

DEC 10 2013

KS State Board of Healing Arts

BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of)
Raghu C. Chaparala, M.D.) Docket No. 16-HA 00035
Kansas License No. 04-26630)

CONSENT ORDER FOR SURRENDER

COMES NOW, the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, ("Board"), by and through Reese H. Hays, Litigation Counsel ("Petitioner"), and Raghu C. Chaparala, M.D. ("Licensee"), by and through his counsel of record Diane L. Bellquist, Joseph, Hollander & Craft, LLC and moves the Board for approval of a Consent Order affecting Licensee's license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Kansas. The Parties stipulate and agree to the following:

- 1. Licensee's last known mailing address to the Board is: Confidential Wichita, Kansas 67226.
2. Licensee is or has been entitled to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery in the State of Kansas, having been issued License No. 04-26630 on approximately December 7, 1996.
3. On or about July 30, 2015, Licensee voluntarily changed his license designation to inactive. Licensee's license status is currently inactive.
4. The Board is the sole and exclusive administrative agency in the State of Kansas authorized to regulate the practice of the healing arts, specifically the practice of medicine and surgery. K.S.A. 65-2801 et seq. and K.S.A. 65-2869.

5. This Consent Order and the filing of such document are in accordance with applicable law and the Board has jurisdiction to enter into the Consent Order as provided by K.S.A. 77-505 and 65-2838. Upon approval, these stipulations shall constitute the findings of the Board, and this Consent Order shall constitute the Board's Final Order.
6. The Kansas Healing Arts Act is constitutional on its face and as applied in this case. Licensee agrees that, in considering this matter, the Board is not acting beyond its jurisdiction as provided by law.
7. Licensee voluntarily and knowingly waives his right to a hearing. Licensee voluntarily and knowingly waives his right to present a defense by oral testimony and documentary evidence, to submit rebuttal evidence, and to conduct cross-examination of witnesses. Licensee voluntarily and knowingly agrees to waive all possible substantive and procedural motions and defenses that could be raised if an administrative hearing were held.
8. The terms and conditions of the Consent Order are entered into between the undersigned parties and are submitted for the purpose of allowing these terms and conditions to become an Order of the Board. This Consent Order shall not be binding on the Board until an authorized signature is affixed at the end of this document. Licensee specifically acknowledges that counsel for the Board is not authorized to sign this Consent Order on behalf of the Board.
9. The Board has received information and investigated the same, and has reason to believe that there may be grounds pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2836, to take action with respect to Licensee's license under the Kansas Healing Arts Act, K.S.A. 65-2801, *et seq.*

10. Between sometime in 2008 to June of 2013, Licensee engaged in wrongful conduct with several employees of the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center located in Wichita, Kansas. More specifically, Licensee sexually harassed multiple employees. All nine (9) employees that were interviewed testified to a general atmosphere of inappropriate conduct by Licensee. Furthermore, Licensee's conduct unreasonably interfered with the employees' work performance and created an intimidating and offensive working environment. In multiple instances, the subjects of Licensee's unwelcome sexual conduct were forced to remain focused on the critical work at hand caring for their patients. Additionally, female employees working around and near Licensee were forced to change the way they normally behaved in order to prevent him from touching them on the breast and buttocks.

11. **Confidential**

12. Licensee acknowledges that if formal hearing proceedings were conducted and Licensee presented no exhibits, witnesses, or other evidence, the Board has sufficient evidence to prove that Licensee has violated the Kansas Healing Arts Act with respect to the above allegations. Licensee further waives his right to dispute or otherwise contest the allegations contained in the above paragraphs in any further proceeding before this Board.

13. A protective order is hereby entered to protect all confidential information under 42 CFR Part II, K.S.A. 65-2836(i), and K.S.A. 65-4925.

14. Licensee's acts, if proven, constitute unprofessional conduct as set forth in K.S.A.65-2836.

15. Licensee violated K.S.A. 65-2836(b), in that Licensee has committed unprofessional and dishonorable conduct.
16. Licensee violated K.S.A. 65-2836(b), as further defined by K.S.A. 65-2837(a)(3), in that Licensee has a pattern of practice or other behavior which demonstrates a manifest incapacity or incompetence to practice the healing arts.
17. Licensee violated K.S.A. 65-2836(b), as further defined by K.S.A. 65-2837(b)(12), in that Licensee has participated in conduct which is likely to harm the public.
18. Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2836, the Board may revoke, suspend, limit, censure or place under probationary conditions Licensee's license and pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2863a the Board has the authority to impose administrative fines for violations of the Kansas Healing Arts Act.
19. According to K.S.A.65-2838(b) and K.S.A. 77-505, the Board has authority to enter into this Consent Order without the necessity of proceeding to a formal hearing.
20. Licensee further understands and agrees that if the Board finds, after due written notice and an opportunity for a hearing, that Licensee has failed to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order, the Board may immediately impose any sanction provided for by law, including but not limited to suspension or revocation of Licensee's license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Kansas. Licensee hereby expressly understands and agrees that, at any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether or not Licensee has failed to comply with any of the terms or conditions set forth in this Consent Order. The Board acknowledges that at any such hearing, Licensee retains the right to confront and examine all witnesses, present evidence, testify on his own behalf, contest the allegations, present oral argument, appeal to the courts, and all other rights set forth in the Kansas

Administrative Procedures Act, K.S.A. 77-501 *et seq.*, and the Kansas Healing Arts Act, K.S.A. 65-2801 *et seq.*

21. Nothing in this Consent Order shall be construed to deny the Board jurisdiction to investigate alleged violations of the Kansas Healing Arts Act, or to investigate complaints received under the Risk Management Law, K.S.A. 65-4921 *et seq.*, that are known or unknown and are not covered under this Consent Order, or to initiate formal proceedings based upon known or unknown allegations of violations of the Kansas Healing Arts Act.
22. Licensee hereby releases the Board, its individual members (in their official and personal capacity), attorneys, employees and agents, hereinafter collectively referred to as "Releasees", from any and all claims, including but not limited to those alleged damages, actions, liabilities, both administrative and civil, including the Kansas Judicial Review Act, K.S.A. 77-601 *et seq.* arising out of the investigation and acts leading to the execution of this Consent Order. This release shall forever discharge the Releasees of any and all claims or demands of every kind and nature that Licensee has claimed to have had at the time of this release or might have had, either known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and Licensee shall not commence to prosecute, cause or permit to be prosecuted, any action or proceeding of any description against the Releasees.
23. Licensee further understands and agrees that upon signature by Licensee, this document shall be deemed a public record and shall be reported to any entities authorized to receive disclosure of this Consent Order.

24. This Consent Order, when signed by both parties, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and may only be modified or amended by a subsequent document executed in the same manner by the parties.
25. Licensee agrees that all information maintained by the Board pertaining to the nature and result of any complaint and/or investigation may be fully disclosed to and considered by the Board in conjunction with the presentation of any offer of settlement, even if Licensee is not present. Licensee further acknowledges that the Board may conduct further inquiry as it deems necessary before the complete or partial acceptance or rejection of any offer of settlement.
26. Licensee, by signature to this document, waives any objection to the participation of the Board members, including the Disciplinary Panel and General Counsel, in the consideration of this offer of settlement and agrees not to seek the disqualification or recusal of any Board member or General Counsel in any future proceedings on the basis that the Board member or General Counsel has received investigative information from any source which otherwise may not be admissible or admitted as evidence.
27. Licensee acknowledges that he has read this Consent Order and fully understands the contents.
28. Licensee acknowledges that this Consent Order has been entered into freely and voluntarily.
29. Licensee shall obey all federal, state and local laws and rules governing the practice of medicine and surgery in the State of Kansas that may be in place at the time of execution

of the Consent Order or may become effective subsequent to the execution of this document.

30. Upon execution of this Consent Order by affixing a Board authorized signature below, the provisions of this Consent Order shall become an Order under K.S.A. 65-2838. This Consent Order shall constitute the Board's Final Order when filed with the office of the Executive Director for the Board and no further Order is required.
31. This Consent Order constitutes **public disciplinary action**.
32. The Board may consider all aspects of this Consent Order in any future matter regarding Licensee.
33. In lieu of conducting a formal proceeding, Licensee, by signature affixed to this Consent Order, hereby voluntarily agrees to the following disciplinary action against his license to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery:

SURRENDER

34. Licensee hereby surrenders his license to practice medicine and surgery. Such surrender shall be treated as a revocation for all purposes including reporting. Licensee agrees that an application for reinstatement of the license will be considered in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 65-2844. Further, Licensee's application will be governed by *Vakas v. The Kansas Board of Healing Arts*, 248 Kan. 589 (Kan. 1991), and all applicable statutes, law, rules and regulations regarding qualifications for licensure and reinstatement.
35. Licensee shall place his patients' records in the custody of another licensed medical doctor or osteopathic doctor or a records maintenance facility in compliance with K.A.R. 100-24-2 and 100-24-3. Licensee shall notify the Board in writing on or before January 27, 2016,

of the specific measure taken and the appropriate contact information so that the Board can respond to questions from patients about the location of their medical records and how they can obtain them.

36. Licensee acknowledges that Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2867, it shall be unlawful for Licensee to open or maintain an office for the practice of the healing arts or to announce or hold out to the public the intention, authority, or skill to practice the healing arts.

37. Licensee is prohibited from owning, managing, being employed by or in any way acting in an advisory capacity for any entity providing health care services.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Consent Order and agreement of the parties contained herein is adopted by the Board as findings of fact, conclusions of law, and as a Final Order of the Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED on this 9th day of December, 2015.

**FOR THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF
HEALING ARTS:**


Kathleen Selzler Lippert ^{by KGS}
Kathleen Selzler Lippert
Executive Director

12/9/15
Date

Raghu C. Chaparala
Raghu C. Chaparala, M.D.
Licensee

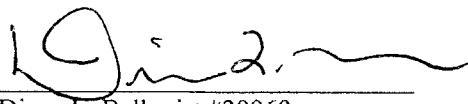
Date

~~PREPARED AND APPROVED BY:~~



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APPROVED BY:



Diane L. Bellquist #20969
Joseph, Hollander & Craft, LLC
1508 SW Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66612
Attorney for Licensee

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the Consent Order for Surrender by United States mail, postage prepaid, on this 10th day of December, 2015, to the following:

Diane L. Bellquist
Joseph, Hollander & Craft, LLC
1508 SW Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66612
Attorney for Licensee

And the original was hand-delivered for filing to:

Kathleen Selzler Lippert
Executive Director
Kansas Board of Healing Arts
800 SW Jackson, Lower Level-Suite A
Topeka, Kansas 66612

And a copy was hand-delivered to:

Reese H. Hays
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