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Final Order No. DOH-08-0204-S-MQA  
FILED DATE - 2.12.08  
Department of Health  
By: Raceno Brone  
Deputy Agency Clerk

STATE OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Petitioner,

vs.

DOH CASE NO.: 2007-11084  
LICENSE NO.: ME0062660

JORGE BENITO, M.D.,

Respondent.

\_\_\_\_\_ /

FINAL ORDER

THIS CAUSE came before the BOARD OF MEDICINE (Board) pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, on February 2, 2008, in Jacksonville, Florida, for the purpose of considering a Settlement Agreement (attached hereto as Exhibit A) entered into between the parties in this cause. Upon consideration of the Settlement Agreement, the documents submitted in support thereof, the arguments of the parties, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Settlement Agreement as submitted be and is hereby approved and adopted in toto and incorporated herein by reference with the following clarification:

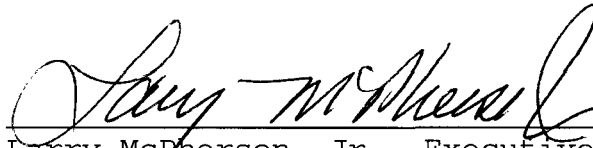
The costs set forth in Paragraph 2 of the Stipulated Disposition shall be set at \$549.42.

Accordingly, the parties shall adhere to and abide by all the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement as clarified above.

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

DONE AND ORDERED this 11 day of FEBRUARY, 2008.

BOARD OF MEDICINE



Larry McPherson, Jr., Executive Director  
for ROBERT CLINE, M.D., Chair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Final Order has been provided by U.S. Mail to JORGE BENITO, M.D., 1316 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, Florida 33134; to Robert Nicholson, Esquire, Broad & Cassel, P.O. Box 14010, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33302; and by interoffice delivery to Ephraim Livingston, Department of Health, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C-65, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3253 this 12th day of February, 2008.



**Deputy Agency Clerk**

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,**

**PETITIONER,**

**v.**

**CASE NO. 2007-11084**

**JORGE BENITO, M.D.,**

**RESPONDENT.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT**

COMES NOW Petitioner, Department of Health, by and through its undersigned counsel, and files this Administrative Complaint before the Board of Medicine against Respondent, Jean-Marie G. Eugene, M.D., and in support thereof alleges:

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

2. At all times material to this Complaint, Respondent was a licensed physician within the State of Florida, having been issued license number ME 62660.

10-191-07

3. Respondent's address of record is 1316 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

4. On or about December 14, 2006, the Board of Medicine filed a Final Order in case number 2004-41736. The Final Order required Respondent to have an independent, certified risk manager review of Respondent's practice within sixty (60) days of the filing of the Order. Specifically, the assessment was to include a review of the office procedures employed at the practice and a report addressing the entire practice. The report was to include suggested improvements of the quality assurance of Respondent's practice.

5. The Final Order required the Respondent to submit the assessment report, as well as documentation that demonstrated compliance with the suggestions enumerated in the report, to the Probation Committee of the Board of Medicine.

6. Respondent did not have the risk management assessment performed until March 16, 2007, thirty (30) days late. It was first emailed to the Probation Committee on March 29, 2007, but the email went awry and was not received until April 16, 2007.

7. As of September 20, 2007, Respondent has not filed documentation that demonstrates compliance with the suggestions enumerated in the late-filed risk management report.

8. Respondent has, therefore, failed to comply with the requirements of the Final Order.

9. Section 458.331(1)(x), Florida Statutes (2006), provides that violating a lawful order of the board or department previously entered in a disciplinary hearing or failing to comply with a lawfully issued subpoena of the department constitutes grounds for discipline by the Board of Medicine.

10. Respondent failed to comply with the Final Order entered in case number 2004-41736 in one or more of the following ways:

a. By failing to have the risk management assessment performed within sixty (60) days of the entry of the Final Order;

b. By failing to file the risk management assessment within sixty (60) days of the entry of the Final Order;

c. By failing to file documentation that demonstrates compliance with the suggestions enumerated in the late-filed risk management report.

11. Based on the foregoing, Respondent has violated Section 458.331(1)(x), Florida Statutes (2006), by violating a lawful order of the Board previously entered in a disciplinary hearing.

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

SIGNED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
Secretary of Health



Diane K. Kiesling  
Assistant General Counsel  
DOH Prosecution Services Unit  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-65  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3265  
Florida Bar # 233285  
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FILED  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DEPUTY CLERK  
CLERK *Rachel*  
DATE 10-29-07

PCP: 10/26/2007

PCP: El-Baher, Thomas, Long

DOH v. Jorge Benito, M.D., DOH Case No. 2007-11084

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### **NOTICE OF RIGHTS**

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

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

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

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,**

**Petitioner,**

**v.**

**DOH Case No. 2007-11084**

**JORGE BENITO, M.D.,**

**Respondent,**

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**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

Jorge Benito, M.D., referred to as the "Respondent," and the Department of Health, referred to as "Department" stipulate and agree to the following Agreement and to the entry of a Final Order of the Board of Medicine, referred to as "Board," incorporating the Stipulated Facts and Stipulated Disposition in this matter.

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

**STIPULATED FACTS**

1. At all times material hereto, Respondent was a licensed physician in the State of Florida having been issued license number ME 62660.
2. The Department charged Respondent with an Administrative Complaint that was filed and properly served upon Respondent with violations of



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

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

**STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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

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

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

**STIPULATED DISPOSITION**

1. **Fine** - The Board of Medicine shall impose an administrative fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) against the license of Respondent, to be paid by Respondent to the Department of Health, HMQAMS/Client Services, Post Office Box 6320, Tallahassee, Florida 32314-6320, Attention: Board of Medicine Compliance Officer, within thirty-days (30) from the date of filing of the Final Order accepting this Agreement. All fines shall be paid by check or money order. The Board office does not have the authority to change the terms of payment of any fine imposed by the Board.

**RESPONDENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF THE FINE IS HIS LEGAL OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICING IF THE FINE IS NOT PAID AS AGREED TO IN THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, SPECIFICALLY: IF WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE DATE OF FILING OF THE FINAL ORDER, RESPONDENT HAS NOT RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE FINE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OFFICE, RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICE UNTIL SUCH WRITTEN CONFIRMATION IS RECEIVED BY RESPONDENT FROM THE BOARD.**

2. **Reimbursement Of Costs** - Pursuant to Section 456.072, Florida Statutes, Respondent agrees to pay the Department for any administrative costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this case. Such costs exclude the costs of obtaining supervision or monitoring of the practice, the cost of quality assurance reviews, and the Board's administrative cost directly associated with Respondent's probation, if any. The agreed upon amount of Department costs to be paid in this case includes but shall not exceed one thousand five hundred twenty-two dollars twelve cents (\$1,522.12). Respondent will pay costs to the Department of Health, HMQAMS/Client Services, P.O. Box 6320, Tallahassee, Florida 32314-6320, Attention: Board of Medicine Compliance Officer within thirty-days (30) from the date of filing of the Final Order in this cause. Any post-Board costs, such as the costs associated with probation, are not included in this agreement.

RESPONDENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF THE COSTS IS HIS LEGAL OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICING IF THE COSTS ARE NOT PAID AS AGREED TO IN THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, SPECIFICALLY: IF WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE DATE OF FILING OF THE FINAL ORDER, RESPONDENT HAS NOT RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE COSTS NOTED ABOVE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OFFICE, RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICE UNTIL SUCH WRITTEN CONFIRMATION IS RECEIVED BY RESPONDENT FROM THE BOARD.

#### STANDARD PROVISIONS

1. **Appearance**: Respondent is required to appear before the Board at the meeting of the Board where this Agreement is considered.
2. **No force or effect until final order** - It is expressly understood that this Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and the Department. In this regard, the foregoing paragraphs (and only the foregoing paragraphs) shall have no force and effect unless the Board enters a Final Order incorporating the terms of this Agreement.
3. **Addresses** - Respondent must keep current residence and practice addresses on file with the Board. Respondent shall notify the Board within ten (10) days of any changes of said addresses.

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

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

6. **Purpose of Agreement** - Respondent, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, executes this Agreement. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Board to review and examine all investigative file materials concerning Respondent prior to or in conjunction with consideration of the Agreement. Respondent agrees to support this Agreement at the time it is presented to the Board and shall offer no evidence, testimony or argument that disputes or contravenes any stipulated fact or conclusion of law. Furthermore, should this Agreement not be accepted by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Agreement and other documents and matters by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from further participation, consideration or resolution of these proceedings.

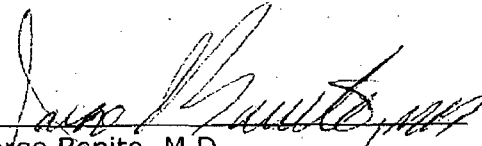
7. **No preclusion of additional proceedings** - Respondent and the Department fully understand that this Agreement and subsequent Final Order incorporating same will in no way preclude additional proceedings by the Board and/or the Department against Respondent for acts or omissions not specifically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

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

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

contest the validity of the Agreement and the Final Order of the Board incorporating said Agreement.

SIGNED this 16 day of November, 2007.

  
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Jorge Benito, M.D.

Before me, personally appeared Jorge Benito, whose identity is known to me by personally known (type of identification) and who, under oath, acknowledges that his/her signature appears above.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16 day of November, 2007.

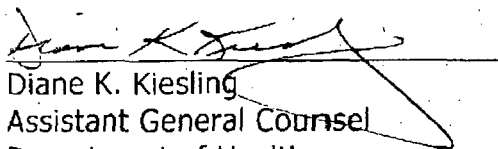
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:



APPROVED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2007.

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
Secretary, Department of Health

  
By: Diane K. Kiesling  
Assistant General Counsel  
Department of Health

DKK/sdw