## BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

#### IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of

WALLACE KENJI NAKAGAWA, M.D.

Holder of License No. **20760** For the Practice of Medicine In the State of Arizona.

CASE NOS. MD-00-0077 MD-01-0114

INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE

#### INTRODUCTION

The above-captioned matter came on for discussion before the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") on June 22, 2001, and after reviewing relevant information and deliberating, the Board voted to consider summary suspension proceedings. The Board considered summary suspension and following the review of information obtained, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1451 and A.R.S. § 32-1452, and having considered the information in the matter and being fully advised, the Board enters the following Interim Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Summary Suspension of License, pending formal hearings or other Board action.

# **INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401, et seq.
- 2. Wallace Kenji Nakagawa, M.D. is the holder of License No. 20760, for the practice of medicine in the State of Arizona.

- 3. On November 3, 2000, after an investigation into the competency of Dr. Nakagawa, the Board issued an Interim Order that within six months of the date of the Order, Dr. Nakagawa be evaluated by the Post Licensure Assessment System ("PLAS") offered by the Federation of State Medical Boards.
- 4. Dr. Nakagawa admitted that as of June 22, 2001 he had not been evaluated by PLAS.
- 5. In January of 2001, Dr. Nakagawa was suspended from the staff of Northern Cochise Community Hospital for failing to complete medical records timely. On May 17, 2001 Northern Cochise Community Hospital revoked Dr. Nakagawa's privileges for failure to complete medical records timely and for failure to comply with terms of a probation order.
- 6. An investigation by Board Staff revealed that Dr. Nakagawa has not been following his current acute care and long-term care patients at Northern Cochise Community Hospital.
- 7. A Board ordered psychiatric evaluation has indicated problems that would interfere with Dr. Nakagawa's ability to mentally and physically practice medicine.
- 8. Based upon the foregoing, the Board finds that it has been presented with sufficient substantial and reliable information concerning the professional conduct of Dr. Nakagawa to conclude that, pending formal administrative hearing, the public health, safety and welfare imperatively requires emergency action by the Board against Dr. Nakawaga's license to practice medicine in the State of Arizona.

# **INTERIM CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Wallace Kenji Nakagawa, M.D., holder of License No. 20760, for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401.

- 2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(25)(e) "Failing or refusing to maintain adequate records on a patient."
- 3. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(25)(q) "Any conduct or practice which is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public."
- 4. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(25)(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."
- 5. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1451(D), and based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the public safety imperatively requires emergency action.

# **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, set forth above,

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Wallace Kenji Nakagawa, M.D.'s license to practice allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, License No. 20760, is summarily suspended pending a formal hearing before a hearing officer before the Office of Administrative Hearings.
- 2. The Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law constitute written notice to Dr. Nakagawa of the charges of unprofessional conduct made by the Board against him. Dr. Nakagawa is entitled to a formal hearing to defend these charges within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this order.
- 3. The Board's Executive Director is instructed to refer this matter to the Office of Administrative Hearings for scheduling of an administrative hearing to be commenced no

1	later than sixty (60) days from the date of the issuance of this order, unless stipulated and
2	agreed otherwise by Dr. Nakagawa.
3	DATED this 25 day of, 2001.
4	BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
5	OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
6	(SEAL)
7	By: Tomalda.
8	CLAUDIA FOUTZ Executive Director
9	TOM ADAMS Deputy Director
10	
11	ODICINIAL of the foregoing filed this
12	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this
13	The Arizona Board of Medical Examiners 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road Scottsdale, AZ 85258
14	
15 46	Executed copy of the foregoing mailed by Certified
16 17	Mail this 35 day of June, 2001, to:
18	Wallace Kenji Nakagawa 903 North Bowie
19	Willcox, Arizona 85643
20	Executed copy of the foregoing mailed this 25 day of 11.00, 2001 to:
21	Dwayne Ross
22	Robbins & Green PA 3300 North Central Avenue
23	Suite 1800 Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2518
24 25	Executed copy of the foregoing delivered via interoffice mail this

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