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BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of)	
)	
DAVID E. STERNBERG, M.D.)	Case No. 94-00199
)	
Kansas License #04-22290	_)	

FINAL ORDER

NOW, on this 13th day of June, 1998, comes on for hearing Petition to Revoke, Suspend or Otherwise Limit Licensure of David E.Sternberg, M.D., License No. 04-22290. Petitioner, State Board of Healing Arts, appears through Kevin K. LaChance, Disciplinary Counsel. Respondent appears in person and through John C. Aisenbrey, Attorney at Law.

Respondent does not dispute the allegations as stated in the Petition. There are no controverted legal issues. Respondent offers to surrender his license to practice medicine and surgery. Counsel for Respondent acknowledges that by accepting the surrender, the Board revokes Respondent's license.

Upon hearing statements of counsel and Dr. Sternberg, and having the agency record before it, the Board finds there are no facts in dispute and accepts Licensee's surrender of license,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT Respondent's license to practice medicine and surgery is hereby revoked.

ENTERED THIS 22 DAY OF JUNE, 1998.

Lawrence T. Buening, Jr.

Executive Director

Notice Regarding Relief from this Final Order

This is a final order. It is effective upon service. A party may seek relief from this order by filing a petition for judicial review with the district court. A petition for judicial review is not timely unless filed within thirty days following service of the Final Order, except that such time is extended during the pendency of timely attempts to exhaust administrative remedies.

A party may seek reconsideration of this Final Order by the Board by filing a petition for reconsideration within 15 days following service of this Final Order. A petition for reconsideration is not a prerequisite to judicial review. Any petition for judicial review or for reconsideration must be served upon the Executive Director for the Board.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Lawrence T. Buening, Jr., Executive Director, Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, do hereby certify that on the day of June, 1998, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing FINAL ORDER was deposited in the United States mail, first class postage prepaid to the following:

David E. Sternberg, M.D. 1249 W. 58th Street Kansas City, MO 64113

John C. Aisenbrey Stinson, Mag & Fizzel Counsel for Licensee 1201 Walnut Street, Suite 2800 Kansas City, MO 64141

and a copy was hand-delivered to:

Charlene K. Abbott Licensing Administrator Kansas Board of Healing Arts 235 S. Topeka Blvd. Topeka, Kansas 66603

Lawrence T. Buening, Jr.

Executive Director

Kansas Board of Healing Arts

235 S. Topeka Blvd.

Topeka, Kansas 66603

(785) 296-3680

FILED

BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

MAR 7 2002

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS

In the Matter of	
	Docket No. 02-HA-0043
DAVID E. STERNBERG, M.D.	
Kansas License No. 4-22290	

FINAL ORDER FOLLOWING CONFERENCE HEARING

NOW, on this 23rd day of February, 2002, this matter comes before the Kansas Board of Healing Arts, (hereafter "Board") the request submitted by David E. Sternberg, M.D. (hereafter "Applicant") to withdraw his application for reinstatement of his license to practice medicine and surgery in the state of Kansas. Kelli J. Benintendi, Associate Counsel, appeared on behalf of the Board. Licensee appeared in person and with counsel, John Jenab, Olathe.

After reviewing the file and being duly advised in the premises, the Board finds as follows:

- 1. In November, 1997, Applicant was convicted by a jury of felony mail fraud and aiding and betting; convicted of felony interstate transportation in aid of racketeering and aiding and abetting; and felony counts of money laundering and aiding and abetting in the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas. Applicant was sentenced to 3 years of incarceration, three years of supervised release and is on a period of supervised release which will not terminate until approximately January, 2005.
- 2. Applicant's license to practice medicine and surgery in the state of Kansas was revoked on June 22, 1998 based upon undisputed allegations of Applicant having been convicted of the federal crimes as stated above.

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3. On or about September 28, 2001, Applicant filed an application for reinstatement of his

license to practice medicine and surgery in the state of Kansas.

4. On February 1, 2002, Ms. Benintendi, at the direction of the Board's Disciplinary Panel,

filed a Response in Opposition to Application for Reinstatement of License to Practice Medicine and

Surgery pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2836(c).

5. A Notice of Conference Hearing on Applicant's application for reinstatement was set for

1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 23, 2002 and filed herein on February 4, 2002.

6. On February 11, 2002 Applicant requested to withdraw his application for reinstatement.

7. At the Conference Hearing held on February 23, 2002, after reviewing the file and being

otherwise duly advised in the premises and hearing no objection from Board counsel, the Board finds

that Applicant's request to withdraw his application for reinstatement should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

That Applicant's request to withdraw his application for reinstatement of license to practice

medicine and surgery in the state of Kansas has been voluntarily withdrawn and no further

proceedings are required or necessary.

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS

Aurence T. Buening J. AWRENCE T. BUENING, JR.

Executive Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Lawrence T. Buening, Jr., Executive Director, Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, do hereby certify that on the _______ day of March, 2002, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing FINAL ORDER FOLLOWING CONFERENCE HEARING was deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid first class to the following:

David Sternberg, M.D. 4201 West 110th Street Leawood, Kansas 66211

John Jenab Jenab & Kuchar 110 South Cherry Olathe, Kansas 66061

and a copy was hand-delivered to the office of:

Kelli J. Benintendi, Associate Counsel Kansas State Board of Healing Arts 235 S. Topeka Blvd. Topeka, Kansas 66603

and the original was filed with the office of the Executive Director.

LAWRENCE T. BUENING, JF

Executive Director

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

235 S. Topeka Blvd.

Topeka, Kansas 66603

(785) 296-3680

LTB/E

FILED

FEB 1 1 2002

BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS

In the Matter of)	
)	Docket No. (2-HA -0043
DAVID STERNBERG, M.D.)	
Applicant for Reinstatement of License No. 04-22290	Ś	

MOTION TO WITHDRAW APPLICATION

COMES NOW the applicant, David Sternberg, M.D., by and through his attorney, John Jenab, and respectfully requests that the Board allow withdrawal of the subject application without prejudice to refiling at a later date. In support of this motion, Dr. Sternberg provides the following:

- 1. The instant application was filed without benefit of counsel.
- 2. Upon familiarizing himself with the pleadings and pertinent file materials in this matter, undersigned counsel believes that it would be in all parties' best interest for the application for reinstatement to be withdrawn and refiled at a later date.
- 3. Counsel believes that is imperative to explore and attempt to address, alleviate or remove any potential grounds for opposition to reinstatement prior to hearing on a reinstatement application. This is particularly true in light of the fact that denial of an application for reinstatement precludes the applicant from reapplying for a period of three years.
- 4. If leave to withdraw the current application is granted, counsel believes that many of the areas of opposition expressed by the Board will be meaningfully addressed, and at a minimum numerous areas of disagreement will be narrowed, prior to resubmission of Dr. Sternberg's application.

For the above stated reasons, applicant David Sternberg, M.D., requests leave to withdraw his application for reinstatement without prejudice to refiling of the application at a later date.

Respectfully Submitted, JENAB & KUCHAR

John Jenah, KS # 18069 1/10 S. Cherry, Suite 200 Olathe, KS 66061 913-390-5023

Certificate of Delivery

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above Motion was delivered via facsimile to Kelli Benintendi, Associate Counsel, Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, 785-

368-7102.

John Jenab

FILED

BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

APR	2	9	20	03

In the Matter of)		KANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS
DAVID STERNBERG, M.D.)	Docket No. 03-HA-34	TEALING ARTS
Application for Reinstatement)		
	_)		

FINAL ORDER

NOW ON THIS Twenty Sixth Day of April 2003, this matter comes before the Board for review of the Initial Order issued by Howard D. Ellis, M.D. Applicant David Sternberg appears in person and through John Jenab, Attorney at Law. Kelli J. Benintendi, Associate Counsel, appears for the Board.

After hearing the statements of counsel, and having the agency record before it, the Board modifies the Initial Order so that upon the occurrence of specific events, Applicant may come before the Board to seek reinstatement of his license, and that such reinstatement is not automatic. The Board makes the following findings, conclusions and order:

- Applicant was issued a license to practice medicine and surgery in June 1988. The Board revoked Applicant's license in a Final Order dated June 22, 1998.
- 2. The revocation of Applicant's license was based upon his conviction in the United States District Court for the District of Kansas for 13 counts of mail fraud, one count of interstate transportation in aid of racketeering, and 20 counts of money laundering. These crimes were felonies.
- The federal court ordered Applicant to five years of incarceration, to three years of supervised release, and to pay restitution in the amount of \$926,940.

- 4. Applicant served three of the five years of incarceration, and is now serving the remainder of the time of incarceration in supervised release. That supervised release will terminate in January 2005.
 - 5. Applicant has paid approximately one-third of the ordered restitution.
- 6. The legislative purpose that prompted adoption of the healing arts act and creation of the Board is to protect the public health, safety and welfare. The enactment of such a law suggests a policy that the Board must be proactive in protecting the public from those who previously have been found unfit for licensure.
- 7. The Board concludes that as a matter of law, Applicant bears the burden to prove by clear and convincing evidence that he is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust and that he will not pose a threat to the public in his capacity as a medical doctor. See K.S.A. 65-2836(c) and 65-2844. Further, upon review of this Initial Order, two-thirds of the Board members present and voting must find that Applicant has met that burden. If the application for reinstatement is denied, then Applicant is not eligible to submit another application until after three years following the effective date of the denial.
- 8. The Board concludes that in determining whether Applicant is sufficiently rehabilitated, the Board may consider the factors established in *Vakas v. Kansas Board of Healing Arts*, 248 Kan. 589 (1991). This does not require the Board to make specific findings on each of those factors, and an applicant does not have to achieve perfection with regard to all factors. In considering the factors announced in *Vakas*, the Board finds that Applicant has made significant steps toward rehabilitation, and the likelihood that he will re-offend is not great. Had the misconduct, imprisonment, and addiction not occurred, Applicant would undoubtedly be qualified for licensure. But when seeking reinstatement, Applicant has a greater burden because he must

overcome the prior finding as to his fitness to practice the healing arts. Those factors that are relevant to Applicant are discussed in this Final Order.

9 (Confidential)

(Confidential)

- 10. The Board finds that Applicant's misconduct was substantial and did not merely involve technical billing violations. Rather, the misconduct resulted in damage to the profession and to patients. The argument that patients did not complain of the conduct is not persuasive. Based upon the Presiding Officer's own understanding of the health care system, he found that misuse of limited financial resources of patients, including those provided by federal and private insurance programs, deprives those and other patients of funds for health care. The Board adopts that finding. Applicant has not sufficiently demonstrated an appreciation for this harm to the profession and to patients, though he does exhibit remorse for his misconduct.
- 11. The parties agree that Applicant has not practiced the healing arts since immediately prior to his incarceration beginning in 1998. Applicant testified that he did read medical journals during incarceration. The Board is not satisfied that Applicant has met his burden of demonstrating present competence to practice medicine and surgery. Applicant may meet that burden by successfully completing the special purpose examination developed by the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc., commonly known as SPEX.

12. (Confidential)

(Confidential)

- 13. The extent of rehabilitation regarding his criminal conviction is less remarkable. The Board concludes that there is a presumption that rehabilitation is not complete because Applicant is still in federal custody, albeit supervised release. Applicant's good behavior while in custody does little to prove rehabilitation, but his good behavior when he is no longer in custody and he is freer to re-offend will be a factor in determining the extent of his rehabilitation.
- As indicated above, the Board is concerned that Applicant does not demonstrate an appreciation for the disrepute he has brought the profession and the harm he has caused to patients. Additionally, there is not sufficient proof that Applicant is currently competent to practice the healing arts. Finally, it appears that his rehabilitation from the criminal misconduct is in its early stages. Applicant has not yet shown by clear and convincing evidence that he is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust and that he does not pose a threat to the public health, safety and welfare. Thus, the Board may not issue a license to practice the healing arts at this time, as provided by K.S.A. 65-2836(c).
- 15. The Board does find that upon successful completion of the SPEX, and upon release from custody, Applicant might have sufficiently met his burden, at least to the extent that a license with limitations is appropriate. Requiring that Applicant wait for three years to reapply for reinstatement is unduly burdensome. Upon a finding by the Board that those events have occurred, the Board might reconsider, on its own motion, this order and might issue a license subject to the following limitations:

(a) (Confidential)

(b)	(Confidential)
(c)	(Confidential)
(d)	(Confidential)
(e)	(Confidential)
(f)	(Confidential)
(g)	Applicant is prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. Applicant shall
	only practice in a group setting or on a contract-for-service basis.
(h)	Applicant shall not engage in the practice of the healing arts except in a location or
	setting and involving a compensation arrangement approved by the Board or the Board's
	designee.
(i)	Applicant shall inform each hospital, clinic, and institution in which he practices of
	restrictions the Board has placed upon his license. Applicant shall identify these

restrictions by producing a list of restrictions that either has been prepared or approved by Board staff.

- (j) Applicant shall at all times keep the Board informed of his current residential address and all practice location addresses.
- (k) Applicant is prohibited from having any involvement in billing patients, their representatives, or third parties for his or any other person's professional services rendered to patients.
- (I) Applicant shall perform at least ten (10) hours of community service each month in the form of providing free psychiatric or counseling services for a non-profit organization other than where Applicant is employed or contracts to perform services.
- (m) Applicant is prohibited from practicing for compensation for more than forty-five (45) hours per week. This limitation does not include any psychiatric practice or counseling that is done as community service.
- (n) (Confidential)

(c) (Confidential)

- (p) The monitor must immediately notify Board staff if the monitor believes that Applicant is not in compliance with any of the Board's limitations on his license.
- (q) Applicant is responsible for ensuring the timely submission of the monitor's quarterly reports to Board staff. Board staff must receive at least twelve (12) reports. After twelve (12) reports have been submitted, Applicant may request termination of the monitoring limitation.
- (r) Any and all aspects of Applicant's practice may be subject to inspection or further investigation by Board staff.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the application for reinstatement is denied.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon a Board finding that Applicant has completed supervised release and has successfully taken the SPEX, the Board might, on its own motion, reconsider its order and might grant reinstatement of Applicant's license, subject to the limitations stated in paragraph 15(a)-(r) of this order.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that this is a Final Order. A Final Order is effective upon service. A party to an agency proceeding may seek judicial review of a Final Order by filing a petition in the District Court as authorized by K.S.A. 77-610, et seq. Reconsideration of the Final Order is not a prerequisite to judicial review. A petition for judicial review is not timely unless filed within 30 days following service of the Final Order. A copy of any petition for judicial review must be served upon the Board's executive director at 235 S. Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66603.

Dated this 24 day of April 2003.

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

Lawrence T. Buening, Jr.

Executive Director

Certificate of Service

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Final Order was served this day of April 2003 by depositing the same in the United States Mail, first-class postage prepaid, and addressed to:

David E. Sternberg, M.D. 4201 West 110th Street Leawood, KS 66211

John Jenab Jenab & Kuchar 110 South Cherry Olathe, KS 66061

And a copy was hand-delivered to the office of:

Kelli J. Benintendi Associate Counsel 235 S. Topeka Blvd. Topeka, KS 66603

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

FILED CA

JUN 2 0 2006

In the Matter of)	KS State Board of Healing Arts
David E. Sternberg, M.D.,)	
License No. 04-22290 (rev))	
)	
Application for Reinstatement)	Docket No. 06-HA-00101
)	

AGREED JOURNAL ENTRY AND FINAL ORDER GRANTING REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE TO INACTIVE STATUS

This matter comes before the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (Board) upon application of David E. Sternberg, M.D. ("Applicant") for reinstatement of his Kansas license to practice medicine and surgery to inactive status. The Board appears by and through Kelli J. Stevens, Litigation Counsel. Applicant appears *pro se*. There are no other appearances.

Applicant's Kansas license was previously revoked in a Final Order dated June 22, 1998. The revocation was based on Applicant's federal felony convictions in November of 1997. Specifically, Applicant was convicted of thirteen (13) counts of mail fraud, one (1) count of interstate transport in aid of racketeering, and twenty (20) counts of money laundering. The convictions were for acts which took place within Applicant's practice of medicine.

Applicant was sentenced to three (3) years of incarceration, three (3) years of supervised release and ordered to pay \$926,940.43 in restitution. Applicant was released from prison in July of 2001, and completed his period of supervised release in January of 2005. As of March of 2006, Applicant owed \$704,010.23 of the restitution amount.

Applicant previously applied for reinstatement of his Kansas license in 2002. That application was denied by the Board in a Final Order that was filed on April 29, 2003. The denial was based on the Board's finding that Applicant failed to show by clear and convincing evidence that he was sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust and did not pose a threat to the public health, safety and welfare, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2836(c). In the Final Order, the Board set forth that after Applicant completed his period of supervised release and upon Applicant's passage of the Federation of State Medical Boards Special Purpose Examination ("SPEX"), the Board might reconsider granting reinstatement with limitations.

Applicant's present application for reinstatement seeks an inactive license as Applicant intends to practice in another state. Applicant passed the SPEX in June of 2003, with a score of eighty-seven (87). As stated above, Applicant completed his period of supervised release in January of 2005. Applicant was granted reinstatement of his license in Missouri on July 31, 2003. Such licensure was subject to a five (5) year period of probation, which was terminated on May 6, 2005. Applicant has continually practiced in that state since his Missouri license was reinstated.

Therefore, it is the finding of the Board pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2836(c), by a twothirds majority vote of the Board members present and voting on such application, that based upon the evidence before it, Applicant has shown by clear and convincing evidence that he is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust and does not pose a threat to the public health, safety and welfare to be granted an inactive license. Therefore, it is the decision of the Board that Applicant should be granted an

inactive license to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery in the State of Kansas

under the authority of the Kansas Healing Arts Act as administered by the Kansas Board

of Healing Arts. The Board further finds that the inactive status of such license is not

considered to be a limitation. However, should Applicant apply to change the status of

his inactive license, the Board may consider whether any limitations and/or monitoring

provisions may be appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

WHEREFORE, Applicant, is hereby granted an inactive license to engage in the

practice of medicine and surgery in the State of Kansas by the Kansas Board of Healing

Arts based upon the findings of fact and conclusions of law otherwise detailed above.

IT IS SO ORDERED this $2\mathcal{E}$ day of June, 2006.

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS

Lawrence T. Buening, Jr.

Executive Director

David E. Sternberg, M.D.

Agreed Journal Entry and Final Order Granting Reinstatement of License to Inactive Status

PREPARED AND APPROVED BY:

Kelli Stevens, #16032

Litigation Counsel

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

235 S. Topeka Boulevard

Topeka Kansas 66603

Telephone: (785) 296-7413

APPROVED BY:

David E. Sternberg, M.D.

Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

David E. Sternberg, M.D. 4201 West 110th Street Leawood, Kansas 66211

And a copy was hand-delivered to:

Kelli J. Stevens Litigation Counsel Kansas State Board of Healing Arts 235 S. Topeka Boulevard Topeka, Kansas 66603

And the original was hand-delivered for filing to:

Lawrence T. Buening, Jr.
Office of the Executive Director
Kansas State Board of Healing Arts
235 S Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66603

And a courtesy copy was hand-delivered to:

Charlene K. Abbott Licensing Administrator Kansas State Board of Healing Arts 235 S. Topeka Boulevard Topeka, Kansas 66603

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

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JUN 2 0 2006

In the Matter of)	KS State Board of Healing Arts
David E. Sternberg, M.D.,)	
License No. 04-22290 (rev))	
)	
Application for Reinstatement)	Docket No. 06-HA-00101
)	

AGREED JOURNAL ENTRY AND FINAL ORDER GRANTING REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE TO INACTIVE STATUS

This matter comes before the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (Board) upon application of David E. Sternberg, M.D. ("Applicant") for reinstatement of his Kansas license to practice medicine and surgery to inactive status. The Board appears by and through Kelli J. Stevens, Litigation Counsel. Applicant appears *pro se*. There are no other appearances.

Applicant's Kansas license was previously revoked in a Final Order dated June 22, 1998. The revocation was based on Applicant's federal felony convictions in November of 1997. Specifically, Applicant was convicted of thirteen (13) counts of mail fraud, one (1) count of interstate transport in aid of racketeering, and twenty (20) counts of money laundering. The convictions were for acts which took place within Applicant's practice of medicine.

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Applicant previously applied for reinstatement of his Kansas license in 2002. That application was denied by the Board in a Final Order that was filed on April 29, 2003. The denial was based on the Board's finding that Applicant failed to show by clear and convincing evidence that he was sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust and did not pose a threat to the public health, safety and welfare, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2836(c). In the Final Order, the Board set forth that after Applicant completed his period of supervised release and upon Applicant's passage of the Federation of State Medical Boards Special Purpose Examination ("SPEX"), the Board might reconsider granting reinstatement with limitations.

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Therefore, it is the finding of the Board pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2836(c), by a twothirds majority vote of the Board members present and voting on such application, that based upon the evidence before it, Applicant has shown by clear and convincing evidence that he is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust and does not pose a threat to the public health, safety and welfare to be granted an inactive license. Therefore, it is the decision of the Board that Applicant should be granted an

inactive license to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery in the State of Kansas

under the authority of the Kansas Healing Arts Act as administered by the Kansas Board

of Healing Arts. The Board further finds that the inactive status of such license is not

considered to be a limitation. However, should Applicant apply to change the status of

his inactive license, the Board may consider whether any limitations and/or monitoring

provisions may be appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

WHEREFORE, Applicant, is hereby granted an inactive license to engage in the

practice of medicine and surgery in the State of Kansas by the Kansas Board of Healing

Arts based upon the findings of fact and conclusions of law otherwise detailed above.

IT IS SO ORDERED this $2\mathcal{E}$ day of June, 2006.

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS

Lawrence T. Buening, Jr.

Executive Director

David E. Sternberg, M.D.

Agreed Journal Entry and Final Order Granting Reinstatement of License to Inactive Status

PREPARED AND APPROVED BY:

Kelli Stevens, #16032

Litigation Counsel

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

235 S. Topeka Boulevard

Topeka Kansas 66603

Telephone: (785) 296-7413

APPROVED BY:

David E. Sternberg, M.D.

Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

David E. Sternberg, M.D. 4201 West 110th Street Leawood, Kansas 66211

And a copy was hand-delivered to:

Kelli J. Stevens Litigation Counsel Kansas State Board of Healing Arts 235 S. Topeka Boulevard Topeka, Kansas 66603

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