



New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Corning Tower • Empire State Plaza • Albany, NY 12237 • (518) 474-8357

Barbara A. DeBuono, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner of Health

Charles J. Vacanti, M.D.
Chair

December 27, 1995

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

John Shannon Sappington, M.D.
490 Angell Street
Apartment 201A
Providence, Rhode Island 02906

RE: License No. 188909

Dear Dr. Sappington:

Effective Date: 01/03/96

Enclosed please find Order #BPMC 95-312 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect upon receipt of this letter or seven (7) days after the date of this letter, whichever is earlier.

If the penalty imposed by the Order is a surrender, revocation or suspension of this license, you are required to deliver to the Board the license and registration within five (5) days of receipt of the Order.

Board for Professional Medical Conduct
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza
Tower Building-Room 438
Albany, New York 12237-0756

Sincerely,

Charles Vacanti, M.D.
Chair
Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc: Susan Marcotte Carlin, Esq.
Famiglietti & Carlin, Ltd.
Suite 250, Shakespeare Hall
128 Dorrance Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Irene M. Koch, Esq.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER
OF
JOHN SHANNON SAPPINGTON, M.D.

SURRENDER
ORDER

BPMC #95-312

Upon the Application of JOHN SHANNON SAPPINGTON, M.D. (Respondent) to Surrender his/her license as a physician in the State of New York, which application is made a part hereof, it is

ORDERED, that the application and the provisions thereof are hereby adopted; it is further

ORDERED, that the name of Respondent be stricken from the roster of physicians in the State of New York; it is further

ORDERED, that this order shall take effect as of the date of the personal service of this order upon Respondent, upon receipt by Respondent of this order via certified mail, or seven days after mailing of this order via certified mail, whichever is earliest.

SO ORDERED.

DATED: 23 December 1995

Charles J. Vacanti

CHARLES J. VACANTI, M.D.
Chairperson
State Board for Professional
Medical Conduct

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER
OF
JOHN SHANNON SAPPINGTON, M.D.

APPLICATION TO
SURRENDER
LICENSE

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND)
COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE) ss.:

JOHN SHANNON SAPPINGTON, M.D., being duly sworn, deposes and says:

On or about May 7, 1992, I was licensed to practice medicine as a physician in the State of New York having been issued License No. 188909 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 490 Angell Street, Apt. 201A, Providence, Rhode Island, 02906, and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of my address.

I understand that I have been charged with five specifications of professional misconduct as set forth in the Statement of Charges, annexed hereto, made a part hereof, and marked as Exhibit "A".

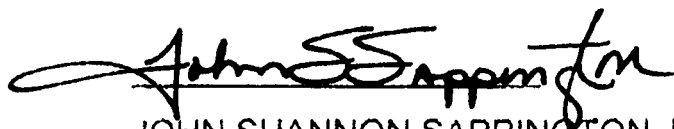
I am applying to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct for permission to surrender my license as a physician in the State of New York on the grounds that I admit guilt to only the first specification in full satisfaction of the Statement of Charges.

I hereby make this application to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct and request that it be granted.

I understand that, in the event that the application is not granted by the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, nothing contained herein shall be binding upon me or construed to be an admission of any act of misconduct alleged or charged against me, such application shall not be used against me in any way, and shall be kept in strict confidence during the pendency of the professional misconduct disciplinary proceeding; and such denial by the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct shall be made without prejudice to the continuance of any disciplinary proceeding and the final determination by a Committee on Professional Medical Conduct pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Law.

I agree that, in the event the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct grants my application, an order shall be issued striking my name from the roster of physicians in the State of New York without further notice to me.

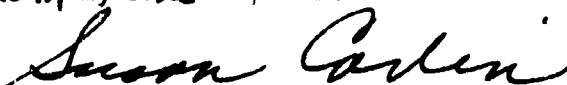
I am making this Application of my own free will and accord and not under duress, compulsion, or restraint of any kind or manner.



JOHN SHANNON SAPPINGTON, M.D.
Respondent

Sworn to before me this

15th day of Dec., 1995



NOTARY PUBLIC

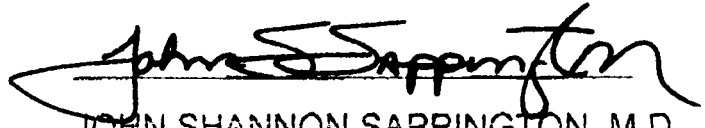
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER
OF
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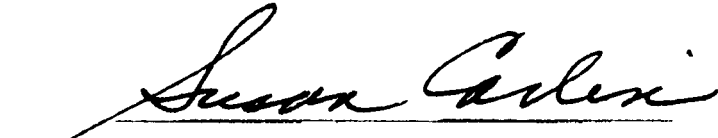
APPLICATION TO
SURRENDER
LICENSE

The undersigned agree to the attached application of the Respondent to surrender his license.


Date: 12/15/, 1995


JOHN SHANNON SAPPINGTON, M.D.
Respondent

Date: 12/15/, 1995


SUSAN CARLIN, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

Date: 12/19/, 1995


IRENE M. KOCH
Assistant Counsel
Bureau of Professional
Medical Conduct

Date: 12/21, 1995

Anne Saile

Acting

KATHLEEN M. TANNER

Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

Date: 23 December, 1995

Charles J. Vacanti

CHARLES J. VACANTI, M.D.

Chairperson

State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER
OF
JOHN SHANNON SAPPINGTON, M.D.

STATEMENT
OF
CHARGES

JOHN SHANNON SAPPINGTON, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about May 7, 1992, by the issuance of license number 188909 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. Since on or before March, 1989, but in no case beginning later than June, 1994, Respondent's ability to practice medicine has been impaired for reasons including his being an habitual user of alcohol, or being dependent on or a habitual user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drugs having similar effects.
- B. Since on or before January, 1993, but in no case beginning later than June, 1994, Respondent practiced the profession while impaired by, at a minimum, alcohol and/or drugs. Examples of Respondent's practicing the profession while impaired include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. In or about June, 1994, while Respondent was a Resident in Psychiatry at New York University Medical Center, a sample of Respondent's urine, collected while he was on duty, tested positive for benzodiazapines.

2. In or about March, 1995, during which time Respondent was a Resident in Psychiatry at New York University Medical Center, Respondent was arrested and charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance, and a sample of Respondent's urine, collected shortly thereafter while he was on duty, tested positive for cocaine.
3. On several occasions, Respondent exercised poor judgement and/or engaged in inappropriate behavior with patients and staff.

C. Respondent knowingly and intentionally misrepresented facts including, but not limited to, the following:

1. In or about 1992, Respondent made inaccurate and/or misleading statement(s) and/or omission(s), and/or included inaccurate and/or misleading letter(s) of reference, when applying for a residency in Psychiatry at New York University Medical Center.
2. In or about 1995, Respondent made inaccurate and/or misleading statement(s) and/or omission(s), and/or included inaccurate and/or misleading letter(s) of reference, when applying for a residency in Child Psychiatry at Bradley Hospital in Rhode Island.
3. In or about April 1995, Respondent made inaccurate and/or misleading statement(s) and/or omission(s) when applying for a residency in psychiatry at University of Buffalo.

4. In or about April, 1995, Respondent made inaccurate and/or misleading statement(s) and/or omission(s) in discussions with a representative of the Office of Education of the American Psychiatric Association.
 5. In or about May, 1995, Respondent made inaccurate and/or misleading statement(s) and/or omission(s) when applying for a fellowship at University of Florida.
 6. In or about July, 1995, Respondent made inaccurate and/or misleading statement(s) and/or omission(s) on his application for a license to practice medicine in Rhode Island.
- D. In or about August, 1995, Respondent made several inappropriate and/or threatening telephone calls to the Director of Residency Training, Department of Psychiatry, New York University Medical Center, after Respondent had recently been dismissed from the Psychiatric Residency Program there.

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

FIRST SPECIFICATION

BEING AN HABITUAL USER OR HAVING A PSYCHIATRIC CONDITION WHICH IMPAIRS THE ABILITY TO PRACTICE

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(8)(McKinney Supp. 1995) by being an habitual user of alcohol, or being dependent on or an habitual user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drugs having similar effect, or having a psychiatric condition which impairs the licensee's ability to practice, as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. Paragraph A.

SECOND SPECIFICATION

PRACTICING WHILE IMPAIRED

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(7)(McKinney Supp. 1995) by practicing the profession while impaired by alcohol, drugs, physical disability, or mental disability, as alleged in the facts of the following:

2. Paragraphs B, B.1, B.2 and/or B.3.

THIRD SPECIFICATION

FRAUDULENT PRACTICE

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined by

N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(2)(McKinney Supp. 1995) by practicing the profession of medicine fraudulently as alleged in the facts of the following:

3. Paragraphs C, C.1, C.2, C.3, C.4, C.5 and/or C.6.

FOURTH SPECIFICATION

WILFULLY MAKING A FALSE REPORT

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(21)(McKinney Supp. 1995) by willfully making or filing a false report as alleged in the facts of the following:

4. Paragraphs C, C.1, C.2, C.3, C.4, C.5 and/or C.6.

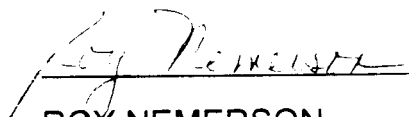
FIFTH SPECIFICATION

MORAL UNFITNESS

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(20)(McKinney Supp. 1995) by engaging in conduct in the practice of the profession of medicine that evidences moral unfitness to practice as alleged in the facts of the following:

5. Paragraph D.

DATED: December 4, 1995
New York, New York



ROY NEMERSON
Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional
Medical Conduct