement" of any field of medical practice by the Association, nor does it imply, certification by a Member Medical Specialty Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties, or that the physician has been trained or has special competence to practice the SDPS.

AMA membership: NON MEMBER

_____ All Information from this Point Forward is Provided by the Primary Source _____

Current and/or Historical Medical School:

WAYNE STATE UNIV SOM, DETROIT MI 48201

Degree Awarded: Yes

Degree Year: 1981



AMA Physician Profile

Current and/or Historical Post Graduate Medical Training Programs Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME):

Beginning with the 2010 cycle of the National GME Census, post-graduate training segments will include the name of the program attended in addition to the sponsoring institution. Program-level information prior to 2010 will not be available for reporting. Future training dates, as reported by the program, should be interpreted as "in progress" or "current" with the projected date of completion.

Post-graduate training performed at accredited osteopathic institutions or in Canada are updated on the AMA Physician Masterfile only upon verification by the program. US licensing authorities accept graduate medical education from both entities as equivalent to training performed in a US program accredited by ACGME.

Sponsoring Institution: GOOD SAMARITAN REG MED CTR
Sponsoring State: ARIZONA
Specialty: OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY
Dates: 07/1984 - 06/1987 (VERIFIED)

Sponsoring Institution: ST JOHN HOSP & MED CTR
Sponsoring State: MICHIGAN
Specialty: FAMILY MEDICINE
Dates: 07/1981 - 06/1982 (VERIFIED)

Note: If you have discrepant information, please submit a Request for Investigation to the AMA so that we may verify the information with the primary source(s). See the last page of this Profile for instructions on how to report a data discrepancy.

NATIONAL BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS (NBME) CERTIFICATION YEAR: MD: 1982

Current and/or Historical Medical Licensure:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>MD/ DO</u>	<u>Date Granted</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>License Type</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
ALASKA	MD*	10/27/1993	12/31/2012	ACTIVE	UNLIMITED	09/02/2011
* Please contact the state board. More information may be available.						
MICHIGAN	MD*	07/01/1982	NOT RPTD	INACTIVE	UNLIMITED	07/31/2006
* Please contact the state board. More information may be available.						



AMA Physician Profile

Current and/or Historical NPI Information:

<u>NPI Number</u>	<u>Enumeration Date</u>	<u>Deactivation Date</u>	<u>Reactivation Date</u>	<u>Replacement Number</u>	<u>Last Reported Date</u>
1275535502	05/31/2005	NOT RPTD	NOT RPTD	NOT RPTD	10/02/2011

ECFMG Certification:

Applicant Number:

Note: The Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) applicant identification number does not imply current ECFMG certification status. To verify ECFMG status, contact the ECFMG Certification Verification Service in writing at P.O. Box 13679, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

Federal Drug Enforcement Administration:

** Only the last three characters of active DEA number(s) are displayed.*

<u>DEA Number *</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
XXXXXX077	22N 33N 4 5	01/31/2012	09/08/2011

Address: Ste 330, 4100 Lake Otis Pkwy, Anchorage, AK 99508-5232

Note: Many states require their own controlled substances registration/license. Please check with your state licensing authority for requirement information as the AMA does not maintain this information.

Specialty Board Certification(s)*:

Specialty Board Certification(s) by one or more of the 24 boards recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and the American Medical Association (AMA) through the Liaison Committee on Specialty Boards, as reported by the ABMS:

The AMA Physician Profile has been designated by the ABMS as an Official ABMS Display Agent of Member Board Certification data. Therefore, the ABMS Board Certification information on the AMA Physician Profile is considered a designated equivalent source in regard to credentialing standards set forth by accrediting bodies such as the Joint Commission and National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

Certifying Board: AMERICAN BOARD OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Certificate: OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Certificate Type: GENERAL

<u>Duration</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Expiration</u>	<u>Reverification Occurrence</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2010	12/31/2011	RE-CERT	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2009	12/31/2010	RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2008	12/31/2009	RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2007	12/31/2008	RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2006	12/31/2007	RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011

AMA Files Checked 10/5/2011 13:32:03

Profile for: Colleen Mary Murphy MD

Page 3 of 5

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AMA Physician Profile

Certifying Board: AMERICAN BOARD OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Certificate: OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Certificate Type: GENERAL

<u>Duration</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Expiration</u>	<u>Reverification</u>	<u>Occurrence</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2005	12/31/2006		RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2004	04/30/2006		RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2003	04/30/2005		RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2002	04/30/2004		RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2001	04/30/2003		RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2000	04/30/2002		RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/1998	04/30/2001		RE-CERT(**)	09/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/08/1989	12/31/1999		INITIAL(**)	09/09/2011

Note: For certification dates, a default value of "01" appears in the day or month field if data were not provided to AMA. Please contact the appropriate specialty board directly for this information. (**) Indicates an expired certificate.

*This information is proprietary data maintained in a copyrighted database compilation owned by the American Board of Medical Specialties. Copyright 2011 American Board of Medical Specialties. All right reserved.

Medicare/Medicaid Sanction(s):

TO DATE, THERE HAVE BEEN NO SUCH SANCTIONS REPORTED TO THE AMA BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

Other Federal Sanction(s):

TO DATE, THERE HAVE BEEN NO FEDERAL SANCTIONS REPORTED TO THE AMA BY ANY BRANCH OF THE US MILITARY, THE VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION OR THE US PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.



AMA Physician Profile

Additional Information:

TO DATE, THERE IS NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THIS PHYSICIAN ON FILE.

The content of the AMA Physician Profile is intended to assist with credentialing. Appropriate use of the AMA Physician Masterfile data contained on this Profile by an organization would meet the primary source verification requirements of the Joint Commission and the American Accreditation HealthCare Commission/URAC. The Physician Masterfile meets the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) standards for verification of medical education, post graduate medical training, board certification, DEA status, and Medicare/Medicaid sanctions.

If you note any discrepancies, please log onto our web site (<http://www.ama-assn.org/go/amaprofiles>) and go to the order detail page, select the D following the physician's name and enter the data in question. Or you can mark the issues on a copy of the profile and mail or fax to:

Division of Database Products and Licensing
Attn: Credentialing Products
515 N. State Street
Chicago, IL 60654
800- 665-2882
312 464-5900 (fax)

If you have questions or need additional information, please call the AMA Profile Service customer support line at 800-665-2882.

MQAC REVIEW
Case Number: 2011-160845

Date: October 5, 2011

Presented by: Betty Elliott, Licensing Manager

Respondent:	MURPHY, COLLEEN MARY, MD	Alaska
--------------------	---------------------------------	---------------

Complainant:	Medical Quality Assurance Commission
---------------------	---

CASE SUMMARY

The Respondent:

Board Certified:	OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
DOB:	08-10-1955
Licensed since:	N/A
Expiration date:	N/A
Medical School:	1981—Wayne State U Sch of Med; Detroit, MI
Residency:	07/1981-06/1982—St. John Hosp and Med Ctr; MI— FAMILY MEDICINE 07/1984-06/1987—Good Samaritan Reg Med Ctr; AZ— OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

The Complainant: Medical Quality Assurance Commission

Malpractice Settlement:

The Complaint: Dr Murphy had received some complaints, so the hospital decided to review some of her cases, after the reviews, they decided that Dr Murphy was in need of additional retraining. Dr Murphy refused to take leave to obtain this training so the hospital suspended her privileges. Base on ten cases they decided that Dr Murphy posed a clear and immediate danger to the public. This was reported to the Alaska medical boards and they summary suspended her license also her license was suspended in Michigan because of the Alaska suspension. Dr Murphy had a hearing, and her license was reinstated in AK, Michigan had her pay a fine so now her license in MI is considered lapsed.

RCM Review

Prior Cases:

None.

Recommendation:



August 24 2011

MEMO TO: Dr Heye

FROM: Betty Elliott

RE: Applicant: Colleen Murphy, MD

Medical School: Wayne

Specialty: OBGYN

PG Training St John 7/81-6/82 Good Sam 7/84-6/87

Issue Dr Murphy had received some complaints, so the hospital decided to review some of her cases, after the reviews, they decided that Dr Murphy was in need of additional retraining. Dr Murphy refused to take leave to obtain this training so the hospital suspended her privileges. Base on ten cases they decided that Dr Murphy posed a clear and immediate danger to the public. This was reported to the Alaska medical boards and they summary suspended her license also her license was suspended in Michigan because of the Alaska suspension. Dr Murphy had a hearing, and her license was reinstated in AK, Michigan had her pay a fine so now her license in MI is considered lapsed.

She also has 4 malpractice cases.

Consideration for licensure:

*Betty
Ask for a brief summary of her current practice. Phobias.
64
8-26-11*

Medical Quality Assurance Commission Physician Application Worksheet

Name MURPHY, COLLEEN Date of Birth 8/10/1955

Date Received 6/29/11 Temp Issued ☐ Number Closed ☐

☒ WSP Check ☒ Fee ☒ Photo ☒ Data1-13 ☒ AIDS ☒ Attes ☒ SSN ☐ EBHAR

Chronology

☒ Complete

MISSING

Jul-99 to Feb-06
to
to

6/30/11

FSMB

6/30/11

AMA

☐

- ECFMG

8/18

FBI REPORT

Personal Data "Yes"s

10
8
11
12

Documentation Received

Y
NEED SYNOPSIS
NEED SYNOPSIS
NEED SYNOPSIS

Malpractice Cases

1
2
3
4
5
6
7

Synopsis

X	X
X	DISMISSED
X	DISMISSED
X	DISMISSED

Disposition

Medical School

Name WAYNE Year of Degree 1981 7/21/11 Transcripts ☐ Translations

Examination Type ☒ National ☐ FLEX ☐ USMLE ☐ State Exam ☐ LMCC 6/28/11 Scores Received

Post Graduate

Training Programs

Received	
<u>6/12/11</u>	ST JOHN 07/81-06/82
<u>7/25/11</u>	Good Sam 07/84-06/87

Post Graduate

Training Programs

Received	

Received

State

<u>7/15/11</u>	AK
<u>7/11/11</u>	MI

Received

Hospital verification

<u>7/11/11</u>	AK REGIONAL
<u>7/11/11</u>	PROVIDENCE AK

Received

Hospital verification

Approved

Signature

Date

Comments:



Background Check Processed

JUN 30 2011

JUN 29 2011

NPDB/MIPOB
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

Revenue

Medical Practice License Application for MDs only

- ☒ National Boards ☐ Other State Exam ☐ LMCC (Must have been obtained after 1969)
☐ Flex Examination ☐ USMLE Examination

1. Demographic Information

Social Security Number (If you do not have a social security number, see instructions.)

☐ Male
☒ Female

3 - DOH Licensee Social Security Number - RCW 42.56.350(1)

Name First Middle Last
Colleen Mary Murphy

Birth date (mm/dd/yyyy) Place of birth
06/10/1955 City Detroit State MI Country USA

Address
2811 Illiamna Ave

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99517 County Anchorage

Country USA

Phone (907) 243-1939 Fax (907) 770-5431 Cell

2 - DOH Licensee Health Professional Home Address and/...

Email address
drcolleen@gsi.net

Mailing address (if different from above)
same

City State Zip County

Country

NOTE: The mailing and email addresses you provide will be your addresses of record. It is your responsibility to maintain current contact information with the department.

Have you ever been known under any other name(s)? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, list name(s):

Will documents be received in another name? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, list name(s):

Medical Specialty

Medical school Wayne State University Year of graduation 1981

Medical specialty OB-GYN

2. Personal Data Questions

Yes No

1. Do you have a medical condition which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety? If yes, please attach explanation..... ☐ ☒

"Medical Condition" includes physiological, mental or psychological conditions or disorders, such as, but not limited to orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, mental retardation, emotional or mental illness, specific learning disabilities, HIV disease, tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.

If you answered yes to question 1, explain:

- 1a. How your treatment has reduced or eliminated the limitations caused by your medical condition.
- 1b. How your field of practice, the setting or manner of practice has reduced or eliminated the limitations caused by your medical condition.

Note: If you answered "yes" to question 1, the licensing authority will assess the nature, severity, and the duration of the risks associated with the ongoing medical condition and the ongoing treatment to determine whether your license should be restricted, conditions imposed, or no license issued.

The licensing authority may require you to undergo one or more mental, physical or psychological examination(s). This would be at your own expense. By submitting this application, you give consent to such an examination(s). You also agree the examination report(s) may be provided to the licensing authority. You waive all claims based on confidentiality or privileged communication. If you do not submit to a required examination(s) or provide the report(s) to the licensing authority, your application may be denied.

2. Do you currently use chemical substance(s) in any way which impair or limit your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety? If yes, please explain..... ☐ ☒

"Currently" means within the past two years.

"Chemical substances" include alcohol, drugs, or medications, whether taken legally or illegally.

3. Have you ever been diagnosed with, or treated for, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism or frotteurism? ☐ ☒
4. Are you currently engaged in the illegal use of controlled substances? ☐ ☒

"Currently" means within the past two years.

Illegal use of controlled substances is the use of controlled substances (e.g., heroin, cocaine) not obtained legally or taken according to the directions of a licensed health care practitioner.

Note: If you answer "yes" to any of the remaining questions, provide an explanation and certified copies of all judgments, decisions, orders, agreements and surrenders. The department does criminal background checks on all applicants.

5. Have you ever been convicted, entered a plea of guilty, no contest, or a similar plea, or had prosecution or a sentence deferred or suspended as an adult or juvenile in any state or jurisdiction? ... ☐ ☒

Note: If you answered "yes" to question 5, you must send certified copies of all court documents related to your criminal history with your application. If you do not provide the documents, your application is incomplete and will not be considered.

To protect the public, the department considers criminal history. A criminal history may not automatically bar you from obtaining a credential. However, failure to report criminal history may result in extra cost to you and the application may be delayed or denied.

2. Personal Data Questions (Cont.)

Yes No

- a. Are you now subject to criminal prosecution or pending charges of a crime in any state or jurisdiction ☐ ☒

Note: If you answered "yes" to question 5a, you must explain the nature of the prosecution and/or charge(s). You must include the jurisdiction that is investigating and/or prosecuting the charges. This includes any city, county, state, federal or tribal jurisdiction. If charging documents have been filed with a court, you must provide certified copies of those documents. If you do not provide the documents, your application is incomplete and will not be considered.

- b. If you answered "yes" to question 5a, do you wish to have decision on your application delayed until the prosecution and any appeals are complete? ☐ ☐
6. Have you ever been found in any civil, administrative or criminal proceeding to have:
- a. Possessed, used, prescribed for use, or distributed controlled substances or legend drugs in any way other than for legitimate or therapeutic purposes? ☐ ☒
- b. Diverted controlled substances or legend drugs? ☐ ☒
- c. Violated any drug law? ☐ ☒
- d. Prescribed controlled substances for yourself? ☐ ☒
7. Have you ever been found in any proceeding to have violated any state or federal law or rule regulating the practice of a health care profession? If "yes", please attach an explanation and provide copies of all judgments, decisions, and agreements? ☐ ☒
8. Have you ever had any license, certificate, registration or other privilege to practice a health care profession denied, revoked, suspended, or restricted by a state, federal, or foreign authority? ☒ ☐
9. Have you ever surrendered a credential like those listed in number 8, in connection with or to avoid action by a state, federal, or foreign authority? ☐ ☒
10. Have you ever been named in any civil suit or suffered any civil judgment for incompetence, negligence, or malpractice in connection with the practice of a health care profession? ☒ ☐
11. Have you ever had hospital privileges, medical society, other professional society or organization membership revoked, suspended, restricted or denied? ☒ ☐
12. Have you ever been the subject of any informal or formal disciplinary action related to the practice of medicine? ☒ ☐
13. To the best of your knowledge, are you the subject of an investigation by any licensing board as to the date of this application? ☐ ☒
14. Have you ever agreed to restrict, surrender, or resign your practice in lieu of or to avoid adverse action? ☐ ☒

3. Medical Education and Experience

Provide a chronological listing of your educational preparation and post-graduate training. If you need more space, attach a piece of paper.

Schools attended (Location if other than U.S., quote names of schools in original language and translate to English.)	Diploma or degree obtained (Quote titles in original language and translate to English.)	Number of years attended	Dates granted	
			Start mm/yyyy	End mm/yyyy
Medical education (list all medical schools attended)				
Wayne State University	MD	4	1/77	5/81
Post graduate training (list all programs attended)				
St John Hospital Detroit Michigan	1st year categorical internship	1	7/81	6/82
Good Samaritan Medical Center	OB-GYN residency	3	7/84	6/87

4. Professional Experience

see attached sheet

In chronological order list all professional experience received since graduation from medical school to the present. Exclude activities listed under other sections, identify any periods of time break of 30 days or more. If you need more space, attach a piece of paper.

Name and location of institution	From (mm/dd/yyyy)	To (mm/dd/yyyy)	Nature of experience or specialty
Truk State Hospital	06/02/82	6/30/84	National Health Service Corps, Chief of Pediatrics
Chuk State Micronesia			
Alaska Native Medical Center Anchorage, Alaska	08/87	6/96	Clinical OB-GYN, Chief of Dept, President Med Staff
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Anchorage, AK	7/96	3/99	Alaska Statewide Women's Health Consultant
Alaska Native Medical Center Area Health Services	4/99	6/14/99	OB-GYN
Gallup Indian Medical Center	6/14/99	7/14/99	OB-GYN

5. Hospital Privileges (Excluding post-graduate training hospital privileges.)

Excluding post-graduate training, list hospitals where all privileges that have been granted within the past five years. If you need more space, attach a piece of paper.

Name of hospital	Dates attended	
	Start date mm/dd/yyyy	End date mm/dd/yyyy
Alaska Regional Hospital	12/06	10/4/11
Providence Alaska Medical Center	2/22/06	10/6/10

6. Licenses in Other States

List all licenses to practice medicine in any state, territory, Canadian province or other country. Include active, inactive, temporary and training licenses. List in chronological order, starting with the most current.

State	Date license issued	License Number	Basis of License		Status of license	Any limitations on license
			Exam date passed	Endorsement		
Alaska	10/27/93	3162		X	active	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Michigan	7/1/82	4301044939	X		1/30/2000 lapsed	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
						<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
						<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

7. AIDS Education and Training Attestation

I certify that I have completed a minimum of four (4) hours of education in the prevention, transmission, and treatment of AIDS. This education included topics of etiology and epidemiology, testing and counseling, infection control guidelines, clinical manifestations and treatment, legal and ethical issues to include confidentiality, and psychosocial issues to include special population considerations.

Applicant's initials

Date

CMM

8. Applicant's Photograph

Photo Here



Height 5'6"

Weight 180 #

Hair color brown

Color of eyes brown

9. Applicant's Attestation

I, Colleen Mary Murphy, MD, declare under penalty of perjury under the
(Print applicant name clearly)

laws of the state of Washington that the following is true and correct:

- I am the person described and identified in this application.
- I have read RCW 18.130.170 and RCW 18.130.180 of the Uniform Disciplinary Act.
- I have answered all questions truthfully and completely.
- The documentation provided in support of my application is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

I understand the Department of Health may require more information before deciding on my application. The department may independently check conviction records with state or federal databases.

I authorize the release of any files or records the department requires to process this application. This includes information from all hospitals, educational or other organizations, my references, and past and present employers and business and professional associates. It also includes information from federal, state, local or foreign government agencies.

I understand that I must inform the department of any past, current or future criminal charges or convictions. I will also inform the department of any physical or mental conditions that jeopardize my ability to provide quality health care. If requested, I will authorize my health providers to release to the department information on my health, including mental health and any substance abuse treatment.

Dated 6/20/11 at Anchorage, AK (city, state)

By: Colleen Mary Murphy MD
Signature of applicant

6. Licenses in Other States

List all licenses to practice medicine in any state, territory, Canadian province or other country. Include active, inactive, temporary and training licenses. List in chronological order, starting with the most current.

State	Date license issued	License Number	Basis of License		Status of license	Any limitations on license
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Alaska	10/27/93	3162		X	active	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
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						<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
						<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

7. AIDS Education and Training Attestation

I certify that I have completed a minimum of four (4) hours of education in the prevention, transmission, and treatment of AIDS. This education included topics of etiology and epidemiology, testing and counseling, infection control guidelines, clinical manifestations and treatment, legal and ethical issues to include confidentiality, and psychosocial issues to include special population considerations.

Applicant's Initials	Date
CMU	7/6/11

8. Applicant's Photograph

Photo Here



Height 5'6"
 Weight 130 #
 Hair color brown
 Color of eyes brown

In the Matter of:)	
)	
COLLEEN M. MURPHY, M.D.)	
)	
Respondent)	OAH No. 05-0553-MED
)	Board No. 2800-05-026

DECISION ON SUMMARY SUSPENSION
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**BEFORE THE STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
ON REFERRAL BY THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD**

In the Matter of:

COLLEEN M. MURPHY, M.D.

Respondent

OAH No. 05-0553-MED
Board No. 2800-05-026

DECISION ON SUMMARY SUSPENSION

I. Introduction

This case is a disciplinary action against Colleen Murphy, M.D. On July 7, 2005, the Division of Occupational Licensing filed a Petition for Summary Suspension with the Alaska State Medical Board, asking for summary suspension of Dr. Murphy's license under AS 08.64.331(c). The board, following a teleconferenced executive session, issued an order suspending Dr. Murphy's license that same day.

On July 8, Dr. Murphy filed a notice of defense and requested a hearing. The matter was referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings. The administrative law judge conducted a prehearing conference on July 11. Pursuant to the prehearing order, the division filed an accusation on July 14 and the hearing was convened on July 15. The evidentiary hearing was concluded on July 22; telephonic oral argument was heard on July 24.

This decision is submitted to the board under AS 44.64.060(e). The administrative law judge recommends that the suspension order be vacated pending completion of proceedings on the merits of the amended accusation filed on July 22.

II. Facts¹

A. Background and Prior Proceedings

Colleen Murphy graduated with distinction from medical school in 1981. [r. 2454, 2492, 2496] Following medical school she interned in family practice in Detroit [r. 2486, 2500] and

¹ Record citations are to the file provided to the board with the petition [r.], exhibits submitted at the hearing [Ex.], and testimony at the hearing [tape number and side]. Citations are provided for convenience and indicate that the cited references provide support for the stated fact, but do not indicate that the cited portion of the record contains the only or most persuasive evidence for that finding. The text in this section contains the administrative

obtained her medical license in Michigan in 1982. [r. 2488, 2509] She was Chief of Pediatrics at Truk State Hospital in Micronesia, from 1982-84. [r. 2492] She was a resident at Good Samaritan Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona, in obstetrics and gynecology from 1984-87, [r. 2486] with a two-month break in 1986 for a Galloway Fellowship at Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York City in gynecologic oncology. [r. 2492, 2514]

Dr. Murphy began work as a staff clinician in obstetrics and gynecology at the Alaska Native Medical Center in 1987. [r. 2489, 2492] She was appointed chief of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at the center in 1993. [r. 2492] She worked as a Public Health Services physician in Anchorage in 1996 [r. 2476] and in 1998-1999 was employed to provide clinical services in obstetrics and gynecology by the Alaska Native Health Tribal Consortium. She was terminated from that position in March, 1999.² Thereafter, Dr. Murphy engaged in the private practice of medicine, with privileges at Alaska Regional Hospital and Providence Hospital.

Dr. Murphy was initially board certified by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in December, 1989 [r. 2486, 2492, 2515-16] and has maintained her certification since that time, including annual recertifications. She was initially licensed in Alaska in October, 1993. [r. 2475] Through November 20, 2003, there is no evidence in the record of any instance of professional misconduct, substandard medical care, poor medical judgment, patient complaint, or adverse outcome involving a patient of Dr. Murphy's.

On November 21, 2003, a patient in Dr. Murphy's care (No. 37-44-87) at Alaska Regional Hospital suffered a ruptured uterus and bladder during the course of delivery. Dr. Murphy reported this incident to the hospital as a sentinel event. In response to Dr. Murphy's report, the case was reviewed by the hospital's department of obstetrics and gynecology on March 4, 2004, which concluded that "Care was adequate."³ [Ex. 2]

After the November 21, 2003 case of uterine and bladder rupture, and prior to the ob/gyn department's review of that case on March 4, 2004, two of Dr. Murphy's cases were identified

law judge's findings of material facts. The basis for those findings may be addressed in footnotes, which are typically summaries or characterizations of the evidence but may contain subsidiary findings of fact.

² The termination occurred after the employer restricted her privileges. [r. 2468; r. 2471] No evidence or testimony was submitted to establish the reasons for the restriction. According to Dr. Murphy, the matter was "internal & not related to patient care." [r. 2464]

³ Rosemary Craig, Alaska Regional Hospital's head of quality control, testified that the review was by a physician reviewer. However, it appears from Exhibit 2 that the review was by the department, and Ms. Craig also testified that the department chair, Dr. Bertelson, provided information about the department's review. On balance, the weight of the evidence supports a finding that the review was by the department, rather than an individual reviewer.

for routine quality control review through Alaska Regional Hospital's electronic case coding system, which flags cases for review based upon the presence of factors such as readmission within 30 days, return to surgery, or other factors.⁴ [7A (Craig direct)] These cases involved a twin delivery, one in total breech, on February 3, 2004 (No. 37-99-97) and a birth on March 10, 2004, involving a patient (No. 38-34-33) with Group B Beta strep. [Ex. 2; r. 214] In both cases, the assigned physician reviewed the cases and found that the care was acceptable; neither was referred to the ob/gyn department for further discussion. [id.]

At around this time, Dr. Murphy's credentials at Alaska Regional Hospital were in the process of being renewed. As a routine part of that process, Rosemary Craig, the hospital's quality control supervisor, provided the hospital's Credentials Committee with information regarding the uterine rupture case and the two cases that been identified for review through the electronic case coding system. Based on the information provided, the Credentials Committee asked Ms. Craig to conduct a review of all Dr. Murphy's cases over a six-month period ending around June 30, 2004. She reported back to the Credentials Committee in July, 2004, by which time one additional case had "fallen out" through the electronic case file coding system (No. 38-82-16) and two other cases (No. 21-90-97; No. 37-03-61) were identified for review by Ms. Craig's department. The Credentials Committee instructed her to continue her review of all of Dr. Murphy's cases. [7B (Craig Recross)] In September, 2004, she provided updated information to the committee, by which time two more cases had been flagged by the electronic case coding system (No. 39-34-22 & No. 35-55-67). In response to the September update, the Credentials Committee directed Ms. Craig to send out all of the cases that had been provided to it for external review.

Over the period from November 21, 2003, until the fall of 2004, Ms. Craig reviewed 62 cases, representing all of Dr. Murphy's obstetrics cases at Alaska Regional Hospital over a period of about one year. [7B (Craig Recross)] Ms. Craig sent out a total of ten cases for external review, consisting of the eight cases previously identified and two more: one that occurred in

⁴ Cases electronically identified are reviewed initially by an employee under Ms. Craig's supervision who gathers the case records for review by a physician assigned by the relevant department. The assigned reviewing physician makes an initial determination as to whether the standard of care was met in the case or if there is an opportunity for minor or major improvement. If the reviewer determines that the standard of care was not met or that there is room for major improvement, the case is sent for review and discussion at a department meeting. If the department agrees with the reviewer's assessment, the department makes a recommendation that is placed in the credentials "performance improvement" file. Typically, for any given physician, the hospital identifies a couple of records for review in a given year. [Lillibridge testimony]

September, 2004, (No. 32-42-42) and one in October, 2004, (No. 35-43-82). Records of those ten cases were provided to an independent peer review entity. Three doctors from that entity reviewed the cases. Initially, Dr. Audrey Pauly reviewed five, Dr. Kathleen McGowan reviewed one, and Dr. Robert Davis reviewed four.⁵ Dr. Pauly found a deviation from the standard of care in four of the five cases she reviewed; ~~neither Dr. McGowan nor Dr. Davis found a deviation~~ from the standard of care in any of the five cases they reviewed.

Ms. Craig provided the external review reports to the Credentials Committee. Because it appeared to Ms. Craig and members of the Credentials Committee that Dr. Davis had not reviewed the full medical records, including fetal heart rate monitoring strips, and because of the difference of opinion between Dr. Pauly and the other two reviewers regarding the quality of Dr. Murphy's care, the Credentials Committee directed Ms. Craig to have all the cases reviewed by the external reviewers again, this time without using Dr. Davis. All ten cases were then reviewed again, five by Dr. Pauly and five by Dr. McGowan. Dr. Pauly found a deviation from the standard of care in four of the five cases she reviewed; Dr. McGowan found a deviation in one of five. Following this second round, each of the ten cases had been reviewed by two of the external reviewers.⁶ In only one of the ten cases, involving the patient with Group B beta strep (No. 38-34-33), did both external reviewers find a deviation from the standard of care; in that case, the hospital's department of obstetrics and gynecology had deemed the care acceptable. [Ex. 2, r. 214] In no case did the external reviewers and the hospital's internal review process agree that care was unacceptable.

The reports from both sets of external reviews were provided to the Credentials Committee, which recommended the formation of an ad hoc committee to review the ten cases. The Credentials Committee recommendation was adopted by the hospital's Medical Executive Committee, which authorized formation of the ad hoc committee.

⁵ Dr. Pauly's reports on cases No. 21-90-97, No. 38-34-33, No. 35-55-67, and No. 35-43-82 are dated December 1, 2004. [Ex. 37;] Dr. McGowan's report on case No. 39-34-22 is dated November 24, 2004. [Ex. C; R. 107] Dr. Davis's reports on cases No. 37-44-87, No. 37-03-61, No. 38-82-16, and No. 32-42-42 are dated December 6, 2004. [Ex. D] It appears that Dr. Pauly also reviewed case No. 37-99-97 in the initial round, since Dr. Davis did not review that case at all and Dr. McGowan's review is dated December 28, 2004, which would have been during the second set of reviews.

⁶ Dr. McGowan's reports for cases No. 21-90-97, No. 38-34-33, No. 35-55-67, No. 35-43-82, and No. 37-99-97 are dated December 28-30, 2004. [Ex. C] Dr. Pauly's report for case No. 37-44-87 is dated January 4, 2005. Her reports for cases No. 37-03-61, No. 38-82-16, No. 39-34-22, and No. 32-42-42 are not in the record, but she did review each of those cases [Ex. 2] and because each of them was reviewed by either Dr. McGowan or Dr. Davis in the initial review, it may reasonably be inferred that Dr. Pauly reviewed them in the followup review.

The ad hoc committee was composed of five individuals: Dr. Donna Chester, Dr. Wendy Cruz, Dr. George Gilson, Dr. Norman Wilder, and Dr. Clint Lillibridge. Dr. Chester and Dr. Cruz are obstetricians with privileges at Alaska Regional Hospital. Dr. Chester graduated from medical school in 1984 and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology in 1988; she is board-certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. [Ex. 21] Dr. Cruz graduated from medical school in 2000 and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology in 2004; [Ex. 22] she is not yet board-certified. [2A (Cruz cross)] Dr. Gilson is an obstetrician specializing in perinatology⁷ who graduated from medical school in 1970 and completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology in 1982. He has been board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology and a fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists since 1984. From 2001-2004 he was a member of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at the Alaska Native Medical Center. [Ex. 19] Dr. Wilder is an internist and is the Vice President for Medical Affairs at Alaska Regional Hospital with responsibilities including quality assurance, peer review, and patient safety. [Tape 6A] He is a member of the hospital's Credentials Committee. [Ex. 36] Dr. Lillibridge is a pediatrician specializing in gastroenterology. He is a former Chief of Medical Staff at Alaska Regional Hospital (1989) and chairman of the Alaska State Medical Association (1990-95) who graduated from medical school in 1962 and retired from private practice in 2005.

The ad hoc committee met three times. All five members attended the first meeting, on February 2, 2005, at which the external review reports were reviewed and Dr. Murphy was interviewed.⁸ Following that meeting, the committee obtained complete medical records, including nursing notes and fetal heart rate monitor tracings. [Ex. 14; r. 232] Only Dr. Chester, Dr. Cruz and Dr. Wilder attended the second meeting of the committee, on February 9, 2005. The members in attendance closely reviewed the medical records, including fetal heart rate tracings, from four cases. [*id.*; r. 233] The third meeting, on February 28, 2005,⁹ was attended by Dr. Chester, Dr. Cruz, Dr. Gilson and Dr. Lillibridge. Three additional cases were reviewed. [*id.*; r. 234]

⁷ Perinatology is defined as the study of the health of fetuses and neonates during the period around childbirth, roughly from five months prior to delivery, to one month after.

⁸ Also participating, telephonically, was Dr. James Bertelson, chair of the hospital's department of obstetrics and gynecology. [Ex. 15]

⁹ The committee minutes state that the meeting was on February 29, 2005; however, 2005 was not a leap year.

On March 9, 2005, the committee issued its report. The committee concluded that in several cases Dr. Murphy had failed to respond appropriately to fetal heart monitor tracings that indicated the potential for neonatal distress. The committee also found that on occasion Dr. Murphy's arrival in response to calls to attend patients at the hospital was delayed. The committee found five instances of substandard performance in the ten cases reviewed and concluded that Dr. Murphy's continued practice at Alaska Regional Hospital would present an imminent danger to her patients. The committee recommended that she obtain retraining in the interpretation and significance of fetal heart tracings and in the management of high risk deliveries, and that she review the literature regarding the long term intellectual and neurological outcomes of difficult deliveries. The committee recommended that unless Dr. Murphy obtained the retraining, her privileges at the hospital should be revoked. [Ex. 16; r. 35]

Dr. Murphy declined to take voluntary leave to obtain retraining and the hospital responded by summarily suspending her privileges on April 6, 2005. As required by law, the hospital reported its action to the Alaska State Medical Board. The investigator for the board is Colin Matthews. He contacted the members of the ad hoc committee and obtained affidavits from each of them. Four of the committee members stated that in their professional opinion, based on the ten cases reviewed, Dr. Murphy posed a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety. Dr. Gilson's opinion was that Dr. Murphy was in need of remedial education in order to bring her standard of practice up to that considered the norm in the community, and that her privileges in operative obstetrics should be limited until she obtained retraining satisfactory to the Alaska Regional Hospital Executive Committee. Based on the findings of the ad hoc committee and affidavits from the members of the committee, the Division of Occupational Licensing presented a Petition for Summary Suspension of Dr. Murphy's medical license to the Alaska State Medical Board, on July 7, 2005. The board met by teleconference and issued an order suspending Dr. Murphy's medical license that same day. ✓

Dr. Murphy requested an evidentiary hearing, which was conducted over the course of six days, beginning July 15 and concluding on July 22. In an accusation and at the hearing, the Division of Occupational Licensing relied on five cases of alleged substandard performance as sufficient to support summary suspension of Dr. Murphy's medical license.¹⁰ Three of the cases

¹⁰ The ad hoc committee's report states it found five instances of substandard performance in the ten cases it reviewed, but did not specifically identify which cases it had deemed substandard, and the division did not provide any testimony to establish how it identified the five cases it relied on for purposes of the summary suspension

involve issues of professional medical judgment (Nos. 37-44-87, 21-90-97, and 38-43-33). The other two cases are instances of failure to timely appear (Nos. 35-55-67 and 35-43-82).

Eight witnesses testified on behalf of the division: the five members of the ad hoc committee (Drs. Chester, Cruz, Gilson, Wilder and Lillibridge), plus Nurse Jennifer Rees-Benyo, Rosemary Craig, and the division's investigator, Colin Matthews. Five witnesses, in addition to Dr. Murphy, testified on behalf of Dr. Murphy: Dr. George Stransky, Dr. John DeKeyser, Dr. Sharon Richey, and two of Dr. Murphy's patients (Nos. 38-34-33 and 35-55-67) in the cases under review. Also in the record are the reports of the external reviewers, the complete medical records from the five cases in question, and medical literature.

B. Case Management

1. *Patient No. 37-44-87 (uterine rupture)*

In this case, the patient was scheduled for a trial of labor after two prior Cesarean sections. The patient was admitted to the hospital at 4:45 p.m. on November 15. [Ex. 3; r. 279] Upon admission the patient's cervix was dilated to 1 cm. and was 25% effaced, and the fetus was at -4 station. Mild contractions of 60 seconds duration were occurring about every five minutes. The patient was released at 7:30 p.m. and advised to return at 10:00. [Ex. 3; r. 284] When she returned at that time, [Ex. 3; r. 448] her cervix was dilated to 2 cm. and 80% effaced, and the fetus was at -2 station. [Ex. 3; r. 332] Dr. Murphy arrived at the hospital about 10:15 p.m.

Shortly after midnight, the patient was administered oxytocin, [Ex. 3; r. 534] a drug employed when the patient is not progressing satisfactorily. Oxytocin augments the frequency and strength of contractions and thereby speeds delivery. An epidural block was administered at 1:00 a.m. [Ex. 3; r. 534] Contractions 60-90 seconds in duration and moderate intensity were occurring about every 2-2.5 minutes over the course of the next couple of hours. [Ex. 3; r. 535-537] By 2:00 a.m., the patient's cervix was dilated to 4 cm. [Ex. 3; r. 537] At that time, Dr. Murphy retired to an adjacent room to sleep; the patient was already sleeping soundly. [Ex. 3; r. 537] The patient was left under observation by Nurse Jennifer Rees-Benyo. At 3:45 a.m. the patient's cervix was at 6 cm. and 90% effaced, and the fetus was at -1 station; the patient

hearing. Thus, it is unclear whether the five cases relied on by the division are the same cases that the ad hoc committee had identified as instances of substandard performance.

The division argued at hearing that evidence regarding the five cases in the record that were not included in the accusation may be considered. Dr. Murphy objected to consideration of evidence regarding the other five cases. To the extent that evidence relating to other cases was admitted into evidence, they may be taken into consideration

reported pain, notwithstanding the epidural block. [*id.*, r. 538] At 4:00 a.m. Nurse Rees-Benyo noted three variable decelerations in the fetal heart rate of about 80 seconds duration down to 90-100 bpm (beats per minute) from a baseline of 120 bpm.¹¹ [Ex. 3; r. 538] About 4:30 a.m., additional oxytocin was terminated; the patient was at 7 cm., with bloody urine showing in her Foley catheter, and the fetus was at 0 station. [Ex. 3; r. 539]

At 4:41 a.m., responding to an episode of severe decelerations in the fetal heart rate over a ten-minute period, [Ex. 3, r. 515-516] Nurse Rees-Benyo awakened Dr. Murphy, informed her of the patient's pain¹² and asked her to observe the patient. Dr. Murphy elected to have the nurse bring her the fetal heart monitor strips. At 4:43 a.m., after reviewing fetal heart monitor tracings, Dr. Murphy called for amnio infusion (insertion of fluid into the uterus) in response to the decelerations; Nurse Rees-Benyo, upon her return to bedside, found the tracings improved and suggested that the amnio infusion be cancelled; Dr. Murphy concurred [Ex. 3; r. 294-295, 453, 539] and ordered administration of another bolus of epidural. Dr. Murphy remained in the sleep room and went back to sleep. Over the next 20 minutes or so, until about 5:05 a.m., the patient, now awake, no longer felt pain [Ex. 3, r. 540] and the fetus showed recurrent moderate decelerations with each contraction. [Ex. 3, r. 517-520] From about 5:05 to 5:15, the fetus had several severe late decelerations to around 70 bpm.¹³ [Ex. 3, r. 521] At 5:24, the nurse found the cervix dilated to 8-9 cm. and noted that the fetus showed accelerations in the fetal heart rate with scalp stimulation. [Ex. 3, r. 454, 522] Late decelerations continued, however, [Ex. 3, r. 522-523] and at 5:36, deeming the fetal heart tracings troubling, [Ex. 3, r. 332] Nurse Rees-Benyo called Dr. Murphy into the room to examine the fetal heart monitor strips. [Ex. 3, r. 541] The tracings were showing late decelerations to 70 bpm; [Ex. 3; r. 524] Dr. Murphy found them "quite ominous". [Ex. 3; r. 332] Examining the patient, Dr. Murphy observed a protrusion that indicated

in making findings based on the five cases identified in the accusation as the basis for summary suspension. None of the other five cases, however, may be relied upon as independent grounds for summary suspension.

¹¹ Dr. Pauly's report characterizes the strips during this period [Ex. 3, r. 511-512] as demonstrating a "Prolonged bradycardic episode." [Ex. 37; r. 102] Bradycardia occurs when the baseline is below 110 bpm. [Ex. G, at 1163] A deceleration of more than two minutes but less than ten minutes is a prolonged deceleration, not a change in the baseline. [*id.*] The individual decelerations may not reasonably be characterized as prolonged; taken together, they may reasonably be characterized a single episode of prolonged decelerations, but not as bradycardia.

¹² The nurse's note states "updated on PT RT sided abdominal pain, bloody urine, change in cervix and station." [Ex. R, r. 539]

¹³ Dr. Pauly's report characterizes the strips from 4:06 to 5:30 a.m. as demonstrating "Persistent, continuous late decelerations." [Ex. 37, r. 102] Nurse Rees-Benyo's notes characterize the decelerations as variable, rather than late. [Ex. 3, r. 529 (4:17 a.m.), 540 (5:03 a.m.)] Dr. Murphy, testifying at the hearing, testified that the first late deceleration occurred at about 5:12 a.m. [Ex. 3, r. 521 (strip 25535)]

a possible uterine rupture¹⁴ [Ex. 3; r. 272, 332] and determined to immediately deliver the baby. She attempted a vacuum delivery, which she abandoned after it was unsuccessful.¹⁵ [Ex. 3, r. 530, 541] She then performed a mid-forceps extraction without difficulty. [*id.*] At 5:47 a.m. the baby was delivered with an arterial cord pH of 6.97 [Ex. 3; r. 444] and arterial base excess of -11.8. [Ex. 3; r. 346] The baby weighed 7 lb., 4 oz., and had Apgar scores of 3, 7, and 8 (1, 5 and 10 minutes, respectively). [Ex. 3, r. 344] An operative assistant was called, and Dr. Murphy discovered that both the uterus and bladder had ruptured. A hysterectomy was performed.

2. *Patient No. 21-90-97 (triple nuchal cord)*

This patient was admitted to Alaska Regional Hospital at 1:19 a.m. on February 1, 2004 after experiencing progressively increasing contractions for 12 hours. Her cervix was closed but 30% effaced and the fetus was at -3 station. Over the course of six or seven hours, the fetal heart strips reflect intermittent severe variable decelerations, with moderate beat to beat variability and good recovery. [Ex. 4, r. 671-689; 1B (Cruz direct)] By 4:13 a.m. the patient's cervix was dilated to 2 cm. and was 50% effaced, and the fetus was at -1 station. Ambien was administered beginning at that time; [Ex. 4, r. 624] consistently with the medication, beat to beat variability decreased. [Ex. 4, r. 672-675] At 4:58 a.m., the cervix was dilated to 5 cm. and 50% effaced, and the fetus remained at -1 station. [Ex. 4, r. 625] Around this time, another of Dr. Murphy's patients, No. 37-99-97, carrying twins, was admitted to the hospital with ruptured membranes, in labor. From this time forward, Dr. Murphy simultaneously attended both patients until they delivered.

At 5:58 a.m. an amnio infusion was provided to patient No. 21-90-97. [Ex. 4, r. 625] After severe decelerations at about 6:05 a.m. [Ex. 4, r. 683] and 6:55 a.m., [Ex. 4, r. 689] three additional severe variable decelerations into the 30-50 bpm range occurred from 7:30-7:45 a.m. [Ex. 4, r. 693-695] The fetus heart rate oscillated, indicating difficulty in recovering, [1B (Cruz direct)] following the deceleration at 6:55 a.m., but beat to beat variability remained moderate. At 8:02 a.m. patient No. 21-90-97's cervix was dilated to 5 cm. and 50% effaced, and the fetus

¹⁴ Nurse Rees-Benyo's note indicates that at 5:50 a.m., after delivery, Dr. Murphy indicated that she believed that the bladder, but not the uterus, had ruptured. [Ex. 3; r. 455] Dr. Murphy's post-operative summary (dictated November 21, 2003) states that prior to delivery the patient's abdominal contour was suggestive of a uterine rupture. [Ex. 3, r. 272] Dr. Murphy testified at the hearing that she observed signs of a uterine rupture when she examined the patient; her testimony on that issue was credible.

¹⁵ Dr. Murphy's notes state that one pull was attempted; she testified that in addition there were popoffs. Nurse Rees-Benyo's notes state that three pulls were attempted.

was at 0 station. [Ex. 4, r. 626] Another severe variable deceleration to 35 bpm occurred at about 8:25 a.m. [Ex. 4, r. 699] Recurrent moderate variable decelerations occurred between 8:45 a.m. and 9:15 a.m., when there was a severe variable deceleration to 30 bpm of over one minute duration. [Ex. 4, r. 705] The fetal heart rate recovered well. Oxytocin was administered beginning around 9:35 a.m. [Ex. 4, r. 627] Around 9:40 a.m., several moderate decelerations occurred, [Ex. 4, r. 708] closely followed by a severe deceleration to 30 bpm, again lasting one minute. [Ex. 4, r. 709] Again the fetal heart rate recovered well.

At 9:50 a.m., Dr. Alex Chang, the anesthesiologist, came into the room to discuss concerns about the possibility of dual Cesarean sections, and anesthesia safety concerns, in light of the pending twin deliveries in an adjacent room. [Ex. 4, r. 627] At 10:21 a.m., when Dr. Murphy examined the fetal heart monitor strips, patient No. 21-90-97 was dilated to 6-7 cm., with the fetus at 0/+1 station. [Ex. 4, r. 627] Dr. Murphy delivered patient No. 37-99-97's first twin by vaginal delivery at 11:01 a.m. and the second at 11:09 a.m. by total breech extraction.¹⁶ [Ex. 2, r. 214; Ex. C, r. 111-112]

At 11:29 a.m., Dr. Murphy had returned from the adjacent delivery room and examined patient No. 21-90-97; her cervix was dilated to 7-8 cm. [Ex. 4, r. 629] At 11:57 a.m., the cervix was dilated to 9 cm. and the fetus was at +2 station. [Ex. 4, r. 629] From about 11:00 a.m. on, the fetus had been experiencing recurrent moderate decelerations, [Ex. 4, r. 718-723] which increased in severity around noon. [Ex. 4, r. 724-725] Dr. Murphy delivered patient No. 21-90-97's baby by vacuum extraction at 12:17 p.m. At birth the baby was found to have the umbilical cord wrapped around the neck three times. [Ex. 4, r. 630] The baby had an arterial cord pH of 7.05, and arterial base excess of -10.9, [Ex. 4, r. 559, 580] and Apgar scores of 3-5-9. [Ex. 4, r. 561]

3. Patient No. 38-34-33 (Group B beta strep)

This patient was admitted at 4:15 p.m. on March 10, 2004. Her temperature was 98.5°. Her membranes had ruptured, her cervix was dilated to 2 cm. and 50% effaced, and the fetus was at -2 station. [Ex. 6, r. 961] Because she was infected with the Group B beta strep, starting at 5:30 p.m. the patient was provided ampicillin, an antibiotic. [*id.* at 918, 963] At 7:30 p.m., her temperature had risen slightly, to 99.4°. [Ex. 6, r. 964] At 8:25 p.m., Dr. Murphy was advised of

¹⁶ This patient was identified for review through the hospital's case coding system; it was one of the ten cases sent for external review. Both of the external reviewers found Dr. Murphy's care in that case to meet the standard of care. [Ex. 2, r. 214]

a lack of fetal heart rate accelerations and diminished variability. [Ex. 6, r. 964] At 9:20 p.m., a second dose of ampicillin was administered. [Ex. 6, r. 965] At 9:40 p.m., when an epidural was put in place, the patient's temperature was 99.9; her cervix was dilated to 3 cm. and was 75% effaced, and the fetus was at -1 station. [Id.] Through about 10:00 p.m., the fetal heart tracings maintained a consistent baseline around 150 bpm, with no accelerations or decelerations and minimal to moderate variability. The fetal heart rate became tachycardic (baseline above 160 bpm) around 10:00 p.m., with the baseline heart rate rising to 180 bpm around 10:30 p.m., when Dr. Murphy came in to check on the patient. Oxytocin and zofran were administered at 10:45 p.m. [Ex. 6, r. 917, 967] At 11:40 p.m., the patient's temperature was up to 102.2°.

The baseline increased gradually to around 200 bpm by midnight, demonstrating minimal variability. [Ex. 6, r. 1035] At 12:15 a.m. on March 11, the patient's temperature was 102°, her cervix was dilated to 4 cm. and was 75% effaced, and the fetus was at -1 station. [Ex. 6, r. 968] Dr. Murphy was informed of the patient status, and another dose of ampicillin was administered at 12:40 a.m. [Ex. 6, r. 969] Gentamicin was administered at 1:00 a.m. [Ex. 6, r. 969] At 1:10, the patient's temperature was 103.7°; her cervix was dilated to 6 cm. and 90% effaced, and the fetus was at 0 station. [Id. at 969-970] Following a prolonged deceleration to about 80 bpm, at 1:10 a.m., [Id. at 1040] oxytocin was discontinued, scalp stimulation provided,¹⁷ and Dr. Murphy was notified. [Ex. 6, r. 970] Upon examination, she found the patient's cervix was dilated to 8 cm. and was 100% effaced; the fetus was at +1 station. [Ex. 6, r. 970] Dr. Murphy then manually dilated the cervix. [Ex. 6, r. 970] From this time until shortly before delivery the fetal heart baseline remained at about 180, with recurrent oscillations. At 1:25 a.m., the patient's cervix was dilated to 10 cm.; the fetus was at +1 station. [Ex. 6 at 970-971] By 1:35 a.m., the patient was pushing. [Ex. 6, r. 970] At 1:55 a.m. her temperature was 100.5°; [Ex. 6, r. 971] she continued pushing and, following three moderate to severe decelerations, [Ex. 6 at 1046-47] delivered her baby vaginally at 2:10 a.m. with Apgars of 2-3 (1 and 5 minutes), arterial cord pH 7.05, and arterial base excess of -12. [Ex. 6, r. 922] The baby had a tight nuchal cord and transported to the Providence Hospital neonatal intensive care unit.

¹⁷ Testimony differed as to whether the strip showed reactivity in response to scalp stimulation (which would exclude acidosis at that time); reflecting the degree to which such assessments are a matter of opinion. Dr. Murphy identified a distinct episode of acceleration at Ex. 3, r. 1042 as demonstrating reactivity in response to scalp stimulation. Her characterization is not inconsistent with the strip.

C. Physician Availability

1. *Patient No. 35-66-67 (voluntary delay)*

In this case a patient of Dr. Murphy's went into labor, delivered at home, and was transported to Alaska Regional Hospital, where she was admitted at 6:10 p.m. on August 14, 2004. [Ex. 10, r. 1423] At 6:15 p.m., Dr. Murphy was contacted [Ex. 10, r. 1424] at her home as she was about to leave to deliver a pasta salad to a party for her son's high school soccer team. Dr. Murphy spoke with her patient, who was resting comfortably in the recovery room, and with the attending nurse. She was informed that the patient had incurred a laceration of the perineum upon delivery. Dr. Murphy consulted with the nurse and patient and decided, with the agreement of both, to drop off the pasta salad rather than going directly to the hospital to repair the laceration. The 2^o laceration [Ex. 10, r. 1380] was iced down. [Ex. 10, r. 1425] Dr. Murphy arrived at the hospital at 7:45 p.m., [Ex. 10, r. 1425] about an hour later than if she had gone directly there. Dr. Murphy repaired the laceration without incident. The patient suffered no harm due to the delay.

2. *Patient No. 35-43-82 (unable to contact)*

On the evening of October 16-17, 2004, Dr. Murphy was at home. She had turned off her cellphone and was unable to locate it when it was time for bed. She went to sleep, relying on her telephone as her contact point. She did not realize that one of the telephone receivers, located in her basement, was off the hook, so that the telephone would not ring.

One of Dr. Murphy's patients arrived at Alaska Regional Hospital in labor and was admitted at 1:55 a.m. on the 17th. [Ex. 12, r. 1707] Hospital personnel attempted to contact Dr. Murphy at her home telephone number and at her cellphone, but were unable to do so. Dr. Murphy missed the delivery, which was effected without incident by the on-site physician at 8:43 a.m. [Ex. 12, r. 1654, 1703]

D. Fetal Heart Monitor¹⁸

The fetal heart monitor provides the clinician with an ongoing, real-time view of the fetal heart rate. The monitor readings are printed on paper strips that show the heartbeat rate of the fetus on a constant basis on a graph that also shows the timing and strength of uterine

¹⁸ Findings in this section are taken from American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, INTRAPARTUM FETAL HEART RATE MONITORING (May, 2005) (hereinafter cited as ACOG FHR Guidelines) [Ex. G].

contractions. The strips provide an opportunity for the attending physician to assess the degree to which the changes in the fetal heart rate affect the supply of blood, and thus fetal well being.

The strips show the ongoing heartbeat rate (baseline) as well as short term variability in the heartbeat rate (beat-to-beat variability or baseline variability) and longer term changes in the heart beat rate (accelerations and decelerations) that if continued for a sufficient period of time establish a new baseline. Generally, a normal fetal heart rate baseline is around 120-160 bpm. Tachycardia occurs when the baseline is above 160 bpm; bradycardia occurs when the baseline is below 110 bpm.

The fetal heart rate normally varies from the baseline within a range of 6-25 bpm. Variability is absent when the amplitude range is undetectable, and is minimal when the amplitude is detectable, but 5 bpm or under. Accelerations and decelerations are differentiated from baseline variability by their duration (15 seconds or more) and amplitude (15 bpm). Fetal heart decelerations are of three types: early, variable, and late. Early and late decelerations are gradual and occur in association with contractions; the nadir of an early deceleration coincides with the peak of the contraction; the onset, nadir, and recovery of a late deceleration occur after the beginning, peak, and end of the contraction, respectively. Variable decelerations are more abrupt and may occur at any time. Decelerations are deemed recurrent if they occur with at least half of the contractions.¹⁹ A deceleration is deemed prolonged if it continues for two to ten minutes.

Accelerations are generally reassuring (*i.e.*, indicate that the fetus is not acidemic); in most cases, normal fetal heart rate variability is also reassuring.²⁰ In the case of a persistently non-reassuring fetal heart rate (*i.e.*, one absent accelerations or normal fetal heart rate variability, but not necessarily indicating that the fetus is acidemic) scalp stimulation is a reliable method of excluding acidosis: when an acceleration follows scalp stimulation, acidosis is unlikely.²¹

Because umbilical cord compression as a result of contractions is a common cause of decelerations, a change in the mother's position or discontinuation of labor stimulating agents such as oxytocin are standard responses to persistently non-reassuring fetal heart rates; amnio infusion is another standard response to recurrent variable decelerations (unless

¹⁹ ACOG FHR Guidelines, Table 1 at 1162. [Ex. G]

²⁰ *Id.* at 1165.

²¹ *Id.* at 1166.

contraindicated).²² Other possible responses to non-reassuring fetal heart rates include maternal oxygen²³ or the administration of tocolytic agents to abolish uterine contractions.²⁴

Late decelerations begin as a vagal reflex, but when fetal oxygenation is sufficiently impaired to produce metabolic acidosis, direct myocardial depression occurs. When the late deceleration is of the reflex type, the fetal heart tracing characteristically has good variability and reactivity, but as the fetus develops metabolic acidosis, fetal heart rate variability is lost.²⁵ When the fetal pH is less than 7.20, reactivity, either spontaneous or evoked, may disappear.²⁶ "If uteroplacental oxygen transfer is acutely and substantially impaired; [e.g., by uterine rupture or total cord occlusion] the resulting fetal heart rate pattern is a prolonged deceleration [i.e., two to ten minutes in length]."²⁷ Transient cord compression and associated variable decelerations are typically mild and of no concern. However:

If cord compression is prolonged, significant fetal hypoxia can occur. When this happens, the return to baseline becomes gradual, the duration of the deceleration may increase, and frequently, the fetal heart rate will increase and the baseline fetal heart rate may increase.

Task Force Report at 26.

E. Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE)

Central to fetal well-being is the provision of an adequate supply of oxygenated blood to the brain. Prior to birth, the fetus obtains its blood supply through the maternal placenta and the umbilical cord. Reduction in the ability of the placenta to process the transfer of the maternal oxygen to the fetus, or in the ability of the umbilical cord to carry the fetus' blood supply from the placenta to the fetus, will reduce the amount of oxygenated blood available for use by the fetus, a condition known as intrapartum asphyxia. Intrapartum asphyxia results in acidosis, initially respiratory acidosis and, if continued, metabolic acidosis.²⁸ Studies have shown that a

²² *Id.* At 1166-67.

²³ According to the ACOG FHR Guidelines, "there are no data on the efficacy or safety of this therapy." *Id.* at 1166. [Ex. G]

²⁴ This therapy has not been shown to reduce adverse outcomes, however, and therefore is not recommended. ACOG FHR Guidelines at 1166. [Ex. G]

²⁵ American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and American Academy of Pediatrics (Hankin, G., M.D., Task Force Chair), NEONATAL ENCEPHALOPATHY AND CEREBRAL PALSY at 26 (hereinafter cited as ACOG Task Force Report) [Ex. L].

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ *Id.*

²⁸ See generally, Ross, M. and Gala, R., USE OF UMBILICAL ARTERY BASE EXCESS: ALGORITHM FOR THE TIMING OF HYPoxic INJURY, 187 American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology 1 (July, 2002) [Ex. F].

reasonable threshold for identifying the presence of acidosis associated with subsequent adverse effects (i.e., metabolic acidosis) is a pH less than 7 and a base excess of -12 mmol/L or below.²⁹

The initial response of the fetus to intrapartum asphyxia is redistribution of blood flow to the vital organs (including the brain) at the expense of less vital organs (including lung, liver, kidney).³⁰ Because of the fetus's biological ability to preserve neuronal integrity during asphyxia, and for other, unknown factors, "even when asphyxia is prolonged or severe, most newborn infants recover with minimal or no neurological sequelae."³¹ Metabolic acidosis produced by intrapartum asphyxia can lead to hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE), a small subset of a condition known as neonatal encephalopathy, which is much more commonly caused by other factors.³² Neonatal encephalopathy is characterized by a constellation of findings including abnormal consciousness, tone and reflexes, feeding, respiration, or seizures, and it may or may not result in permanent neurological impairment.³³ The degree of intrapartum asphyxia sufficient to cause measurable neurological or other injury is unclear,³⁴ but "[t]he clinical data and the experimental evidence agree concerning the rather long duration of asphyxia required to produce recognizable brain damage in infants who survive."³⁵ In one study of cases of severe fetal brain injury, "the average duration of the prolonged fetal heart deceleration was 32.1...minutes (range: 19-51 minutes)."³⁶

III. Analysis

A. Applicable Legal Standards

1. Procedural Matters

Normally, the board may not take disciplinary action until after a hearing.³⁷ However, the board is authorized to suspend a medical license prior to a hearing upon a finding that "the

²⁹ *Id.* at 74.

³⁰ Task Force Report at 8. [Ex. L]

³¹ *Id.* "Immature nervous systems have long been recognized to be more resistant to asphyxial injury than the brains of older individuals." Nelson, K. and Ellenberg, J., APGAR SCORES AS PREDICTORS OF CHRONIC NEUROLOGICAL DISABILITY at 42. [Ex. 29, r. 2272]

³² "The overall incidence of neonatal encephalopathy attributable to intrapartum hypoxia, in the absence of any other preconceptional or antepartum abnormalities, is estimated to be 1.6 per 10,000." *Id.* at xviii.

³³ *Id.* at xvii.

³⁴ "The critical ischemic threshold for neuronal necrosis in the developing brain remains unclear." Task Force Report at 8. "Selective neuronal necrosis is the most common variety of injury observed in HIE..." *Id.* at 9.

³⁵ Nelson, K. and Ellenberg, J., APGAR SCORES AS PREDICTORS OF CHRONIC NEUROLOGICAL DISABILITY, at 43 [Ex. 29, r. 2273]

³⁶ *Id.* at 30.

³⁷ AS 08.64.326(a).

licensee poses a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if the licensee continues to practice.”³⁸ Upon request by the licensee, a hearing must be provided within seven days of the summary suspension. A hearing on summary suspension is a proceeding under the Administrative Procedures Act, and is commenced by an accusation or other charging document specifying the grounds for the summary suspension.³⁹

At the hearing on summary suspension, the division has the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, facts sufficient to support a finding of a clear and immediate danger to the public health.⁴⁰ The decision of the board following a hearing on summary suspension is final as to the summary suspension order, but absent consolidation of the issues by consent or prior notice to the parties, it is not a final decision on the merits of a pending accusation for final disciplinary action.⁴¹

2. *Danger to the Public Health and Safety*

The board’s regulations define professional incompetence as “lacking sufficient knowledge, skills or professional judgment in that field of practice in which the physician practices...concerned engages, to a degree likely to endanger the health of his or her patients.”⁴² Under this definition, a finding of professional incompetence requires a finding of danger to

³⁸ AS 08.64.331(c).

³⁹ The division’s prehearing brief asserts that “the filing of an accusation is not required for the Board to [summarily] suspend a physician’s license.” Hearing Brief at 2. But the hearing process is governed by the Administrative Procedures Act, which expressly states that “A hearing to determine whether a...license...should be...suspended...is initiated by filing an accusation.” AS 44.62.360. Accordingly, while the board may impose summary suspension in response to a petition for summary suspension, an accusation must be filed after the licensee requests a hearing, in order to initiate the hearing process.

The division may rely on the petition for summary suspension or other charging document as the accusation for purposes of a summary suspension hearing only if the document meets the standards for an accusation as set out in AS 44.62.360. See, e.g. *In re Cho*, Memorandum and Order on Motion to Dismiss Petition, at 2-3 (DCED No. 1200-98-002 *et al.*, December, 2001) (charging document in summary suspension case under AS 08.01.075(c) must comply with AS 44.62.360); cf. Department of Law, HEARING OFFICER’S MANUAL at 21 (4th ed. 1999) (In cases of summary suspension, “If an accusation has not already been filed, the hearing officer should set a deadline for the agency to file an accusation that meets the requirements of AS 44.62.360.”).

⁴⁰ An initial *ex parte* decision to summarily suspend a license prior to hearing may reasonably be based on allegations of misconduct that are subsequently determined (at a hearing on summary suspension) to lack merit. See *Horowitz v. Colo. State Board of Medical Examiners*, 716 P.2d 131 (Colo. Ct. App. 1985). In order to maintain the suspension following a hearing, however, at least some of the allegations must be proven. *Id.*

⁴¹ After an accusation has been filed, a hearing on summary suspension is an interim hearing limited to the summary suspension, subject to review by petition for review to the superior court under Appellate Rule 611. See *Renwick v. State Board of Marine Pilots*, 936 P.2d 526, 530 n. 5 (Alaska 1997). The hearing on summary suspension may be consolidated with the hearing on the accusation for imposition of a disciplinary sanction. In this case, neither party expressly or impliedly consented to such a procedure and consolidation of the issues was not ordered.

⁴² 12 AAC 40.970.

patients. Because professional incompetence involves a danger to patients, and a licensed physician is authorized to provide medical services to the public, a finding that a licensed physician is professionally incompetent establishes a danger to the public health as a matter of law.

A danger to the public may also be established, depending on the circumstances, if a licensed physician has engaged in repeated negligent conduct, or grossly negligent conduct, that is likely to endanger the health of the physician's patients. Grossly negligence is negligent conduct with willful disregard of the danger to the health of a patient. Negligent conduct by a physician is conduct that does not meet the standard of care in the particular field of practice.⁴³

Other grounds for finding a danger to the public health and safety may include any of the other statutory grounds for imposing a disciplinary sanction, none of which has been cited as grounds for summary suspension in this case.⁴⁴ Accordingly, in this case a danger to the public health may be found if the board makes a preliminary finding of (a) professional incompetence or (b) gross or repeated negligence that is likely to endanger the health of patients.⁴⁵

3. *Clear and Immediate Danger*

A danger is clear when it is plain.⁴⁶ A danger is immediate, in the context of summary suspension, if the physician is likely to endanger a patient's health before the board conducts a hearing and issues a final decision on the merits of an accusation to impose a disciplinary sanction.⁴⁷

⁴³ See AS 09.55.540. The statutory standard of care applies to medical malpractice actions and does not establish the legal test for a finding of professional incompetence. See *Halter v. State*, 909 P.2d 1035, 1038 (Alaska 1999). Nonetheless, because medical malpractice is a form of negligence, the statute provides an appropriate standard for a finding of negligence or gross negligence in the professional licensing context.

⁴⁴ See AS 08.64.326(a)(1)-(7); (8)(B), (C); (9)-(13). No evidence was submitted in support of any of those grounds for suspension or other disciplinary action.

⁴⁵ Because the hearing on summary suspension was interim, and the parties may introduce additional evidence or testimony at the hearing on the accusation to impose a disciplinary sanction, and because of the expedited nature of the proceedings, the findings made at this time are necessarily preliminary. They do not bind the board in subsequent proceedings and they should not be given preclusive effect in unrelated proceedings.

⁴⁶ Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary at 247 (1990).

⁴⁷ This conclusion flows from the structure of the statutory disciplinary process. The summary suspension process provides a means by which immediate action can be taken when the normal disciplinary process would take too long to protect the public. Accordingly, the "immediate" danger must, at the outside limit, be a danger likely to manifest itself prior to the time in which, in the normal course of events, a license could be suspended, conditioned, or revoked. Arguably, an "immediate" danger requires a showing that the danger is "close at hand" or "near", which may be a shorter time. See, e.g., *In re Gerlay*, OAH No. 05-0321, at 25 n. 64 (August, 2005).

B. Negligence⁴⁸

1. *Patient No. 37-44-87 (uterine rupture)*

Count I of the accusation identifies four grounds in this case for finding that Dr. Murphy's care in this case was substandard: (1) attempting a vaginal delivery on a patient with two prior Cesarean section deliveries; (2) failure to recognize signs of uterine rupture; (3) disregard of fetal heart rate changes; and (4) use of two vaginal operative procedures on the same patient.⁴⁹

(1) Some of the obstetricians criticized Dr. Murphy's decision to allow a trial of labor in this case, because the patient's history of two prior Cesarean sections created an increased risk of uterine rupture.⁵⁰ However, the patient was informed of the risk of uterine rupture and consented to the procedure,⁵¹ and the standard of care in 2003 allowed a vaginal birth following two prior Cesarean sections.⁵² Dr. Murphy specifically reviewed the patient's records and confirmed that the prior Cesareans had been low transverse incisions, which are relatively less likely to result in uterine rupture than other types of Cesareans. Furthermore, the majority of the

⁴⁸ The amended accusation in this case does not allege that Dr. Murphy's actions in the cases involving physician availability constitute grounds for summary suspension, except as set forth in Count VI in association with the other cases. The division argued at the hearing that the cases involving physician availability should be considered as evidence of poor professional judgment.

⁴⁹ Certain other specific aspects of Dr. Murphy's care in this case were criticized by one or more of the obstetricians who reviewed the medical records, but those particular concerns were not set forth in the accusation as constituting substandard care and therefore may not be relied upon as independent grounds for suspension. Nonetheless, those criticisms may be considered insofar as they relate to the specific allegations of the accusation.

For example, Dr. Cruz criticized the use of oxytocin in this case. The guidelines issued by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists do not preclude the use of oxytocin in this case, and therefore administering it was not below the standard of care. The 2004 guidelines note that "among women attempting VBAC, the rate of uterine rupture was not different between those who received oxytocin and those who labored spontaneously." American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, VAGINAL BIRTH AFTER PREVIOUS CESAREAN DELIVERY, at 206 (July, 2004). [Ex. K] They specifically advise against the use of prostaglandins, but make no such recommendation concerning the use of oxytocin. [*Id.* and at 207]

However, while not below the standard of care, the administration of oxytocin supports the finding that close monitoring of the patient was necessary, and may be considered in connection with the allegations that Dr. Murphy failed to recognize signs of uterine rupture, or that she disregarded fetal heart rate changes.

⁵⁰ For example, Dr. Pauly found this a high-risk candidate, whose selection was "at best questionable". [Ex. 37, r. 103]

⁵¹ Dr. Murphy's informed consent form for patients undergoing a trial of labor following prior Cesareans specifies the risk of augmentation by oxytocin and notes that the rate of uterine rupture is estimated at 1 in 200. [Ex. Q]

⁵² All of the witnesses agreed that the guidelines and reports issued by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists establish the standard of care for obstetrical practices. In 2003, the standard of care, as set forth in 1999 by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, allowed for vaginal birth after two prior Caesarian deliveries with low transverse incisions. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, VAGINAL BIRTH AFTER PREVIOUS CESAREAN DELIVERY, at 668 (July, 1999); [Ex. J] In 2004, the college revised the standard of care to provide for such delivery only after a single Cesarean. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, VAGINAL BIRTH AFTER PREVIOUS CESAREAN DELIVERY, at 206 (July, 2004). [Ex. K]

obstetricians, including the division's own witness Dr. Chester, had no objection to the decision to allow a trial of labor. [3A (Chester direct)] For these reasons, the preponderance of the evidence establishes that Dr. Murphy's decision to proceed with a trial of labor was not below the standard of care.

(2)/(3) Dr. Murphy retired to the sleep room at around 2:00 a.m., at which time there were no significant signs of impending or actual uterine rupture. An attending physician routinely relies on the nursing staff to bring unusual circumstances to the physician's attention, [13A (DeKeyser cross)] and accordingly Dr. Murphy's decision to leave the patient under the supervision of Nurse Rees-Benyo at that time was neither noteworthy nor inappropriate. The testimony at the hearing focussed on Dr. Murphy's conduct after she was awakened by Nurse Rees-Benyo at 4:36 a.m. There are two concerns: first, was it below the standard of care not to intervene by performing a Cesarean section immediately; and second, was it below the standard of care not to return to the birth room to personally monitor the patient.

Because the standard of care calls for immediate intervention in the event of uterine rupture, the central issue regarding the first concern is whether at 4:43 a.m. the evidence of present or impending uterine rupture was sufficient to mandate immediate intervention. Dr. Gilson testified that the standard of care calls for intervention when uterine rupture is "suspected", [8B (Gilson)] without specifying the degree of certainty involved. Dr. Chester's testimony indicates that, for a patient at increased risk of uterine rupture such as this patient, the standard of care calls for intervention in the presence of multiple indicators of uterine rupture. Dr. Chester believed that intervention by Cesarean section was appropriate at around 4:00 a.m. [1A (Cruz direct), 4A (Chester cross)] (about 45 minutes before Dr. Murphy was awakened), when there were three successive substantial decelerations [r. 511-512], patient pain notwithstanding an epidural block, and blood in the urine.⁵³

Certainly, Dr. Murphy should have considered the possibility of a uterine rupture and the need for immediate intervention by Cesarean section when she was awakened at 4:43 a.m. According to the 1999 guidelines issued by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, which were current in November, 2003, "[t]he most common sign of uterine rupture is a non-reassuring fetal heart rate pattern with variable decelerations that may evolve

⁵³ Dr. Chester testified that the blood could be from the labor itself, or from a bladder rupture, but not from a uterine rupture. [3A (Chester direct)]

into late decelerations, bradychardia, and undetectable fetal heart rate. Other findings are more variable and include uterine or abdominal pain, loss of station of the presenting part, vaginal bleeding, and hypovolemia."⁵⁴ But while some signs of possible uterine rupture were present at 4:43 a.m., the signs were not compelling; there was no indicated loss of fetal station; the fetal heart tracings during the first couple of hours of the morning had not been particularly noteworthy;⁵⁵ and although the episode at around 3:50 a.m. was notable, it was not followed by continuing abnormal tracings. [r. 513-514] In particular, there was no loss of fetal heart rate variability, which indicates the lack of an event sufficient to cause injury due to hypoxic asphyxia.⁵⁶ Furthermore, both Dr. Richey (an expert in the management of high-risk deliveries) and Alaska Regional Hospital's own internal review [Ex. 2, r. 213] found that Dr. Murphy's failure to intervene at 4:43 a.m. was acceptable care. It appears that the uterus did not rupture prior to 5:30 a.m.,⁵⁷ and although the baby was hypoxic at birth there is no indication that it

⁵⁴ American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, VAGINAL BIRTH AFTER PREVIOUS CESAREAN DELIVERY, at 666 (July, 1999). [Ex. 1]

⁵⁵ Dr. Murphy found them "reactive and reassuring". [Ex. 3, r. 302, 332] Dr. Cruz testified that for much of the time, the decelerations that were not of particular concern but that they got more worrisome as the patient got closer to delivery, with an episode of prolonged bradychardia with fetal heart rate in the 70's. [1A (Cruz direct)] This description, she testified, applies to the strips during the period after about 5:10. [1A (Cruz direct); Ex. 3, r. 521-524]

Dr. Chester, by contrast, testified that from 12:00 midnight on, the strips showed reason for concern. In particular, she characterized the strip at r. 495 (1:20 a.m.) as showing late decelerations, indicating a lack of sufficient oxygen to the fetus. [3A (Chester direct)] Similarly, Dr. Pauly's report characterizes the strips during this period [Ex. 3, r. 488-510] as demonstrating "Persistent, repetitive late decelerations." [Ex. 37; r. 102]

The characterizations of Drs. Murphy, Chester and Pauly are overstated. By comparison with other strips for this patient, the minimal changes in fetal heart rate during the period from 12:00 to 2:00 a.m. [Ex. 3, r. 488-499] were not noteworthy; the fetal heart rate did not change by more than 15 bpm during that time.

According to Dr. McGowan, the criteria for a "reactive" strip is 2 accelerations in 10 minutes that are 15 bpm above the baseline for 15 seconds. [Ex. C, r. 120] Dr. Murphy's characterization of the strips as "reactive", under that definition, is inaccurate, although there was a discernable increase in baseline variability. Dr. Chester's characterization is similarly overstated. To qualify as a late deceleration, the deceleration must occur over a significant period of time (onset to nadir of 30 seconds or more). [Ex. G at 1162] Although one of the decelerations on meets that criterion, [r. 495] the reduction in the fetal heart rate in that instance was only 10 bpm. Dr. Chester also remarked on the relatively low beat to beat variability; however, because the patient had been provided Demerol at 12:20 a.m. a decrease in beat to beat variability was to be expected.

⁵⁶ See page 24, *infra*.

⁵⁷ Dr. Richey, who had seen 40-50 cases of uterine rupture, testified [16A (Richey direct)] that uterine rupture is difficult to diagnose. Signs of uterine rupture, she testified, include hyperstimulation, or a complaint of pain coupled with severe bradychardia. Severe bradychardia means a reduction in the baseline to well below 110 bpm. While there were significant decelerations to below 110 bpm at the time of the patient's complaint of pain around 3:45 a.m. [Ex. r. 511-512], the baseline did not go below 110 bpm until around 5:36 a.m., at the same time that there were numerous episodes of hyperstimulation. [Ex. 3, r. 524] In retrospect, it seems unlikely that the uterus ruptured prior to the final episode, since a baby would not be expected to survive a uterine rupture for more than half an hour without serious and evident neurological damage, while this baby did survive and to all appearances was normal.

suffered any measurable neurological deficit or other injury.⁵⁸ While the more conservative approach would have been to proceed to a Cesarean section at 4:43 a.m., the division did not establish by a preponderance of the evidence that Dr. Murphy's failure to immediately intervene at 4:43 a.m. was below the standard of care, or that at that time (or previously) she negligently disregarded changes in the fetal heart rate.

With respect to returning to the delivery room after she was awakened, it is beyond dispute that given the pre-existing increased risk of uterine rupture, and the presence of signs of possible rupture, careful monitoring of the labor was particularly important. But the attending physician, particularly in a long term labor, necessarily relies upon the nurses to monitor patient well being and to bring concerns to the attention of the attending physician in a timely manner. [13A (DeKeyser cross)] Nurse Rees-Benyo testified that when she awakened Dr. Murphy she had performed a complete nursing assessment and that she did not view matters as urgent. [15A (Rees-Benyo direct)] Furthermore, within minutes after reviewing the strips, Dr. Murphy was informed that the patient showed substantially improved fetal heart rate strips, which was true. Subsequently, after Dr. Murphy had gone back to sleep, beginning around 5:10 a.m., the strips showed substantial deterioration and should have been brought to her attention: they were not.⁵⁹ The division did not establish by a preponderance of the evidence that Dr. Murphy's decision to rely on nursing staff rather than returning to the birth room was below the standard of care.

(4) The final ground asserted to constitute substandard care in this case is that Dr. Murphy elected to try two operative vaginal techniques rather than performing a Cesarean section. But the standard of care does not preclude the use of multiple operative techniques: it simply calls upon the physician to avoid any vaginal operative technique "when the probability

⁵⁸ Dr. Chester testified that if there was injury, it was not measurable. [4B (Chester cross)] The lack of any neurological injury would be consistent with data from a study included in the Task Force Report, which found no brain damage in any of 11 cases of uterine rupture in VBAC cases. In nine of those cases, there had been bradycardia lasting longer than 15 minutes. [Ex. L at 33] substantially greater than existed in this case, which involved bradycardia only during the final ten minutes, as Dr. Murphy was preparing to deliver the baby. [Ex. 3, r. 523-524]

⁵⁹ The strips reviewed by Dr. Murphy at 4:43 a.m. shows four moderate to severe late decelerations over an eight minute period, the most severe going to 70 bpm. [Ex. 3, r. 516] The following strips, through about 5:05 a.m., show substantial improvement. [Ex. 3, r. 517-520]. The strips reviewed by Dr. Murphy at 5:36 a.m., by contrast with those seen at 4:43, show continued moderate to severe late decelerations continuing for a period of about half an hour, with dips below 70 bpm. [Ex. 3, r. 521-523] Immediately thereafter, rather than recovery, the strips show severe bradycardia and clearly demonstrate imminent risk to the fetus. [Ex. 3, r. 524] Dr. Richey testified she would have been "extremely upset" not to have been shown strips generated at around 5:10 a.m. [Ex. 3, r. 521; 16A (Richey direct)] Dr. Cruz agreed. [17A (Cruz recross)]

of success is very low".⁶⁰ There is nothing in this case to suggest that the vacuum attempt was contrary to that general rule, and the forceps delivery was successful. The testimony at the hearing uniformly was that Dr. Murphy has good operative skills, including forceps deliveries. The baby's head was engaged, and delivery occurred in a much shorter period of time than it would have if a Cesarean section had been performed. The division did not show by a preponderance of the evidence that Dr. Murphy violated the standard of care by utilizing multiple operative vaginal techniques at 5:36 a.m., rather than ordering a Cesarean section at that time.

2. *Patient No. 21-90-97 (triple nuchal cord)*

Count II of the amended accusation cites only one ground for finding substandard care in this case: Dr. Murphy's alleged "failure to recognize abnormalities of fetal heart rate tracings." To the extent that a failure to recognize abnormalities in fetal heart tracings demonstrates a lack of knowledge or professional judgment, it may be considered in connection the allegation of professional incompetence. But for purposes of an allegation of substandard care, the question is not whether Dr. Murphy can recognize "abnormalities" in fetal heart tracings, but rather whether she makes appropriate case decisions in light of them. In this case, as in the others, the central issue to consider is whether Dr. Murphy's decision to allow labor to proceed, rather than intervening by performing a Cesarean section at an earlier time, was within the standard of care.⁶¹

Some of the obstetricians who reviewed this case felt that the length of the labor, given their interpretation of the fetal heart tracings, was too long, and that at some point well in advance of the actual delivery, intervention by Cesarean section was appropriate. Dr. Chester felt that intervention should have occurred around 5:11 a.m. [3B (Chester direct); 4A (Chester

⁶⁰ See generally American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, OPERATIVE VAGINAL DELIVERY (June, 2000). [Ex. 32] The report notes that the risk of injury is substantially the same for an infant delivered by multiple vaginal operative techniques as for one delivered by Cesarean section following a single failed operative vaginal technique. [Ex. 32 at 546, r. 2290] The report states, "Although studies are limited, the weight of available evidence appears to be against attempting multiple efforts at operative vaginal delivery with different instruments, unless there is a compelling and justifiable reason." [*id.*, r. at 2291 (emphasis added)] The imminent risk of severe neurological injury at 5:36 a.m. presented a compelling and justifiable reason for attempting a second operative vaginal delivery technique rather than taking the additional time necessary to perform a Cesarean section. As Dr. Chester testified, [3A] at that time the patient was at the point of no return; her criticism was not of the use of multiple vaginal operative techniques, but of the failure to go to a Cesarean section at an earlier time.

⁶¹ As Dr. Cruz testified, the central issue in this case and the others was whether allowing labor to proceed was below the standard of care. In this case, as in others, there was criticism of Dr. Murphy's care in other respects,

cross)) Dr. Gilson, while not specifically addressing this case, described his main overall concern with Dr. Murphy's care as relating to the length of time that she tolerated non-reassuring fetal heart monitoring strips. However, a report issued by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists finds that fetal heart monitor strips are a poor basis for making retrospective judgments about clinical decision-making⁶² or predictions about neonatal outcomes,⁶³ and that their fundamental role is as an ancillary tool for the clinician for case management in the context of full knowledge of the patient, the prenatal course, and the labor process.⁶⁴ In this case, for example, the conclusions drawn by different reviewers are at times contradictory.⁶⁵ For these reasons, in the absence of consensus, retrospective professional opinions as to the proper interpretation of fetal heart tracings are of limited persuasiveness.⁶⁶

but none of those matters was alleged in the accusation to constitute grounds for a finding of professional incompetence, substandard care, or license suspension.

⁶² ACOG FHR Guidelines at 1164. [Ex. G] "Despite the frequency of its use, issues with [electronic fetal monitoring] include poor interobserver and intraobserver reliability, uncertain efficacy, and a high false-positive rate." *Id.* at 1161. "With retrospective reviews, the foreknowledge of neonatal outcome may alter the reviewer's impression of the tracing. Given the same intrapartum tracing, a reviewer is more likely to find evidence of fetal hypoxia and criticize the obstetrician's management if the outcome was supposedly poor versus supposedly good." *Id.* at 1164. "Reinterpretation of the FHR tracing, especially knowing the neonatal outcome, is not reliable." *Id.* at 1167.

⁶³ *Id.* at 1165. "There is an unrealistic expectation that a nonreassuring FHR tracing is predictive of cerebral palsy." *Id.* at 1163.

⁶⁴ Clinicians should "take gestational age, medications, prior fetal assessment, and obstetric and medical conditions into account when interpreting the [fetal heart rate] patterns during labor." *Id.* at 1162. For example, according to the literature in the record, higher rates of neonatal encephalopathy are associated with low birth weights; all of the babies in these cases were over 3500 grams.

⁶⁵ Dr. Pauly found a constant string of unacceptable readings throughout the time the patient was in labor. Her report states, "[R]ight from the beginning and throughout the entire 12 hour labor, the FHR monitor strip demonstrates continuous deep variable decelerations as well as intermittent, significant late decelerations. Nowhere on the entire tracing is there a prolonged period of reassuring, reactive FHR pattern." [Ex. 37, r. 68] By comparison, Dr. McGowan, reviewing the same materials, finds "Intermittent variables noted throughout the strip. No late or late component to the variables. Good BTBV except shortly after narcotics. Overall reassuring strip." Her report concludes: "The decelerations were noted, and the appropriate actions carried out. The monitor strip confirms the presence of good beat-to-beat variability, and this, along with the fact that there was good recovery of heart tones between contractions is reassuring fetal well-being." [Ex. C, r. 115]

Dr. Chester, reviewing these strips from the period of time around 10:00 p.m., found "subtle" late decelerations. But according to the accepted definition, a late deceleration should be "visually apparent." [Ex. G at 1163] The strips referred to by Dr. Chester do not show decelerations meeting the accepted definition of late deceleration: "In association with a uterine contraction, a visually apparent, gradual (onset to nadir in 30 sec or more) decrease in FHR with return to baseline."

⁶⁶ This conclusion is consistent with the findings of the Task Force, which noted that with two exceptions ([1] normal baseline = 110-160 bpm and normal variability = 6-25 bpm, and [2] absent variability with recurrent late or variable decelerations or substantial bradycardia indicates present or impending acidemia), experts "had difficulty reaching consensus on appropriate definitions of certain heart rate patterns. It is impossible to reach consensus on the presumed fetal condition of obstetric management of all other patterns intermediate between the two [exceptions noted]." Task Force Report at 76 (emphasis added). [Ex. L]

Even in the face of an agreed-upon interpretation of tracings as non-reassuring, the determination of when intervention should occur is subject to reasonable professional disagreement.⁶⁷ In this particular case, notwithstanding Dr. Chester's and Dr. Gilson's views, other obstetricians who reviewed the records fully, including Dr. Richey and Dr. McGowan, are of the opinion that Dr. Murphy's care was within the standard of care, with Dr. Richey going so far as to characterize the case as "ordinary." Dr. Cruz testified that she was "concerned"; she testified that this case was in a "gray area" but did not state that the failure to intervene was below the standard of care. [2B (Cruz cross)]

Since the purpose of intervention is to avoid intrapartum asphyxia to a degree that is harmful, there is no need for intervention unless the fetal heart tracings, or other evidence, suggest that asphyxia that is potentially harmful to the fetus has occurred or is imminent. According to the Task Force:⁶⁸

For intrapartum asphyxia to develop in a fetus that was previously normal at the start of labor, some major, or sentinel event must occur. If the fetus is undergoing continuous electronic fetal heart monitoring, the sentinel event should result in either an abnormal tracing with either a prolonged deceleration, repetitive late decelerations, and/or repetitive severe variable decelerations and decreased fetal heart rate variability:

This wording indicates that even in the presence of recurrent late or severe variable decelerations, or substantial bradycardia, neurologic damage is not a predictable outcome unless (1) there has been a major or sentinel event (2) resulting in decreased fetal heart rate variability (also called beat-to-beat variability). In this case, while there were recurrent moderate to severe decelerations, there was no sentinel event and the fetal heart rate showed consistent return to moderate variability.

In addition to the highly subjective nature of a conclusion that the fetal heart rate tracings mandate immediate intervention, and the lack of specific testimony applying the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' criteria to the tracings in the record, it is apparent

⁶⁷ "The high frequency (up to 79%) of nonreassuring patterns found during electronic monitoring of normal pregnancies in labor with normal fetal outcomes make both the decision on the optimal management of the labor and the prediction of current or future neurological status very difficult." Task Force Report at 76. [Ex. L]

A recent study notes that "the lack of consensus on the timing of intrapartum hypoxic injury has limited advances in fetal heart rate monitoring and the development of accepted protocols for treatment of heart rate abnormalities." Ex. F at 1. The study hypothesizes that knowledge of base excess values at the initiation of labor, augmented by fetal pulse oximetry, may ultimately "permit real-time estimation of base excess changes in relation [to] scalp oxygen saturation values and heart rate patterns." Ex. F at 8.

⁶⁸ Task Force Report at 29. [Ex. L]

that Dr. Murphy's management of this particular case was affected by her ongoing simultaneous management of another case, involving twins, beginning at around 5:00 a.m., and that the decision to perform a Cesarean section in either case would have created the potential for simultaneous Cesareans. Finally, there is no evidence that the baby suffered metabolic acidosis or any injury: the cord pH was above 7.02, the base excess was above -12, and the ten minute Apgar was 9.⁶⁹ In light of the evidence as a whole, the division did not establish, by a preponderance of the evidence, that Dr. Murphy's failure to intervene by Cesarean section was below the standard of care.

3. *Patient No. 38-34-33 (Group B beta strep)*

In this case, as in the prior one, Count III of the accusation asserts only one ground for finding substandard care: that Dr. Murphy failed to recognize abnormalities in the fetal heart tracings.⁷⁰ As in the previous case, the question whether Dr. Murphy recognizes abnormalities in fetal heart tracing goes to her professional competence; her case management decisions based on the strips concern the standard of care.

This patient had a Group B beta strep infection. She was getting the appropriate treatment for her infection, according to Dr. Cruz [1B (Cruz direct)]. The patient's fetal heart monitoring strips, unlike the other two cases, showed no significant accelerations or decelerations for most of the labor, until shortly before delivery. (Accelerations are reassuring, but their absence is not of concern so long as there is adequate baseline variability.) In this case, to the extent fetal heart

⁶⁹ Dr. Cruz and Dr. Chester suggested that low Apgar scores in these cases indicate a potential for poor outcomes. But although an Apgar score of 3 or less after five minutes is a potential marker of intrapartum asphyxia, an Apgar score of 3 or less at five minutes or less is a poor predictor of actual neurological deficit. Task Force Report at 54-55. Only one of cases in evidence involves a five minute Apgar of 3 or less (No. 38-34-33; Apgar of 3 at 5 minutes). None involved an Apgar of 3 or less after five minutes. While an Apgar score of 3 or less at five minutes is a potential marker of intrapartum asphyxia, it is a poor predictor of actual neurological deficit. Task Force Report at 54-55. More to the point, Dr. Chester testified that there is no evidence that any of the children suffered any neurological deficit. [4A (Chester cross)] A base excess of -12 mmol/L, which occurred in this case, is the threshold at which asphyxial injury may occur, although "most newborns with a base excess of ≤ -12 mmol/L do not demonstrate neurological injury." [Ex. F at 7]

⁷⁰ As in the other cases, some of the obstetricians criticized particular aspects of Dr. Murphy's care: Dr. Cruz criticized the failure to provide a second antibiotic in addition to ampicillin to treat the Group B beta strep infection at an earlier time, and Dr. Chester criticized the manual dilation given the degree of dilation. Appropriate treatment for the Group B beta strep infection was of particular importance, because Group B beta strep can cause chorioamnionitis, a potentially dangerous condition for the fetus. [Ex. H, r. 1064] However, there was testimony that Dr. Murphy treated the infection appropriately, and neither Dr. Cruz or Dr. Chester testified that the matters they had identified as of concern warranted the imposition of discipline. In any event, because those matters are not within the scope of the accusation they are not grounds upon which the board may maintain the summary suspension in this case.

rate was of concern, it was because of the ongoing tachychardia (causally related to the high fever), and relatively minimal variability.

Dr. Chester testified that, in light of the lengthy tachychardia and lack of full dilation, delivery by Cesarean section was appropriate in response to a prolonged and severe deceleration that occurred at around 1:10 a.m., with a duration of more than five minutes. [Ex. 6, r. 1040-41]

That recommendation substantially reflects the Task Force observation that intrapartum asphyxia placing the fetus at risk occurs when there has been a sentinel event and subsequently the fetal heart tracings show a prolonged deceleration and decreased fetal heart rate variability. In light of the subsequent birth of the baby with a tightly wrapped cord, the evidence indicates that the precipitating event for the acidosis at the time of birth was a cord occlusion that occurred at around 1:10 a.m. Other obstetricians, including both Dr. McGowan and Dr. Richey, concurred that in retrospect, a strong case can be made for intervention at around that time, rather than allowing the labor to proceed until 2:10 a.m., when Dr. Murphy delivered the baby, notwithstanding the increased risk of spreading the Group B beta strep infection in a Cesarean section. Indeed, Dr. Murphy herself expressed concern, in retrospect, that the tachychardia had contributed to the apparent metabolic acidosis reflected in a base excess value of -12 at birth. Nonetheless, both Dr. McGowan and Dr. Richey indicated that their retrospective criticism of Dr. Murphy's failure to intervene by Cesarean section at around 1:10 a.m. does not necessarily reflect what they would have done had they been the attending physician, and neither of them stated that Dr. Murphy's management of this particular case was below the standard of care. Their responses reflect the accepted view that fetal heart tracings are a poor basis upon which to make retrospective case management assessments. In that light, the division did not establish by a preponderance of the evidence that Dr. Murphy's care in this case was below the standard of care.

C. Professional Competence

All counts of the accusation allege that the cases demonstrate conduct constituting a lack of professional competence. Professional incompetence consists of a lack of knowledge, skills or professional judgment to a degree likely to harm patients.

There is no evidence that Dr. Murphy's operative skills are below the standard of care. The common thread in all three cases involving patient care is that in each of them, Dr. Murphy chose to continue with labor when, at times relatively remote from delivery, the fetal heart rate

could reasonably be viewed as warranting immediate intervention by Cesarean section, in light of the circumstances as a whole.⁷¹ The issue raised by those cases is whether her case management decisions establish a lack of adequate knowledge (i.e., inability to recognize abnormalities in fetal heart tracings, or lack of understanding of the long term neurological consequences of intrapartum asphyxia) or a lack of adequate professional judgment.

With respect to the cases involving physician availability, only the case in which Dr. Murphy voluntarily delayed her arrival is relevant, because the exercise of professional judgment involves intentional conduct, not inadvertence as in the case of the lost cell phone.

1. Professional Judgment

A. CASE MANAGEMENT

The evidence and the testimony at the hearing as to Dr. Murphy's case management decisions reflect the ongoing and long-standing debate within the medical community regarding the rate of Cesarean sections in general, as well as regarding the practice of vaginal delivery after a prior Cesarean section (VBAC).

Testimony from multiple witnesses established that Dr. Murphy is well known within the Anchorage medical community as an advocate for vaginal delivery and for her willingness to provide vaginal deliveries after a prior Cesarean section. The thrust of the ad hoc committee's recommendation that Dr. Murphy's obstetrical privileges be suspended, reflected in written reports [Ex 14, r. 231; Ex. 15, r. 238] and in the testimony of its individual members,⁷² is that Dr. Murphy's views in that regard have compromised her professional judgment in individual cases, to the point that her predisposition to effect a vaginal delivery may in a particular case create a medically unacceptable degree of risk to the long term health of the child. As discussed above, the division did not establish that Dr. Murphy's care was below the standard of care in any of five cases it brought to the attention of the Board. In order to provide a context for that conclusion, and to directly address the concerns reflected in the ad hoc committee's report, however, it is appropriate to consider Dr. Murphy's conduct as a counselor prior to and during

⁷¹ In some cases, meconium was noted and testimony suggested that would support intervention by Cesarean section. However, the passage of meconium is typically physiological and is rarely a marker of an adverse event, particular with term babies. The presence of meconium is a poor predictor of long-term neurological outcomes. Task Force Report at 47.

⁷² As Dr. Chester testified, "she pushes her babies too far." [3B (Chester direct)]

the labor process, as well as the evidence concerning the manner in which she approaches case management in individual cases.

The evidence and the testimony support the conclusion that Dr. Murphy does not, in the course of her practice and case management, inappropriately advise or counsel her patients regarding the possibility and risks of vaginal delivery. The ad hoc committee took particular umbrage at a comment they attributed to Dr. Murphy when she was interviewed, to the effect that she believes in effecting a vaginal delivery "at all costs". Dr. Murphy denied making that specific statement. Whatever her precise comments to the ad hoc committee, it is apparent from the evidence that Dr. Murphy does not believe in achieving a vaginal delivery "at all costs": for example, in one of the cases reviewed by the external reviewers (No. 38-82-16), Dr. Murphy performed a Cesarean section over the express and vocal objections of her patient. [Ex. 2, r. 215] Her records show that she carefully considered the specific circumstances and operative history of the patient for whom she provided a trial of labor after two prior Cesareans before offering that opportunity. Within the range of medically acceptable risk to the fetus, the decision whether to proceed to a Cesarean section is a patient choice, to be reached after consultation with the physician. [2A (Cruz cross)] One of the patients who testified strongly emphasized Dr. Murphy's ongoing discussion, through the birthing process, of the possibility of Cesarean section delivery; she called Dr. Murphy the most informative physician she had ever had. Furthermore, Dr. Murphy's demeanor and behavior at the hearing, while amply demonstrating the passion and intensity of her general views regarding vaginal delivery, also showed focus, balance, and clinical detachment in the discussion of the medical details of individual cases. Dr. Murphy's overall rate of Cesarean sections is 10%; compared with a national rate in 2002 (an all-time high) of 26.1%⁷³ but about the same as the overall rate at the Alaska Native Medical Center. For these reasons, the preponderance of the evidence does not establish that Dr. Murphy fails to appropriately counsel patients or to actively consider Cesarean sections throughout the course of labor.

More fundamentally, while the testimony and evidence establish that Dr. Murphy's case management decisions with respect to vaginal delivery constitute an aggressive approach, they do not establish that the degree of risk is medically unacceptable for the fetus in the context of informed consent by the mother.

⁷³ Ex. I, at 2; Ex. K at 2.

Dr. Murphy testified that she manages her cases based upon her knowledge of the prenatal history and the fetus's demonstrated ability (adequate recovery time, return to baseline, maintenance of adequate variability, and accelerations) to recover from episodes of recurrent or severe decelerations; to a more conservative obstetrician (as Dr. Chester and Dr. Cruz described themselves) similar episodes would indicate the need to intervene by Cesarean-section without regard to the fetus's ability to recover. Dr. Murphy's approach, while aggressive, is consistent with the Task Force report, which states:⁷⁴

...[P]atterns [of fetal heart tracings] predictive of current or impending asphyxia placing the fetus at risk for neurologic damage include recurrent late or severe variable decelerations or substantial bradychardia, with absent fetal heart rate variability.

In addition, the literature points out that a fetus is resistant to neurological injury, and that demonstrated harm typically requires lengthy periods of asphyxia, or recurrent decelerations without the opportunity to recover.⁷⁵ Finally, the presence of accelerations following scalp stimulation can be used, as Dr. Murphy has used it, to exclude acidosis. For all these reasons, a preponderance of the testimony and evidence does not establish that Dr. Murphy lacks professional judgment to a degree likely to endanger her patients.

B. PHYSICIAN UNAVAILABILITY

In the case of voluntary delay, the patient was hospitalized and had immediately available to her the full resources of Alaska Regional Hospital in the event of an unforeseen emergency of any kind. Voluntary delay without knowledge of the patient's condition, or in circumstances where failure to respond immediately would create a risk of harm, may demonstrate a deficiency of professional judgment. In this case, however, Dr. Murphy had confirmed with the nurse that an immediate response was unnecessary, and her delayed response did not pose a medically unacceptable danger to the patient. The division did not establish a lack of professional judgment to a degree likely to harm a patient.

2. Knowledge

A. POTENTIAL FOR NEUROLOGICAL INJURY

The ad hoc committee suggested that Dr. Murphy is insufficiently sensitive to the potential for injury that is not measurable, or that does not manifest itself until later in life. For

⁷⁴ Task Force Report at 29. [Ex. L]

⁷⁵ *Supra*, page 15 and notes 30-36.

purposes of summary suspension, the issue for the board is whether Dr. Murphy's lacks knowledge of the potential for neurological injury, to a degree likely to harm her patients.

The ad hoc committee's concerns, as set forth in their report and in the members' testimony at the hearing, were based on Dr. Murphy's comments to the ad hoc committee to the effect that she considered a delivery a success based upon the short term outcome for the baby.

But the ad hoc committee's concerns do not take into account Dr. Murphy's knowledge, amply demonstrated in her testimony at the hearing, of the studies underlying the analysis of neurological injury following hypoxic asphyxia, many of which reflect long-term tracking of infants who have incurred some degree of hypoxia. The testimony and evidence at the hearing establish that Dr. Murphy's case management decisions are not based upon anecdotal short-term outcomes in her own cases, but on the literature in this area: her experience (both in the short term and over the long term) is consistent with those studies, but it is the literature that primarily guides her clinical decisions. The preponderance of the testimony and evidence does not establish that Dr. Murphy lacks knowledge of the potential long term effects of fetal hypoxia to a degree likely to endanger her patients.

B. INTERPRETATION OF FETAL HEART MONITOR TRACINGS

The ad hoc committee recommended that Dr. Murphy obtain additional training in the interpretation of fetal heart monitor tracings, on the ground that her understanding of them was lacking.

Several of the obstetricians, including the division's witnesses, described the interpretation of fetal heart tracings as an art; all the witnesses who testified about the strips indicated their interpretation is subject to a reasonable differences of professional opinion. And, as noted previously, the literature specifically notes that with the exception of the extreme ends of the spectrum, there is no agreement among the experts as to how to characterize a broad range of abnormal tracings, and there is a high degree of interpersonal and intrapersonal divergence in reading strips.⁷⁶ Given that testimony and evidence, a showing of professional incompetence with respect to the interpretation of fetal heart monitor strips mandates a showing that a practitioner's interpretations fall outside the limits of reasonable professional differences of opinion.

⁷⁶ *Supra*, pages 22-23.

Four of the obstetricians testified in detail as to the appropriate characterization of the fetal heart monitor strips in the record: Dr. Chester, Dr. Cruz, Dr. Murphy and Dr. Richey. Of these witnesses, Dr. Murphy's testimony was the most detailed in terms of the number of strips reviewed. Dr. Murphy's testimony repeatedly referenced the appropriate criteria for interpreting the strips and was consistent with the patterns exhibited. On cross-examination, the division did not point out differences between her characterizations and the data displayed, and in argument the division did not point to instances in which her characterizations were at substantial variance with the testimony of the division's witnesses, Dr. Chester and Dr. Cruz, characterizing those same strips. Upon review of the testimony of Dr. Chester, Dr. Cruz, Dr. Murphy and Dr. Richey regarding the fetal monitor strips, it is apparent that their differences in characterization, to the extent they exist, reflect reasonable differences of professional opinion, and not professional incompetence on any the part of any of them. The preponderance of the testimony and evidence does not establish that Dr. Murphy is professionally incompetent with respect to her knowledge of, and ability to interpret, fetal heart monitor tracings.

D. Clear and Immediate Danger

Two witnesses (Drs. Stransky and DeKeyser) testified that Dr. Murphy is a competent obstetrician who does not pose a danger to her patients, based on their personal knowledge of her clinical and case management practices, as well as on her reputation within the Anchorage medical community, but without having reviewed the medical records for the particular cases brought before the board. The record also includes testimony or reports from eight obstetricians who reviewed the medical records in all or some of the cases before the board:⁷⁷ three external reviewers (Drs. Pauly, McGowan and Davis); three members of the ad hoc committee (Drs. Chester, Cruz and Gilson), Dr. Richey (who testified as an expert on behalf of Dr. Murphy), and Dr. Murphy herself. Of these, Dr. Pauly's and Dr. Davis's reports were of less weight.⁷⁸ Dr.

⁷⁷ Neither Dr. Lillibridge, a pediatrician, nor Dr. Wilder, an internist, was expert in the management of obstetrical cases. Their views about the adequacy of Dr. Murphy's care, as expressed in the ad hoc committee and at the hearing, were largely dependent on the opinions expressed during the ad hoc committee's deliberations by the obstetricians, Drs. Cruz, Chester and Gilson. Dr. Lillibridge testified that the conclusion of the committee were to a large degree based on the fetal heart tracings, which he acknowledged he did not know how to interpret. (5A (Lillibridge direct)) For these reasons, the opinions of Dr. Lillibridge and Dr. Wilder as to the quality of Dr. Murphy's care are less persuasive than those of the obstetricians.

⁷⁸ Dr. Pauly's resume was not included in the record, but she is not currently a member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. [Tape 7B (Craig)] Her reports, although thorough and closely tied to the medical records, are highly negative with respect to both the physician and nurse staff, to a degree well beyond the comments and criticisms of other reviewers and experts. Many of the statements in her reports are conclusionary.

Gilson's telephonic testimony, while persuasive, was general in nature because he did not have the medical records before him as he testified; significantly, he did not find that Dr. Murphy poses a threat to the safety of her patients. The most persuasive testimony was given by the obstetricians who reviewed the records both prior to and at the hearing: Drs. Chester, Cruz, Richey and Murphy. Of those witnesses, Dr. Murphy's testimony was the most clearly and directly tied to the literature, and was persuasive on questions of medical fact and causation. (Dr. Murphy's opinions and conclusions as to the quality of her own care and her case management, of course, should be given less weight.) Dr. Cruz's opinions and conclusions were slightly less persuasive than the other obstetricians due to their substantially greater experience in the field.

All of the obstetricians focussed on the fetal heart rate tracings as central to their conclusions and opinions concerning the quality of Dr. Murphy's care and the risks posed to her patients. All agreed that interpretation of the tracings is a matter of judgment and that there is room for substantial differences of opinion with respect to the appropriate action to be taken in response to any given tracings. The lack of any consensus among the obstetricians who reviewed the records and testified at the hearing is a strong indication that Dr. Murphy does not present a "clear" danger to her patients. Furthermore, the relevant literature cautions against reaching retrospective judgments about case management based on fetal heart tracings. For these reasons, and in the absence of a finding that Dr. Murphy failed to meet the standard of care in any of the cases presented involving patient care, the preponderance of the evidence does not establish that Dr. Murphy poses a clear danger to the safety of her patients.

The testimony and evidence also indicate that Dr. Murphy does not pose an immediate danger. Dr. Murphy testified, credibly, that her case management practices have not substantially altered over the course of a number of years. In the absence of any showing of an actual injury resulting from those same practices over a twenty year period, the risk of injury to a fetus from those practices is more appropriately characterized as remote than as immediate.⁷⁹ Her decision to voluntarily delay her arrival at the hospital in one case was based on consultation with the attending nurse. Dr. Murphy testified, credibly, that the experience of undergoing peer

lacking support in the record or in the literature provided at the hearing, or contradicted by other obstetricians with superior known credentials. *Supra*, notes 11, 13, 50, 55, 65.

Dr. Davis's report, as the ad hoc committee observed, does not indicate that he reviewed the fetal heart monitor strips, which are central to the allegations of poor professional judgment.

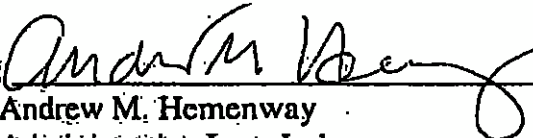
⁷⁹ Dr. Lillibridge testified that Dr. Murphy's low rate of Cesarean sections did not in itself cause him concern; he added, "If she has good outcomes, that's what's important." [5A (Lillibridge cross)]

review with respect to that incident had thoroughly chastened her, such that she would not entertain the thought of voluntary delay in the future. The division did not establish by a preponderance of the evidence that an injury to her patients is likely to occur before the board can render a final decision in this case.

IV. Conclusion

The division did not establish a failure to meet the standard of care or professional incompetence, and did not demonstrate a clear and immediate danger to the public. I recommend that the Board vacate the order of summary suspension and address the issues raised in this case in the more deliberative and complete context of a hearing on the merits of an accusation for imposition of disciplinary sanctions.

DATED September 14, 2005.

By: 
Andrew M. Hemenway
Administrative Law Judge

Adoption

-On behalf of the Alaska State Medical Board, the undersigned adopts this decision as final under the authority of AS 44.64.060(e)(1). Judicial review of this decision may be obtained by filing an appeal in the Alaska Superior Court in accordance with AS 44.62.560 within 30 days after the date this decision is adopted.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2005.

By: _____
Signature

Name

Title

1 STATE OF ALASKA
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
3 DEVELOPMENT
4 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL
5 LICENSING
6 BEFORE THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD

7
8 In the Matter of:)
9)
10 Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.)
11)
12 Respondent)
13 Case No. 2800-05-026, *et. al.*

14
15 **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

16 IT IS HEREBY AGREED by the Department of Commerce, Community
17 and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional
18 Licensing (Division) and Colleen M. Murphy M.D. (Respondent) as follows:

19 1. Licensure. Respondent is currently licensed as a physician
20 in the State of Alaska, and holds License number # 3162. This license was first issued
21 on October 27, 1993 and will expire unless renewed by December 31, 2006.

22 2. Admission/Jurisdiction. Respondent admits and agrees that
23 the Alaska State Medical Board (Board) has jurisdiction over the subject matter of her
24 license in Alaska and over this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

25 3. Admission/Facts. Respondent neither admits nor denies the
26 following allegations:

Memorandum of Agreement
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Page 1

1 a) On April 12, 2005, the Division received a written
2 report from Alaska Regional Hospital (ARH), advising that the Medical Executive
3 Committee (Committee) had summarily suspended Respondent's obstetrical privileges.

4 b) On July 7, 2005, the Alaska State Medical Board
5 summarily suspended the Respondent's license. On July 14, 2005, an accusation was
6 filed against the Respondent's license. A summary suspension hearing was held from
7 July 15-22, 2005. On July 22, 2005, an amended accusation was filed against the
8 Respondent's license.

9 c) On October 21, 2005, the Board adopted the
10 Administrative Law Judge's Proposed Decision and Order that found that there was not
11 a basis for the summary suspension and recommended that the Respondent's license be
12 reinstated. In the decision, the Administrative Law Judge recommended that the issues
13 addressed at the summary suspension hearing could be heard by the Board in the more
14 deliberative and complete context of an administrative hearing on the merits of an
15 accusation for the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions.

16 d) On March 10, 2006, the Division filed a second
17 amended accusation against the Respondent's license.

18 e) On July 1st, 2005, Providence Alaska Medical Center
19 issued a letter to the Respondent affirming that Respondent was a member in good
20 standing in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. On July 8th, 2005,
21 Providence Alaska Medical Center terminated medical staff membership of the
22

Memorandum of Agreement

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In the Matter of:

Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.

Case No. 2800-05-026, et al.

32

1 Respondent as a result of her summary suspension by the Alaska State Medical Board.
 2 On May 26, 2006, Providence Alaska Medical Center approved an option for
 3 Respondent to reinstate her obstetrical privileges, which is attached as Exhibit A and is
 4 filed under seal.

5 f) The Alaska State Medical Board decided that there were grounds for
 6 possible suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary sanctions of his or her license
 7 pursuant to AS 08.01.075, AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A) and AS 08.64.331(a).

8 4. Formal Hearing Process. It is the intent of the parties to this
 9 MOA to provide for the compromise and settlement of all issues which have been raised
 10 by the second amended accusation, which requests the Board to revoke, suspend, or
 11 impose disciplinary sanctions against Respondent's license through a formal hearing
 12 process.

13 5. Waiver of Rights. Respondent understands she has the right
 14 to representation by an attorney of her own choosing and has a right to an administrative
 15 hearing on the facts in the second amended accusation. Respondent understands and
 16 agrees that by signing this MOA, Respondent is waiving her right to a hearing. Further,
 17 Respondent understands and agrees that she is relieving the Division of any burden it
 18 has of proving the facts listed above. This MOA is for the purposes of settlement only
 19 and is not to be considered an admission of wrongdoing by the Respondent. Respondent
 20 further understands and agrees that by signing this MOA she is voluntarily and
 21 knowingly giving up her right to present oral and documentary evidence, to present

Memorandum of Agreement
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1 rebuttal evidence, to cross-examine witnesses against Respondent, and to appeal the
2 Board's decision to Superior Court.

3 6. Effect of Non acceptance of Agreement. Respondent and
4 the Division agree that this MOA is subject to the approval of the Board. They agree
5 that, if the Board rejects this agreement, it will be void, and a hearing on the second
6 amended accusation will be held. If this agreement is rejected by the Board, it will not
7 constitute a waiver of Respondent's right to a hearing on the matters alleged in the
8 second amended accusation and any admissions contained herein will have no effect.
9 Respondent agrees that, if the Board rejects this agreement, the Board may decide the
10 matter after a hearing, and its consideration of this agreement shall not alone be grounds
11 for claiming that the Board is biased against Respondent, that it cannot fairly decide the
12 case, or that it has received *ex parte* communication.

13 7. Memorandum of Agreement, Decision and Order.
14 Respondent agrees that the Board has the authority to enter into this MOA and to issue
15 the following Decision and Order.

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PROPOSED DECISION AND ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the license issued to Respondent is under probation. This license shall be subject to the following terms and conditions of license probation.

A. Duration of Probation

Respondent's license shall be on probation for one (1) year from the effective date of this Order, retroactive to the date of the agreement with PAMC, attached under seal as Exhibit A, May 26, 2006. If Respondent fully complies with all of the terms and conditions of this license probation, the probationary period will end as conditioned under this Order. If Respondent completes the terms of the agreement with PAMC, attached under seal as Exhibit A, the respondent may petition the Board to be released earlier from the terms of this license probation.

B. Conditions for Privileges

Respondent agrees to comply with all required conditions of Providence Alaska Medical Center (PAMC), attached under seal as Exhibit A, and any other conditions imposed on her hospital privileges by PAMC ~~or other hospitals~~ during the probationary period.

7/5/06
RD
7/5/06 CHM

C. Hospital Privileges

During the probationary period, Respondent shall notify the Chief of Staff and Administrator of any hospital in which Respondent has privileges of the terms of her probation and provide them with a copy of this MOA. Respondent shall also notify

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al.*

Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195

35

1 the Board's representative immediately of obtaining hospital privileges at any hospital
2 during the probationary period. The Board's representative will be permitted to discuss
3 with the Chief of Staff and Administrator of any hospital at which she has privileges
4 about the subject matter of this agreement during the probationary period. The
5 Respondent shall sign a release of information from PAMC for reports relating to her
6 progress and performance in obstetrics during the probationary period.

7 **D. Periodic Interview With the Board**

8 While under license probation and upon the request of the Board or its
9 agent, Respondent shall report in person to the Board or its agent to allow a review of
10 her compliance with this probation. Respondent shall be excused from attending any
11 interview only at the discretion of the person requesting the interview.

12 **E. Compliance with Laws**

13 Respondent will obey all laws pertaining to her license in this state or any
14 other state.

Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195

Memorandum of Agreement
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F. Probation Violation

If Respondent fails to comply with any term or condition of this Agreement, her license will be subject to disciplinary sanctions according to current regulations and statutes adopted by the Alaska State Medical Board. If Respondent's license is modified, she will continue to be responsible for all license requirements pursuant to AS 08.64

G. Authorization

Respondent will sign all authorizations necessary for the release of the information required by the MOA to the Board's agent.

H. Non cooperation by Reporting Persons

If any of the persons required by this Order to report to the Board, fails or refuses to do so, and after adequate notice to Respondent to correct the problem, the Board may terminate probation and invoke other sanctions as it determines appropriate.

All costs are the responsibility of the Respondent.

I. Good Faith

All parties agree to act in good faith in carrying out the stated intentions of this MOA.

J. Address of the Board

All required reports or other communication concerning compliance with this MOA shall be addressed to:

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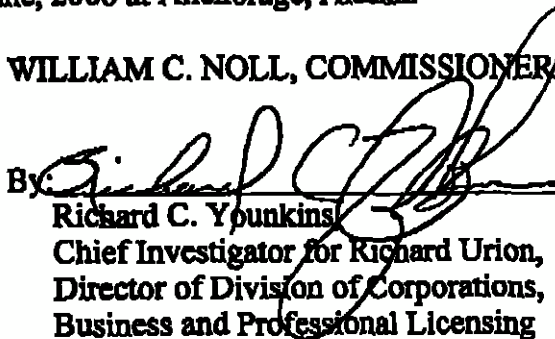
1 Brian Howes, Investigator
 2 Division of Corporations, Business
 3 and Professional Licensing
 4 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
 5 Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
 6 (907) 269-8109 Fax (907) 269-8195

7 It is the responsibility of Respondent to keep the Board's agent advised in
 8 writing at all times of his or her current mailing address, physical address, telephone
 9 number, current employment, and any change in employment. Failure to do so will
 10 constitute grounds for suspension of his or her license in accordance with paragraph 'H'
 11 above.

12 IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall take effect
 13 immediately upon its adoption by the Alaska State Medical Board and is a public record
 14 of the Alaska State Medical Board and the State of Alaska. The state may provide a
 15 copy of it to any person or entity.

16 DATED this 19th day of June, 2006 at Anchorage, Alaska.

17 WILLIAM C. NOLL, COMMISSIONER

18 By: 
 19 Richard C. Younkins
 20 Chief Investigator for Richard Urion,
 21 Director of Division of Corporations,
 22 Business and Professional Licensing
 23
 24

Memorandum of Agreement
 In the Matter of:
 Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
 Case No. 2800-05-026, et al.

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Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
 Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
 Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
 Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195

1 I, Colleen M. Murphy, M.D., have read the MOA, understand it, and agree
2 to be bound by its terms and conditions.

3 DATED: 7/5/06 Colleen M. Murphy MD

4 SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 5th day of
5 July, 2006, at ANCHORAGE, Alaska.



[Signature]
Notary Public in and for Alaska.
SCOTT G. LEFEBVRE
Notary Printed Name
My commission expires: Dec. 19, 2009

Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195

1
2 BEFORE THE STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
3 ON REFERRAL BY THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD

4 In the Matter of:)

PAUL STOCKLER

AUG 04 2006

5 Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.)

6 Respondent.)

OAH No. 05-0553-MED

Case No. 2800-05-026, *et. al.*

7
8 **NOTICE OF BOARD'S ADOPTION OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

9 The Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
10 ("Division"), by and through the Attorney General's Office, hereby informs the
11 Administrative Law Judge that the Alaska State Medical Board ("Board") adopted the
12 Memorandum of Agreement on July 14, 2006. As a result of the Board's adoption, the
13 Administrative Law Judge may dismiss this matter. The Division provides a copy of
14 the Board's action as Exhibit 1.
15

16 Dated this 3rd day of August, 2006 at Anchorage, Alaska.

17 DAVID W. MÁRQUEZ
18 ATTORNEY GENERAL

19 By: 

20 Karen L. Hawkins
21 Assistant Attorney General
22 Alaska Bar #: 9206030
23
24
25
26

BEFORE THE STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
ON REFERRAL BY THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of:)

COLLEEN M. MURPHY, M.D.)

Respondent)

RECEIVED
AUG 23 2006

OAH No. 05-0553-MED

Board No. 2800-05-026

MEMORANDUM and ORDER OF DISMISSAL

The division filed its second amended accusation on March 13, 2006. The parties submitted a Memorandum and Agreement and Proposed Decision and Order to the Alaska State Medical Board, intended to provide for the settlement of all issues raised in the second amended accusation. On July 14, 2006, the Alaska State Medical Board adopted the Memorandum and Agreement and issued a Decision and Order disposing of all issues raised in the second amended accusation. On August 3, 2006, the division notified the Office of Administrative Hearings of the board's action and requested dismissal of this case. The respondent has not objected.

Therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Dismissal. Pursuant to 2 AAC 64.230(c), this case is DISMISSED.

DATED August 21, 2006.

By:

Andrew M. Hemenway
Andrew M. Hemenway
Administrative Law Judge

CAN 8/23/06

The undersigned certifies that
this date an exact copy of the
foregoing was provided to the
following individuals:

Colleen Murphy, M.D. (Paul Stocken, Atty)

Leslie Gallant

Rick Upton, Karen Hawkins, AAG

Jennifer Strickler, DCCED

Signature:

Neil Robert Date: 8/21/06



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Sarah Palin, Governor
Emil Notti, Commissioner
Rick Union, Director

PROBATION STATUS CHANGE

RECEIVED
MAY 29 2007

May 24, 2007

Colleen Murphy MD
4100 Lake Otis Pkwy, Ste 330
Anchorage Alaska 99508

Profession Physician/Surgeon License/Certificate # S 3162
Probation Start: 05/26/2006 Probation End: 05/26/2007
Changes to Probation Probation End
Effective Date 05/26/2007 Date Submitted 05/24/2007

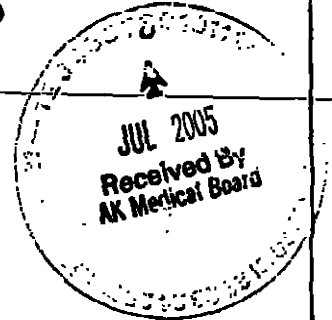
Investigator: **Brian Howes, Senior Investigator** *BSH*
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Distribution:

Richard C. Younkens, Chief Investigator
Jennifer Strickler, Chief, Licensing
Leslie Gallant, Executive Administrator
File: 2800-05-026

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500, Anchorage, AK 99501-3567
Telephone: (907) 269-8160 Fax: (907) 269-8195 Website: www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING
BEFORE THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD



In the Matter of:)
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.)
Respondent)

Case No. 2800-05-026

PETITION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF PHYSICIAN LICENSE

Richard Urion, Director, State of Alaska, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Occupational Licensing (Division), hereby petitions the Alaska State Medical Board (Board) for an order summarily suspending physician license #3162, held by Colleen M. Murphy, M.D. (Murphy). This license was first issued October 23, 1993, and will lapse December 31, 2006 if not renewed by that time.

This petition is made pursuant to AS 08.64.331(c), which provides that the "board may summarily suspend a license before a final hearing ... if the board finds that the licensee poses a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if the licensee continues to practice." A person whose license is suspended under this section is entitled to a hearing by the Board no later than 7 days after the effective date of the order.

The basis for the Division's petition are the findings of the Alaska Regional Hospital Ad Hoc Committee and the affidavits from each Ad Hoc Committee member. The Board received the report of the Ad Hoc Committee pursuant to AS 08.64.336. Under this statute, the Board is authorized to summarily suspend a license.

State of Alaska
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic
Development
Division of Occupational Licensing
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

1 The sitting members of the Alaska Regional Hospital Ad Hoc
2 Committee are Donna L. Chester, M.D. and Wendy S. Cruz, M.D., both
3 specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, George J. Gilson, M.D., specializing in
4 perinatology, Norman J. Wilder, M.D., specializing in sleep disorders, and Clinton
5 B. Lillibridge, M.D., specializing in pediatrics. The Alaska Regional Hospital Ad
6 Hoc Committee was formed when reports from an outside peer review panel
7 generated inconsistent results from ten of Murphy's patients in 2004. The Alaska
8 Regional Hospital Ad Hoc Committee reviewed the hospital records for the same
9 ten patients of Murphy in 2004. As part of its review the Alaska Regional Hospital
10 Ad Hoc Committee interviewed Murphy. After completing its review of medical
11 records and interviewing Murphy and other witnesses, the Alaska Regional
12 Hospital Ad Hoc Committee concluded that Murphy failed to meet the minimum
13 standards for standard of care in providing obstetrical care in five of the ten cases.
14 Such conduct constitutes violations of AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). The Alaska Regional
15 Hospital Ad Hoc Committee letter to Rhene C. Merkouris, M.D., (Merkouris)
16 President, Alaska Regional Hospital Medical Staff, in which the Alaska Regional
17 Hospital Ad Hoc Committee reports its findings, and the curriculum vitae for each
18 Ad Hoc Committee member are attached as exhibits. A letter dated April 6, 2005,
19 from Merkouris to Murphy informing Murphy that her obstetrical privileges at Alaska
20 Regional Hospital had been suspended is also attached as an exhibit.

21
22 Further, each Ad Hoc Committee member has concluded that Murphy
23 is clear and immediate danger to the public because of her failure to meet
24 minimum professional standards for standard of care when providing obstetrical
25 care. Affidavits by each member of the Ad Hoc Committee are provided as further
26 evidence for the Board to consider.

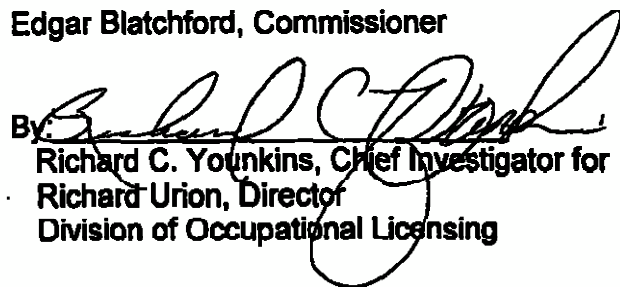
27
28 The Division's petition is also based on the affidavit of State Medical
29 Board Investigator Colin Matthews (Matthews), which provides a history of the
30 investigation. Briefly, on April 12, 2005, Matthews received a letter from Tina Roy,
31 Director, Medical Staff Services, Alaska Regional Hospital, advising that Murphy's
32

1 obstetrical privileges at Alaska Regional Hospital had been suspended. Ms. Roy's
2 letter is attached as an exhibit. Investigator Matthews conducted an investigation
3 into the matter and attempted to resolve the matter by requesting Murphy to
4 voluntarily agree to suspend her obstetrics practice until the Alaska Regional
5 Hospital-Peer-Review-Hearing was completed. Murphy declined to accept the
6 proposal.

7
8 Finally, the Division requests that Murphy not be allowed to return to
9 the practice of medicine until she can prove to the Board that she can do so with
10 skill and safety, and in a manner consisted with public safety.

11
12 Respectfully submitted this 7th day of July, 2005
13 at Anchorage, Alaska.

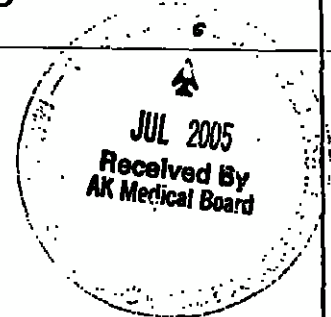
14 Edgar Blatchford, Commissioner

15
16 By: 
17 Richard C. Younkens, Chief Investigator for
18 Richard Urion, Director
19 Division of Occupational Licensing
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CMM#12/cm

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING
BEFORE THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD

In the matter of:)
Colleen M Murphy, M.D.)
Respondent)
Case No. 2800.05.026)



AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF ALASKA)
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)ss.

Colin Matthews, being duly sworn, upon oath, deposes and says:

1. That I am an Investigator with the State of Alaska, Division of Occupational Licensing, and I am assigned to supervise and conduct investigations for the State Medical Board.

2. This affidavit concerns investigative actions I took in relation to this investigation.

3. On April 8, 2005, I received written report, from Tina Roy, Director, Medical Staff Services, Alaska Regional Hospital, 2801 DeBarr Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99508, advising that the Medical Executive Committee (Committee), Alaska Regional Hospital, had summarily suspended Murphy's obstetrical privileges. The report advised the action was taken after the Committee received a report from an Ad Hoc Committee stating: Peer review of obstetrical cases found inappropriate operative technique for vaginal delivery, failure to recognize fetal heart rate tracing abnormalities and delayed response for patient care. These findings suggested our failure to take such action may result in imminent danger to the health and/or safety of her patients or to the orderly operation of our hospital. The report was made under AS 08.64.336.

4. On April 8, 2005, I discussed this complaint with G. Bert Flaming, M.D., Member, Alaska State Medical Board (Board). Dr. Flaming opined that based on the report from Alaska Regional Hospital it may be necessary to ask Murphy to temporarily suspend her authority obstetrics privileges.

State Of Alaska
Department Of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Occupational Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195

1 5. On April 8, 2005, I transmitted a letter to Rosemary Craig, R.N., Quality
2 Assurance Director, Alaska Regional Hospital, 2801 DeBarr Road, Anchorage, Alaska
3 99508 requesting a copy of the information that lead to the suspension of Murphy's hospital
4 privileges. On April 12, 2005, the requested information was received from Craig. The Ad
5 Hoc Committee were identified as George J. Gilson, M.D., Norman J. Wilder, M.D., Donna
L. Chester, M.D., Wendy S. Cruz, M.D., and Clinton B. Lillibridge, M.D.

6 6 On April 12, 2005, I spoke with Murphy's legal counsel and it was determined
7 that Murphy did not wish to voluntarily suspend her license pending resolution of this
8 matter.

9 7. On May 12, 2005, George J. Gilson, M.D., Anchorage, Alaska, signed an
10 Affidavit attesting to his participation in the Ad Hoc Committee, that he signed the March
11 9, 2005 report to the President, Medical Staff, and his concurrence with the findings.

12 8. On May 17, Clinton B. Lillibridge, M.D., Anchorage, Alaska, signed an
13 Affidavit attesting to his participation in the Ad Hoc Committee, that he signed the March
14 9, 2005 report to the President, Medical Staff, and his concurrence with the findings
15 reflected in the report.

16 9. On May 19, 2005, Donna L. Chester, M.D., Anchorage, Alaska, signed an
17 Affidavit attesting to her participation in the Ad Hoc Committee, that she signed the March
18 9, 2005 report to the President, Medical Staff, and her concurrence with the findings
19 reflected in the report.


20 10. On May 19, 2005, Wendy S. Cruz, M.D., Anchorage, Alaska, signed an
21 Affidavit attesting to her participation in the Ad Hoc Committee, that she signed the March
22 9, 2005 report to the President, Medical Staff, and her concurrence with the findings
23 reflected in the report.

24 11. On June 3, 2005, Norman J. Wilder, M.D., Anchorage, Alaska, signed an
25 Affidavit attesting to his participation in the Ad Hoc Committee, that he signed the March
26 9, 2005 report to the President, Medical Staff, and his concurrence with the findings
27 reflected in the report.

28 12. On June 8, 2005, I contacted Gilson, Chester, Cruz, and Wilder and all stated
29 their opinions, as reflected in the March 9, 2005 report, remained the same.

30 13. On June 15, 2005, I contacted Lillibridge and he stated his opinion, as reflected
31 in the March 9, 2005 report, remained the same.

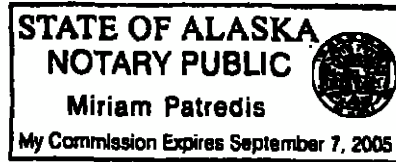
32 Further, your Affiant sayeth naught.


Colin Matthews, Investigator

33
34 Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16 day of June, 2005.

Miriam Patredis
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My commission expires: 09/07/2005

CMM#3/cm



State Of Alaska
Department Of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Occupational Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING
BEFORE THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD

In the matter of:)

Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.)

Respondent)

Case No. 2800-05-026

ORDER

Upon the petition of the State of Alaska, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Occupational Licensing (Division) for Summary Suspension of Physician's license, and upon consideration of the evidence presented by the Division with its petition for summary suspension, the State Medical Board (Board) finds that Colleen M. Murphy, M.D./OB Gyn (Murphy), poses a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if she continues to practice as an obstetrician. The Board hereby grants the Division's petition and orders pursuant to AS 08.64.331(c), the summary suspension of Murphy's license, #3162.

It is ordered that upon adoption of this order by the Board, Murphy's license to practice medicine will be summarily suspended and will remain suspended until such time as Murphy is able to prove to the Board she is able to practice medicine in a manner consistent with public safety.

This order shall become effective immediately upon approval by the Board.

Dated this 7th of July, 2005, at Anchorage, Alaska.

BY: 

David M. Head, M.D.
Chair, State Medical Board

CMM#13/cm

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL
LICENSING
BEFORE THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of:)
)
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.)
)
Respondent)
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et. al.*

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

IT IS HEREBY AGREED by the Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional
Licensing (Division) and Colleen M. Murphy M.D. (Respondent) as follows:

1. Licensure. Respondent is currently licensed as a physician
in the State of Alaska, and holds License number # 3162. This license was first issued
on October 27, 1993 and will expire unless renewed by December 31, 2006.

2. Admission/Jurisdiction. Respondent admits and agrees that
the Alaska State Medical Board (Board) has jurisdiction over the subject matter of her
license in Alaska and over this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

3. Admission/Facts. Respondent neither admits nor denies the
following allegations:

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al.*

Page 1

1 a) On April 12, 2005, the Division received a written
2 report from Alaska Regional Hospital (ARH), advising that the Medical Executive
3 Committee (Committee) had summarily suspended Respondent's obstetrical privileges.

4 b) On July 7, 2005, the Alaska State Medical Board
5 summarily suspended the Respondent's license. On July 14, 2005, an accusation was
6 filed against the Respondent's license. A summary suspension hearing was held from
7 July 15-22, 2005. On July 22, 2005, an amended accusation was filed against the
8 Respondent's license.

9 c) On October 21, 2005, the Board adopted the
10 Administrative Law Judge's Proposed Decision and Order that found that there was not
11 a basis for the summary suspension and recommended that the Respondent's license be
12 reinstated. In the decision, the Administrative Law Judge recommended that the issues
13 addressed at the summary suspension hearing could be heard by the Board in the more
14 deliberative and complete context of an administrative hearing on the merits of an
15 accusation for the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions.

16 d) On March 10, 2006, the Division filed a second
17 amended accusation against the Respondent's license.

18 e) On July 1st, 2005, Providence Alaska Medical Center
19 issued a letter to the Respondent affirming that Respondent was a member in good
20 standing in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. On July 8th, 2005,
21 Providence Alaska Medical Center terminated medical staff membership of the
22

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al.*

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1 Respondent as a result of her summary suspension by the Alaska State Medical Board.
2 On May 26, 2006, Providence Alaska Medical Center approved an option for
3 Respondent to reinstate her obstetrical privileges, which is attached as Exhibit A and is
4 filed under seal.

5 f) The Alaska State Medical Board decided that there were grounds for
6 possible suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary sanctions of his or her license
7 pursuant to AS 08.01.075, AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A) and AS 08.64.331(a).

8 4. Formal Hearing Process. It is the intent of the parties to this
9 MOA to provide for the compromise and settlement of all issues which have been raised
10 by the second amended accusation, which requests the Board to revoke, suspend, or
11 impose disciplinary sanctions against Respondent's license through a formal hearing
12 process.

13 5. Waiver of Rights. Respondent understands she has the right
14 to representation by an attorney of her own choosing and has a right to an administrative
15 hearing on the facts in the second amended accusation. Respondent understands and
16 agrees that by signing this MOA, Respondent is waiving her right to a hearing. Further,
17 Respondent understands and agrees that she is relieving the Division of any burden it
18 has of proving the facts listed above. This MOA is for the purposes of settlement only
19 and is not to be considered an admission of wrongdoing by the Respondent. Respondent
20 further understands and agrees that by signing this MOA she is voluntarily and
21 knowingly giving up her right to present oral and documentary evidence, to present

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al.*

Page 3

1 rebuttal evidence, to cross-examine witnesses against Respondent, and to appeal the
2 Board's decision to Superior Court.

3 6. Effect of Non acceptance of Agreement. Respondent and
4 the Division agree that this MOA is subject to the approval of the Board. They agree
5 that, if the Board rejects this agreement, it will be void, and a hearing on the second
6 amended accusation will be held. If this agreement is rejected by the Board, it will not
7 constitute a waiver of Respondent's right to a hearing on the matters alleged in the
8 second amended accusation and any admissions contained herein will have no effect.
9 Respondent agrees that, if the Board rejects this agreement, the Board may decide the
10 matter after a hearing, and its consideration of this agreement shall not alone be grounds
11 for claiming that the Board is biased against Respondent, that it cannot fairly decide the
12 case, or that it has received *ex parte* communication.

13 7. Memorandum of Agreement, Decision and Order.
14 Respondent agrees that the Board has the authority to enter into this MOA and to issue
15 the following Decision and Order.

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al.*

Page 4

1 **PROPOSED DECISION AND ORDER**

2 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the license issued to Respondent is under
3 probation. This license shall be subject to the following terms and conditions of license
4 probation.

5 **A. Duration of Probation**

6 Respondent's license shall be on probation for one (1) year from
7 the effective date of this Order, retroactive to the date of the agreement with PAMC,
8 attached under seal as Exhibit A, May 26, 2006. If Respondent fully complies with all
9 of the terms and conditions of this license probation, the probationary period will end as
10 conditioned under this Order. If Respondent completes the terms of the agreement with
11 PAMC, attached under seal as Exhibit A, the respondent may petition the Board to be
12 released earlier from the terms of this license probation.

13 **B. Conditions for Privileges**

14 Respondent agrees to comply with all required conditions of Providence
15 Alaska Medical Center (PAMC), attached under seal as Exhibit A, and any other
16 conditions imposed on her hospital privileges by PAMC ~~or other hospitals~~ during the
17 probationary period.

7/15/06
RDs
7/15/06 CUM

18 **C. Hospital Privileges**

19 During the probationary period, Respondent shall notify the Chief of Staff
20 and Administrator of any hospital in which Respondent has privileges of the terms of
21 her probation and provide them with a copy of this MOA. Respondent shall also notify

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al.*

Page 5

1 the Board's representative immediately of obtaining hospital privileges at any hospital
2 during the probationary period. The Board's representative will be permitted to discuss
3 with the Chief of Staff and Administrator of any hospital at which she has privileges
4 about the subject matter of this agreement during the probationary period. The
5 Respondent shall sign a release of information from PAMC for reports relating to her
6 progress and performance in obstetrics during the probationary period.

7 **D. Periodic Interview With the Board**

8 While under license probation and upon the request of the Board or its
9 agent, Respondent shall report in person to the Board or its agent to allow a review of
10 her compliance with this probation. Respondent shall be excused from attending any
11 interview only at the discretion of the person requesting the interview.

12 **E. Compliance with Laws**

13 Respondent will obey all laws pertaining to her license in this state or any
14 other state.

1 **F. Probation Violation**

2 If Respondent fails to comply with any term or condition of this
3 Agreement, her license will be subject to disciplinary sanctions according to current
4 regulations and statutes adopted by the Alaska State Medical Board. If Respondent's
5 license is modified, she will continue to be responsible for all license requirements
6 pursuant to AS 08.64

7 **G. Authorization**

8 Respondent will sign all authorizations necessary for the release of the
9 information required by the MOA to the Board's agent.

10 **H. Non cooperation by Reporting Persons**

11 If any of the persons required by this Order to report to the Board, fails or
12 refuses to do so, and after adequate notice to Respondent to correct the problem, the
13 Board may terminate probation and invoke other sanctions as it determines appropriate.

14 All costs are the responsibility of the Respondent.

15 **I. Good Faith**

16 All parties agree to act in good faith in carrying out the stated intentions of
17 this MOA.

18 **J. Address of the Board**

19 All required reports or other communication concerning compliance with
20 this MOA shall be addressed to:

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al.*

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Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195

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Brian Howes, Investigator
Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
(907) 269-8109 Fax (907) 269-8195

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It is the responsibility of Respondent to keep the Board's agent advised in writing at all times of his or her current mailing address, physical address, telephone number, current employment, and any change in employment. Failure to do so will constitute grounds for suspension of his or her license in accordance with paragraph 'H' above.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Alaska State Medical Board and is a public record of the Alaska State Medical Board and the State of Alaska. The state may provide a copy of it to any person or entity.

DATED this 19th day of June, 2006 at Anchorage, Alaska.

WILLIAM C. NOLL, COMMISSIONER

By: 

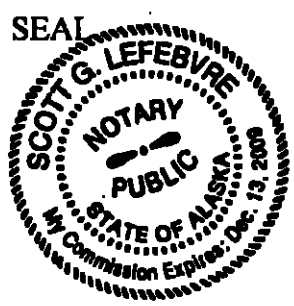
Richard C. Younkins
Chief Investigator for Richard Urion,
Director of Division of Corporations,
Business and Professional Licensing

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al.*

Page 8

Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195

1 I, Colleen M. Murphy, M.D., have read the MOA, understand it, and agree
2 to be bound by its terms and conditions.
3 DATED: 7/5/06 Colleen M. Murphy MD
4 SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 5th day of
5 JULY, 2006, at ANCHORAGE, Alaska.
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[Signature]
Notary Public in and for Alaska.
SCOTT G. LEFEBVRE
Notary Printed Name
My commission expires: Dec. 13, 2009

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, et al.

1 STATE OF ALASKA
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
3 DEVELOPMENT
4 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL
5 LICENSING
6 BEFORE THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD

7
8 In the Matter of:)
9)
10 Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.)
11)
12 Respondent)
13 Case No. 2800-05-026 *et al*

14
15 **ORDER**

16 The Alaska State Medical Board for the State of Alaska, having examined
17 the MOA and Proposed Decision and Order, Case No. 2800-05-026 *et al*, Colleen M.
18 Murphy, M.D. adopted the MOA and Decision and Order in this matter.

19 DATED this 14th day of July, 2006, at Anchorage, Alaska.

20 Alaska State Medical Board

21
22 By: Ed Hall M-L
23 Chairperson
24
25

Memorandum of Agreement
In the Matter of:
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
Case No. 2800-05-026, *et al*.

**Resume of
Colleen M. Murphy, MD**

Home address and contact information	2811 Illiamna Anchorage, Alaska 99517	Home Ph: 907-243-1939 Cell: 2 - DOH Licensee He... E-mail: drcolleen@gci.net
Work Address and Contact information	Colleen M. Murphy, MD, FACOG, Corp 4100 Lake Otis Parkway Suite 330 Anchorage, Alaska 99508	Phone: 907-770-5432 Fax: 907-770-5431
Education	<u>B.S</u> 1977	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Graduated Cum Laude 1979-1980 One year study in Aix-en-Provence France
	<u>M.D</u> 1981	Wayne State University of School of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan Graduated <u>with distinction</u> Elected to Alpha Omega Alpha Society
	<u>Family Practice Internship</u> 1982	St. John Hospital, Detroit, Michigan Completed internship
	<u>Residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology</u> 1984-1987	Good Samaritan Medical Center, Phoenix, Arizona 9/86-10/86 Galloway Fellowship, Sloan-Kettering Hospital, New York City, 2 months training in gynecologic oncology
Professional Experience	Colleen M. Murphy, MD, FACOG, Corp	Private practitioner, solo practice, Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist 8/01-present
	Alaska Women's Health Service	Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist 10/99 to 8/01
	Gallup New Mexico Medical Center	Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist 6/14/99 to 7/14/99 ✓
	Alaska Native Health Area Service Unit	Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist 3/99 to 6/14/99 6/09 Project Refuge in Ft Dix New Jersey (Kosovar relief mission)
	Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	Women's Health Consultant 7/98 to 3/99
	Alaska Native Medical Center	Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist 8/87 to 2/98 Chief of OB-GYN department 7/93 to 4/96 President of Medical Staff 6/97 to 5/98
	National Health Service Corps	Chief of Pediatrics, Truk State Hospital, Micronesia 8/82-6/84
Military Experience	Commissioned Corps, United States Public Health Service	Completed 17 years of service, highest rank of Captain, 8/82-7/99

Board Certification	American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology	Initial Board: December 1989 Re-certified in 2011 Number 873002
Medical Licenses	Alaska Michigan	#3162 (since 10/27/1993) 044939 (lapsed)

Professional Memberships		Alpha Omega Alpha Society American College of Obstetricians & Gynecology American Institute of Ultrasound Medicine American Medical Women's Association American Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology American Society of Gynecologic Laposcopists Association Reproductive Health Professionals North American Menopause Society Physicians for Choice in Reproductive Health National Abortion Federation
Awards	Isolated Hardship Award Unit Commendation Award Achievement Medal Unit Commendation Award Outstanding Service Medal Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service YWCA Woman of Achievement Unit Commendation Award AKCLU Civil Libertarian of the Year Planned Parenthood Spirit Award	1985 1990 1991 1998 1998 1998 1998 1999 2001 2005
References	Sheri Richey, MD George Stransky, MD John DeKeyser, MD Owen Bell, MD	ph: 907-279-3636 ph: 907-244-5959 ph: 907-947-7673 ph: 907-275-4463

Professional Experience

8/2/82-6/30/84

National Health Service Corps
Chief of Pediatrics, Truk State Hospital, Micronesia

7/1/84-6/30/87

Residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology

Good Samaritan Medical Center, Phoenix, Arizona

9/86-10/86 Galloway Fellowship, Sloan-Kettering Hospital, New York City, 2 months training in gynecologic oncology

8/04/87 to 2/28/98

Alaska Native Medical Center
Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist
Chief of OB-GYN department 7/93 to 4/96
President of Medical Staff 6/97 to 5/98

3/6/99 to 6/13/99

Alaska Area Native Health Services
Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist

7/01/98 to 3/5/99

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
Women's Health Consultant

6/14/99 to 7/14/99

Gallup Indian Medical Center
Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist

8/02/82-7/14/99

Military Experience
Commissioned Corps, United States Public Health Service
Completed 17 years of service, highest rank of Captain,

7/15/99 to 9/30/99

Returned to Alaska & Family
Researched local Alaskan employment

10/01/99 to 8/10/01

Alaska Women's Health Service
Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist

8/10/01-present

Colleen M. Murphy, MD, FACOG, Corp
Private practitioner, solo practice,
Clinical Obstetrician-Gynecologist

2.) Are you now or have you ever been the subject of any investigations, sanctions, revocations, or suspensions of your medical registrations (licenses) or prescribing authority?

7/7/05: Alaska Medical License summarily suspended, 10/21/05 License reinstated following appeal of suspension and hearing, Memorandum of agreement signed with State Medical Board 7/14/06, expiration date 5/26/07, Completed 5/26/07. Was required to comply with terms of Obstetrics recredentialing requirements of Providence Alaska Medical Center, effective 5/26/06. Completed on 5/26/07.

In 3/06, I learned that the State of Michigan suspended my license after being notified by the Federation of State Medical Boards of the State of Alaska action in 2005. The State of Michigan had mailed communication to me in Yap Micronesia (I never lived there) requesting information on the State of Alaska activity. I had not updated my address since leaving the State in 1982 as required by Michigan statute. My license has since being changed to "lapsed". I have paid a \$1000 fine for failure to notify and informed the Michigan State Medical Board on 6/1/07 of my completed probation in Alaska State.

3.) Have you ever been denied membership in or privileges at or otherwise investigated, sanctioned, or reprimanded by any medical institution, society, or association?

7/8/05; Automatically suspended from Providence Alaska Medical Center, Alaska Regional Hospital, and Health South Surgery Center following 7/7/05 Alaska State licensure action. 2/22/06: Granted GYN privileges at Providence Alaska Medical Center, OB privileges denied, appealed. Following 3/06 hearing, OB privileges granted on 5/26/06 with requirements of 5 precepted vaginal births after cesarean and 5 precepted operative vaginal deliveries. Denied OB privileges 8/9/06 at Alaska Regional Hospital, GYN privileges approved there in 12/06. Unrestricted OB-GYN privileges restored 5/26/07 at PAMC after 1 year proctor process that included 2 VBAC's and 3 vacuum extractions. OB-GYN privileges suspended by PAMC on 12/8/09. Fair Hearing panel conducted over 6 days in March and April 2009. Decision appealed in April 2009. PAMC Appellate Review Committee met in June 2009. They reversed the Fair Hearing Panel recommendations on 11/25/09 and 12/28/09. The Medical Executive Committee voted against their recommendations and this was again appealed. A final hearing was conducted on 5/17/10. The PAMC decision was finalized by the Providence Health Services Board on 10/6/10, whereby my hospital privileges at PAMC were permanently revoked. I was relicensed on 12/29/10 by the Alaska State Medical Board. I have also since been approved for ongoing recertification on 1/11/11 the American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology.

**BEFORE THE STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS ON
REFERRAL BY THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD**

In the Matter of
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.

)
) OAH No. 05-0553-MED
) Board No. 2800-05-026

NOTICE REGARDING PROPOSED DECISION

Attached is the administrative law judge's proposed decision. Under AS 44.64.060, you have the right to file a "proposed action" requesting that the final decisionmaker (the State Medical Board) do one of the following:

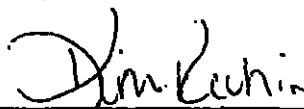
1. adopt the proposed decision as the final agency decision;
2. return the case to the administrative law judge to take additional evidence or make additional findings or for other specific proceedings;
3. revise the proposed enforcement action, determination of best interests, order, award, remedy, sanction, penalty, or other disposition of the case;
4. reject, modify, or amend a factual finding;
5. reject, modify, or amend an interpretation or application of a statute or regulation.

If you wish to file a "proposed action," the deadline is **September 28, 2005**. Submit your "proposed action" document to the Office of Administrative Hearings at the address below and the office will forward it to the final decisionmaker. You must give the reasons for the "proposed action" you request. If you request "proposed action" 4 above, you should identify which evidence in the record (for example, documents or testimony given to the administrative law judge) supports your request to change the factual finding(s).

You do not have to file a "proposed action." If no party in this case requests a "proposed action" other than adoption of the decision (item 1 above), the proposed decision will become final on the earlier of (1) the date the board adopts the decision as final or (2) the day after adjournment of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board occurring at least 45 days after the date of this notice, if the board takes no action on the proposed decision.

DATED this 15th day of September, 2005.

By: _____



Office of Administrative Hearings
P.O. Box 110231
Juneau, AK 99811-0231

CERTIFICATE OF DISTRIBUTION

The undersigned certifies that on September 15, 2005 this notice and the accompanying proposed decision were distributed to the following parties in the manner indicated:

Colleen Murphy by certified mail


~~Paul Stockler by US mail and courtesy email~~

Rick Urion and Jennifer Strickler by certified mail and courtesy email

Leslie Gallant by courtesy email

Karen Hawkins by US mail and courtesy email

Lt. Governor's Office by mail



Kim Rechin, Paralegal

Non-Adoption Options

1. The undersigned, on behalf of the Alaska State Medical Board and in accordance with AS 44.64.060, declines to adopt this decision, and instead orders under AS 44.64.060(e)(2) that the case be returned to the administrative law judge to

☐ take additional evidence about _____;

☐ make additional findings about _____;

☐ conduct the following specific proceedings: _____.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2005.

By: _____

Signature

Name

Title

2. The undersigned, on behalf of the Alaska State Medical Board and in accordance with AS 44.64.060(e)(3), revises the enforcement action, determination of best interest, order, award, remedy, sanction, penalty, or other disposition of the case as follows:

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2005.

By: _____

Signature

Name

Title

3. The undersigned, on behalf of the Alaska State Medical Board and in accordance with AS 44.64.060(e)(4), rejects, modifies or amends one or more factual findings in the decision as follows, based on the specific evidence in the record described below:

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2005.

By: _____
Signature.

Name

Title

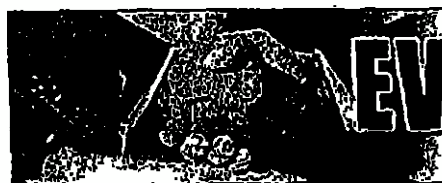
4. The undersigned, on behalf of the Alaska State Medical Board and in accordance with AS 44.64.060(e)(5), rejects, modifies or amends the interpretation or application in the decision of a statute or regulation that directly governs the agency's actions as follows and for these reasons:

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2005.

By: _____
Signature

Name

Title



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Medical board reinstates Anchorage doctor's license

The Associated Press

Published: October 22, 2005

Last Modified: October 22, 2005 at 01:48 PM

ANCHORAGE (AP) - The Alaska State Medical Board has returned the license of an Anchorage doctor, with the chairman stating that members had acted unjustly.

The board on July 7 suspended the license of Colleen Murphy, an obstetrician and gynecologist.

The board met Friday behind closed doors for about 20 minutes, then voted unanimously to restore Murphy's license.

"This appears that there may have been an injustice done," said Dr. David Head of Nome, the board chairman said.

However, the actions taken during the past months show that the system works, Head said. The board had no choice but to suspend Murphy's license, he said.

"The nature of the accusations were of such severity that when we were charged to protect the public, we had to take that action."

The board action in July followed an Alaska Regional Hospital committee review of Murphy's obstetric cases. The committee said Murphy failed

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to meet the minimum standard of care in five of 10 cases reviewed.

It said she had used inappropriate technique during vaginal delivery and had delayed response when caring for patients.

The hospital restricted her obstetric privileges in the spring. At that time, she retained privileges at Providence Alaska Medical Center.

After her license was suspended, Murphy called for a hearing before administrative law judge Andrew Hemenway. The judge recommended overturning the medical board's decision, saying the state failed to show Murphy was negligent or lacked professional judgment when delivering babies.

"After all that information is reviewed ... a different decision was found by the hearing officer and also by the board," Head said.

"I'm severely sorry for the inconvenience this has put you in. You've been out of practice for four months."

Murphy said the case showed some doctors and medical officials are unwilling to accept different kinds of obstetric care.

She acknowledged using vaginal delivery techniques that other doctors do not. She also discussed her low rate of Caesarean deliveries.

During the appeal, other doctors had questioned Murphy's choice to continue with vaginal deliveries instead of moving to C-sections in certain cases.

Murphy said she believed the board took the right action, but its apology was "inadequate."

Murphy said the board's actions caused "horrendous damages" to her family, her practice and the patients she had helped through infertility but could not be with when they finally delivered.

She said she planned to start seeing patients again early this week, but it would take weeks to months to renew revoked privileges at hospitals, reconnect with insurance companies and renew a license that allows her to prescribe controlled medications.

"My practice has been decimated," she said.

Murphy said the board established a "scary

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precedent" by jumping in during an incomplete hospital review of a doctor and suspending that doctor.

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**DEPARTMENT OF
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Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor
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July 17, 2006

Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
4100 Lake Otis Parkway
Anchorage, AK 99508

Dear Dr. Murphy:

RE: Case No. 2800-05-026

This letter shall serve as formal notice to you that the State Medical Board, during its July 14, 2006 meeting, adopted the Memorandum of Agreement presented to the Board by members of the staff from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing. A copy of this signed agreement between you and the Board, as adopted, is enclosed.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address and telephone number listed below.

Sincerely,


Richard C. Yountkins
Chief Investigator

Enclosure

cc: All Members, State Medical Board
Jennifer Strickler, Chief, w/original
Office of Administrative Hearings
Brian Howes, Investigator
Jasmin Bautista, Investigator I
Karen Hawkins, Assistant Attorney General
Linda Sherwood, Licensing Examiner I
Leslie Gallant, Executive Administrator
File: 2800-05-026

RCY:mjm

PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONS

1.) Are you now or have you ever been the subject of any investigations, sanctions, revocations, or suspensions of your medical registrations (licenses) or prescribing authority?

7/7/05: Alaska Medical License summarily suspended, 10/21/05 License reinstated following appeal of suspension and hearing, Memorandum of agreement signed with State Medical Board 7/14/06, expiration date 5/26/07, Completed 5/26/07. Was required to comply with terms of Obstetrics recertification requirements of Providence Alaska Medical Center, effective 5/26/06. Completed on 5/26/07.

In 3/06, I learned that the State of Michigan suspended my license after being notified by the Federation of State Medical Boards of the State of Alaska action in 2005. The State of Michigan had mailed communication to me in Yap Micronesia (I never lived there) requesting information on the State of Alaska activity. I had not updated my address since leaving the State in 1982 as required by Michigan statute. My license has since being changed to "lapsed". I have paid a \$1000 fine for failure to notify and informed the Michigan State Medical Board on 6/1/07 of my completed probation in Alaska State.

2.) Have you ever been denied membership in or privileges at or otherwise investigated, sanctioned, or reprimanded by any medical institution, society, or association?

7/8/05; Automatically suspended from Providence Alaska Medical Center, Alaska Regional Hospital, and Health South Surgery Center following 7/7/05 Alaska State licensure action. 2/22/06: Granted GYN privileges at Providence Alaska Medical Center, OB privileges denied, appealed. Following 3/06 hearing, OB privileges granted on 5/26/06 with requirements of 5 precepted vaginal births after cesarean and 5 precepted operative vaginal deliveries. Denied OB privileges 8/9/06 at Alaska Regional Hospital, GYN privileges approved there in 12/06. Unrestricted OB-GYN privileges restored 5/26/07 at PAMC after 1 year proctor process that included 2 VBAC's and 3 vacuum extractions. OB-GYN privileges suspended by PAMC on 12/8/09. Fair Hearing panel conducted over 6 days in March and April 2009. Decision appealed in April 2009. PAMC Appellate Review Committee met in June 2009. They reversed the Fair Hearing Panel recommendations on 11/25/09 and 12/28/09. The Medical Executive Committee voted against their recommendations and this was again appealed. A final hearing was conducted on 5/17/10. The PAMC decision was finalized by the Providence Health Services Board on 10/6/10, whereby my hospital privileges at PAMC were permanently revoked. I was relicensed on 12/29/10 by the Alaska State Medical Board. I have also since been approved for ongoing recertification on 1/11/11 the American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology. Based on The PAMC decision, Alaska Regional Hospital renewed my GYN privileges for 1 year on 10/14/10, with the requirement that all GYN cases be proctored.

April 27, 2009

Norman Gant, MD
The Vineyard Centre
2915 Vine Street
Dallas, TX 75204

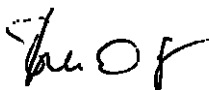
Dear Dr. Gant,

This letter is in support of Dr. Colleen Murphy, who is an applicant for Maintenance of Certification for 2009. Her approval has been pended on the basis of what I believe to be an extremely unfair and biased suspension of her privileges at Providence Alaska Medical Center, where I am the Medical Director of Perinatal Services and the Medical Director for Maternal Transport for LifeMed Air Ambulance Service. I have known Dr. Murphy for 15 years and am in a unique position as the only perinatologist in Alaska to comment on her practice of medicine and the standard of care in the community.

Dr. Murphy's troubles began when a few power hungry physicians began to persecute her on the basis of a few incident reports that were of no particular clinical consequence. Because she has made some enemies in the Sisters of Providence System due to her staunch support for women's reproductive rights, she was unfairly subjective to a 100% chart review. 15 charts were pulled and were reviewed in detail by myself and by an outside expert reviewer. Both of us concluded that there were no breaches of the standard of care in any of those cases. A panel of the hospital's choosing took testimony in Dr. Murphy's appeal, and they voted to uphold the suspension of her privileges by a 2 to 1 vote. The dissenting opinion was from Dr. Jack Jacob, a neonatologist who was the first neonatologist in Alaska and the only maternity center panel member in any position of familiarity with Dr. Murphy's care. He provided a long document arguing why Dr. Murphy's privileges should be reinstated, and the other two physicians on the panel did not give any arguments as to why they felt her suspension of privileges should be upheld.

I have worked with Dr. Murphy over many years, and this is a politically driven and unjust action on the part of the hospital, which in my opinion should be litigated. At any rate, I wished to express my support of Dr. Murphy's continued ability to practice medicine, and wanted to express to you my support of her. Please feel free to contact me with any further questions. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sherrie D. Richey MD-FACOG-MFM
President, Alaska Perinatology Associates
Medical Director of Perinatal Services
Providence Alaska Medical Center

NELSON B. ISADA

SHERRIE D. RICHEY

Identifier	# deliveries 2004-2007	% csecs 2007	2003-3a	2003-5	2003-6	2003-7	2004-3a	2004-5	2004-6	2004-7	2005-3a	2005-5	2005-6	2005-7	2006-3a	2006-5	2006-6	2006-7	2007-3a	2007-5	2007-6	2007-7	2008-3a	2008-5	2008-6	2008-7	3a Total	5, 6, 7 Total	6, 7 Total	TOTAL (3a, 5, 6, 7)	Rate of Level 5, 6, 7a	Rate of Level 6, 7a	Rate of Level 3a, 5, 6, 7	
A	241	61%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
B	468	41%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
C	62	67%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
D	153	40%	0					1																			0	1	0	1	0.65%	0.00%	0.65%	
E	151	42%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
F*	56	61%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
G	330	37%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
H	303	38%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
I	496	47%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
J	356	47%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
K	651	32%	0	1											1												0	2	0	2	0.31%	0.00%	0.31%	
L	189	49%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
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BB	91	36%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
CC	288	44%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
DD	188	32%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
FF	136	47%	0																								0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
	7894																										TOTAL	7	24	8	31	0.30%	0.10%	0.39%

Total Providers = 30 * = only with 2007 delivery numbers

Avg csect	45% Calculated with perinates
Median	44%
Avg csect	43% Calculated without perinates
Median	42%

% '8755 42%
% '8755w/o 3a 25%

M : Colleen Murphy

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

LAWYERS

508 WEST 2ND AVENUE, THIRD FLOOR

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

TELEPHONE (907) 278-8533

FACSIMILE (907) 278-8536

March 2, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing regarding the loss of privileges experienced by Colleen Murphy, M.D. at the Providence Alaska Medical Center (PAMC) in Anchorage, Alaska. This office represented Dr. Murphy during the hearing and appeal process at PAMC. In my opinion, the process was biased, did not follow the standards set forth in PAMC's own rules and procedures, and the resulting loss of privileges was unjustified and without substantial basis in evidentiary fact.

PAMC was motivated by the fact that Dr. Murphy had delivered by cesarean section (C-Section) on average 18-19 percent of the time, while PAMC had an overall C-Section rate of 42 percent. The resulting loss of privileges was arbitrary and capricious. Indeed, numerous expert physicians, including Anchorage, Alaska's then-only resident perinatologist reviewed all of the individual cases at issue and found Dr. Murphy had not breached the standard of care in any of them.

PAMC is a Catholic institution and Dr. Murphy has been active in the community in areas of reproductive health, openly challenging the prevailing Catholic view on such issues. At the same time, however, she did not go against the PAMC code of ethics and did not challenge the hospital's religious affiliations. She did nothing that would have caused the hospital to revoke her privileges. She has not attempted to gain privileges at other Alaska hospitals because her privileges at PAMC have been permanently revoked, making such a goal virtually impossible to achieve.

The hospital's revocation of her privileges resulted in a report to the U.S. National Practitioner Data Bank. Dr. Murphy has contested that report, and it now is the subject of an active legal review by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Separate litigation will be considered following the secretarial review. Had it not been for an arbitrary and biased proceeding, in my opinion she would have her privileges at PAMC today.

Very truly yours,

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP

By: David H. Shoup

**OBJECTIONS TO THE PAMC
DISCIPLINARY REPORT SUBMISSION
REGARDING COLLEEN MURPHY, M.D.**

Providence Alaska Medical Center (PAMC) has submitted a disciplinary report dated October 6, 2010 to the Alaska State Division of Occupational Licensing Board (Alaska State Medical Board) and to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) regarding disciplinary taken against Colleen Murphy, M.D. Dr. Murphy objects to the submission on several grounds. First, the cases relied upon by PAMC do not support the conclusion that discipline was warranted. Second, the discipline was the result of arbitrary and capricious action. Third, there was substantial evidence of long-standing bias against Dr. Murphy. Fourth, PAMC applied a local standard of care, not a national standard, which was substantively and procedurally improper.

I. Background.

A six-day hearing was held between March 17, 2009 and April 3, 2009 before a three-physician Hearing Committee appointed by PAMC. The issue before the committee was whether to revoke Dr. Murphy's hospital privileges. While two members of the Hearing Committee voted against Dr. Murphy, Dr. Jack Jacob, a neonatologist and the third Hearing Committee member, went into detail in his dissenting opinion regarding why Dr. Murphy's privileges should not be revoked. Dr. Jacob concluded the MEC's recommendation was "arbitrary," that there were concerns about the "even-handedness" of the complaints against Dr. Murphy, that "Dr. Murphy's evidence established there was no breach of a national standard of care . . .," that there had been "no pattern of poor clinical judgment on Dr. Murphy's part . . .," and that the PAMC

Medical Executive Committee (MEC) recommendation was not supported by substantial evidence.¹

These conclusions were similar to those reached by Dr. Sherrie Richey, the only perinatologist who undertook an independent examination of all of the medical records in all of the 21 cases before the Hearing Committee. Dr. Richey stated there had been no breach of the standard of care and that Dr. Murphy had been treated arbitrarily.

Dr. Richey's conclusions were based on her experience as Anchorage's then-only resident perinatologist.²

... I am in a unique position to see the practice patterns of the people that practice obstetrics in this state. And so I know what people do, and I know the type of records they keep because they send their records to me, and I review them when I'm seeing their patients. And I know the type of practice patterns that people have, and I've been here for 15 years now, so I know the way that obstetrics is practiced.³

Dr. Richey was not paid to conduct her review.⁴ She did the work on her own because of what she perceived as the arbitrary nature of the MEC's pursuit of Dr. Murphy.⁵

I mean, I would challenge almost any obstetrician to have, you know, case after case, multiple years reviewed and not be able to find something that somebody would have – that you could find a group of people that would take issue with that particular practice. And so I felt strongly that, you know, I have worked with Dr. Murphy, and Dr. Murphy and I are not close friends. We're not – we don't

¹Dissenting Opinion at 1-2.

²Hearing Committee transcript (Tr.) 1250.

³Tr. 1253.

⁴Tr. 1252.

⁵Tr. 1253-54.

socialize together. I don't have any vested interest in this regard.

But I do feel that if the hospital can, in my mind, somewhat arbitrarily remove and investigate people to the degree that Dr. Murphy has been investigated and has been dealt with from the standpoint of hospital privileges, I felt that, like I said, there but for the grace of God would go any of us. ~~And I felt like that if I didn't speak up about this, that it would be -- I just didn't feel like it was ethically what I should do. I felt like ethically I should say something in regard to what I felt was in a lot of ways unfair treatment.~~⁶

The central criticism of Dr. Murphy was her preference for vaginal birth over C-section. In case after case, nurses and other physicians testified she should have initiated a C-section sooner. This criticism was against a backdrop of PAMC's 42 percent C-section rate versus a 16 percent rate for Dr. Murphy.⁷ Those numbers put PAMC at least 12 percentage points above the national average, which, as Dr. Julian Parer, the author of the Handbook of Fetal Heart Rate Monitoring, testified is itself too high, and is based in part on faulty fetal heart rate (FHR) monitoring interpretations.

There's a national average. It's approaching 30 percent now. This is a year or two behind, but I think it must be 30 or 31 percent now.

Q. -What is your view of that and including your own C-section rate?

A. I think it's too high.

* * *

A. . . . I think poor interpretation of fetal heart rate tracings is also partly responsible.⁸

One of the MEC's assertions was that it may look to a local standard of care,

⁶Tr. 1254 (emphasis supplied).

⁷Hearing Committee Exhibit (Ex.) 32, 13th page (PAMC 42% median rate);

⁸Tr. 340-41 (emphasis supplied).

which was part of an attempt to justify PAMC's 42 percent C-section rate. However, as the American Medical Association has recognized, reliance on a local standard of care inhibits scientific progress and patient well-being.⁹ Moreover, there was unchallenged testimony that the Joint Commission would "find this to be an outlying type of rate and would . . . say, wow, those rates are a lot different than a lot of the other hospitals we're looking at . . ."¹⁰

Of the 21 cases presented by the MEC, in 15 even the MEC agreed there was no breach of the standard of care. Of the remaining six, only one had an adverse outcome (MR 369562). And in these six, there was expert opinion from at least one, and usually more than one, qualified physician that Dr. Murphy's medical conduct had been perfectly appropriate and within the standard of care. PAMC now has chosen nine of the original 21 cases. In each of those nine, there was no breach of the national standard of care.

II. The fetal heart rate cases.

A. MR 195315.

The patient delivered by cesarean section (C-section) in February 2008. Providence alleged a "Level 6" violation, meaning a breach of the standard of care with no adverse patient impact.¹¹ The MEC alleged that Dr. Murphy should have initiated the C-section sooner than she did. Providence's charge was based upon the FHR

⁹See, Journal of the American Med. Assn., Vol. 297, No. 33 (June 20, 2007).

¹⁰Tr. 404 (testimony of Dr. Sinkhorn, a Joint Commission reviewer).

¹¹Ex. 37 at 1; Ex. 29 at 17.

monitoring.¹²

Dr. Julian Parer, a perinatologist on the teaching staff at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and the author of The Handbook of Fetal Heart Rate Monitoring, a widely-accepted and authoritative treatise [Tr. 314-15], testified that Dr. Murphy's interpretation of the FHR strip was **appropriate** and that her decision to **intervene timely**.¹³

Two other perinatologists, both hired by PAMC for external review, Dr. Ian Grable and Dr. David Ruedrich, also found that Dr. Murphy's decision to initiate the C-section appropriate and timely.¹⁴ In his review, Dr. Grable wrote: "The decision to proceed with the cesarean section was made **at the appropriate time in labor based upon the FHR tracing at that time**."¹⁵

Dr. Ruedrich, also a PAMC external reviewer, agreed, stating: "[a]t that time, the recognition of a non-reassuring pattern was **appropriately made by Dr. Murphy** and she proceeded to initiate a stat cesarean section that was **indicated and timely**."¹⁶ Thus, three perinatologists, one who literally wrote the book on fetal heart rate monitoring, and two others hired by PAMC, all found Dr. Murphy had acted in a timely and appropriate manner.

¹²Ex. 82 at 2.

¹³Transcript (Tr.) 335-40.

¹⁴Tr. 338-39.

¹⁵Ex. 37 at 95 (emphasis supplied).

¹⁶Ex. 37 at 87.

Dr. Sherrie Richey, also a perinatologist, agreed.¹⁷ So did Dr. Paul Sinkhorn, a widely known OB/GYN who teaches at the U.C.L.A. Geffen School of Medicine, and a reviewer for 12 years for the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Dr. Sinkhorn found no breach of the standard of care.¹⁸ In fact, the PAMC OB/GYN department reviewer characterized the case as a "judgment call with MD + the patient."¹⁹

As Dr. Parer testified:

It sounds a bit strange, doesn't it. It sounds as though there's an agenda somewhere that not related to the tracing or the management.²⁰

Initially, PAMC had hired two reviewers who believed Dr. Murphy's decision to initiate the C-section had been untimely. But even these reviewers could not agree on the appropriate time to call the C-section. Dr. Kerri Parks, an OB/GYN, testified this should have occurred between 1:30 and 3:30 a.m., while Dr. Thomas Strong believed this should have been done at 4:30 a.m.²¹

Dr. Thomas Benedetti, an MEC-hired expert, came up with a different time (6:30 a.m.), and acknowledged that the Strong and Parks opinions meant that both were accusing Dr. Benedetti of breaching the standard of care.²²

¹⁷Tr. 1265-70.

¹⁸Tr. 433-26.

¹⁹Ex. 37 at 73.

²⁰Tr. 340.

²¹Ex. 37 at 76, 78.

²²Tr. 715-16.

Following the Strong and Parks reviews, Dr. Parer wrote:

A major criticism I have of the management of the case is that after FSE became detached, that the extended device gave uninterpretable data, and an FSE should have been placed. This was the responsibility of the nurse in attendance, who was reading the tracings and looking after the patient.

I understand that this case is being based to support withdrawal of Dr. Murphy's privileges. If you want to persist in this endeavor I would suggest an expert or experts who are familiar with current standard of care with regard to FHR monitoring. The experts you have used are certainly not familiar with current interpretation.²³

Dr. Murphy performed the C-section at 7:17, which Dr. Grable, Dr. Ruedrich, Dr. Parer, Dr. Sinkhorn and Dr. Richey all found appropriate.

B. MR 420068.

In this case, dating from 2005, the MEC alleged inappropriate FHR monitoring and improper use of a vacuum extractor. PAMC assigned a Level 6 (breach of the standard of care but no patient injury).²⁴ The baby had Apgar scores of 3 over 7 (3 at one minute, 7 at five minutes, the latter in the normal range).

The Providence OB/GYN department found no breach of the standard of care, assigning the case a Level 5 ("[s]tandard of care met. Not necessarily routine, but not totally unexpected, may be disease-related.").²⁵ PAMC later elevated the case to a Level 6 because of an external review that concluded a C-section should have gone forward instead of vacuum extraction.²⁶ While the external reviewer, OB/GYN Debora

²³Id.

²⁴Ex. 37 at 1; Ex. 29 at 17.

²⁵Ex. 37 at 1; Ex. 29 at 17; see also Ex. 37 at 10 (Level 5 assigned.)

²⁶Ex. 32 at 17.

Siscoe of Edmonds, Washington, believed the vacuum extractor had not caused the baby any difficulties at birth, she would not rule it out.²⁷ However, the PAMC OB/GYN department disagreed, finding: "[s]tandard of care met."²⁸

~~Dr. Parer agreed with the department. He found no breach of the standard of~~
care.²⁹ Dr. Parer flatly concluded there was no injury from the use of the vacuum extractor and that the case was handled appropriately.³⁰

Dr. Richey found no breach of the standard of care.³¹ Dr. Sinkhorn of U.C.L.A. found no breach of the standard of care.³² As Dr. Sinkhorn testified:

If Dr. Murphy delayed a cesarean, then I'm guilty of the same thing, because I did the same thing three weeks ago. . . . I made the same decision three weeks ago.³³

The infant was admitted to the NICU due to a pneumothorax.³⁴ Although the mother had chorioamnionitis and acute funicitis, FHR variability was maintained throughout.³⁵ The patient had been abusing illicit drugs.³⁶ Chorioamnionitis, as Dr.

²⁷Ex. 32 at 16-17.

²⁸Ex. 32 at 12.

²⁹Tr. 319-21.

³⁰Id.

³¹Tr. 1275.

³²Tr. 434-49.

³³Tr. 437-38.

³⁴See patient's chart at 39.

³⁵Tr. 436.

³⁶Tr. 439-40.

Parer testified, is not an indication for C-section, and no witness disagreed³⁷ Moreover, there was no dispute that the pneumothorax was unrelated to hypoxia.³⁸

Undeterred by these facts, the MEC relied on the NICU admission to argue Dr. Murphy's management of the case had been faulty: "[u]nexpected transfer of term neonate to NICU."³⁹ Dr. Parer, Dr. Richey and Dr. Sinkhorn all disagreed.

C. MR 127554.

In this case, dated October 2-3, 2008, Providence alleged Dr. Murphy should have performed a C-section earlier than she did based upon the FHR monitoring strip. The baby was born with Apgar scores of 2, 6 and 7. Providence assigned this case a Level 5 ("[s]tandard of care met. Not necessarily routine, but not totally unexpected, may be disease related.").⁴⁰ The Apgars were low because the infant had an infection, and not because of anything that was done or not done by Dr. Murphy.⁴¹ This was verified by a normal cord pH of 7.207.⁴²

Drs. Sinkhorn, Parer and Richey all found the case had been appropriately managed. Dr. Sinkhorn testified:

Dr. Parer just taught all of us that that's what we don't want to see. You can tolerate decelerations, you can even tolerate loss of variability, but you can't

³⁷Tr. 325.

³⁸Tr. 324.

³⁹Ex. 82 at 1.

⁴⁰Ex. 29 at 17.

⁴¹Parer testimony, Tr. 334 (low Apgars due to infection).

⁴²Ex. 37 at 133.

tolerate them together, because now this baby is being compromised. So appropriate choice, get the kid out, cesarean section.

* * *

I actually agree with Providence in this case. It is a – not that it's a Level 5, but the standard was met in this case, which is what Providence said too.⁴³

The charge against Dr. Murphy was that the FHR monitoring warranted earlier intervention.⁴⁴ The baby was transferred to the NICU and had to be intubated because of pre-existing chorioamnionitis.⁴⁵ According to Dr. Sinkhorn, "[t]his fetus was being affected by this infectious condition."⁴⁶ The infant's discharge summary noted that the "respiratory insufficiency [was] most likely related to infection . . .,"⁴⁷ and not to Dr. Murphy's conduct.⁴⁸

III. The remaining cases.

A. MR 369562.

_____ This case, perhaps more than any other, had been thoroughly examined because it resulted in a lawsuit against Dr. Murphy by an experienced medical malpractice attorney. The lawsuit alleged, among other things, that Dr. Murphy encouraged a vaginal delivery when the patient came to PAMC two weeks before full

⁴³Tr. 443-44 (emphasis supplied).

⁴⁴Ex. 82 at 2.

⁴⁵Tr. 444.

⁴⁶Id.

⁴⁷Ex. B7 (baby's chart) at 250.

⁴⁸Id.

term in March 2005. This is essentially the same charge leveled by PAMC,⁴⁹ which assigned the case a Level 5 ("[s]tandard of care met. Not necessarily routine, but not totally unexpected, may be disease related.").⁵⁰

The lawsuit resulted in the plaintiff agreeing to a voluntary dismissal of all claims against Dr. Murphy with Dr. Murphy paying nothing, after the plaintiff was unable to present expert testimony of any breach of the standard of care.⁵¹ The written stipulation for dismissal of the lawsuit stated: "No funds are being paid by any party to any other party in any amount in consideration for this stipulated dismissal with prejudice."⁵²

Before the Hearing Committee, Dr. Murphy testified she had not encouraged a vaginal delivery and that full warnings were given.

Q. Did you later understand that this baby's problem wasn't right arm paralysis but was in fact stretched nerves?

A. Yes.

Q. So you gave her the warning that actually occurred?

A. Yes, sir.⁵³

The MEC's expert, Dr. Benedetti, testified he was unaware the patient had chosen not to have a C-section, or that the patient in her lawsuit contradicted herself four times when asked what she was told by Dr. Murphy about wanting to deliver

⁴⁹Ex. 82 at 1.

⁵⁰Ex. 37 at 1; Ex. 29 at 17.

⁵¹Ex. G2.

⁵²Id.

⁵³Tr. 1830-31.

vaginally as opposed to by C-section.⁵⁴ Nonetheless, the MEC chose to rely on a written affidavit by the plaintiff in the lawsuit, saying she had not been given adequate warnings of the risk of a vaginal birth; the affidavit had been drafted by the plaintiff's lawyer after the plaintiff herself had testified in a sworn deposition that she couldn't recall what she had been told by Dr. Murphy.⁵⁵

In assigning the case a Level 5, the MEC appeared to agree with Drs. Jordan Horowitz, Michael Katz and Paul Sinkhorn, all of whom teach medicine at the University of California (Drs. Horowitz and Katz at U.C. San Francisco medical school), who issued detailed reports that concluded there had been no breach of the standard of care.

Initially, the MEC's charge had to do with an allegation that Dr. Murphy persuaded the patient to have a vaginal birth rather than a C-section. When that claim did not pan out at the hearing, the MEC began to argue that the patient had an "unproven pelvis." The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) does not list "unproven pelvis" as a criterion for breech vaginal delivery. Moreover, the MEC adduced no credible evidence that anyone believed the patient was not a good candidate for vaginal birth.

B. MR 065968.

This case, dated October 2006, was assigned a "Level 3a," meaning "behavior-

⁵⁴Tr. 735; Ex. 4D (chart) at 56 (possibility of C-section discussed); Tr. 727-28.

⁵⁵Ex. 71; Tr. 945-46.

related issue."⁵⁶ The Providence OB/GYN departmental reviewer noted: "[p]roctor was not present @ delivery. He prob. should have been in house."⁵⁷ At the time, PAMC had placed Dr. Murphy on a proctoring requirement.

~~The day before the delivery, the proctor, Dr. Mark Richey, was called at Dr.~~

Murphy's request and updated on the status of the patient.⁵⁸ At 2:34 the next morning, Dr. Murphy was summoned by a nurse from the call room who noted early and late decelerations on the FHR monitoring strip.⁵⁹ Dr. Mark Richey was notified **13 minutes later** and arrived just after the baby was delivered with vacuum assist.⁶⁰ He remained, discussed the delivery and completed the proctoring form.⁶¹ He noted it had been a "precipitous vaginal delivery with no apparent complication."⁶²

With regard to the proctoring requirement, the department chair had written: "[o]f course, individual mitigating circumstances may arise and will be considered when they do"⁶³ *The mitigating circumstance in this case was the emergency vaginal delivery following early notification of the proctor the day before.*⁶⁴

⁵⁶Ex. 37 at 1; Ex. 29 at 17.

⁵⁷Ex. 37 at 33.

⁵⁸Ex. 4D at 71.

⁵⁹Id.

⁶⁰Ex. 4D at 32.

⁶¹Ex. J1.

⁶²Id.

⁶³Ex. I1.

⁶⁴Ex. J1; Ex. 4D at 71.

The proctoring in this case fully complied with Providence's own proctoring policy. That policy, entitled MS 900-050, states:

Proctoring may be accomplished by one or any combination of the following methods and will be determined with each event of required proctoring:

* * *

- Retrospective chart review within one month of discharge.
- Availability on campus for immediate consultation and concurrent chart review within 24 hours of admission or the procedure in question . . .

There was no dispute that the proctor remained following the procedure, discussed the case and filled out the proctoring form. Moreover, apparently satisfied with all of the proctoring that had occurred, Providence voluntarily lifted the proctoring requirement on May 21, 2007, seven months later.⁶⁵ PAMC could have chosen to keep the proctoring requirement in place, or to extend it. It did not do so.

C. MR 734452.

This case, also involving proctoring, was an emergency delivery dated September 2006. The charge against Dr. Murphy was that a proctor was required and was not present in the delivery room.⁶⁶ The case was assigned a Level 3a (behavior-related issue).⁶⁷

As noted above, the OB/GYN department recognized there may be "mitigating

⁶⁵Ex. 12.

⁶⁶Ex. 82 at 1.

⁶⁷Ex. 37 at 1.

circumstances" that would be factored into the proctoring requirement.⁶⁸ This case also was was "an urgent delivery . . ."⁶⁹ According to OB/GYN department chair Catherine Gohring, the proctor was not summoned because Dr. Murphy "felt he [the proctor] couldn't get to the hospital in time prior to the delivery . . ."⁷⁰ Therefore, another

OB/GYN, Dr. Brennan, was summoned and, again according to Dr. Gohring, "[h]e concluded that an urgent delivery was indicated and satisfactorily performed."⁷¹

Dr. Brennan filled out the proctoring form.⁷² No breach of the standard of care was alleged. And as in MR O65968, the proctoring conformed with MS 900-050, PAMC's proctoring guidelines; eight months later the proctoring requirement was lifted.⁷³

D. MR 255432.

This case, dated November 2006, was assigned a Level 3a for allegedly encouraging the patient not to have an epidural, but instead to remain on I.V. pain medication.⁷⁴

At 8:34 p.m., the patient was counseled by Nurse Jahnava Erickson regarding an

⁶⁸Ex. 12.

⁶⁹Id.

⁷⁰Id.

⁷¹Id. (emphasis supplied).

⁷²Ex. 37 at 29.

⁷³Ex. 12.

⁷⁴Ex. 82 at 2.

epidural versus an imminent delivery.⁷⁵ Sometime thereafter, the patient refused to push and demanded an epidural.⁷⁶ However, at 9:40 the patient requested IV fentanyl instead.⁷⁷

At 10:34, the patient again was counseled about an epidural versus an imminent delivery, and stated she wanted the epidural.⁷⁸ Five minutes later, at 10:39, an anesthesia consult was ordered and eleven minutes later, the baby delivered.⁸⁷ [Hearing Exhibit 4C at 60.] No one alleged a breach of the standard of care.

E. MR 263197.

This case was assigned a Level 3a (behavior-related issue) with the allegation that Dr. Murphy did not respond to an emergency room call in the time prescribed (30 minutes) on August 10, 2006. As a result, the MEC suspended Dr. Murphy's privileges for three years, effective August 30, 2006.⁸⁸

Dr. Murphy asked for a hearing.⁸⁹ The hearing was scheduled for September 18, 2006.⁹⁰ Following an investigation but prior to the hearing, PAMC sent a letter to Dr. Murphy that stated Providence was reinstating her privileges effective the day of the

⁷⁵Ex. 4C at 59.

⁷⁶Ex. 4C at 16.

⁷⁷Ex. 4C at 58.

⁷⁸Ex. 4C at 59.

⁸⁷Ex. 4C at 60.

⁸⁸Ex. L1.

⁸⁹Ex. L2.

⁹⁰Ex. L4.

suspension, August 30:

Pursuant to your attorney's directive, we are sending this letter by e-mail to him for distribution to you. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the Medical Executive Committee's ("MEC") decision to rescind its three year suspension that you were informed of on August 30, 2006.⁹¹

The letter restoring Dr. Murphy's privileges "to the status quo of August 30, 2006 . . ."⁹² also stated that a stipulation should be drafted between counsel for Providence and Dr. Murphy so that there would be "no further misunderstandings."⁹³

The case had to do with the refusal of a hospitalist, Dr. Elise Brown, to admit a patient of Dr. Murphy's from the emergency room.⁹⁴ Dr. Cliff Merchant, on the Providence emergency department staff, spoke to Dr. Murphy, then requested that Dr. Brown, who had been assigned the admission, to follow through and admit the patient.⁹⁵ The patient had acute renal failure.⁹⁶ Dr. Brown declined to examine the patient.⁹⁷

The request from Dr. Merchant to Dr. Brown was between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m.⁹⁸

⁹¹Ex. L6 (emphasis added).

⁹²Id.

⁹³Id. (emphasis supplied).

⁹⁴Ex. L9.

⁹⁵Id.

⁹⁶Id.

⁹⁷Id.

⁹⁸Id.

A call to Dr. Murphy was at 7:40 p.m. from Dr. Janet Smalley.⁹⁹ Dr. Murphy arrived at the emergency department at 8:10, 30 minutes later.¹⁰⁰

No one at Providence looked into Dr. Brown's conduct.¹⁰¹ According to Dr.

Sinkhorn:

I don't know what the hospital did with Dr. Brown, and maybe they did the correct thing. But if they did nothing, I certainly fault the hospital for that, and I do fault Dr. Brown for not accepting the patient.¹⁰²

Previously, the department had placed Dr. Murphy on a different response time than any other department member, and had recommended additional training.¹⁰³ In response, an earlier hearing panel found in relevant part:

The same standards (for example, 10 minutes response to page, 30 minutes to presence in hospital) must be applied to all members of her department. If this is found not be possible, then these requirements must change.¹⁰⁴

The panel also observed:

In the case of Dr. Murphy, the recommendation to pursue outside training appears to have no rehabilitative purpose. It appears to be a means to humiliate and punish her.¹⁰⁵

F. MR 449138.

This case, dated February 28 and March 2, 2008, was assigned a Level 5

⁹⁹Ex. L12 at 1.

¹⁰⁰Ex. L12 at 2.

¹⁰¹Tr. 1232.

¹⁰²Ex. 837.

¹⁰³Ex. 42 at 1-2.

¹⁰⁴Ex. 42 at 2.

¹⁰⁵Ex. 42 at 3 (emphasis supplied).

("[s]tandard of care met. Not necessarily routine, but not totally unexpected, may be disease related."), and Level 3a (behavior related issue).¹⁰⁶ The patient was admitted to the hospital after an elective termination of pregnancy in Dr. Murphy's office. The case was sent out for external review.

One reviewer, Dr. Strong, was critical if, but only if, Dr. Murphy lacked the necessary equipment in her office, which Dr. Strong listed in his report.¹⁰⁷ Dr. Murphy had all such equipment, and in fact her office is National Abortion Federation (NAF) certified, meaning she must have such equipment.¹⁰⁸

The other reviewer, Dr. Parks, criticized Dr. Murphy for not performing the procedure in a clinic such as Planned Parenthood or in a hospital.¹⁰⁹ Again, however, Planned Parenthood's clinic has the same type of equipment available in Dr. Murphy's NAF-certified office.¹¹⁰

The patient went to the hospital and Dr. Murphy was summoned while on call. The patient complained Dr. Murphy appeared in the hospital with alcohol on her breath.¹¹¹ Dr. Murphy testified she had consumed two glasses of wine the night

¹⁰⁶Ex. 37 at 1; Ex. 29 at 17.

¹⁰⁷Ex. 37 at 100.

¹⁰⁸Ex. H1.

¹⁰⁹Ex. 37 at 102.

¹¹⁰Ex. H1.

¹¹¹Ex. 37 at 105.

before¹¹² and since the incident has not consumed alcohol at all while on call.¹¹³

When the issue first was raised, Dr. Murphy immediately called the department chair, as was required by the PAMC rules. The department chair assumed the care of the patient, and did not request that she be tested for blood alcohol and did not take any action against her. Dr. Murphy remained in the emergency department for an additional four hours and left after speaking with the department chair about further management of care.

IV. Evidence of bias.

The MEC prepared a statistical analysis of the 30 physicians in the OB/GYN department and concluded there had been not a single behavioral issue for a span of six years in the entire department except by Dr. Murphy, who had 100 percent of all 3a violations (behavioral) from 2003 through 2008. [Hearing Ex. 32, 3rd page (100% of 3a violations 2003 - 2008).] Dr. Sinkhorn testified this was not credible:

And I don't know, I've never seen a hospital like that either where 20 or 30 are always on their best behavior for a decade and only one doctor has all seven [3a] reports.¹¹⁴

As noted above, Dr. Sherrie Richey testified similarly (" . . . from the standpoint of hospital privileges, I felt that, like I said, there but for the grace of God would go any of us. . . I felt like ethically I should say something in regard to what I left was in a lot of

¹¹²Tr. 1911-12.

¹¹³Tr. 1787-88.

¹¹⁴Tr. 406.

ways unfair treatment [of Dr. Murphy]".¹¹⁵

An earlier Hearing Committee had found PAMC's decision-making with regard to Dr. Murphy was designed to "humiliate and punish her" and that the department had imposed response time requirements on her that were imposed on no one else.¹¹⁶

Dr. Murphy requested the underlying data showing how the statistical analysis prepared by PAMC. Through its attorney, the MEC refused to provide it but then went on to rely upon conclusions drawn from this same data.

As noted above, the MEC employed a local standard of care, rather than a national standard, arguing that a regional hospital such as PAMC was entitled to interpret FHR data differently than the national standard would require. The MEC argued that the national standard of care is applicable only in court proceedings, and not in privileging; that is, that PAMC is allowed to employ whatever standard of care it feels is appropriate at the time.

As Dr. Jacob noted in his dissenting opinion:

Finally, I find that Providence's peer review process was, to some extent, arbitrary in the sense that Dr. Murphy appears to have been subjected to intense scrutiny while such scrutiny and review were not extended to other members of the OBGYN department. For example, I find it difficult to believe that Dr. Murphy would be the only physician in the department to receive behavioral complaints (3a) among physician members in the OBGYN department between 2004 - 2008. (Exhibits 21 and 32; testimony of Deb Hansen, Tr. at 1461.) This raises concerns about the even-handedness of such complaints.¹¹⁷

¹¹⁵Tr. 1254-55.

¹¹⁶Ex. 42 at 2-3.

¹¹⁷Hearing Committee Decision at 7 (emphasis added).

The inherent bias in the treatment of Dr. Murphy also came to the fore through the testimony of Dr. Sinkhorn:

I believe in this case Providence violated its own policy probably in two ways. One is that whatever level 6s and 7s have been assigned to Dr. Murphy, I don't believe she was allowed to be present for the review in at least all of those cases, perhaps some of them, but not all of those cases [even though this is a PAMC policy requirement]. And the other way I think Providence has done that is they have taken a couple cases of their own that had lower numbers and ended up more recently raising the number, and that would qualify as not involving Dr. Murphy in her allowed review.

And then the other really kind of – frankly kind of weird thing is this Regional thing, that Providence took ten Alaska regional cases from 2003 and 2004 – I mean, these are basically old cases that have already been adjudicated. They took those cases, met one morning, I believe in September, from 7 o'clock to 8 o'clock. They took two cases that were fresh to every body on the PQC, and in one hour they went through those ten cases and they graded Alaska Regional's cases using Providence's seven-point system, assigned them all numbers, and I don't believe Dr. Murphy was allowed to be at that meeting either.¹¹⁸

No witness was presented by the MEC who attempted to justify this conduct.

VI. Conclusion.

_____ A careful examination of the cases upon which PAMC has reached its conclusion about Dr. Murphy results in a lack of substantial evidence supporting that conclusion.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska this 19th day of October, 2010.

TINDALL BENNETT & SHOUP
Counsel for Dr. Murphy

By: David H. Shoup

¹¹⁸Tr. 413.

APPLICATION

Have you ever been or are you now the subject of any malpractice claims, incidences, or allegations. Attach details of each:

1.) PATIENT A:

http://www.courtrecords.alaska.gov/pa/pa.urd/pamw2000.o_case_sum?71111123

Date of Occurrence:	11/16/2002
Date Claim Filed:	09/09/2005
Claim Date Settlement:	05/24/2006
Claim Status:	CLOSED
Insurance Carrier:	Norcal Mutual Insurance Company 50 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105 1-800-652-1051
Policy Number:	617999
Settlement Amount:	4 - National Practitione...
Resolution Method:	Settled

Description of Allegations:

Failure to recognize uterine rupture, decision to perform an operative vaginal delivery, use of 2 operative procedures, professional incompetence, gross negligence, "total disregard for the health and safety of Charlotte and her baby"

Description of alleged injury to patient:

32 y/o G3P2, prior LTCsxn X 2 in 4/90, & 4/93, desired TOL, presented in active labor @ term, AROM @ 2 cm, IV analgesia, low dose Pitocin to 3 MU/min, w/ IUPC, epidural @ 4 cm, went to call room @ 202 AM. I was a woken by RN @ 443 AM. RN stated pt @ 7 cm w/ mild variables. Reviewed strip in call room, advised amnioinfusion. RN returned 12 min later, @ 454 AM stated that variables resolved, no amnioinfusion done. Urgently woken by RN @ 536 AM for nonreassuring FHRT. Terminal bradycardia present, gross hematuria evident w/ suprapubic mass. Complete & +1 station. Vacuum X 3, then midforceps X 1 pull. Delivered baby w/i 9 minutes of arrival. 7#4oz male, Apgars 3/7/9, cord ph 6.95, no infant sequelae. Bladder & uterine rupture immediately palpated. To OR w/ urologist: supracervical hysterectomy & bladder laceration repaired, 5 U PRBCs, 2 U FFP. Mother & baby discharged PPD #5 doing well. Foley removed POD #7 after cystoscopy.

Notified Risk Management @ ARH about case on 11/17/03. Nursing EMR notes did not correlate w/ operative report as to time of reporting clinical events to physician. I was never interviewed by Dept Chair for Sentinel Event. JCAHO reported as giving citation to ARH for failure to include operating surgeon in Sentinel Event review. ARH subsequently did 100% case review of my OB cases (>90 cases). They suspended my OB privileges in on 4/6/05 over 5 cases, which ultimately resulted in my summary suspension by the State Medical Board on 7/7/05. 10/21/05 License reinstated with a public apology following appeal of suspension and hearing.

1.) PATIENT A (cont'd):

Were you the primary defendant?	YES
Number of co-defendants	ONE, Alaska Regional Hospital Settled for \$90,000.00
Your involvement in the case	Treating physician
Description of the alleged injury to patient	Supracervical hysterectomy, repair of bladder rupture, transfusions
Did the alleged injury result in death?	NO
To the best of your knowledge, is this case included in the national Practitioner data Bank?	YES

2.) PATIENT B:

http://www.courtrecords.alaska.gov/pa/pa.urd/pamw2000.o_case_sum?69550850

Date of Occurrence:	09/03/2004
Date Claim Filed:	10/05/2006
Claim Date Settlement:	-
Claim Status:	CLOSED
Insurance Carrier:	Norcal Mutual Insurance Company 50 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105 1-800-652-1051
Policy Number:	617999
Settlement Amount:	\$0
Resolution Method:	DISMISSED

Description of Allegations:

negligence, failure to diagnose and treat serious medical condition leading to death

Description of alleged injury to patient:

35 y/o G2P2 who underwent a routine repeat cesarean section on 8/26/04. She collapsed at the local State Fair, 8 days post-op. She was diagnosed in asystole by the EMT and was later pronounced dead at Valley Hospital ER. The coroner stated that it was from natural causes without having performed the autopsy and signed the death certificate as due to a pulmonary embolus. Autopsy by an organ donation agency performed within 24 hours of death proved that the cause of her death was from a left coronary artery dissection.

Were you the primary defendant?	YES
Your involvement in the case	Treating physician
Number of co-defendants	NONE
Description of the alleged injury to patient	Failure to diagnose a pulmonary embolism resulting in death
Did the alleged injury result in death?	YES
To the best of your knowledge, is this case included in the national Practitioner data Bank?	NO

3.) PATIENT C:

http://www.courtrecords.alaska.gov/pa/pa.urd/pamw2000.o_case_sum?93877869

Date of Occurrence:	02/13/2004
Date Claim Filed:	02/06/2006
Claim Date Settlement:	-
Claim Status:	CLOSED
Insurance Carrier:	Norcal Mutual Insurance Company 50 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105 1-800-652-1051
Policy Number:	617999
Settlement Amount:	\$0
Resolution Method:	DISMISSED

Description of Allegations:

lack of knowledge or skill, failure to exercise the degree of care ordinarily exercised by health providers in her specialty

Description of alleged injury to patient:

43 y/o G2P2 female with chronic right sided pelvic pain underwent a laparoscopic adhesiolysis and right salpingoophorectomy on 2/13/04. Complaint describes that "During this operation, plaintiff received a slash in her ureter, which required extensive treatment". 3 weeks after surgery, she presented with right hydronephrosis. Right ureteral obstruction was diagnosed and serially treated successfully over the next year.

Were you the primary defendant?	YES
Your involvement in the case	Treating physician
Number of co-defendants	NONE
Description of the alleged injury to patient	"A slash in her ureter, which required extensive treatment"
Did the alleged injury result in death?	NO
To the best of your knowledge, is this case included in the national Practitioner data Bank?	NO

4.) PATIENT D:

http://www.courtrecords.alaska.gov/pa/pa_urd/pamw2000.o_case_sum?96845267

Date of Occurrence:	3/29/2005
Date Claim Filed:	12/07/2006
Claim Date Settlement:	-
Claim Status:	CLOSED
Insurance Carrier:	Norcal Mutual Insurance Company 50 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105 1-800-652-1051
Policy Number:	617999
Settlement Amount:	\$0
Resolution Method:	DISMISSED

Description of alleged injury to patient:

vaginal breech delivery resulting in injury of child

Description of alleged injury to patient:

3 y/o G2P1 presented @ 37 6/7 wks GA on 3/29/05 w/ ROM and active labor. Diagnosed as frank breech in labor @ 4 + cm, EFW ~ 3000g, head flexed. Pt desired a trial of labor after informed consent. Rapid progress to completely dilated occurred before epidural placed. Brought back to OR, regional anesthesia placed there. Spontaneously delivered to chest, bilateral nuchal arms encountered, released with Lovset maneuvers, 5#15 oz female, Apgars 3/7/8, cord pH 7.18 delivered. Right shoulder weakness after birth, referred to physical therapy with reports of improvement until communication terminated by patient in 7/05. Per statement of orthopedic surgeon on 9/11/08: "Very pleased". He also reported "no loss of external rotation and it has certainly improved a great deal" as of his exam on 4/17/08.

Were you the primary defendant?	YES
Your involvement in the case	Treating physician
Number of co-defendants	NONE
Description of the alleged injury to patient	Persistent right arm weakness of infant
Did the alleged injury result in death?	NO
To the best of your knowledge, is this case included in the national Practitioner data Bank?	NO

Alaska Trial Court Cases



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Summary

Case Disposition Summary

3AN-05-11075CI Torrence, Charlotte M et al vs. Murphy MD, Colleen M et al

Status	Closed	Disposition	Stipulated or Unopposed Dismissal
Status Date	09/02/2005	Disposition Date	06/05/2006
Judge	Stowers, Craig F	Judge Report	
Magistrate		Termination	Stipulated or Unopposed Dismissal

Patient A

Colleen M. Murphy, MD, OB-GYN

4100 Lake Otis Pkwy., Suite 330

Anchorage, AK 99508

(907) 770-5432 Fax: (907) 770-5433

Colleen M. Murphy MD, FACOG

7/6/11

Alaska Trial Court Cases



New Search...

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Case Disposition Summary

3AN-05-12299CI La Porte, Todd et al vs. Murphy MD, Colleen et al

Status	Closed	Disposition	Stipulated or Unopposed Dismissal
Status Date	10/11/2005	Disposition Date	03/17/2008
Judge	Stowers, Craig F	Judge Report	
Magistrate		Termination	Stipulated or Unopposed Dismissal

Patient B

Colleen M. Murphy, MD, OB-GYN

4100 Lake Otis Pkwy., Suite 330

Anchorage, AK 99508

(907) 770-5432 Fax: (907) 770-5433

Colleen Murphy MD FACOG 7/6/11

Alaska Trial Court Cases



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Case Disposition Summary

3AN-06-05093CI Douglas, Lilleanne et al vs. Murphy MD, Colleen

Status	Closed	Disposition	Stipulated or Unopposed Dismissal
Status Date	02/09/2006	Disposition Date	04/27/2007
Judge	Rindner, Mark	Judge Report	
Magistrate		Termination	Stipulated or Unopposed Dismissal

Patient C

Colleen M. Murphy, MD, OB-GYN

4100 Lake Otis Pkwy., Suite 330

Anchorage, AK 99508

(907) 770-5432 Fax: (907) 770-5432

Colleen Murphy, MD, FACOG, Corp
7/6/11

Alaska Trial Court Cases



New Search...

Summary

Parties

Events

Dockets

Disposition

Costs

Summary

Case Disposition Summary

3AN-06-13378CI Pingree, Nichole L et al vs. Murphy MD, Colleen M

Status	Closed	Disposition	Stipulated or Unopposed Dismissal
Status Date	12/07/2006	Disposition Date	09/25/2008
Judge	Michalski, Peter A	Judge Report	
Magistrate		Termination	Stipulated or Unopposed Dismissal

Patient D

Colleen M. Murphy, MD, OB-GYN

4100 Lake Otis Pkwy., Suite 330

Anchorage, AK 99508

(907) 770-5432 Fax: (907) 770-1111

Colleen Murphy, MD, FACOG
7/6/11



Wayne State University

School of Medicine

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48201

Academic Record of MURPHY, Colleen Mary Social Security Number 3 - DOH Licensee Social Security Nu... Date Admitted 9/6/77

Permanent Address
1207 North Oak Rochester, Michigan 48063

Place of Birth Detroit, Michigan Date of Birth 8/10/55 Parent or Guardian John W. Murphy

College(s) Attended University of Michigan Dates of Attendance 9/73 - 4/77 Degree(s) Earned B.S., 4/30/77
University d'Aix-en Provence Marseille 9/75 - 6/76

Year I
Academic Year 9/6/77 - 6/16/78
Gastrointestinal System
Excitable and Contractile Tissues,
Peripheral Nervous Control, Heart
Circulation and Hemostasis
Physiology of Kidney and Respiration
Endocrinology, Reproduction and
Sexuality
Neurosciences
Introduction to Family and Community
Health Care
COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION S

Year II
Academic Year 9/5/78 - 6/4/79
Hematology
Digestive System
Cardiovascular
Urinary Tract
Respiratory
Endocrinology
Neurology
Physical Diagnosis
Psychiatry
Family and Community Health Care
COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION S

Year III Clerkships
Academic Year 7/9/79 - 6/14/80
Medicine H
Surgery S
Gynecology/Obstetrics S
Pediatrics S
Family Medicine S
Neurosciences S
Psychiatry S
COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION S

Year IV Electives
Academic Year 7/1/80 - 5/31/81
Hematology/Oncology S
Cardiology S
Otolaryngology H
Obstetrics/Gynecology, Oakwood Hospital
Dearborn, Michigan S
General Medicine/Oncology S
Ophthalmology S
General Pediatrics S
Radiology, William Beaumont Hospital
Royal Oak, Michigan H

GRADING SYSTEM: H = Honors S = Satisfactory U = Unsatisfactory I = Incomplete
REMARKS: DOCTOR OF MEDICINE DEGREE GRANTED: June 7, 1981 With Distinction

[Signature]

JUN 30 2011

Official transcript bear the School Seal and the signature of the Recorder or Registrar 0457283



NATIONAL BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS® (NBME®)

Endorsement of Certification

This document was prepared by
National Board of Medical Examiners® (NBME®)

3750 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3190 - Telephone (215) 590-9700

Recipient: Washington Med Quality Assurance Comm
Department of Health
243 Israel Road, SE
MS 47866
Tumwater, WA 98501

Date: 06/22/2011

JUN 28 2011
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

Examinee: Colleen Mary Murphy

Examinee ID: 3-252-512-3

Date of Birth: 10/08/1955

NBME Certification Date: 07/01/1982

Certificate#: 252512

It is certified that the physician named above successfully completed the examination, education and training requirements for certification by the NBME as of the certification date shown above. This record shows only passing scores for each NBME Part examination reported on this document. If applicable, results for all USMLE Steps taken by this examinee (and for which scores have been reported to date) are also shown.

NBME PART I

Test Date	Pass/Fail	Score Scale	Total	(Min. Pass)	Individual Subject Scores						
			Score		Anat	Phys	Bioc	Path	Micr	Phar	Beh Sci
06/12/1979	Pass	Three-Digit	620	(380)	575	550	610	645	580	625	615
		Two-Digit	87	(75)	85	84	87	90	86	88	88

NBME PART II

Test Date	Pass/Fail	Score Scale	Total	(Min. Pass)	Individual Subject Scores					
			Score		Med	Surg	ObGyn	Prev	Peds	Psych
09/23/1980	Pass	Three-Digit	620	(290)	710	610	580	540	540	565
		Two-Digit	87	(75)	92	88	86	84	84	85

NBME PART III

Test Date	Pass/Fail	Score Scale	Total	(Min. Pass)
			Score	
03/10/1982	Pass	Three-Digit	630	(290)
		Two-Digit	86.9	(75)



MD

AUG 22 2011
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

To: Post-Graduate Training Program Director

Facility Name St. John Hospital Medical Education Department
Address 19251 Mack Ave Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

RE: Verification/evaluation of training

I am applying for a license to practice as a physician in the state of Washington and before my application can be reviewed, a verification and evaluation of post-graduate training performed in your institution is required. I am authorizing the release of and would appreciate you providing the information and returning it, at your earliest convenience, directly to the address shown below. All questions must be answered.

Applicant (Print or type) Colleen M. Murphy MD
Signature of applicant Colleen M. Murphy MDBirth date 8/10/65

1. Colleen M. Murphy MD
Applicant Name (Print or type)
was engaged in postgraduate training in our program Family Medicine Residency
start 7/1/1981 (mm/yyyy) end 6/30/1982 (mm/yyyy)
in the field of _____

2. At the time this individual was in training, was this program accredited through the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, or the College of Family Physicians of Canada? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If not, does this training program qualify this individual for board certification? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Was the participant ever placed on probation, suspended, terminated or requested to voluntarily resign his/her participation in the program? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please explain _____

4. Did this applicant successfully complete this training program? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Return to:
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
P O Box 47866, Olympia, WA 98504-7866

Signature St. E. Murphy
Title Director, Medical Education
Hospital St. John Hospital & Medical Ctr
Address 19251 Mack Ave #340
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI
Date 8-4-11
Telephone 313 343 3823



To: Post-Graduate Training Program Director

Facility Name Good Samaritan Medical Center
Address 1441 North 12th Street, Phoenix, AZ

RE: Verification/evaluation of training

45006-2887

I am applying for a license to practice as a physician in the state of Washington and before my application can be reviewed, a verification and evaluation of post-graduate training performed in your institution is required. I am authorizing the release of and would appreciate you providing the information and returning it, at your earliest convenience, directly to the address shown below. All questions must be answered.

Colleen M. Murphy MD
Applicant (Print or type)

8/10/1995
Birth date

Signature of applicant

1. Colleen M. Murphy MD

Applicant Name (Print or type)

was engaged in postgraduate training in our program Banner Good Samaritan Medical Ctr.

start 6/23/84 end 6/30/87
(mm/yyyy) (mm/yyyy)

in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology

2. At the time this individual was in training, was this program accredited through the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, or the College of Family Physicians of Canada? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If not, does this training program qualify this individual for board certification? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Was the participant ever placed on probation, suspended, terminated or requested to voluntarily resign his/her participation in the program? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please explain _____

4. Did this applicant successfully complete this training program? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Return to:

Medical Quality Assurance Commission
P O Box 47866, Olympia, WA 98504-7866

Signature John H. Mally

Title Chair and Program Director

Hospital Banner Good Samaritan Medical Ctr

Address 1111 East McDowell Road
Phoenix, AZ 85006

Date 07/20/2011

Telephone 602-839-4344



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sean Parnell, Governor
Emil Notti, Commissioner
Lynne Smith, Director

Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Alaska State Medical Board

VERIFICATION OF LICENSE

This is to certify that the records of the Alaska State Medical Board indicate the following with regard to the physician named below:

Name: **COLLEEN MARY ELIZABETH MURPHY**
License Type: **MD**
Description of License: **IS A LICENSED PHYSICIAN**
License Number: **S-3162**
Current Status: **ACTIVE**
Date First Issued: **10/27/1993**
Expiration Date: **12/31/2012**
School Name: **WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**
Year of Graduation: **1981**
Date of Birth: **08/10/1955**
Gender: **F**
Board Actions: **There is a license action on file, please contact the division**
There is an accusation on file, please contact the division

This license information was last updated on: 07/06/2011

Debora Stovern
Executive Administrator
Alaska State Medical Board

Date: July 06, 2011

550 West Seventh Avenue - Suite 1500, Anchorage AK 99501-3567

Telephone: (907) 269-8163 Fax: (907) 269-8196

Website: www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pmed.htm



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Sean Parnell, Governor
Susan K. Bell, Commissioner
Don Habeger, Director

JUL 15 7n11

CERTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

I, **Michelle Johnston**, Licensing Examiner, Division Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, State of Alaska, certify that I am the keeper of the records of the **STATE MEDICAL BOARD** and that these records indicate that the following individual is/was licensed as shown:

Name: **COLLEEN MARY ELIZABETH MURPHY**

License Type: **PHYSICIAN**

License Number: **3162**

Date Originally Issued: **10/27/1993**

Expiration Date: **12/31/2012**


Date of Birth: **08/10/1955**

Comments: There is additional information available regarding this licensee. A copy of the action attached.

Please refer to attached licensing actions.

Dated this **Thirteenth** day of **July**, 2011

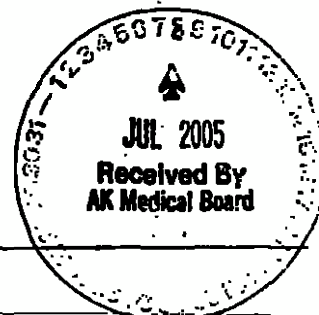
SEAL


Michelle Johnston
Licensing Examiner



DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor



**CERTIFIED # 7002 3150 0001 1621 0005
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

July 8, 2005

Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
4100 Lake Otis Parkway
Suite Number 330
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Dear Dr. Murphy

RE: Case No. 2800-05-026

Be advised that the State Medical Board, during its July 7, 2005 meeting, ordered your Physician License No. 3162, summarily suspended under AS 08.01.075(c). A copy of the Order, as adopted is enclosed.

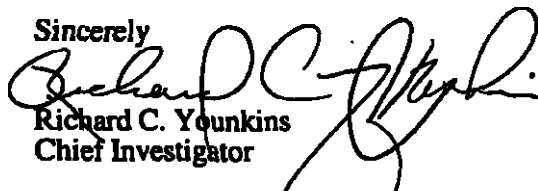
Pursuant to the above statute(s), you are entitled to a hearing to appeal the summary suspension within seven days after the Order of Suspension is issued.

If you desire a hearing on this matter, please direct a written request to me.

This Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until after final disposition of the summary suspension proceeding.

Should you have any further questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above listed address, or phone number.

Sincerely


Richard C. Younkins
Chief Investigator

Enclosure: Petition for Summary Suspension
Board Order

cc: All Members, State Medical Board
Rick Urion, Director
Barbara Gabier, Chief, Occupational Licensing w/original
Hearing Officer Unit
Leslie Gallant, Executive Administrator
Colin Matthews, Investigator
Deborah L. Finley, Investigator
Karen Hawkins, Assistant Attorney General
Paul D. Stockler, Attorney
File: 2800-05-026

RCY:ab

550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1500, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone: (907) 269-8160 Fax: (907) 269-8156 Text Telephone: (907) 465-5437
Email: license@commerce.state.ak.us Website: <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/>

Exhibit A to Memorandum of Agreement

is available upon request to:

State of Alaska
Department of Law
1031 West 4th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Attn: Karen L. Hawkins
Assistant Attorney General



Yellow

JUL 2005
Received By:
AK Medical Board

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor

**CERTIFIED # 7002 3150 0001 1620 9924
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

July 18, 2005

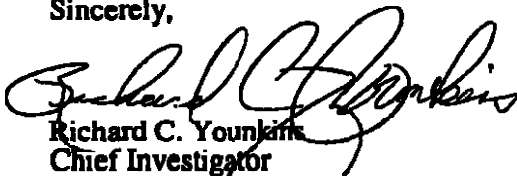
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
4100 Lake Otis Parkway
Suite Number 330
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Dear Dr. Murphy:

You are hereby notified that the enclosed Accusation has been filed with the Division of Occupational Licensing. Should you request a hearing to decide the issues presented in this Accusation within 15 days after it is mailed or delivered to you, a hearing on the merits will be scheduled.

However, unless a written request for a hearing, signed by you or on your behalf, is delivered or mailed to the Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development, Occupational Licensing Investigations, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1500, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, within 15 days after the enclosed Accusation was mailed or delivered to you, the Division of Occupational Licensing may proceed without a hearing under AS 44.62.530. A request for a hearing may be directed to me by delivering or mailing the enclosed form entitled "Notice of Defense" or by delivering or mailing another Notice of Defense as provided in AS 44.62.390 to the address noted. Should you decide to fax the Notice of Defense, please do so at (907) 269-8195 and immediately follow with the hard copy by mail or delivery.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Younkis
Chief Investigator

Enclosures: Accusation
Notice of Defense
AS 44.62.390
Postage Paid Envelope

cc: Rick Urion, Director
Barbara Gabier, Chief, Occupational Licensing w/original
Karen Hawkins, Assistant Attorney General
Leslie Gallant, Executive Administrator
Paul D. Stockler, Attorney
Colin Matthews, Investigator
Deborah L. Finley, Investigator
File: 2800-05-026

RCY:ab

550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1500, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone: (907) 269-8160 Fax: (907) 269-8156 Text Telephone: (907) 465-5437
Email: license@commerce.state.ak.us Website: <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/ncc/>

BEFORE THE STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
ON REFERRAL BY THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of:)

Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.,)

Respondent.)

OAH No. 05-0553-MED

Board No. 2800-05-026,

2800.05.045, 2800.05.048, 2800.05.050, 2800.05.051, 2800.05.054.

JUL 2005
Received L
AK Medical Board

ACCUSATION

This Accusation initiates a proceeding pursuant to AS 08.01.075 and AS 08.64.326 to suspend, revoke, or impose other disciplinary sanctions against the physician license issued by the State of Alaska to Colleen M. Murphy, M.D. ("Murphy").

In support of this Accusation, petitioner, Richard Urion, Director, State of Alaska, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Occupational Licensing ("Division") alleges in his official capacity as follows:

ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

1. On October 27, 1993, Murphy was issued physician #3162. On July 7, 2005, the State Medical Board summarily suspended Murphy's license. The license will expire unless renewed on December 31, 2006.

2. On April 6, 2005, Alaska Regional Hospital ("ARH") suspended Murphy's obstetrical privileges based upon an ARH Ad Hoc Committee

finding that Murphy posed "an imminent danger to the health and/or safety of hospital patients."

3. ARH patient 37-44-87 was admitted at ARH on November 15, 2003.

Patient 37-44-87 had two previous C-Section deliveries. The first C-Section was for failure to progress with labor and the second was a repeat without complications.

4. At 3:45 a.m., patient 37-44-87 complained of pain despite having received an epidural at 1 a.m. Fetal heart rate tracings indicated changes in the unborn child's heart rate. Nurse's notes reflect the draining of bloody urine from patient 37-44-87. The nurse's notes also reflect that Murphy was notified of the patient's complaint of pain and of the bloody urine.

5. At 5:41 a.m., the nurse's notes indicate Murphy attempted three pulls with a vacuum without success. At 5:47 a.m., Murphy delivered patient 37-44-87's baby using a medium to high forceps procedure. At 5:50 a.m., the nurse's notes indicate that Murphy did not believe that the uterus had ruptured, but that the bladder had ruptured. The operation room team was called.

6. Patient 37-44-87 was moved to the operating room at 6:10 a.m. Both the uterus and the bladder had ruptured. The bladder was repaired and the patient 37-44-87 underwent a hysterectomy procedure.

7. After delivery patient 37-44-87's baby had an APGAR score of 3-7-8 and the cord PH was 6.95.

8. In the case of ARH patient 21-90-97, she was admitted at ARH on February 1, 2004, at 1:10 a.m. The fetal heart rate tracings indicated late decelerations shortly after patient was admitted.

9. The nurse's notes indicate that on February 1, 2004, at 9:35 a.m. patient 21-90-97 was started on pitocin.

10. Throughout labor, fetal heart rate tracings indicated decelerations at random times, including severe decelerations.

11. After delivery, patient 21-90-97's baby had an APGAR score of 3-5-9 and the cord PH was 7.05. The baby had heavy meconium and the nuchal cord was wrapped three times.

12. In ARH patient 38-34-33, Murphy saw the patient at her office at 3 p.m. on March 10, 2004. Murphy's notes indicate that patient 38-34-33 was Group B Beta Strep positive, that her membranes had spontaneously ruptured at approximately 10:30 a.m. that same day, and that fluid had been leaking since the rupture.

13. On March 10, 2004, at 4:25 p.m., patient 38-34-33 was admitted to ARH. Shortly after patient's arrival, fetal heart rate tracings indicated late decelerations and tachycardia. Patient 38-34-33's temperature rose from 98.5 to 103.7 during labor. Patient 38-34-33's baby was delivered at approximately 2:09 a.m. Patient 38-34-33's baby had a tight nuchal cord and needed aspiration for meconium. Patient 38-34-33's baby had to be resuscitated.

14. Patient's 38-34-33's baby had an APGAR Score of 2-3 and cord PH of 7.05. The baby was intubated and transferred to Providence Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

15. On August 14, 2005, ARH patient 35-55-67's baby was delivered at her home. Patient 35-55-67 was admitted at ARH at 6:10 p.m. At 6:15 p.m., Murphy was notified that the placenta was intact and that the patient had a two degree laceration. Murphy arrived at the hospital at 7:45 p.m. to repair the laceration.

16. ARH patient 35-43-82 was admitted ARH on October 17, 2004 at 2:10 a.m.

17. ARH nurses attempted to reach Murphy beginning at 3:00 a.m. by pager and telephone without success. The baby was delivered by an EMTALA doctor at 8:43 a.m.

Count 1

18. Paragraphs 1-17 are realleged.

19. Murphy's failure to recognize signs of a uterine rupture, her decision to perform a vaginal operative delivery on a patient with two prior C-Sections, her disregard of fetal heart rate changes, and her use of two vaginal operative procedures on the same patient constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). Murphy's conduct was potentially life-threatening to patient 37-44-87 and her baby and therefore constitutes a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety under AS 08.64.331(c).

Count II

20. Paragraphs 1-19 are realleged

21. Murphy's failure to recognize abnormalities of fetal heart rate tracings constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). Murphy's conduct was potentially life-threatening to patient 37-44-87's baby and therefore constitutes a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety under AS 08.64.331(c).

Count III

22. Paragraphs 1-21 are realleged.

23. Murphy's failure to recognize abnormalities of fetal monitoring tracings constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). Murphy's conduct was potentially life-threatening to patient 37-44-87's baby and therefore constitutes a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety under AS 08.64.331(c).

Count IV

24. Paragraphs 1-23 are realleged.

25. Murphy's delayed response to patient 35-55-67 constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A).

Count V

26. Paragraphs 1-25 are realleged.

27. Murphy's unavailability for ARH patient 35-43-82's labor and delivery constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A).

Count VI

28. Paragraphs 1-27 are realleged.

29. Murphy's actions in the above five cases constitute professional incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). Murphy's conduct was potentially life-threatening to her patients and her patients' babies and therefore constitutes a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety under AS 08.64.331(c).

DATED this 14th day of July, 2005, at Anchorage, Alaska.

EDGAR BLATCHFORD,
COMMISSIONER

By: 

Richard C. Younkins, Chief Investigator
for Richard Urion, Director
Division of Occupational Licensing

Alaska Statute

AS 44.62.390. Notice of Defense.

(a) Within 15 days after service upon the respondent of the accusation, the respondent may file with the agency a notice of defense. In the notice the respondent may:

- (1) request a hearing;**
- (2) object to the accusation upon the ground that it does not state acts or omissions upon which the agency may proceed;**
- (3) object to the form of the accusation on the ground that it is so indefinite or uncertain that the respondent cannot identify the transaction or prepare a defense;**
- (4) admit the accusation in whole or in part;**
- (5) present new matter by way of defense.**

(b) Within the time specified the respondent may file one or more notices of defense upon any or all of the grounds set out in

(a) of this section but all of the notices shall be filed within that period unless the agency in its discretion authorizes the filing of a later notice.

(c) The respondent is entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent files a notice of defense, and the notice of defense is considered a specific denial of all parts of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file the notice constitutes a waiver of the respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing. Unless objection is taken as provided in (a) (3) of this section, all objections to the form of the accusation are waived.

(d) The notice of defense must be in writing, signed by or on behalf of the respondent, and must state the respondent's mailing address. It need not be verified or follow a particular form.

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In the matter of:

Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.

Respondent

Case No. 2800-05-026

NOTICE OF DEFENSE

The respondent named below, pursuant to AS 44.62.390, hereby gives Notice of Defense in this proceeding.

A hearing on the matters set forth in the Accusation is hereby requested.

Dated _____

Respondent's Signature

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

NOTE:

This Notice of Defense must be signed by or on behalf of respondent, must set forth respondent's current address, and must be filed with the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Occupational Licensing, 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567, within 15 days after the enclosed Accusation was mailed or delivered to the respondent.

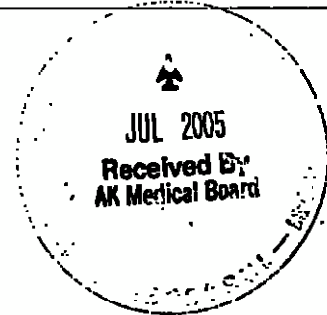


DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor

**CERTIFIED # 7002 3150 0001 1621 0043
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

July 22, 2005



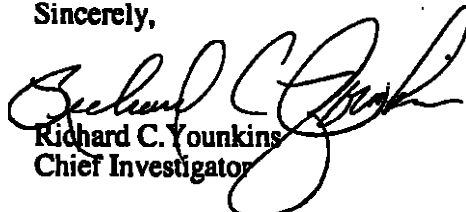
Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.
4100 Lake Otis Parkway
Suite Number 330
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Dear Dr. Murphy:

You are hereby notified that the enclosed Amended Accusation has been filed with the Division of Occupational Licensing.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address and telephone number listed above, or Karen Hawkins, the assigned Assistant Attorney General in this case, telephone number 269-5200.

Sincerely,


Richard C. Younkins
Chief Investigator

Enclosure: Amended Accusation

cc: Rick Urion, Director
Barbara Gabier, Chief, Occupational Licensing w/original
Hearing Officer Unit
Leslie Gallant, Executive Administrator
Colin Matthews, Investigator
Deborah Finley, Investigator
Paul Stockler, Attorney
Karen Hawkins, Assistant Attorney General
File Number: 2800-05-026, 2800-05-045, 2800-05-048
2800-05-050, 2800-05-051, 2800-05-054

RCY:ab

BEFORE THE STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
ON REFERRAL BY THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL BOARD

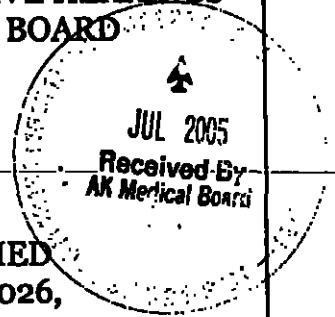
In the Matter of:)

Colleen M. Murphy, M.D.,)

Respondent.)

OAH No. 05-0553-MED
Board No. 2800-05-026,

2800.05.045, 2800.05.048, 2800.05.050, 2800.05.051, 2800.05.054.



AMENDED ACCUSATION

This Accusation initiates a proceeding pursuant to AS 08.01.075 and AS 08.64.326 to suspend, revoke, or impose other disciplinary sanctions against the physician license issued by the State of Alaska to Colleen M. Murphy, M.D. ("Murphy").

In support of this Accusation, petitioner, Richard Urion, Director, State of Alaska, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Occupational Licensing ("Division") alleges in his official capacity as follows:

ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

1. On October 27, 1993, Murphy was issued physician #3162. On July 7, 2005, the State Medical Board summarily suspended Murphy's license. The license will expire unless renewed on December 31, 2006.

2. On April 6, 2005, Alaska Regional Hospital ("ARH") suspended Murphy's obstetrical privileges based upon an ARH Ad Hoc Committee

finding that Murphy posed "an imminent danger to the health and/or safety of hospital patients."

3. ARH patient 37-44-87 was admitted at ARH on November 15, 2003.

Patient 37-44-87 had two previous C-Section deliveries. The first C-Section was for failure to progress with labor and the second was a repeat without complications.

4. At 3:45 a.m., patient 37-44-87 complained of pain despite having received an epidural at 1 a.m. Fetal heart rate tracings indicated changes in the unborn child's heart rate. Nurse's notes reflect the draining of bloody urine from patient 37-44-87. The nurse's notes also reflect that Murphy was notified of the patient's complaint of pain and of the bloody urine.

5. At 5:41 a.m., the nurse's notes indicate Murphy attempted three pulls with a vacuum without success. At 5:47 a.m., Murphy delivered patient 37-44-87's baby using a medium to high forceps procedure. At 5:50 a.m., the nurse's notes indicate that Murphy did not believe that the uterus had ruptured, but that the bladder had ruptured. The operation room team was called.

6. Patient 37-44-87 was moved to the operating room at 6:10 a.m. Both the uterus and the bladder had ruptured. The bladder was repaired and the patient 37-44-87 underwent a hysterectomy procedure.

7. After delivery patient 37-44-87's baby had an APGAR score of 3-7-8 and the cord PH was 6.95.

8. In the case of ARH patient 21-90-97, she was admitted at ARH on February 1, 2004, at 1:10 a.m. The fetal heart rate tracings indicated late decelerations shortly after patient was admitted.

9. The nurse's notes indicate that on February 1, 2004, at 9:35 a.m. patient 21-90-97 was started on pitocin.

10. Throughout labor, fetal heart rate tracings indicated decelerations at random times, including severe decelerations.

11. After delivery, patient 21-90-97's baby had an APGAR score of 3-5-9 and the cord PH was 7.05. The baby had heavy meconium and the nuchal cord was wrapped three times.

12. In ARH patient 38-34-33, Murphy saw the patient at her office at 3 p.m. on March 10, 2004. Murphy's notes indicate that patient 38-34-33 was Group B Beta Strep positive, that her membranes had spontaneously ruptured at approximately 10:30 a.m. that same day, and that fluid had been leaking since the rupture.

13. On March 10, 2004, at 4:25 p.m., patient 38-34-33 was admitted to ARH. Shortly after patient's arrival, fetal heart rate tracings indicated late decelerations and tachycardia. Patient 38-34-33's temperature rose from 98.5 to 103.7 during labor. Patient 38-34-33's baby was delivered at approximately 2:09 a.m. Patient 38-34-33's baby had a tight nuchal cord and needed aspiration for meconium. Patient 38-34-33's baby had to be resuscitated.

14. Patient's 38-34-33's baby had an APGAR Score of 2-3 and cord PH of 7.05. The baby was intubated and transferred to Providence Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

15. On August 14, 2004, ARH patient 35-55-67's baby was delivered at her home. Patient 35-55-67 was admitted at ARH at 6:10 p.m. At 6:15 p.m., Murphy was notified that the placenta was intact and that the patient had a two degree laceration. Murphy arrived at the hospital at 7:45 p.m. to repair the laceration.

16. ARH patient 35-43-82 was admitted ARH on October 17, 2004 at 2:10 a.m.

17. ARH nurses attempted to reach Murphy beginning at 3:00 a.m. by pager and telephone without success. The baby was delivered by an EMTALA doctor at 8:43 a.m.

Count 1

18. Paragraphs 1-17 are realleged.

19. Murphy's failure to recognize signs of a uterine rupture, her decision to perform a vaginal operative delivery on a patient with two prior C-Sections, her disregard of fetal heart rate changes, and her use of two vaginal operative procedures on the same patient constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). Murphy's conduct was potentially life-threatening to patient 37-44-87 and her baby and therefore constitutes a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety under AS 08.64.331(c).

Count II

20. Paragraphs 1-19 are realleged

21. Murphy's failure to recognize abnormalities of fetal heart rate tracings constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). Murphy's conduct was potentially life-threatening to patient 21-90-97's baby and therefore constitutes a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety under AS 08.64.331(c).

Count III

22. Paragraphs 1-21 are realleged.

23. Murphy's failure to recognize abnormalities of fetal monitory tracings constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). Murphy's conduct was potentially life-threatening to patient 38-34-33's baby and therefore constitutes a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety under AS 08.64.331(c).

Count IV

24. Paragraphs 1-23 are realleged.

25. Murphy's delayed response to patient 35-55-67 constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A).

Count V

26. Paragraphs 1-25 are realleged.

27. Murphy's unavailability for ARH patient 35-43-82's labor and delivery constitutes professional incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A).

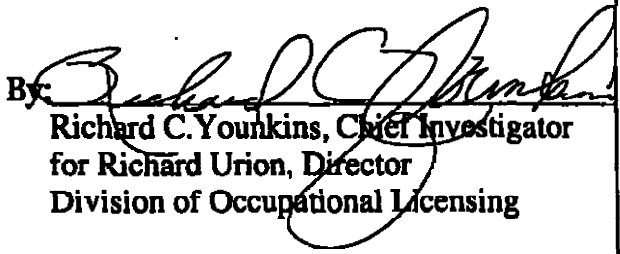
Count VI

28. Paragraphs 1-27 are realleged.

29. Murphy's actions in the above five patient cases constitute professional incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent conduct and is grounds for discipline pursuant to AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A). Murphy's conduct was potentially life-threatening to her patients and her patients' babies and therefore constitutes a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety under AS 08.64.331(c).

DATED this 22nd day of July, 2005, at Anchorage, Alaska.

EDGAR BLATCHFORD,
COMMISSIONER

By: 
Richard C. Younkins, Chief Investigator
for Richard Urion, Director
Division of Occupational Licensing

State of Alaska
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Occupational Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
Telephone 907-269-8160 Fax 907-269-8195



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sarah Palin, Governor
Emil Notti, Commissioner
Rick Urien, Director

Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

PROBATION STATUS CHANGE

May 24, 2007

Colleen Murphy MD
4100 Lake Otis Pkwy, Ste 330
Anchorage Alaska 99508

Profession Physician/Surgeon License/Certificate # S 3162

Probation Start: 05/26/2006 Probation End: 05/26/2007

Changes to Probation Probation End

Effective Date 05/26/2007 Date Submitted 05/24/2007

Investigator: **Brian Howes, Senior Investigator**
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Distribution:-

Richard C. Younkings, Chief Investigator
Jennifer Strickler, Chief, Licensing
Leslie Gallant, Executive Administrator
File: 2800-05-026

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500, Anchorage, AK 99501-3567
Telephone: (907) 269-8160 Fax: (907) 269-8195 Website: www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
Governor

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

JANET OLSZEWSKI
Director

VERIFICATION OF LICENSURE
MICHIGAN BOARD OF MEDICINE
VERIFICATION OF LICENSURE AS OF 07/06/2011

NAME: Colleen Mary Murphy **BIRTHDATE:** 08/10/1955
ADDRESS: 4100 Lake Otis Pkwy #330
Anchorage AK 995080000
TYPE: Medical Doctor **ORIGINAL DATE:** 07/01/1982
LICENSE NUMBER: 4301044939 **STATUS:** Lapsed - **EXPIRATION DATE:** 01/31/2000
Disciplinary
OBTAINED BY: Endorsement Limited

<u>EXAM DATE</u>	<u>EXAM TYPE</u>	<u>EXAM SCORE OR RESULT</u>
07/01/1982	NBME	87.0

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

DSC/BD Vacated Order	07/31/2006
Fine Imposed	03/21/2007 - 03/21/2007
Limited / Restricted	03/21/2007

OPEN FORMAL COMPLAINTS NONE

Our records indicate that there has been disciplinary action taken by the licensing board against the licensee in question, or that there may be a pending formal administrative complaint concerning the licensee. Under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 1976 PA 442, as amended, you may request a copy of all available disciplinary documents by writing to the Department of Community Health, Bureau of Health Professions, FOIA, P.O. Box 30670, Lansing, Michigan 48909 (Fax: (517) 241-1212). You will be charged pursuant to the Bureau's FOIA policy, if the documents are more than 40 pages total.

This license information was last updated on: 07/06/2011

JUL 11 2011

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

To: Hospital Administration (Excluding post-graduate training hospital privileges)

Hospital Name Alaska Regional Hospital

Address 2801 DeBarr Road

Anchorage, AK 99508

RE: Verification and evaluation of privileges

I am applying for a license to practice medicine in the state of Washington and before my application can be reviewed, a verification of my employment, with evaluations, is required. I am authorizing the release of and would appreciate you providing the information directly to the address shown below at your earliest convenience. All questions must be answered.

Applicant name Colleen M. Murphy, MD Birth date 8/10/1955
mm/dd/yyyy

Signature of applicant Colleen Murphy MD

1. Colleen M Murphy MD has/had admitting or specialty privileges at this hospital
from 12/14/99 to 7/7/2005 and 12/5/2006 to present
mm/yyyy mm/yyyy

2. Have those privileges ever been restricted, suspended or revoked by the medical staff or administration?.....

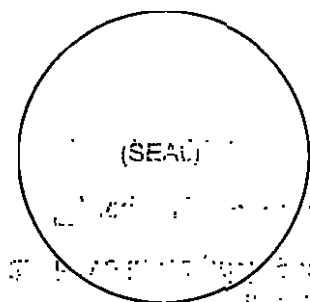
☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, please explain Please see NPDB

3. Has the applicant ever been asked to resign? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, please explain When license was suspended.

4. Did the applicant ever resign in lieu of or to avoid adverse action? ☐ Yes ☒ No

5. Has a report concerning the applicant ever been sent to the National Practitioner Data Bank, or the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Return to: Medical Quality Assurance Commission PO Box 47866 Olympia, WA 98504-7866



Signature Tina Ray

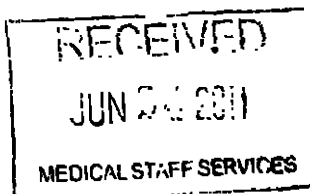
Title Tina Ray, CPCS, CPMSM Director Med Staff Sen
Please type or print

Hospital Alaska Regional Hospital

Address 2801 DeBarr Rd
Anchorage Ak 99508

Date 6/30/11

Telephone 907-264-1416



JUL 11 2011
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL COMMISSION

MD

To: Hospital Administration (Excluding post-graduate training hospital privileges)

Hospital Name Providence Alaska Medical Center

Address 3200 Providence Drive
Anchorage, AK 99506

RE: Verification and evaluation of privileges

I am applying for a license to practice medicine in the state of Washington and before my application can be reviewed, a verification of my employment, with evaluations, is required. I am authorizing the release of and would appreciate you providing the information directly to the address shown below at your earliest convenience. All questions must be answered.

Applicant name Colleen M. Murphy Birth date 6/10/1955
Print or type mm/dd/yyyy

Signature of applicant Colleen M. Murphy MD

1. Colleen Murphy, MD has had admitting or specialty privileges at this hospital
from 11/23/93 to 12/31/2008
mm/yyyy mm/yyyy

2. Have those privileges ever been restricted, suspended or revoked by the medical staff or administration?

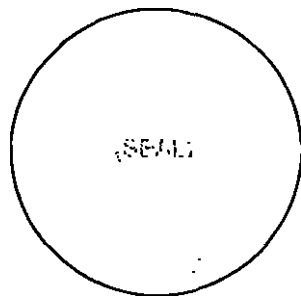
☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, please explain see attached letter

3. Has the applicant ever been asked to resign? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please explain _____

4. Did the applicant ever resign in lieu of or to avoid adverse action? ☐ Yes ☒ No

5. Has a report concerning the applicant ever been sent to the National Practitioner Data Bank, or the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Return to: Medical Quality Assurance Commission PO Box 47866 Olympia, WA 98504-7866



Signature Robert Dease
Title Robert Dease MD Chief of Staff
Please type or print

Hospital Providence Alaska Med. Ctr.

Address 3200 Providence Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99508

Date 6/27/11

Telephone 907-212-3185

June 24, 2011



Washington State Department of Health
Medical Quality Assurance Commission
PO Box 47866
Olympia, WA 98504-7866

Re: **Murphy, Colleen M., M.D.**

Dear Sir or Madam:

Providence Alaska Medical Center (PAMC) responds to your request dated June 24, 2011 for information related to the above-referenced practitioner.

<u>Staff Membership/Clinical Privileges status</u>	<u>Date</u>
Original Appointment Date	11/23/1993
Privileges suspended due to state license suspension	7/2005
Reapplied for OB/GYN privileges	10/2005
GYN privileges granted and OB privileges granted with conditions	2/2006
OB privileges approved with proctoring and other conditions	5/2006
Proctoring requirements ended	5/2007
All privileges summarily suspended	12/8/2008
Final revocation of all clinical privileges and staff membership after hearing and appeals	10/6/2010
Department:	OB/GYN
Primary Specialty:	OB/GYN
Disciplinary actions/restrictions/limitations:	See National Practitioner Data Bank Reports and Alaska State Medical Board

The foregoing is the extent to which the PAMC will respond to your inquiry regarding the above-referenced practitioner.

Sincerely

Kim Pakney, CPCS, CPMSM

Ms. Kim Pakney, CPCS, CPMSM
Manager, Medical Staff Services

110498/

**The Federation of State Medical Boards
of the United States, Inc.**

PO Box 619850
Dallas, Texas 75261-9850
Telephone: (817) 868-4000
FAX (817) 868-4099

June 30, 2011

Attn: Maryella E. Jansen
Washington Medical Quality Assurance Commission
PO Box 47866
Olympia, WA 98504-7866

Re: Colleen Mary Elizabeth Murphy, MD

In response to your recent inquiry concerning the above referenced physician, the following summary of the reported information is provided.

Physician Identification:

Name: Colleen Mary Elizabeth Murphy, MD
DOB: 08/10/1955
Medical School: Wayne State Univ Sch Med
Detroit, Michigan USA
Year of Grad: 1981

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIONS

Reporting State/Agency: ALASKA
Date Of Order: 07/07/2005

Action(s): SUMMARY/EMERGENCY/IMMEDIATE/TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF MEDICAL LICENSE
Basis for Action(s): Immediate Danger to the Public Health, Safety, or Welfare

Reporting State/Agency: ALASKA
Date Of Order: 10/21/2005

Action(s): SUSPENSION TERMINATED
Basis for Action(s): Not Applicable

Reporting State/Agency: MICHIGAN
Date Of Order: 02/16/2006
Effective Date: 03/18/2006

Action(s): SUSPENSION OF MEDICAL LICENSE
Term: Indefinite
Additional Detail: License suspended for a minimum period of six months and one day. Based on action taken by the Alaska Medical Board.
Basis for Action(s): Due to Action Taken by Another Board/Agency

Colleen Mary Elizabeth Murphy, MD

**Failure to Report Adverse Actions Against Self in Accordance with Laws/Rules of
the Board**

Reporting State/Agency: ALASKA
Date Of Order: 07/14/2006
Form of Order: Memorandum of Agreement
Action(s): MEDICAL LICENSE PLACED ON PROBATION
Term: 1 Year(s)

Additional Detail: Probation retroactive to May 26, 2006. Practitioner agrees to comply with all required conditions of Providence Alaska Medical Center.

Basis for Action(s): Action by Hospital/Clinic/Professional Organization

Reporting State/Agency: MICHIGAN
Date Of Order: 07/31/2006
Form of Order: Order on Reconsideration

Action(s): VACATED PRIOR ORDER OF THE BOARD
Additional Detail: Order granting reconsideration, vacating Order of February 16, 2006, and remanding for compliance conference.

Basis for Action(s): Not Applicable

Reporting State/Agency: MICHIGAN
Date Of Order: 03/21/2007
Form of Order: Stipulation And Consent Order

Action(s): RESTRICTED FROM THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE
Additional Detail: License limited for a minimum of one day. Shall not practice medicine in Michigan until verification is provided to the Board that her Alaska medical license has been reinstated to a full and unlimited status. Based on action taken by the Alaska Board.

ASSESSED A FINE

Basis for Action(s): Due to Action Taken by Another Board/Agency
Failure to Report Adverse Actions Against Self in Accordance with Laws/Rules of
the Board

LICENSE HISTORY

<u>State Board</u>	<u>License Number</u>
ALASKA	MED S 3162
MICHIGAN	4301044939

PLEASE NOTE: For more information regarding the above information, please contact the reporting state board or reporting agency. The information contained in this report was supplied voluntarily by the respective state medical boards and other reporting agencies. The Federation makes no representations or warranties, either express or implied, as to the accuracy of such information and assumes no responsibility for any errors or omissions contained therein.



AMA Physician Profile

★★

Name and Mailing Address:

COLLEEN MARY MURPHY MD
4100 LAKE OTIS PKWY
ANCHORAGE AK 99508-5229

Primary Office Address:

SAME AS MAILING ADDRESS

Phone: 1-907-770-5432

Birthdate: 08/10/1955

Birthplace: DETROIT, MI UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Physician's Major Professional Activity: OFFICE BASED PRACTICE

Practice Specialties Self Designated by the Physician*:

Primary Specialty: OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Secondary Specialty: UNSPECIFIED

*Self-Designated Practice Specialties/Areas of Practice (SDPS) listed on the AMA Physician Profile do not imply "recognition" or "endorsement" of any field of medical practice by the Association, nor does it imply, certification by a Member Medical Specialty Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties, or that the physician has been trained or has special competence to practice the SDPS.

AMA membership: NON MEMBER

————— All Information from this Point Forward is Provided by the Primary Source —————

Current and/or Historical Medical School:

WAYNE STATE UNIV SOM, DETROIT MI 48201

Degree Awarded: Yes

Degree Year: 1981



AMA Physician Profile

Current and/or Historical Post Graduate Medical Training Programs Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME):

Future training dates, as reported by the program, should be interpreted as "in progress" or "current" with projected date of completion. If the training program indicates that training for a physician in a particular specialty was not completed at their institution, the training segment will be identified as "INCOMPLETE TRAINING".

Institution: GOOD SAMARITAN REG MED CTR
Specialty : OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

State: ARIZONA
07/1984 - 06/1987
(VERIFIED)

Institution: ST JOHN HOSP & MED CTR
Specialty : FAMILY MEDICINE

State: MICHIGAN
07/1981 - 06/1982
(VERIFIED)

Note: If you have discrepant information, please submit a Request for Investigation to the AMA so that we may verify the information with the primary source(s). See the last page of this Profile for instructions on how to report a data discrepancy.

NATIONAL BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS (NBME) CERTIFICATION YEAR: MD: 1982

Current and/or Historical Medical Licensure:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>MD/ DO</u>	<u>Date Granted</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>License Type</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
ALASKA	MD*	10/27/1993	12/31/2012	ACTIVE	UNLIMITED	06/07/2011

* Please contact the state board. More information may be available.

MICHIGAN	MD*	07/01/1982	NOT RPTD	INACTIVE	UNLIMITED	07/31/2006
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* Please contact the state board. More information may be available.

Note: When the specific month and day are unknown, the date will display the default value of "01." Not all licensing boards maintain or provide full date values. Please contact the appropriate licensing board directly for this information.

Current and/or Historical NPI Information:

<u>NPI Number</u>	<u>Enumeration Date</u>	<u>Deactivation Date</u>	<u>Reactivation Date</u>	<u>Replacement Number</u>	<u>Last Reported Date</u>
1275535502	05/31/2005	NOT RPTD	NOT RPTD	NOT RPTD	06/03/2011



AMA Physician Profile

ECFMG Certification:

Applicant Number:

Note: The Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) applicant identification number does not imply current ECFMG certification status. To verify ECFMG status, contact the ECFMG Certification Verification Service in writing at P.O. Box 13679, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

Federal Drug Enforcement Administration:

** Only the last three characters of active DEA number(s) are displayed.*

<u>DEA Number *</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
XXXXXX077	22N 33N 4 5	01/31/2012	06/13/2011

Address: Ste 330, 4100 Lake Otis Pkwy, Anchorage, AK 99508-5232

Note: Many states require their own controlled substances registration/license. Please check with your state licensing authority for requirement information as the AMA does not maintain this information.

Specialty Board Certification(s)*:

Specialty Board Certification(s) by one or more of the 24 boards recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and the American Medical Association (AMA) through the Liaison Committee on Specialty Boards, as reported by the ABMS:

The AMA Physician Profile has been designated by the ABMS as an Official ABMS Display Agent of Member Board Certification data. Therefore, the ABMS Board Certification information on the AMA Physician Profile is considered a designated equivalent source in regard to credentialing standards set forth by accrediting bodies such as the Joint Commission and National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

Certifying Board: AMERICAN BOARD OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Certificate: OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Certificate Type: GENERAL

<u>Duration</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Expiration</u>	<u>Reverification</u>	<u>Occurrence</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2010	12/31/2011		RE-CERT	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2009	12/31/2010		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2008	12/31/2009		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2007	12/31/2008		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2006	12/31/2007		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2005	12/31/2006		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2004	04/30/2006		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2003	04/30/2005		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2002	04/30/2004		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2001	04/30/2003		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/31/2000	04/30/2002		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011



AMA Physician Profile

Certifying Board: AMERICAN BOARD OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Certificate: OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Certificate Type: GENERAL

<u>Duration</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Expiration</u>	<u>Reverification</u>	<u>Occurrence</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
TIME LIMITED	12/31/1998	04/30/2001		RE-CERT(**)	06/09/2011
TIME LIMITED	12/08/1989	12/31/1999		INITIAL(**)	06/09/2011

Note: For certification dates, a default value of "01" appears in the day or month field if data were not provided to AMA. Please contact the appropriate specialty board directly for this information. (**) Indicates an expired certificate.

*This information is proprietary data maintained in a copyrighted database compilation owned by the American Board of Medical Specialties. Copyright 2011 American Board of Medical Specialties. All right reserved.

Medicare/Medicaid Sanction(s):

TO DATE, THERE HAVE BEEN NO SUCH SANCTIONS REPORTED TO THE AMA BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

Other Federal Sanction(s):

TO DATE, THERE HAVE BEEN NO FEDERAL SANCTIONS REPORTED TO THE AMA BY ANY BRANCH OF THE US MILITARY, THE VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION OR THE US PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.



AMA Physician Profile

Additional Information:

TO DATE, THERE IS NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THIS PHYSICIAN ON FILE.

The content of the AMA Physician Profile is intended to assist with credentialing. Appropriate use of the AMA Physician Masterfile data contained on this Profile by an organization would meet the primary source verification requirements of the Joint Commission and the American Accreditation HealthCare Commission/URAC. The Physician Masterfile meets the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) standards for verification of medical education, post graduate medical training, board certification, DEA status, and Medicare/Medicaid sanctions.

If you note any discrepancies, please log onto our web site (<http://www.ama-assn.org/go/amaprofiles>) and go to the order detail page, select the D following the physician's name and enter the data in question. Or you can mark the issues on a copy of the profile and mail or fax to:

Division of Database Products and Licensing
Attn: Credentialing Products
515 N. State Street
Chicago, IL 60654
800-665-2882
312 464-5900 (fax)

If you have questions or need additional information, please call the AMA Profile Service customer support line at 800-665-2882.

NOTICE

WAC 246-15-030, procedures for filing, investigation, and resolution of whistleblower complaints.

(1)(b) Instructs that staff will affix a permanent cover to the letter of complaint or other form of notice in the complaint file, noting the statutory citation concerning protecting the identity of the complainant.

(3)(c) Ensure upon case closure, that the permanent cover affixed in subsection (1)(c) of this section will remain.

RCW 43.70 provides that the identity of a whistleblower who complains in good faith to the Department of health about the improper quality of care by a health care provider as defined in RCW 43.72.010 **shall remain confidential**.

Pursuant to the above RCW and WAC it is staff's duty to see that the complainant's name or any information which may identify the complainant is not disclosed.

NOTICE

Redaction Summary (10 redactions)

4 Privilege / Exemption reasons used:

- 1 -- "Attorney Work Product - RCW 42.56.290 - Drafts, notes, memoranda, statements, records or research reflecting the opinions or mental impressions of an attorney or attorney's agent that reveal factual or investigative information prepared, collected, or assembled in litigation or in anticipation of litigation." (4 instances)
- 2 -- "DOH Licensee Health Professional Home Address and/or Home Phone Number - RCW 42.56.350(2)" (2 instances)
- 3 -- "DOH Licensee Social Security Number - RCW 42.56.350(1)" (3 instances)
- 4 -- "National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) report received directly or indirectly from the NPDB -42 USC §1396r-2; 42 USC §1320a-7e; 45 CFR §60.20(a), RCW 42.56.070(1)" (1 instance)

Redacted pages:

- Page 8, Attorney Work Product - RCW 42.56.290 - Drafts, notes, memoranda, statements, records or research reflecting the opinions or mental impressions of an attorney or attorney's agent that reveal factual or investigative information prepared, collected, or assembled in litigation or in anticipation of litigation., 2 instances
- Page 9, Attorney Work Product - RCW 42.56.290 - Drafts, notes, memoranda, statements, records or research reflecting the opinions or mental impressions of an attorney or attorney's agent that reveal factual or investigative information prepared, collected, or assembled in litigation or in anticipation of litigation., 1 instance
- Page 10, Attorney Work Product - RCW 42.56.290 - Drafts, notes, memoranda, statements, records or research reflecting the opinions or mental impressions of an attorney or attorney's agent that reveal factual or investigative information prepared, collected, or assembled in litigation or in anticipation of litigation., 1 instance
- Page 56, DOH Licensee Social Security Number - RCW 42.56.350(1), 1 instance
- Page 98, DOH Licensee Health Professional Home Address and/or Home Phone Number - RCW 42.56.350(2), 1 instance
- Page 98, DOH Licensee Social Security Number - RCW 42.56.350(1), 1 instance
- Page 168, DOH Licensee Health Professional Home Address and/or Home Phone Number - RCW 42.56.350(2), 1 instance
- Page 233, National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) report received directly or indirectly from the NPDB -42 USC §1396r-2; 42 USC §1320a-7e; 45 CFR §60.20(a), RCW 42.56.070(1), 1 instance
- Page 241, DOH Licensee Social Security Number - RCW 42.56.350(1), 1 instance