1 2	TERRY GODDARD Attorney General Firm No. 14000		
3	ANN-MARIE ANDERSON		
4	State Bar No. 016113 Assistant Attorney General		
5	1275 West Washington, CIV/LES Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2926		
6	Telephone: (602) 542-7671 Fax: (602) 364-3202		
7	Attorneys for the State		
8	BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA		
9	In the Matter of:		
10	JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D.	Case No. MD-03-0121	
11	Holder of License No. 14308	CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER FOR SURRENDER OF LICENSE	
12	For the Practice Medicine In the State of Arizona,		
13			
14	CONSE	NT AGREEMENT	
15	<u> </u>	RECITALS	
16	In the interest of a prompt and judic	cious settlement of the above-captioned matter before	
17	the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") and	consistent with the public interest, statutory	
18	requirements and responsibilities of the Bo	ard and pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(F)(5) and	
19	A.R.S. § 32-1401 et seq., Jeffrey M. Pont,	M.D., holder of license number 14308 to practice	
20	allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona	("Respondent") and the Board enter into the	
21	following Recitals, Findings of Fact, Concl	lusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement") as	
22	the final disposition of this matter.		
23	<ol> <li>Respondent acknowledges t</li> </ol>	hat he has read and understands everything contained	
24	in this Consent Agreement and has had the	opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with	
25	an attorney and has done so or chooses not	to do so. Respondent admits to all Findings of Fact	
26	contained in the Consent Agreement. Resp	ondent voluntarily enters into this Consent Agreement	
	for the purpose of avoiding the expense and	d uncertainty of an administrative hearing.	

- 2. Respondent understands that he has a right to a public administrative hearing concerning each and every allegation set forth in the above-captioned matter, at which administrative hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent freely and voluntarily relinquishes all rights to such an administrative hearing, as well as all rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters set forth herein. Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement shall be irrevocable.
- 3. Respondent understands that by entering into this Consent Agreement,
  Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to challenge in state or federal court this Consent
  Agreement in its entirety or any portion thereof as issued by the Board and waives any other
  cause of action related thereto or arising from the Consent Agreement.
- 4. Respondent acknowledges and understands that this Consent Agreement will not become effective until approved by the Board and signed by the Board's Executive Director or designee.
- 5. All admissions made by Respondent in regards to these matters are solely for final disposition of these matters and any subsequently related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, admissions by Respondent are not intended or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal proceeding, in the State of Arizona or any other state or federal court.
- 6. Respondent understands this Consent Agreement deals with Board Investigations
  Case No. MD-03-0121 involving allegations of unprofessional conduct against Respondent.

  The investigation into these allegations against Respondent shall be concluded upon the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement.
- 7. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not

regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding. Respondent also understands that acceptance of this Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency, subdivision or officer of this state from instituting any other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Consent Agreement.

8. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that, upon signing this agreement and

constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction

- 8. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that, upon signing this agreement and returning this document to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke his acceptance of the Consent Agreement or make any modifications to the document, regardless of whether the Consent Agreement has been issued by the Executive Director. Any modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved in writing by the parties.
- 9. Respondent further understands that this Consent Agreement, once approved and signed by all parties, shall constitute a public record of disciplinary action against his license to practice medicine, which may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board, and shall be reported as required by law to the National Practioner Data Bank and the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank
- 10. Respondent understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement constitutes unprofessional conduct under A.R.S. § 32-1401(26)(r)("Violating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under the provisions of this chapter") and shall result in disciplinary action under A.R.S. § 32-1451 et seq.
- 11. If any part of the Consent Agreement is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the remainder of the Order in its entirety shall remain in full force and effect.
- 12. The parties mutually understand and agree that this order constitutes a final, binding decision of this matter under investigation by the Board and referenced above.

1	46		
2	Reviewed and Accepted this 17th day of March, 2004 by:		
3	ORRA BOTT MP		
4	Jeffrey M. Pont, M.D. Respondent		
5	Reviewed and Approved as to Form this $\frac{18\%}{1200}$ day of $\frac{M4nCH}{1200}$ , 2004 by:		
6	Reviewed and Approved as to Form this day of, 2004 by.		
7			
8	Thomas D. Lawless, Esq. Counsel for Respondent		
9	PERMINENCE OF FACT		
10	FINDINGS OF FACT		
11	<u>Case No. MD-03-0121</u>		
12	The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the		
13	practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.		
14	2. Respondent is the holder of license number 14308 for the practice of allopathic		
	medicine in the State of Arizona.		
15	3. The Board initiated investigation MD-03-0121 in December 2002, in response to		
16	an inquiry from an outside public agency.		
17	4. In January 2003, during a chemical dependancy evaluation Respondent was		
18	determined to have an opioid dependence by the Hazelden Springbrook chemical dependency		
19	inpatient facility in Newberg, Oregon ("Springbrook").		
20	5. Respondent executed a Request for Inactive Status with Cause and Order		
21	Granting Inactive Status with Cause, dated January 31, 2003 ("Order")(EXHIBIT A).		
22			
23	6. The Order constitutes the Board's third disciplinary action against Respondent for		
24	unprofessional conduct related to substance abuse.		
25	7. The Order provides for, among other things, that Respondent's license to		
26	practice allopathic medicine, License No. 14308, be inactivated on or about February 1, 2003.		

The Order further provides that Respondent agrees not to practice medicine in the State of Arizona or any other state while Respondent's Arizona license is inactive and Respondent shall not request reactivation of his license until Respondent complies with all requests of the Board. (**EXHIBIT A**, page 1, paragraph 2).

- 8. On or about October 2, 2003, pursuant to his delegated authority, the Board's Executive Director referred this matter to Formal Hearing.
- 9. When determining appropriate disciplinary action against a licensee, "the board shall consider all previous nondisciplinary and disciplinary actions against a licensee." A.R.S. § 32-1451(U).
- 10. The Board has previously taken a total of four (4) disciplinary and three (3) non-disciplinary actions against Respondent. The Board's prior disciplinary actions as related to substance abuse are described below. (**EXHIBIT B** and **EXHIBIT C**).
- 11. The Board has two (2) times previously imposed upon Respondent a Stipulation and Order, finding Respondent guilty of, among other things, "misuse of controlled substances" and requiring Respondent's participation in rehabilitation and aftercare monitoring programs, as described below. (**EXHIBIT B** and **EXHIBIT C**).
- 12. The Board imposed a Stipulation and Order, dated January 5, 1985, finding Respondent guilty of "misuse of controlled substances" and ordering Respondent to, among other things, "consult and counsel with his therapist" and "submit quarterly reports to the Board of Medical Examiners regarding his diagnosis, prognosis . . ." (**EXHIBIT B**). This Stipulation and Order was terminated on October 17, 1987. (**EXHIBIT B**)
- 13. The Board imposed a second Stipulation and Order, dated December 4, 1988, ordering Respondent to, among other things, participate in the Arizona Medical Association Physician's Health Committee Program, submit quarterly reports regarding his diagnosis, prognosis . . .", abstain from the use of all "drugs or medications . . . whether controlled substances, prescription-only drugs or over-the-counter preparations . . . , and "participate in an aftercare group . . ." (EXHIBIT C). This Stipulation and Order was terminated

on January 20, 1993. (EXHIBIT C).

### **MITIGATION**

- 14. In April 2003, Respondent completed his in-patient treatment at Springbrook, as required pursuant to the Inactive Status with Cause and Order Granting Inactive Status with Cause, dated January 31, 2003, by and between Respondent and the Board. (**EXHIBIT A**).
- 15. Respondent has fully cooperated with the Board and the Office of the Attorney General in resolving this matter.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 16. The Board possesses statutory authority to enter into a consent agreement with a physician and accept the surrender of an active license from a physician who admits to having committed an act of unprofessional conduct as contemplated by A.R.S. § 32-1451(T)(2) and (3).
- 17. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1452(G), the Board "shall revoke the license of a doctor of medicine if that doctor is impaired by alcohol or drug abuse and was previously placed on probation pursuant to subsection F of this section and the probation is no longer in effect. The board may accept the surrender of the license if the doctor admits in writing to being impaired by alcohol or drug abuse."

#### ORDER

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and under the authority granted to the Board by A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(F)(5) and A.R.S. § 32-1451(T)(2) and (3):

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that license number 14308, issued to Jeffrey M. Pont, M.D. for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, is surrendered and that he shall immediately return his license to the Board.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 15 day of APRIC, 2004.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

1 [SEAL] 2 3 4 5 Original of the foregoing filed this <u>llom</u> day of <u>Prerid</u>, 2004, with: 6 7 Arizona Medical Board 9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road 8 Scottsdale, Arizona 85258 9 Executed copy of the foregoing mailed by U.S. Certified Mail 10 this  $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$  day of  $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$  , 2004, to: 11 Thomas D. Lawless, Esq. 4201 North 24th Street, Suite 100 12 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-0001 Counsel for Respondent 13 Jeffrey M. Pont, M.D. 14 10859 East Karen Drive Scottsdale, Arizona 85255-1817 15 Respondent **COPIES** of the foregoing mailed 16 this \\\ day of April , 2004, to: 17 18 Ann-Marie Anderson Assistant Attorney General Attorney General's Office 1275 West Washington Avenue, CIV/LES 20 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 Attorneys for the State 21 Amanda Diehl 22 Arizona Board of Medical Examiners 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road 23 Scottsdale, Arizona 85258 24 25

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26

## EXHIBIT A

#### BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

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24 25 In the Matter of

JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D.

Holder of License No. 14308
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine in the State of Arizona.

BOMEX CASE No: MD-02-0760

REQUEST FOR INACTIVE STATUS WITH CAUSE AND ORDER GRANTING INACTIVE STATUS WITH CAUSE.

- I, JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D., am the holder of License No. 14308 to practice allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. I hereby request that, effective at 12:01 p.m. on the date of the following order, the Arizona Medical Board (the "Board") inactivate with cause my license to practice allopathic medicine, number 14308 because I was previously under a Stipulated Rehabilitation Agreement for substance abuse that terminated on January 20, 1993 and I have relapsed. A.R.S. §32-1452(F).
- 3. I agree not to practice medicine in the State of Arizona or any other state, territory or district of the United States or a foreign country while my Arizona license is inactive. I understand that I may not hold or maintain a controlled substance certificate with the Drug Enforcement Administration or write or refill prescriptions as long as my license is inactive. I understand that if I practice medicine while my license is inactive I will be practicing medicine without a license and/or without being exempt from licensure, a felony.
- 4. I agree that I shall not request reactivation of my license to practice medicine in the State of Arizona until I comply with all requests of the Board, which may include, but are not limited to, long-term inpatient treatment, psychiatric and psychometric evaluations,

1	physical examination and testing, and written and/or oral competency examinations.
2	understand that the Board will not reactivate my license until I present evidence
3	satisfactory to the Board, in its sole discretion, that I am medically competent and mentally
4	and physically able to safely practice medicine.
5	DATED this 23rd day of January , 2003.
6	
7	
8	affrey fart MD
9 .	JEFFALYM PONT, M.D.
10	ORDER
11	It is hereby ordered that license number 14308 held by Jeffrey M. Pont, M.D. is
12	Inactive with Cause. A.R.S. §32-1452(F) and A.A.C. R4-16-403.
13	DATED this 3/5T day of JANUARY, 2003.
.14	Street and Street
15	ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD
16	
17	* 1012
18	By: Am Mussely
19	Barry A. Cassidy, Ph.D., P.AC. Executive Director
20	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this day of Teasure, 2003 with:
21	
22 23	Arizona Medical Board 9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road Scottsdale, AZ 85258
24	
25	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed by Certified Mail this so day of the foregoing mailed by

.. 25

2003 to:
Thomas D. Lawless 2575 E. Camelback Rd.
Phoenix, Anzona 85016-9225
EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed by U.S. Mail this 3 day of
Tesser, 2003:
Jeffrey M. Pont, M.D.
10859 E. Karen Dr. Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
Scottsdale, Arizona 65255
EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing
hand delivered to each of the following this day of France, 2003:
Christine Cassetta
Assistant Attorney General
Kathleen Muller, Senior Compliance Officer   Sandra Waitt, Management Analyst
Investigations (Investigation File) Arizona Medical Board
9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road Scottsdale, Arizona 85258
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## EXHIBIT B

### BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D.,

Holder of License No. 14308 For the Practice of Medicine In the State of Arizona. STIPULATION AND ORDER

In confirmation of the voluntary agreement made between\_JEFFREY M.\_PONT, M.D. and the BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA, in the course of the Informal Interview of JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. on November 30, 1984 and stated on the record thereof,

IT IS STIPULATED and agreed by and between JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D., holder of License No. 14308 for the practice of medicine in the State of Arizona, and the BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA, that the accompanying Order shall be entered in the above-entitled matter and be deemed effective as of November 30, 1984. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. acknowledges he is aware that any violation of said Order constitutes unprofessional conduct within A.R.S. §32-1401(8)(p), and may result in disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. §32-1451.

DATED this 5th day of January, 1985.

JEFFRED M. PONT, M.D.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

DOUGLAS AN. CERF DExecutive Director

### ORDER

Pursuant to the foregoing Stipulation, and good cause appearing therefor, it is ORDERED as follows:

.... 1 .--- That JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall continue with care and treatment for misuse of controlled substances from a therapist acceptable to the Board of Medical Examiners. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall consult and counsel with his therapist as often as said therapist deems necessary or advisable, follow all medical advice and instructions rendered by said therapist, and continue such care and treatment until discharged by such therapist. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall also instruct his therapist to release to the Board of Medical Examiners upon its request any and all records relating to his treatment and to submit quarterly reports to the Board of Medical Examiners regarding his diagnosis, prognosis and recommendations for the continuing care, treatment and supervision of JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D.; said reports to be submitted on or before the 15th days of February, May, August and November of each year, commencing on or before the 15th day of February, 1985.

# EXHIBIT C

### BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of

JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D.

Holder of License No. 14308 For the Practice of Medicine In the State of Arizona. STIPULATION AND ORDER

In confirmation of the voluntary agreement made between JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D., and the BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA ("Board"), by and through its Executive Director,

JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D., holder of License No. 14308 and the Board, pursuant to A.R.S. \$32-1451(F)(5), that the accompanying Order shall be entered in the above-entitled matter and be effective upon execution by the parties.

JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. acknowledges that any violation of said Order constitutes unprofessional conduct within A.R.S. \$32-1401(12)(r), and may result in disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. \$32-1451.

DATED this 4th day of December , 1988

JEFFERMUM PONT, M.D.

Social Scurity Number

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

DOUGLAS N. CE



pursuant to the foregoing Stipulation and upon completion of JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D.'s rehabilitation treatment program recognized by the Board; and, in order to protect the public and ensure the physician's ability safely to engage in the practice of medicine, the Board enters the following Order:

### <u>ORDER</u>

- participate in the Arizona Medical Association Physician's Health Committee Program. JEPFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall instruct his therapist from the Program to release to the Board of Medical Examiners upon its request, any and all records relating to his treatment and to submit quarterly reports to the Board of Medical Examiners regarding his diagnosis, prognosis and recommendations for the continuing care, treatment and supervision of JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D.; said reports to be submitted on or before the 15th days of March, May, September and December of each year, commencing on or before the 15th day of March, 1988.
  - 2. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall obtain a sole treating physician who shall be approved by the Board. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall advise his treating physician of his rehabilitation efforts.
  - 3. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall abstain completely from the consumption of alcoholic beverages.
  - medications whatever (except for plain aspirin and/or plain acetaminophen), whether controlled substances, prescription-only drugs or over-the-counter preparations,



unless such drug or medication was prescribed for him by his treating physician.

- 5. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall comply immediately with requests from the Board, its agents or designees, including but not limited to his therapist, to submit to witnessed random biological fluid testing.
- physical or medical competency examinations, or any combination thereof, at such times and under such conditions as directed by the Board to assist the Board in monitoring his ability to safely engage in the practice of medicine, or his compliance with the terms of this Order.
- 7. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall submit to any therapy ordered by the Board, or recommended by his therapist from the Arizona Medical Association Physician's Health Committee Program.
- 8. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall participate in an aftercare group such as Alcoholics Anonymous or Caduceus Club, as determined by his treating therapist, and attend a minimum of three (3) weekly meetings.
- 9. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and all rules governing the practice of medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 10. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall appear in person before the Board for interviews upon request, at various intervals and with reasonable notice. He shall immediately advise the Board of any change in his office or home

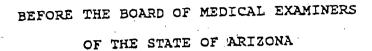
addresses, and shall further immediately advise the Board of any plans he makes to be away from his office or home for more than five (5) days.

- and all medications whatever (including plain aspirin and/or plain acetaminophen), whether controlled substances, prescription-only drugs or over-the-counter preparations prescribed for him by his treating physician and shall make such log available to the Board, its agents or designees upon request. Such log, at a minimum, shall include the following:
  - (a) The medication taken;
  - (b) The date and time the medication was taken;
  - (c) The name of the prescribing physician;
  - (d) The reason for the medication.

1988.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

DOUGLES N. CERF



In the Matter of

JEFFREY MARK PONT, M.D.

Holder of License No. 14308 For the Practice of Medicine In the State of Arizona. ORDER TERMINATING STIPULATION AND ORDER

This matter came on before the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of Arizona for review on the 24th day of October, 1992. Upon consideration of the successful rehabilitation of JEFFREY MARK PONT, M.D.,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that no further monitoring by the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners is necessary; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stipulation and Order effective December 6, 1988 be and hereby is terminated; said termination to be effective January 20, 1993.

DONE IN OPEN MEETING this 24th day of October, 1992.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

[SEAL

DOUGLAS N. CERP

- 2. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall abstain completely from the consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- 3. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall take no drugs or medications whatever, whether controlled substances, prescription-only drugs or over-the-counter preparations, unless such drug or medication was prescribed for him by his treating physician.
- 4. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall comply immediately with requests from the Board, its agents or designees, including but not limited to his therapist, to submit to random biological fluid testing.
  - 5. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall submit to mental, physical or medical competency examinations, or any combination thereof, at such times and under such conditions as directed by the Board to assist the Board in monitoring his ability to safely engage in the practice of medicine.
  - 6. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall participate in an aftercare group such as Alcoholics Anonymous and/or Zebra Club, as determined by his treating therapist, and regularly attend the meetings thereof.
  - 7. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and all rules governing the practice of medicine in the State of Arizona.
  - 8. JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D. shall appear in person before the Board for interviews upon request, at various intervals and with reasonable notice. He shall immediately

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advise the Board of any change in his address, and shall further immediately advise the Board of any plans he makes to leave the State of Arizona for longer than one (1) week.

ENTERED this 7 day of June 19

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

### BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of

JEFFREY M. PONT, M.D.,

Holder of License No. 14308 For the Practice of Medicine In the State of Arizona. ORDER TERMINATING STIPULATION AND ORDER

This matter having come before the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of Arizona for review on the 17th day of October, 1987 and upon consideration of the information presented, it is

ORDERED that the Stipulation and Order entered January 7, 1985 be and hereby is terminated.

DONE IN OPEN MEETING this 17th day of October, 1987.



BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

DOUGLAS/N. CERF