

STATE OF MAINE
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

In Re: Douglas C. Richardson, M.D.)
) CONSENT AGREEMENT
)

This document is a consent agreement between Douglas C. Richardson, the State of Maine Board of Registration in Medicine ("The Board") and the State of Maine Department of Attorney General. This Consent Agreement is issued pursuant to 10 M.R.S.A. Section 8003(5)(A-1)(1) and 32 M.R.S.A. Section 3282-A.

BACKGROUND

At all relevant times, Dr. Richardson has held a license to practice medicine in the State of Maine. In July, 1989, the Board received a complaint from a former patient of Dr. Richardson. The patient stated that his employer's workers' compensation insurance company had requested a report from Dr. Richardson regarding the patient's injuries. The insurance company had indicated to the patient that Dr. Richardson's charge for the report was excessive. The patient also stated that he had difficulty obtaining the report from Dr. Richardson so that he could resolve his workers' compensation claim.

The Board's investigation into the circumstances of this complaint indicates that Dr. Richardson promptly provided a report to the insurance company. Furthermore, Dr. Richardson's charges for the

report were reasonable. The Board finds, however, that Dr. Richardson did not sufficiently explain to the patient that the report had been provided to the insurance company.

In October, 1990, the Board received a complaint from a former patient of Dr. Richardson. The patient was referred to Dr. Richardson by the primary treating physician for an evaluation of her neurological complaints. Dr. Richardson saw the patient on only two occasions and forwarded his findings to the primary treating physician. The patient subsequently began to request treatment from Dr. Richardson over the telephone. She felt that Dr. Richardson did not promptly return her telephone calls. She then requested her records. The patient initially refused to sign a release for the records. The release was eventually signed and the patient eventually obtained her records. The Board finds that Dr. Richardson and his office staff did not have sufficient procedures in place for promptly providing to patients copies of their medical records.

COVENANTS

The Board recommends, and Dr. Richardson agrees to accept, that Dr. Richardson and his office staff attend a seminar addressing the issues of physician-patient communication and patient relations. In addition, the Board recommends and Dr. Richardson agrees to accept a \$500.00 fine.

This Consent Agreement can not be amended except in a written document signed by Dr. Richardson, the Board and the Department of Attorney General.

Dr. Richardson has been informed that he has the right to legal counsel.

Dr. Richardson understands that this Consent Agreement includes a final Board Order resolving this matter and that by executing this Consent Agreement he waives all rights to a hearing before the Board or in the courts and to appeal the matter as dealt herein.

I, DOUGLAS C. RICHARDSON, M.D., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD. I SIGN THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY THREAT OR PROMISE. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THAT THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND-VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE.

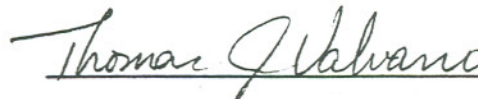
Dated:



Douglas C. Richardson, M.D.

STATE OF MAINE
ANDROSCOGGIN, SS.

Before me this 8 day of February, 1993, at Lewiston, Maine, personally appeared Douglas C. Richardson, M.D., known to me, who, first being duly sworn, signed the foregoing Consent Agreement in my presence or affirmed that the signature above is his own.



Attorney

Dated:

2-24-93

STATE OF MAINE
BOARD OF REGISTRATION
IN MEDICINE



By: Edward David, M.D., J.D.
Chair

Dated: 2/24/93

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



By: Terrence Brennan
Assistant Attorney General