



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Health Professions

Board of Medicine

November 2, 2001

John W. Hasty
Director of the Department

William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director of the Board

Michael R. Kronen, M.D.
15420 Good Hope Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20905

and

11507 February Circle
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Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

6606 West Broad Street
4th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717
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CERTIFIED MAIL
7106 4575 1294 3561 9607

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RE: License No.:0101-051940

Dear Dr. Kronen:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") will be held on **Thursday, December 13, 2001, at 1:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Select, 2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, Virginia.** The conference will be conducted pursuant to Sections 54.1-2919, 2.2-4019 and 2.2-4021 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code").

An Informal Conference Committee ("Committee"), composed of three members of the Board, will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws governing the practice of medicine in Virginia. Specifically, you may have violated Sections 54.1-2915.A (6) and (3), as further defined in Section 54.1-2914.A (7) and (14) [formerly 54.1-2914.A(9) and (16)] of the Code. Section 18 VAC 85-20-100 of the Regulations Relating to Medicine and the Healing Arts defines Section 54.1-2914.A (14). You are alleged to have violated these sections in that:

1. By your own admission, on or about December 31, 1997, you engaged in a sexual relationship with Patient A while providing treatment to her in your position as the Assistant Director for Mental Health at the University of Maryland Health Center.

2. By Consent Order of the Maryland Board of Physician Quality Assurance ("Maryland Board") entered on March 24, 1999, your license to practice medicine in that state was suspended based on your unprofessional conduct with Patient A. Your license was suspended for a period of six-months. Credit was given for five a month period, during which you had not practiced while your case was pending and the remaining month was immediately stayed. Your license is currently on a five-year period of probation subject to terms and conditions, to include:

- (a) Attending intensive courses in medical ethics focusing upon sexual misconduct;
- (b) Practicing only in supervised settings and areas approved by the Maryland Board;
- (c) Remaining under contract with the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, Physician's Rehabilitation Committee;
- (d) Continuing in psychotherapy and taking any medication as directed in conjunction with his on-going treatment; and
- (e) Undergoing a psychiatric re-evaluation and peer review within two years of the date of the Consent Order.

3. Based on the action taken by the Maryland Board, the New York Board for Professional Medical Conduct (“New York Board”) entered an order on November 23, 1999 suspending your license to practice medicine in that jurisdiction. Your license was suspended for five-years, with the suspension stayed. In addition, you were placed on probation for a period of five-years subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) Full compliance with the March 24, 1999 Order entered by the Maryland Board. If the terms of the Maryland Board’s probation terminate prior to the five year term of the New York Order, Dr. Kronen must continue under psychiatric treatment and submit written reports documenting such for the remainder of the New York probation period;
- (b) Submission of a quarterly Compliance Declaration attesting to Dr. Kronen’s compliance to the Maryland Order;
- (c) Taking the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Boards within the five-year probation period.; and
- (d) Providing the New York Board with ninety days notice prior to returning to practice in New York. Such notice should include proof that Dr. Kronen’s license remains in good standing in all states where he maintains a license.

4. On March 3, 2001, the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners (“New Jersey Board”), also as a result of the Maryland action, suspended your license to practice medicine for a period of six months, with credit given for five months of the suspension and the remaining month stayed. In addition, the New Jersey Board imposed a five-year period of probation with the terms and conditions of that probation to run concurrent with and in accordance with those set by the Maryland Board.

Please see Attachment I for the identity of the individual referenced above.

The following actions may be taken by this Committee:

1. If a majority of the Committee is of the opinion that a suspension or revocation of your license may be justified, the Committee shall present to the Board in writing its findings, and the Board may proceed with a formal hearing.
2. The Committee may notify you in writing that you are fully exonerated of any charge that might affect your right to practice medicine in Virginia.
3. The Committee may reprimand or censure you.
4. The Committee may impose a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 54.1-2401 of the Code.
5. The Committee may place you on probation for such time as it may designate and direct that during such period you furnish the Committee or its chairman, at such intervals as the Committee may direct, evidence that you are not practicing in violation of the provisions of Chapter 29, Title 54.1 of the Code, which governs the practice of medicine in Virginia.

You have the right to information, which will be relied upon by the Committee in making a decision. Therefore, I enclose a copy of the documents, which will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing the allegations with you and when deliberating upon your case. Since you have been noticed of an alleged violation of Section 54.1-2914.A (7) of the Code, enclosed in these documents is Opinion 8.14 of the American Medical Association’s Code of Ethics. The Committee may consider this opinion when determining whether you have conducted your practice in a manner contrary to the standards of ethics of the practice of medicine. These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail, and must be claimed at the post office. I also enclose relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which governs proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of medicine and other healing arts in Virginia.

Absent good cause shown to support a request for a continuance, the informal conference will be held on December 13, 2001. A request to continue this proceeding must be made in writing and directed to me at the address listed on this letter. Such request must be received by 5:00 p.m. on **November 16, 2001**, and must state in detail the reason for

the request. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent exigent circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after **November 16, 2001**, will not be considered.


You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference. If you obtain counsel, you should do so as soon as possible, as a motion for a continuance due to the unavailability of counsel will not be considered unless received by **November 16, 2001**. Further, it is your responsibility to provide the enclosed materials to your attorney.

The Board hereby offers to enter into the enclosed Consent Order with you in lieu of a hearing in this matter. Please review this document and should you consent to its terms, have it signed before a notary public. In order for it to become effective, you must return this original Consent Order, bearing your witnessed signature, to the Board office on or before December 2, 2001. You will receive a certified copy shortly thereafter. Should the Board not receive this Consent Order from you by 12:00 Noon on the above named date, the Board will proceed with the informal conference as described herein.

To facilitate this proceeding, you must submit eight (8) copies of any documents you wish for the Committee to consider to Reneé S. Dixon, Discipline Case Manager, Board of Medicine, 6606 West Broad Street, 4th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717, by **November 16, 2001**. Should you or Senior Adjudication Analyst Sheon Rose wish to submit any documents for the Committee's consideration after November 16, 2001, such documents shall be considered only upon a ruling by the Chair of the informal conference committee that good cause has been shown for late submission.

Please advise the Board of your intention to be present. Should you fail to appear at the informal conference the Board may proceed to a formal administrative hearing in order to impose sanctions. Should you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Sheon J. Rose, Senior Adjudication Analyst, at (804) 662-7445.

Sincerely,


William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

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cc: Harry C. Beaver, M.D., President, Virginia Board of Medicine
John W. Hasty, Director, Department of Health Professions
James L. Banning, Director, Administrative Proceedings Division
Sheon J. Rose, Senior Adjudication Analyst
Reneé S. Dixon, Discipline Case Manager, Board of Medicine
Joyce M. Shelton-Jones, Senior Investigator (74094)
Carolyn McCracken, Senior Administrative Assistant, Board of Medicine

Enclosures:

Attachment I
Consent Order
Virginia Code Sections:
54.1-2914
54.1-2915
54.1-2919
2.2-4019
2.2-4021
18 VAC 85-20-100
Map
Informal Conference Package

