



New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

433 River Street, Suite 303 • Troy, New York 12180-2299 • (518) 402-0863

Public

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Office of Professional Medical Conduct

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Vice Chair
Katherine A. Hawkins, M.D., J.D.
Executive Secretary

October 20, 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Louis Mark Starace, M.D.
REDACTED

Re: License No. 156861

Dear Dr. Starace:

Enclosed is a copy of Order BPMC #10-194 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect October 27, 2010.

If the penalty imposed by this Order is a surrender, revocation or suspension, you are required to deliver your license and registration within five (5) days of receipt of this Order to: Office of Professional Medical Conduct, c/o Physician Monitoring Unit, New York State Department of Health, 433 River Street, Suite 303, Troy, NY 12180-2299.

If the document(s) are lost, misplaced or destroyed, you are required to submit to this office an affidavit to that effect. Enclosed for your convenience is an affidavit. Please complete and sign the affidavit before a notary public and return it to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct.

Sincerely,

REDACTED

Katherine A. Hawkins, M.D., J.D.
Executive Secretary
Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc: Jay B. Silverman, Esq.
Ruskin, Moscou, Faltischek
East Tower, 15th Floor
1425 RXR Plaza
Uniondale, NY 11556-1425

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

IN THE MATTER
OF
LOUIS MARK STARACE, M.D.

SURRENDER
ORDER

BPMC No. #10-194

Upon the application of (Respondent) LOUIS MARK STARACE, M.D. to Surrender his license as a physician in the State of New York, which is made a part of this Surrender Order, it is

ORDERED, that the Surrender, and its terms, are adopted and it is further

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

ORDERED, that this Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, either

- by mailing of a copy of this Surrender Order, either by first class mail to Respondent at the address in the attached Surrender Application or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, OR
- upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney,

Whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATE: 10-19-2010

REDACTED

~~KENDRICK A. SEARS, M.D.~~
Chair
State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER
OF
LOUIS MARK STARACE, M.D.

SURRENDER
of
LICENSE

LOUIS MARK STARACE, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

December ^{R.N.} 5, 1983
That on or about ~~February~~ 5, 1983, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York and issued License No. 156861 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is REDACTED
, and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct has charged me with three specifications of professional misconduct.

A copy of the Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", is attached to and part of this Surrender of License.

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 and I plead guilty to the specifications in the Statement of Charges in full satisfaction of the charges against me.

I ask the Board to accept my Surrender of License, and I agree to be bound by all of the terms set forth in attached Exhibit "B".

I understand that, if the Board does not accept my Surrender of License, none of its terms shall bind me or constitute an admission of any of the acts of misconduct alleged; this application shall not be used against me in any way and shall be kept in strict confidence; and the Board's denial shall be without prejudice to the pending disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination pursuant to the Public Health Law.

I agree that, if the Board accepts my Surrender of License, the Chair of the Board shall issue a Surrender Order in accordance with its terms. I agree that this Order shall take effect upon its issuance by the Board, either by mailing of a copy of the Surrender Order by first class mail to me at the address in this Surrender of License, or to my attorney by certified mail, or upon facsimile transmission to me or my attorney, whichever is first. The Surrender Order, this agreement, and all attached exhibits shall be public documents, with only patient identities, if any, redacted. As public documents, they may be posted on the Department's website(s).

I ask the Board to accept this Surrender of License, which I submit of my own free will and not under duress, compulsion or restraint. In consideration of the value to me of the Board's acceptance of this Surrender of License, allowing me to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Surrender Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, and I agree to be bound by the Surrender Order.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct and the Chair of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed agreement and Order, based upon my application, or to decline to do so. I further understand and agree that no prior or separate written or oral communication can limit that discretion.

DATE 10/3/10

REDACTED

~~LOUIS MARK STARACE, M.D.~~
RESPONDENT

The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Surrender of License and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: 10/5/10

REDACTED

~~JAY SILVERMAN, ESQ.~~
Attorney for Respondent

DATE: 10/5/10

REDACTED

~~NANCY SYROHMEYER~~
Assistant Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 10/19/10

REDACTED

~~KEITH W. SERVIS~~
Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "A"

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

IN THE MATTER
OF
LOUIS MARK STARACE, M.D.

STATEMENT
OF
CHARGES

LOUIS MARK STARACE, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about December 5, 1983, by the issuance of license number 15581 by the New York State Education Department.

156861 R.N.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. During periods in or about 2007 to date, Respondent failed to provide access by qualified persons to patient information (i.e., their complete medical records and films) in accordance with the standards set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law Sec. 18, as added by chapter 497 of the laws of 1986, in that Respondent failed to provide access to their respective patient information, upon request, to:
1. Patient A.
 2. Patient B.
 3. Patient C.

[Patients A, B and C are identified in the attached "Appendix."]

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES
FIRST THROUGH THIRD SPECIFICATION
FAILING TO PROVIDE ACCESS BY QUALIFIED
PERSONS TO PATIENT INFORMATION

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(40) by failing to provide access by qualified persons to patient information in accordance with the standards set forth in section eighteen of the public health law as added by chapter 497 of the laws of 1986, as alleged in the facts of:

1. Paragraph A and A.1.
2. Paragraph A and A.2.
3. Paragraph A and A.3.

DATE: *OCT 6*
 September , 2010
 New York, New York

REDACTED

ROY NEMERSON
Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "B"

Requirements for Closing a Medical Practice Following a Revocation, Surrender, Limitation or Suspension of a Medical License

1. Licensee shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in the practice of medicine in New York State, or under Licensee's New York license, in accordance with the terms of the Order. In addition, Licensee shall refrain from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application and from representing that Licensee is eligible to practice medicine.
2. Within 5 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall deliver Licensee's original license to practice medicine in New York State and current biennial registration to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) at Hedley Park Place, 433 River Street 4th Floor, Troy, NY 12180-2299.
3. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall notify all patients of the cessation or limitation of Licensee's medical practice, and shall refer all patients to another licensed practicing physician for continued care, as appropriate. Licensee shall notify, in writing, each health care plan with which the Licensee contracts or is employed, and each hospital where Licensee has privileges, that Licensee has ceased medical practice. Within 45 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall provide OPMC with written documentation that all patients and hospitals have been notified of the cessation of Licensee's medical practice.
4. Licensee shall make arrangements for the transfer and maintenance of all patient medical records. Within 30 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall notify OPMC of these arrangements, including the name, address, and telephone number of an appropriate and acceptable contact persons who shall have access to these records. Original records shall be retained for at least 6 years after the last date of service rendered to a patient or, in the case of a minor, for at least 6 years after the last date of service or 3 years after the patient reaches the age of majority, whichever time period is longer. Records shall be maintained in a safe and secure place that is reasonably accessible to former patients. The arrangements shall include provisions to ensure that the information in the record is kept confidential and is available only to authorized persons. When a patient or a patient's representative requests a copy of the patient's medical record, or requests that the original medical record be sent to another health care provider, a copy of the record shall be promptly provided or forwarded at a reasonable cost to the patient (not to exceed 75 cents per page.) Radiographic, sonographic and similar materials shall be provided at cost. A qualified person shall not be denied access to patient information solely because of an inability to pay.
 - A. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall personally write a letter to Patients A-C, who are more fully identified in the appendix to Exhibit A of this agreement, which explains that he is unable to locate and provide either originals or copies of their radiologic studies including, but not limited to, magnetic resonance imaging and x-rays. Licensee shall cause this letter to be delivered via certified mail, return receipt requested and shall provide proof of mailing and delivery of these letters to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct.
5. In the event that Licensee holds a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) certificate for New York State, Licensee shall, within fifteen (15) days of the Order's effective date, advise the DEA, in writing, of the

licensure action and shall surrender his/her DEA controlled substance privileges for New York State to the DEA. Licensee shall promptly surrender any unused DEA #222 U.S. Official Order Forms Schedules 1 and 2 for New York State to the DEA. All submissions to the DEA shall be addressed to Diversion Program Manager, New York Field Division, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, 99 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

6. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall return any unused New York State official prescription forms to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement of the New York State Department of Health. Licensee shall destroy all prescription pads bearing Licensee's name. If no other licensee is providing services at Licensee's practice location, Licensee shall properly dispose of all medications.
7. Within 15 days of the Order's effective date, Licensee shall remove from the public domain any representation that Licensee is eligible to practice medicine, including all related signs, advertisements, professional listings (whether in telephone directories, internet or otherwise), professional stationery or billings. Licensee shall not share, occupy, or use office space in which another licensee provides health care services.
8. Licensee shall not charge, receive or share any fee or distribution of dividends for professional services rendered by Licensee or others while Licensee is barred from engaging in the practice of medicine. Licensee may be compensated for the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered, and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf, prior to the Order's effective date.
9. If Licensee is a shareholder in any professional service corporation organized to engage in the practice of medicine, Licensee shall divest all financial interest in the professional services corporation, in accordance with New York Business Corporation Law. Such divestiture shall occur within 90 days. If Licensee is the sole shareholder in a professional services corporation, the corporation must be dissolved or sold within 90 days of the Order's effective date.
10. Failure to comply with the above directives may result in a civil penalty or criminal penalties as may be authorized by governing law. Under N.Y. Educ. Law § 6512, it is a Class E Felony, punishable by imprisonment of up to 4 years, to practice the profession of medicine when a professional license has been suspended, revoked or annulled. Such punishment is in addition to the penalties for professional misconduct set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a, which include fines of up to \$10,000 for each specification of charges of which the Licensee is found guilty, and may include revocation of a suspended license.