

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



830 Union Street, Suite 100
Telephone: (504) 524-6763
FAX (504) 568-8893
New Orleans, LA 70112-1499

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In Re:	:	
Application of	:	
JAMES S. SIGRIST, M.D.	:	CONSENT ORDER
For Medical Licensure	:	FOR ISSUANCE OF
	:	LICENSE ON PROBATION
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This matter is before the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") on the application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. (the "Applicant" or "Dr. Sigrist") for a license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana.

By Final Decision entered May 24, 1989, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (the "Wisconsin Board") found that Dr. Sigrist had self-administered benzphetamine hydrochloride without medical justification from April 1987 to April 1988, had from January to March 1988 written and issued, without medical justification, an unspecified number of prescriptions for Valium (diazepam) to a woman with whom he lived, and had previously been diagnosed as suffering from alcohol and stimulant dependency and cannabis abuse.¹ As such conduct constituted violations of Wisconsin laws governing the practice of medicine, the Wisconsin Board placed the physician's Wisconsin medical license on probation for a period of five years during which Dr. Sigrist was, among other conditions and restrictions, prohibited from prescribing, dispensing or administering any controlled substances, and he was required to remain in an alcohol and chemical dependency treatment program acceptable to the Wisconsin Board for at least four years, to maintain weekly contact with a member of the Louisiana Impaired Physicians Program, to attend Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous meetings at least weekly, to submit to random urine toxicology screenings, to authorize and cause various reports to be submitted to the Wisconsin Board, and to maintain abstinence from the use of alcohol and prescription drugs.

Dr. Sigrist's current application follows several prior applications for Louisiana medical licensure, beginning in 1989, each of which have been previously denied by the Board pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. § 37:1285(A)(30), in recognition of the then-effective disciplinary order entered by the Wisconsin Board. In connection with his current application, Dr. Sigrist advises that on January 23, 1991, the Wisconsin Board granted him an unlimited, unrestricted medical license; action which has been confirmed by the Wisconsin

¹Final Decision and Order, In the Matter of the License of James S. Sigrist, M.D. (Wis. Med. Exam. Bd., May 24, 1989).

Board.² In support of his current application, moreover, the Board has received and reviewed reports indicating that the physician's chemical dependency recovery has been successful to date, that he has maintained abstinence from alcohol and mood-altering substances since initiation of such program and that his prognosis for continued abstinence and recovery is good.³ And on April 10, 1991, Dr. Sigrist appeared before the Impaired Physicians Program Committee of the Board, together with A. Kenison Roy, M.D., to review his continuing recovery program and to discuss his practice plans should he obtain licensure from the Board.

Based on the application record and supplemental materials considered by the Board, and on the recommendation of its Impaired Physicians Program Committee, the Board is persuaded that the public interest will be properly protected and served by the current issuance to Dr. Sigrist of a license to practice medicine, on probation, and subject to appropriate, specified terms and conditions, as hereinafter stipulated. And by his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist hereby consents to entry of the order set forth below and to issuance of licensure on probation pursuant thereto. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED that a license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana shall be issued to James S. Sigrist, M.D., ON PROBATION for a period of five years from the date hereof; *provided, however*, that such license and Dr. Sigrist's exercise of rights and privileges thereunder shall be conditioned upon his acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms, conditions and restrictions:

(a) **Continuing Treatment; Periodic Reports.** Dr. Sigrist shall continue under psychiatric treatment, consistently with the prescription and recommendations of Milton L. Harris, Jr., M.D., Metairie, Louisiana, as his primary treating physician and Dr. Sigrist shall be responsible for authorizing and causing Dr. Harris to submit to the Board, not less frequently than quarterly until such requirement is waived by the Board in writing, written reports on Dr. Sigrist's then-current diagnosis, prognosis, and his compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order.

(b) **Aftercare Treatment Contract.** Prior to the entry of this Order, Dr. Sigrist shall, if he has not already done so, enter into and execute a treatment contract with an Impaired Physicians Committee of the Louisiana State Medical Society, providing for his aftercare monitoring and treatment under the care of a specified treating physician acceptable to the Board and under the supervision of a monitoring physician designated by such Committee, and further providing for Dr. Sigrist's regular attendance at Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and/or Caduceus Club meetings. Dr. Sigrist shall be responsible for furnishing the Board with a copy of such treatment contract.

(c) **Prescription, Dispensation, Administration of Controlled Substances Prohibited.** Dr. Sigrist shall not, during the term of probation ordered herein:

(1) prescribe, dispense or administer any Schedule II controlled substance, as defined, enumerated or included in Federal or State statutes or regulations, 21 C.F.R. §§ 1308.12, La. Rev. Stat. § 40:964, or any substance which may hereafter be designated a Schedule controlled substance by amendment or supplementation of the cited regulations and statute;

(2) prescribe, dispense or administer any amphetamine or sympathomimetic amine substance, regardless of the schedule in which such substance may be classified; or

(3) prescribe, dispense or administer any controlled substance or other prescription medication to himself or any member of his immediate family.

²Letter, D. Zychowski, Admin. Asst., Wis. Med. Exam. Bd., to P. Mensen, La. State Bd. Med. Exam. (Feb. 12, 1991).

³Letter, D. G. Benzer, D.O., Director, MsBride Center for the Impaired Professional, Div. of Chem. Depend., Milwaukee Psychiatric Hospital, to Wis. Med. Exam. Bd. (Oct. 3, 1990); Letter, M. J. Logan, M.D., to D. Zychowski, Sec., Wis. Med. Exam. Bd. (Nov. 26, 1990); Letter, A. K. Roy, III, M.D., to Wis. Med. Exam. Bd. (Jun. 22, 1990).

(d) **Maintenance of Complete Abstinence.** Dr. Sigrist shall, for the duration of his life, maintain complete and total abstinence from the use of alcohol and controlled or dependency-inducing substances except as may be prescribed by a treating physician other than himself for a *bona fide* medical condition.

(e) **Personal Appearances Before Board.** Dr. Sigrist shall personally appear before the Board, or the Board's Impaired Physician's Committee, as the Board may designate, at its regular meeting during December 1992 to permit the Board to consider his compliance with the terms of this Order, his then-current diagnosis and prognosis with respect to substance abuse and psychiatric treatment, and his performance in the practice of medicine during the probationary period ordered herein, whereupon the Board may determine to extend such probationary period, amend or supplement the terms, conditions and restrictions hereof, or permit the probationary period to expire in accordance with this Order. Dr. Sigrist shall, accordingly, contact the office of the Board prior to November 1, 1992 to determine the date and time that such personal appearances may be scheduled.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation of or failure of strict compliance with any of the restrictions set forth by this Order by Dr. Sigrist shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Sigrist's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana; and

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 16th day of June, 1991.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By: Elmo J. Laborde, M.D.
ELMO J. LABORDE, M.D.
President

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
AND CONSENT**

I, JAMES S. SIGRIST, M.D., hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 21 day of May, 1991.

Witness:

Robert E. Stuliker, MD

James S. Sigrist, M.D.
JAMES S. SIGRIST, M.D.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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Writer's Direct Dial

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In Re: :
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Application of :
JAMES S. SIGRIST, M.D. :
For Medical Licensure :
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SUPERSEDING ORDER

By Consent Order issued June 10, 1991, the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") issued initial Louisiana medical licensure to James S. Sigrist, M.D., on probation for a period of five years, conditioning such licensure on the physician's observance of various terms, conditions and restrictions as specified therein.¹ In light of the physician's prior problems with substance abuse,² the order required, *inter alia*, that during the term of probation Dr. Sigrist continue under psychiatric care, participate in the Physicians Health Program of the Louisiana State Medical Society and maintain abstinence from the use of mood altering substances and prohibited him from prescribing Schedule II controlled substances.

Dr. Sigrist appeared before the Physicians Health Committee of the Board on July 24, 1996, to permit the Committee to evaluate Dr. Sigrist's ongoing recovery program, his compliance with the terms and conditions of the Consent Order and to determine, as authorized by the order, whether to extend the probationary period specified therein or to amend or supplement its terms and conditions. As it reported to the Board, based on its meeting with Dr. Sigrist and other information supplied to the Board, the Committee found that Dr. Sigrist has been in continuing compliance with the Consent Order, that his recovery has been successful to date, that he has maintained abstinence from alcohol and mood-altering substances since initiation of his recovery in 1988 and that his prognosis for continued abstinence and recovery is good. The Committee concluded, however, and accordingly recommended to the Board, that while in all other re-

¹Consent Order for Issuance of License on Probation, In Re Application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. (La. State Bd. Med. Exam., Jun. 10, 1991).

²By Final Decision entered May 24, 1989, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (the "Wisconsin Board") found that Dr. Sigrist had self-administered benzphetamine hydrochloride without medical justification from April 1987 to April 1988, had from January to March 1988 written and issued, without medical justification, an unspecified number of prescriptions for Valium (diazepam) to a woman with whom he lived, and had previously been diagnosed as suffering from alcohol and stimulant dependency and cannabis abuse. Letter, D. Zychowski, Admin. Asst., Wis. Med. Exam. Bd., to P. Mensen, La. State Bd. Med. Exam. (Feb. 12, 1991). As a result, the Wisconsin Board placed the physician's Wisconsin medical license on probation for a period of five years during which Dr. Sigrist was, among other conditions and restrictions, prohibited from prescribing, dispensing or administering any controlled substances, and he was required to remain in an alcohol and chemical dependency treatment program acceptable to the Wisconsin Board for at least four years. In January 1991 the Wisconsin Board granted Dr. Sigrist an unlimited, unrestricted medical license.

spects the probationary terms and conditions of the Consent order should be deemed satisfied and concluded, that it is in Dr. Sigrist's best interests to continue to refrain from prescribing Schedule II controlled substances for an additional period.

Based on the recommendation of its Physicians Health Committee, the Board is persuaded that the public interest will be properly protected and served by continuation of Dr. Sigrist's license without probation, subject only to a continuing restriction his prescription or other use of Schedule II controlled substances. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED that the license of James S. Sigrist, M.D., to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana is hereby reinstated without probation; *provided, however*, that, until further order of the Board, such licensure and Dr. Sigrist's exercise of rights and privileges thereunder shall be conditioned upon his compliance with the following restriction:

Prescription, Dispensation, Administration of Controlled Substances Prohibited. Dr. Sigrist shall not, during the term of probation ordered herein:

- (1) prescribe, dispense or administer any Schedule II controlled substance, as defined, enumerated or included in Federal or State statutes or regulations, 21 C.F.R. §§ 1308.12, La. Rev. Stat. § 40:964, or any substance which may hereafter be designated a Schedule controlled substance by amendment or supplementation of the cited regulations and statute;
- (2) prescribe, dispense or administer any amphetamine or sympathomimetic amine substance, regardless of the schedule in which such substance may be classified; or
- (3) prescribe, dispense or administer any controlled substance or other prescription medication to himself or any member of his immediate family.

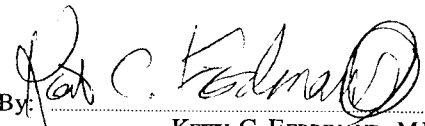
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, following conclusion of six months from the date hereof, Dr. Sigrist may apply to the Board for rescission or modification of the restriction set forth above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation of or failure of strict compliance with the restriction set forth by this Order by Dr. Sigrist shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Sigrist's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as expressly provided herein, the probationary terms, conditions and restrictions set forth in the Consent Order entered June 10, 1991, be and the same are hereby deemed satisfied and terminated and such Consent Order is hereby superseded by this Order and rescinded.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 8th day of October, 1996.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 
KEITH C. FERDINAND, M.D.
President

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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JAMES S. SIGRIST, M.D. :
For Medical Licensure :
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SUPERSEDING ORDER

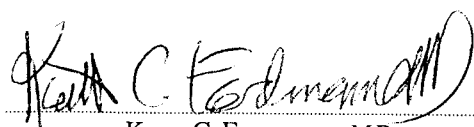
By Order issued October 8, 1996, the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") reinstated the license of James S. Sigrist, M.D., to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, subject to a continuing prohibition on his prescription, dispensation or administration of controlled substances.¹ This matter is now before the Board on the physician's request that he now be relieved of such restriction in anticipation of his imminent commencement of a fellowship in Addiction Medicine in affiliation with the Tulane University School of Medicine. Upon review of the physician's history, the Board noted that Dr. Sigrist had successfully maintained monitored recovery for an extended period, and concluded that the public interest would be properly served and protected by rescission of the remaining restriction on Dr. Sigrist's medical licensure. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED that the prohibition on the prescription, dispensation or administration of controlled substances by James S. Sigrist, M.D., as set forth in the Superseding Order entered herein on October 8, 1996, be and the same is hereby terminated, rescinded and vacated, and that the license of James S. Sigrist, M.D., to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana is hereby reinstated without probation or restriction.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 11 day of December, 1996.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: _____


KEITH C. FERDINAND, M.D.
President

¹Superseding Order, In Re: Application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. (La. State Bd. Med. Exam., Oct. 8, 1996). By Consent Order issued in 1991, the physician had previously been placed on probation for five years in connection with his prior problems with substance abuse. See Consent Order for Issuance of License on Probation, In Re Application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. (La. State Bd. Med. Exam., Jun. 10, 1991).

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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In The Matter of	:	
	:	
	:	No. 00-I-078
JAMES S. SIGRIST, M.D.	:	
(Certificate No. 08844R)	:	CONSENT ORDER
	:	
	:	
	:	

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This matter is before the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") in connection with an investigation conducted by the Investigating Officer of the Board regarding James S. Sigrist, M.D. ("Dr. Sigrist"), a physician who at all pertinent times has been licensed and engaged in the practice of psychiatry in and around Orleans and Jefferson parishes, state of Louisiana, and who suffers, and for some time has suffered, from chronic and episodically acute drug and alcohol abuse.

Dr. Sigrist's difficulties with chemical dependency were first recognized during the year 1988. At that time it was discovered that while licensed and engaged in the practice of medicine in the state of Wisconsin that the physician had self-prescribed and administered Didrex (benzphetamine hydrochloride), without medical justification, had written and issued an unspecified number of prescriptions for Valium (diazepam), without medical justification to a woman with whom he lived and was diagnosed as suffering from alcohol and stimulant dependency and cannabis abuse. He thereafter entered inpatient treatment at the McBride Impaired Professional Program at Milwaukee Psychiatric Hospital, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from April to May 1988. Upon discharge, Dr. Sigrist entered the Matt Talbot Halfway House in Milwaukee for an additional three months and participated in outpatient therapy through McBride for six months. As a result of these events, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (the "Wisconsin Board") placed Dr. Sigrist's Wisconsin license on probation for five years during which he was, among other conditions and restrictions, prohibited from prescribing, dispensing or

administering any controlled substances and required to continue ongoing treatment and monitoring of his condition.¹

Dr. Sigrist's first contact with this Board arose in 1989, during which year he applied several times for Louisiana medical licensure, each such request was denied by the Board pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. § 37:1285(A)(30), in recognition of the then-effective disciplinary order entered by the Wisconsin Board. On January 23, 1991, the Wisconsin Board granted Dr. Sigrist an unlimited, unrestricted medical license. Thereafter, in 1991, Dr. Sigrist again applied for a Louisiana medical license. In support of that application, the Board received and reviewed several reports indicating that Dr. Sigrist's chemical dependency recovery had been successful to date, that he had maintained abstinence from alcohol and mood-altering substances since initiation of such program and that his prognosis for continued abstinence and recovery was good. On April 10, 1991, in connection with his request, Dr. Sigrist appeared before the Impaired Physicians Committee of the Board, together with A. Kenison Roy, M.D., to review his continued recovery program and to discuss his practice plans should he obtain licensure from the Board. Based upon his application record, the supplemental materials considered by the Board and the recommendation of its Impaired Physicians Committee, the Board was persuaded that the public interest would be properly protected and served by the issuance to Dr. Sigrist of a license to practice medicine on probation, subject to specified terms, conditions and restrictions. Accordingly, by Consent Order entered June 10, 1991, Dr. Sigrist was issued a Louisiana medical license on probation for a period of five years subject to various terms including, among other items, ongoing treatment and monitoring of his condition and a prohibition against prescribing, administering, or dispensing certain controlled substances and other prescription medications.²

Dr. Sigrist continued in recovery until 2000 when he relapsed on alcohol. Following an intervention, he was admitted to Palmetto Addiction Recovery Center, Rayville, Louisiana ("PARC"), for relapse treatment from November 15, 2000 to January 31, 2001. At the completion of that treatment, it was recommended that he sign a treatment contract with the Physicians' Health Foundation of Louisiana's Physicians' Health Program (the "PHP"), complete a PHP approved dual diagnosis chemical dependency residential relapse program and reformulate a discharge treatment plan at the completion of that relapse treatment. At the time of discharge, the physician was diagnosed with alcohol dependence, history of past amphetamine dependence, nicotine dependence, major depression, recurrent, severe on admission, improved while in treatment, and narcissistic and antisocial traits. At the time of discharge, his treating physician found Dr. Sigrist able to return to the practice of medicine with skill and safety under PHP guidelines and recommendations.

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgment and the reported

¹ *Final Decision and Order*, In the Matter of the License of James S. Sigrist, M.D. (Wis. Med. Exam. Bd., May 24, 1989).

² *Consent Order for Issuance of License on Probation*, In Re: Application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. for medical Licensure, (La. State Bd. Med. Exam., June 10, 1991).

information would provide the Investigating Officer herein with probable cause to pursue formal administrative proceedings against Dr. Sigrist, for violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§ 37:1285(A)(5) and (25), respectively, constituting sufficient cause for the suspension or revocation of the his license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana.

On the basis of apparently reliable information, however, the Board is persuaded that the conditions from which Dr. Sigrist suffers may be susceptible to effective medical treatment, resulting in the maintenance of the physician's capacity to engage in the practice of medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, provided that Dr. Sigrist strictly observes and complies with appropriate restrictions on and conditions to maintenance of his medical license. In consideration of this finding, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Investigating Officer respecting the pending investigation, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state against the unprofessional, unqualified and unsafe practice of medicine, La. Rev. Stat. § 37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter, by consent.

Recognizing his right to have an administrative adjudication of such charges, at which time Dr. Sigrist would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence on his own behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made, and to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§ 49:955-965, Dr. Sigrist, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. § 49:955(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. Dr. Sigrist also acknowledges that he hereby waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. § 49:951, *et seq.*, or which he otherwise may be afforded by any law to contest his agreement to, or the force and effect of the Board's investigation or this document in any court or other forum. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto, as well as his legal counsel assisting him in connection herewith, to present this Consent Order to the Board for its consideration and to fully disclose to and discuss with the Board the nature and results of the investigation, and he waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. § 49:960. Dr. Sigrist expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of such information to the Board by the Investigating Officer or his legal counsel shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to proceed with the filing and adjudication of an administrative complaint against him, or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such complaint, should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order.

Accordingly, in consideration of the foregoing, and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. Rev. Stat. § 37:1285 and La. Rev. Stat. § 49:955(D);

IT IS ORDERED that the license of James S. Sigrist, M.D. to engage in the practice of medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 08844R, be and the same is hereby, effective as of the date hereof, placed **ON PROBATION** for a period of five (5) years, and Dr. Sigrist's continuing exercise of the rights and privileges

thereunder shall be subject to his acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms, conditions and restrictions:

(1) Personal Appearance Before Physicians' Health Committee. Prior to the consideration of this Consent Order, Dr. Sigrist shall personally appear before the Physicians' Health Committee of the Board to permit the Committee and the Board to consider his condition and current treatment program and to advise the Committee and the Board of his intentions with respect to the practice of medicine.

(2) Participation in Physicians Health Program . Within 10 days of the date hereof, if he has not already done so, Dr. Sigrist shall enter into and execute a Treatment Contract with the Physicians' Health Foundation of Louisiana's Physicians' Health Program (the "PHP Contract"), for a period of not less than five years. Dr. Sigrist shall comply in all respects with the terms, provisions and recommendations of such PHP Contract as well as the aftercare criteria referenced therein. Within five days of his execution of such PHP Contract, Dr. Sigrist shall cause a copy thereof to be delivered to the Board.

(3) Continuing Treatment, Reports to Board. Dr. Sigrist shall continue under treatment, consistent with the prescription and recommendations of his treating and monitoring physicians at PARC and those of his PHP Contract. Dr. Sigrist shall authorize and cause such treating and monitoring physicians and/or the PHP to submit to the Board, not less frequently than quarterly throughout the probationary period, written reports on Dr. Sigrist's then-current treatment program diagnosis, prognosis, and his compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Order.

(4) Board Access to Treatment Records and Reports. Dr. Sigrist shall, and does by his subscription hereto, authorize any physician or any institution at which he undergoes treatment for any psychiatric or substance abuse condition, as well as any physician under whose care he may come at such an institution, who has or may hereafter evaluate, diagnose, treat or monitor him, to provide the Board with copies of all medical reports relating to Dr. Sigrist's history, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis and to provide the Board with written and verbal reports relative thereto. Dr. Sigrist expressly waives any privilege, which may otherwise be afforded the disclosure of such records pursuant to state or federal law, and shall immediately execute any necessary written authorization presented to him that permits the Board access to such records.

(5) Drug Screens. Dr. Sigrist shall submit to periodic, unannounced blood, urine, saliva, and/or hair collection to detect the presence of alcohol, controlled or other mood-altering substances by a PHP physician or his or her designee. Dr. Sigrist shall authorize and cause such physician and/or the PHP to report the results of such drug screens to the Board not less frequently than quarterly throughout the probationary period.

(6) Maintenance of Complete Abstinence. Dr. Sigrist shall, for the duration of his life, maintain complete and total abstinence from the use of alcohol, any controlled substance or any other mood-altering substance except as may be prescribed by a treating physician other than himself for a *bona fide* medical condition. Dr. Sigrist shall personally inform his treating and monitoring physicians and the PHP in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of the prescription or administration of any controlled or mood-altering substance received by him from another physician for treatment of a *bona fide* medical condition.

(7) Controlled Substance and Other Medication Prescriptive Authority. Dr. Sigrist shall not, for the duration of the probationary period of this Order, prescribe, dispense or administer any controlled substance or other prescription medication to himself or any member of his immediate family.

(8) Continuing Medical Education. Dr. Sigrist shall obtain not less than 50 credit hours per year for each year of the probationary term herein through attendance at and participation in continuing medical education programs (CME) accredited by and qualifying for the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association, and he shall obtain such award within three years from the date hereof. On or before the anniversary date of each year for the five (5) years following the effective date of this Consent Order, Dr. Sigrist shall cause to be submitted to the Board written certification of the CME programs and credits completed by him during the preceding 12 months.

(9) Cooperation with Board's Medical Consultant/Probation and Compliance Officer. Dr. Sigrist shall immediately notify the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer of any change in his current home and professional addresses and telephone numbers and he shall direct all matters required pursuant to this Consent Order to the attention of the Probation and Compliance Officer, with whom he shall cooperate on all matters and inquiries pertaining to his compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Consent Order. Dr. Sigrist shall also make himself available, upon reasonable notice, for personal interviews with the Medical Consultant or Probation Officer of the Board or their designated representatives for the purpose of discussing his then-current compliance with the terms of this Order.

(10) Absence from State - Effect on Probation. Should Dr. Sigrist at any time during the period of probation ordered herein be absent from the state of Louisiana, relocate to and/or take up residency in another state or country for a period of thirty (30) days or more, he will so advise the Board in writing. In such instance, the probationary period ordered herein and all terms and conditions thereof, shall be deemed interrupted and extended and shall not commence to run until Dr. Sigrist notifies the Board in writing that he has returned to, relocated in and/or taken up residency in the state of Louisiana. In such instance, Dr. Sigrist shall not receive credit toward the probationary period for the time during which he was absent from the state of Louisiana.

(11) Sanction. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist acknowledges that his receipt of written notification from the Board that it has received any report which indicates his failure to comply with the requirements set forth by this Order in any respect, shall, without the need for formal hearing or for providing him with any right to which he may otherwise be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§ 49:951, *et seq.*, or which otherwise may be afforded to him by law, constitute his consent to the immediate suspension of his license to practice medicine in this state by the Board pending the final resolution of an administrative hearing and decision by the Board with respect to the information made the basis of such report.

(12) Fees and Costs of Supervision/Treatment/Reports. Any and all fees, costs or expenses incurred by Dr. Sigrist in connection with his continuing substance abuse or other treatment, drug screens or the reporting requirements contained in this Order shall be borne by him.

(13) Probation Monitoring Fee. For each year of the probationary term Dr. Sigrist shall pay the Board a probation-monitoring fee of Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars. Payment of the initial fee shall be due not later than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Order. All subsequent annual payments shall be due on or before the anniversary date of the initial fee payment.

(14) Additional Probationary Terms. In addition to such other terms and conditions as are placed upon his license to practice medicine by this Order, Dr. Sigrist hereby consents to, agrees with and acquiesces in the imposition of any additional terms, conditions or restrictions, as well as the length and nature thereof, including, but not limited to, an additional period of actual suspension of his license, restrictions as to the nature, scope, location and supervision of his practice, additional treatment, reports and evaluations, and an extension of his probationary period, which the Board in its sole discretion may deem necessary or appropriate to impose thereon.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions set forth by this Order by Dr. Sigrist shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Sigrist's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana or for such other action as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. Rev. Stat. § 37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 20th day of March, 2002.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

BY:



TRENTON L. JAMES, II, M.D.
PRESIDENT

Elmo J. Laborde M.D.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF Jefferson

I, JAMES S. SIGRIST, M.D., hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 24th day of January, 2002.

James S. Sigrist M.D.
JAMES S. SIGRIST, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Gayle D'Arensbourg
Signature

Gayle D'Arensbourg
Typed Name

634 Gelpi Ave., Jefferson, LA
Address

Glenda Lambert
Signature

Glenda Lambert
Typed Name

500 N. Woodlawn, Met., LA
Address

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Jefferson, Louisiana, this 24th day of January, 2002, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

Carol M. Conner
Notary Public

My commission is issued for life.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

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Ext. _____

-----X
In The Matter of
JAMES SCOTT SIGRIST, M.D.
(Certificate No.)
-----X

No. 08-I-456
INTERIM
CONSENT ORDER

This matter is before the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") in connection with an ongoing and pending investigation conducted by the Investigating Officer of the Board regarding James Scott Sigrist, M.D. ("Dr. Sigrist"), a psychiatrist who at all pertinent times has been licensed and engaged in the practice of medicine in and around New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Board has received a report from the Physicians' Health Program (the "PHP") indicating that Dr. Sigrist, who has a long history of chemical dependency¹, self-reported to the PHP that he had suffered a return to substance use. He was advised to discontinue practicing medicine and it was recommended that he undergo a formal substance abuse evaluation at a facility approved by the Board. However, Dr. Sigrist stated that due to his current financial situation, he is unable to comply with their recommendations. Dr. Sigrist's medical license is currently on probation, under terms which require the lifetime maintenance of complete and total abstinence from the use of alcohol, and any controlled substance or any other mood-altering substance, except as might be prescribed by his treating physician. This information provides evidence that Dr. Sigrist by his own admission has suffered a return to the abuse of alcohol, is therefore deemed to be unable to practice medicine with skill and safety, and has violated the terms of his probation which required lifetime abstinence.

¹ Final Decision and Order, In the Matter of the License of James S. Sigrist, M.D. (Wis. Med. Exam. Bd., May 24, 1989).

Consent Order for *Issuance of License on Probation*. In Re: Application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. for medical Licensure (LA. State Bd. Med. Exam., June 10, 1991).

Consent Order, In the Matter of James Scott Sigrist, M.D., (La State Bd., Med. Exam., March 20, 2002).

Predicated upon the information outlined above, the Investigating Officer assigned by the Board with respect to this matter has determined that reasonable cause exists for recommending that a formal Administrative Complaint be filed against Dr. Sigrist, charging him with violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§ 37:1285(A)(5)² and (25)³. Investigation of the physician's conduct is ongoing and continuing.

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist acknowledges the right to have written notification of any charges that may be asserted, as well as the right to have evidence of such charges asserted during an administrative hearing at which time he will be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence in defense or in mitigation of the charges made, and to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951, *et seq.* Irrespective of such rights, Dr. Sigrist, nonetheless, hereby consents to the indefinite suspension of his license to practice medicine in this state pending the successful completion of treatment, with reinstatement thereof subject to the terms and conditions of this Order. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto to present this Interim Consent Order to the Board for its consideration and to fully discuss with and disclose to the Board the nature and extent of such charges and he waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Dr. Sigrist acknowledges that disclosure of such information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to prosecute administrative charges which may be filed in this matter following completion of the current investigation or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such charges.

Accordingly, in consideration of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285 and La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D);

IT IS ORDERED that the license of James Scott Sigrist, M.D. to engage in the practice of medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 08844R, be and the same is hereby, effective as of the date hereof, **INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that James Scott Sigrist, M.D. shall not practice medicine in any form in the state of Louisiana until and unless the Board issues and serves a written decision reinstating his license to practice following: (1) receipt of documentation supporting that Dr. Sigrist has successfully completed an in-patient evaluation and any recommended treatment, that he is in compliance with any treatment recommendations, and that his evaluating/treating physicians have determined that he is capable of returning to practice with skill and safety to patients; (2) conclusion of an administrative hearing and final decision by the Board on any charges including, but not limited to, those identified in this Order or that may result from the current, on-going investigation that may be filed in these proceedings; alternatively, by the Board's acceptance of a Consent Order or other recommendation respecting such charges.

² (5) Habitual or recurring abuse of drugs, including alcohol, which affect the central nervous system and which are capable of inducing physiological or psychological dependence;

³ (25) Inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill or safety to patients because of mental illness or deficiency; physical illness, including but not limited to deterioration through the aging process or loss of motor skills; and/or, excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol;

**INTERIM
CONSENT ORDER**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions set forth by this Order by Dr. Sigrist shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the revocation and cancellation of Dr. Sigrist's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana or for such other action as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. Rev. Stat. § 37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Interim Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 21st day of July, 2008.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

BY:

KJ Amusa, MD
KWELI J. AMUSA
President

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF _____

I, JAMES SCOTT SIGRIST, M.D., hereby acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 7 day of July, 2008.

Sigrist
JAMES SCOTT SIGRIST, M.D.

WITNESSES:

Caci Black
Signature
Caci Black
Printed Name

LivRanda Costanza
Signature
LivRanda Costanza
Printed Name

AA Auto Inc. dba
Address
Cleoview Auto Title & Notary
2122 Cleoview Pkwy.
Metairie, LA 70001
504.455.4444
City, State, Zip Code

AA Auto Inc. dba
Address
Cleoview Auto Title & Notary
2122 Cleoview Pkwy.
Metairie, LA 70001
504.455.4444
City, State, Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me at METairie, this 7 day of July, 2008, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

J.D. Deliberto
Notary Public (Signature)

J.D. DELIBERTO
NOTARY PUBLIC - 040587
Printed Name
JEFFERSON PARISH
STATE OF LOUISIANA
MY COMMISSION IS FOR LIFE

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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Ext. _____

-----X
In The Matter Of

JAMES SCOTT SIGRIST, M.D.
(Certificate No. 08844R),

:
No. 08-I-456

:
CONSENT ORDER
:
:
-----X

An investigation conducted by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") reveals that James Scott Sigrist, M.D. ("Dr. Sigrist"), a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, and principally practicing in and around New Orleans, Louisiana, relapsed into the use of alcohol in 2008. Heretofore, in recognition of prior issues with his use and abuse of alcohol and/or mood altering substances in the State of Wisconsin, by Consent Order entered in June 1991, Dr. Sigrist was issued a Louisiana medical license on probation for a period of five years.¹ At the end of the probationary period, having found Dr. Sigrist to have maintained full compliance with the terms of the Consent Order, in October 1996 the Board reinstated Dr. Sigrist's license without probation, restricting only his ability to prescribe Schedule II controlled substances² – a restriction which was removed in December 1996.³ Following a return to substance abuse in 2000, by Consent Order entered in 2002, Dr. Sigrist's license was again placed on probation for a period of five years, subject to certain terms and conditions, including required participation in the Physicians' Health Foundation of Louisiana's Physicians' Health Program ("the PHP"), maintenance of complete abstinence from the use of alcohol and/or mood-altering substances, and a prohibition from prescribing controlled substances to himself or any member of his immediate family.⁴

¹ *Consent Order for Issuance of License on Probation*, In The Matter of Application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. for Medical Licensure (Jun. 10, 1991).

² *Superseding Order*, In the Matter of Application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. for Medical Licensure (Oct. 8, 1996).

³ *Superseding Order*, In the Matter of Application of James S. Sigrist, M.D. for Medical Licensure (Dec. 11, 1996).

⁴ *Consent Order*, In The Matter of James S. Sigrist, M.D., No. 00-I-078, La. St. Bd. Med. Exam. (Mar. 20, 2002).

In or about April 2008, Dr. Sigrist relapsed again into the use and abuse of alcohol and self-reported to the Physicians' Health Foundation of Louisiana. Dr. Sigrist subsequently withdrew from practice and his license was indefinitely suspended pursuant to an Interim Consent Order jointly executed by Dr. Sigrist and the Board on July 21, 2008.⁵ Dr. Sigrist submitted to evaluation and treatment at the Red River Addictions Complex in Pineville, Louisiana on May 28, 2009. At the time of his discharge on or about July 2, 2009, his treating physicians were of the opinion that his most recent relapse had been adequately addressed, that his prognosis was favorable provided that Dr. Sigrist comply with the recommendations that were prescribed, and that Dr. Sigrist was fit to return to practice working within a setting that could provide a monitoring supervisor for a period of time. Following discharge, Dr. Sigrist entered into a new monitoring agreement with the PHP.

As evidenced by his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist acknowledges the substantial accuracy of the foregoing information and that such acknowledgment and the reported information would provide the Investigating Officer herein with probable cause to pursue formal administrative proceedings against him for violation of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285(A)(5), (25) and (30), respectively, constituting sufficient cause for the final revocation or suspension of his license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana.⁶

On the basis of all of the information, reports and recommendations received and reviewed, however, the Board is persuaded that the conditions from which Dr. Sigrist suffers may be susceptible to effective medical treatment, resulting in the restoration of the physician's capacity to engage in the practice of medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, provided that Dr. Sigrist strictly observes and complies with appropriate restrictions on and conditions to maintenance of his medical license. In consideration of this finding, accordingly, and on the recommendation of the Investigating Officer respecting the pending investigation, the Board has concluded that its responsibility to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state against the unprofessional, unqualified and unsafe practice of medicine, La. Rev. Stat. §37:1261, will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter by consent.

Recognizing his right to have administrative adjudication of any charges that may be asserted against him, at which time he would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence on his own behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made and to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951 *et seq.*, Dr. Sigrist, nonetheless, hereby waives his right to formal adjudication and pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D), consents to entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist also acknowledges that he waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951 *et seq.*, or which otherwise may be afforded to him by law, to contest his agreement to or the force and effect of this document in any court or other forum relating to the

⁵ *Interim Consent Order*, In the Matter of James Scott Sigrist, M.D. (Jul. 21, 2008).

⁶ The Board may take action against the license of a physician as a result of: La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285(A)(5) '[H]abitual or recurring abuse of drugs, including alcohol, which affect the central nervous system and which are capable of inducing physiological or psychological dependence;' La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285(A)(25), '[I]nability to practice medicine ... with reasonable skill or safety to patients because of ... excessive use or abuse of drugs; and La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285(A)(30) '[V]iolation of any rule or regulation of the board, or any provisions of this Part.'

forum relating to the matters referred to herein. Dr. Sigrist also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto, to present this Consent Order to the Board for its consideration and to fully disclose to and discuss with the Board the nature and results of the investigation and he waives any objection to such disclosures under La. Rev. Stat. §49:960. Dr. Sigrist expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to pursue formal administrative charges against him or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such charges should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order.

Accordingly, in consideration of the foregoing, and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285 and La. Rev. Stat. §49:955(D);

IT IS ORDERED that the license of James S. Sigrist, M.D. to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by Certificate No. 08844R, is **SUSPENDED** for a period of **ONE YEAR** retroactive to July 21, 2008, which was the date that his license was indefinitely suspended pursuant to the Interim Consent Order jointly executed by Dr. Sigrist and the Board; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the license of James S. Sigrist, M.D., to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana is hereby placed on **INDEFINITE PROBATION** for a period of not less than ten (10) years from the effective date hereof; provided, however, that Dr. Sigrist's license to practice medicine and his continuing exercise of the rights and privileges granted to him thereby shall be conditioned upon and subject to his acceptance of and strict compliance with the following terms, conditions and restrictions:

(1) **Continuing Treatment, Participation in the PHP/Reports to Board.** For the remainder of his medical career, Dr. Sigrist shall maintain a monitoring contract with the PHP. Further, Dr. Sigrist shall continue in, abide by and strictly and timely adhere to each of the recommendations for ongoing treatment and monitoring that are contained in his PHP monitoring contract or any subsequent contract which may be recommended by the PHP, as well as those recommendations of his treating physicians and any health care provider involved in his care to the extent that they continue to follow him. Dr. Sigrist shall, in addition, authorize and cause his treating and monitoring physicians and/or the PHP to submit to the Board, not less frequently than quarterly throughout the probationary period, written reports and/or verbal reports should the Board desire the latter on his then-current treatment diagnosis, course of treatment, prognosis, maintenance of abstinence from alcohol, controlled or other mood-altering substances, his fitness and ability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, his compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Order, his PHP contract and any aftercare agreement he has executed or may hereafter execute.

(2) **Maintenance of Complete Abstinence.** Dr. Sigrist shall, for the duration of his medical career, maintain complete and total abstinence from the use of alcohol, controlled or any other mood-altering substance except as may be prescribed by a treating physician other than himself for a *bona fide* medical condition. Dr. Sigrist shall personally inform his treating and monitoring physicians, both orally and in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours of the prescription or administration of any controlled or mood-altering substance received by him from another

another physician for treatment of a *bona fide* medical condition.

(3) **Drug Screens.** Dr. Sigrist shall submit to periodic, unannounced blood, urine, saliva and/or hair collection for the presence of alcohol, controlled or other mood-altering substances by a PHP physician or his or her designee. Dr. Sigrist shall authorize and cause such physician to report the results of such drug screens to the Board not less frequently than quarterly throughout the probationary period.

(4) **Board Access to Treatment Records and Reports.** Dr. Sigrist shall, and does by his subscription hereto, authorize any physician or any institution at which he undergoes treatment for alcohol or any other dependency or psychiatric condition, as well as any physician under whose care he may come at such an institution who has or may hereafter evaluate, diagnose, treat or monitor him, to provide the Board with copies of all medical reports relating to his history, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis and to provide the Board with written and verbal reports relative thereto. Dr. Sigrist expressly waives any privilege that may otherwise be afforded the disclosure of such records pursuant to state or federal law and shall immediately execute any authorization or release that may be necessary to permit the Board access to such records.

(5) **Treatment of Self, Family Members Prohibited.** Except as may be necessitated by an emergency or life-threatening medical condition, Dr. Sigrist shall not, for the remainder of his medical career, undertake to treat, dispense, prescribe or administer any medications, controlled or non-controlled substances, nor render any medical care to his children, any member of his immediate family or a significant other. In addition, Dr. Sigrist shall arrange for other physicians to attend to his own health care needs, who he shall advise of his responsibility to maintain abstinence as required by the terms of this Order.

(6) **Seminar on Boundaries.** Dr. Sigrist shall attend and successfully complete a course of study, pre-approved in writing by the Board, which addresses boundary issues for health care professionals. On or before the expiration of one year from the effective date of this order Dr. Sigrist shall cause to be submitted to the Board written certification of the satisfaction of this condition.

(7) **Withdrawal from Practice.** Should, in the opinion of his treating physicians, any physical condition from which Dr. Sigrist suffers necessitate the chronic and/or ongoing use of opioids or other controlled substances, then Dr. Sigrist shall, in addition to complying with the other requirements of this Order, immediately notify the Board in writing and withdraw and refrain from the practice of medicine until authorized in writing to return to practice by the Board.

(8) **Board Approval of Practice Setting.** Following reinstatement, and for so long as he holds a license to practice medicine in this state, Dr. Sigrist shall only engage in the practice of medicine in Louisiana in a hospital, multi-group setting, or other institution which has been pre-approved by the Board, or its designee in writing.

(9) **Monitoring of Practice.** Dr. Sigrist's practice shall be supervised by another physician approved by the Board or its designee, who shall monitor his practice to determine whether Dr. Sigrist is practicing consistently with accepted standards. Dr. Sigrist shall authorize and cause such physician, not less frequently than quarterly during the first year of probation and semiannually thereafter, to submit to the Board written reports as to his or her determinations concerning Dr. Sigrist's professional and medical competence as derived from such monitoring.

(10) **Notification to Employers.** Dr. Sigrist shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to each hospital or other institution at which or for whom he provides services as a physician in this state.

(11) **Treatment of Chronic Pain and Obesity Patients Prohibited.** Dr. Sigrist shall not, for as long as he holds a license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, treat any patient for chronic pain and/or obesity utilizing: (i) any controlled substance classified as such under federal or state regulation or law, 21 C.F.R. §1308.11-.15 or La. Rev. Stat. §40:964; (ii) any substance hereafter designated a controlled substance by regulation or statute.

(12) **Continuing Medical Education.** Dr. Sigrist shall obtain not less than fifty (50) credit hours per year for three (3) years through attendance at and participation in continuing medical education programs ("CME") accredited by and qualifying for the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association, and he shall obtain such award within three (3) years from the effective date of this Order. On or before August 1st of each year for the three (3) years following the effective date of this Consent Order, Dr. Sigrist shall cause to be submitted to the Board written certification of the CME programs and credits completed by him during the preceding twelve (12) months.

(13) **Additional Probationary Terms.** In addition to such other terms, conditions and restrictions as are placed upon his license to practice medicine by this Order, Dr. Sigrist hereby consents to, agrees with and acquiesces in the imposition of any additional terms, conditions or restrictions, including but not limited to a further period of actual suspension of his license, restrictions as to the nature, scope, location and supervision of his practice, additional training, treatment, reports and evaluations, and/or an extension of his probationary period that the Board, in its sole discretion, may deem necessary or appropriate.

(14) **Probation Monitoring Fee.** For each year of the probationary term Dr. Sigrist shall pay the Board a probation monitoring fee of Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars. Payment of the initial fee shall be due not later than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Order. All subsequent annual payments shall be due on or before the anniversary date of the initial fee payment.

(15) **Cooperation with Board's Medical Consultant/Probation and Compliance Officer.** Dr. Sigrist shall immediately notify the Board's Probation and Compliance Officer of any change in his current home and professional addresses and telephone numbers and he shall direct all matters required pursuant to this Consent Order to the attention of the Probation and Compliance Officer, with whom he shall cooperate on all matters and inquiries pertaining to his compliance with the terms, conditions and restrictions of this Consent Order. Dr. Sigrist shall also

also make himself available, upon reasonable notice, for personal interviews with the Probation Officer or other representatives of the Board for the purpose of discussing his then-current compliance with the terms of this Order.

(16) **Absence from State - Effect on Probation.** Should Dr. Sigrist at any time during the period of probation ordered herein be absent from the state of Louisiana, relocate to and/or take up residency in another state or country, or discontinue practicing medicine, for a period of thirty (30) days or more, he will so advise the Board in writing. In such instance, the probationary period ordered herein and all terms, conditions and restrictions thereof, shall be deemed interrupted and extended and shall not commence to run until Dr. Sigrist notifies the Board in writing that he has returned to, relocated or taken up residency in, or resumed the practice of medicine in the state of Louisiana. In such instance, Dr. Sigrist shall not receive credit toward completion of the probationary period for the time during which he was absent from the state of Louisiana or not engaged in the practice of medicine.

(17) **Sanction.** By his subscription hereto, Dr. Sigrist acknowledges that his receipt of written notification from the Board that it has received apparently reliable information which indicates his failure to maintain abstinence from controlled or any mood-altering substance, including alcohol, or his failure to otherwise comply with the requirements set forth by this Order in any respect shall, without the need for formal hearing or providing him with any right to which he may otherwise be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. Rev. Stat. §§49:951, et seq., or which otherwise may be afforded to him by law, constitute his irrevocable consent to the immediate suspension of his license to practice medicine in this state pending the issuance of a final decision by the Board following administrative adjudication of such charges.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions or restrictions set forth by this Order by Dr. Sigrist shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for the **REVOCATION AND CANCELLATION** of Dr. Sigrist's license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, or for such other action as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be, and shall be deemed to be, a public record.

Signed at New Orleans, Louisiana, and effective on this 19th day of October, 2009.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

BY:



LINDA GAGE-WHITE, M.D., PH.D.
President

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF Orleans

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT

I, James S. Sigrist, M.D., acknowledge, approve, accept and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order, this 8th day of October, 2009.

James S. Sigrist
James S. Sigrist, M.D.

Vanissa Prout
Signature
Vanissa Prout
Typed Name
630 Camp St.
Address
N.O., LA, 70130
City/State/Zip Code

WITNESSES:

Christine Holder
Signature
Christine Holder
Typed Name
630 Camp Street
Address
N.O. LA 70130
City/State/Zip Code

DM Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8 day of October, 2008, in the presence of the two stated witnesses.

David M. Stein
Notary Public

David M. Stein / 87789
Printed Name/Notary or Bar Number

DAVID M. STEIN
NOTARY PUBLIC
State of Louisiana
Notary ID #87789, Bar #31977
My Commission is for Life