BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:)	
JAMES GREGORY HENDRICKS, M.D.	Case No. 12-2011-217067
Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 84825	
Respondent.)	

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on December 5, 2013

IT IS SO ORDERED November 5, 2013.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By:

Barbara Yaroslavsky, Chair

Panel A

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4	State Bar 1 (6) 1516/2		
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6	Telephone: (415) 703-5538 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480 Attorneys for Complainant		
7	BEFORE THE		
8		LIFORNIA	
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10	i !	12 2011 217077	
11	1	o. 12-2011-217067	
12	2	Io. 2013050853	
13		LATED SETTLEMENT AND PLINARY ORDER	
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15	5 .		
16	In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of	of this matter, consistent with the public	
17	interest and the responsibility of the Medical Board of Ca	lifornia of the Department of Consumer	
18	Affairs, the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulate	ed Settlement and Disciplinary Order	
19	which will be submitted to the Board for approval and ad-	option as the final disposition of the	
20	Accusation.		
21	<u>PARTIES</u>		
22	1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) is the Interim Executive Officer of the		
23	Medical Board of California. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is		
24	represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by		
25	David Carr, Deputy Attorney General.		
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- 2. James Gregory Hendricks, M.D. is represented in this proceeding by attorney
 Sharon Barclay Kime, whose address is: Pacific West Law Group LLP, Courthouse Square, 1000
 Fourth St., Suite 800, San Rafael, California 94901.
- 3. On September 4, 1998, the Medical Board of California issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G94925 to James Gregory Hendricks, M.D. ("Respondent"). That license is in full force and effect and, unless renewed, will expire December 31, 2013.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 12-2011-217067 was filed before the Medical Board of California ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on December 10, 2012. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 12-2011-217067 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 12-2011-217067. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 12-2011-217067, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Physician's and Surgeon's certificate.
- 10. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a *prima facie* case with respect to the charges in the Accusation. Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest those charges.
- 11. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's certificate is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CIRCUMSTANCES IN MITIGATION

12. Respondent James Gregory Hendricks, M.D. has never been the subject of any license disciplinary action. He is admitting responsibility at an early stage in the proceedings.

RESERVATION

13. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Medical Board of California or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

CONTINGENCY

14. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Medical Board of California. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Medical Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph; it shall be inadmissible in any legal

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action between the parties; and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

- 15. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 16. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G94925, issued to Respondent James Gregory Hendricks, M.D., is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for four (4) years on the following terms and conditions:

17. ALCOHOL - ABSTAIN FROM USE. Respondent shall abstain completely from the use of products or beverages containing alcohol. If Respondent has a confirmed positive biological fluid test for alcohol, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine. The Respondent shall not resume the practice of medicine until a final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation is rendered. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within 15 days of the notification to cease practice. If the Respondent requests a hearing on the accusation and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of the request, unless the Respondent stipulates to a later hearing. A decision shall be received from the Administrative Law Judge or the Board within 15 days unless good cause can be shown for the delay. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period. If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within 15 days of the issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of such a request, the notification of cease practice shall be dissolved.

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18. BIOLOGICAL FLUID TESTING. Respondent shall immediately submit to biological fluid testing by First Lab, at Respondent's expense, upon request of the Board or its designee. "Biological fluid testing" may include, but is not limited to, urine, blood, breathalyzer, hair follicle testing, or similar drug screening approved by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall contract with First Lab or other service approved in advance by the Board or its designee that will conduct random, observed biological fluid testing. The contract shall require results of the tests to be transmitted by the laboratory or service directly to the Board or its designee within four hours of the results becoming available. Respondent shall maintain this laboratory or service contract during the period of probation. A certified copy of any laboratory test result may be received in evidence in any proceedings between the Board and Respondent. If Respondent fails to cooperate in a random biological fluid testing program within the specified time frame, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine. The Respondent shall not resume the practice of medicine until final decision is rendered on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within 15 days of the notification to cease practice. If the Respondent requests a hearing on the accusation and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of the request, unless the Respondent stipulates to a later hearing. A decision shall be received from the Administrative Law Judge or the Board within 15 days unless good cause can be shown for the delay. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period. If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within 15 days of the issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide Respondent with a hearing within 30 days of such a request, the notification of cease practice shall b dissolved.

19. PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE). Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a professionalism program, that meets the requirements of Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1358. Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete that program. Respondent shall provide any information and documents that the program may deem pertinent. Respondent shall

successfully complete the classroom component of the program not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment, and the longitudinal component of the program not later than the time specified by the program, but no later than one (1) year after attending the classroom component. The professionalism program shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure. A professionalism program taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the program would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the program been taken after the effective date of this Decision. Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the program or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

20. <u>PSYCHOTHERAPY</u>. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval the name and qualifications of a California-licensed board certified psychiatrist or a licensed psychologist in Napa County who has a doctoral degree in psychology and at least five years of postgraduate experience in the diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders. Upon approval, Respondent shall undergo and continue psychotherapy treatment, including any modifications to the frequency of psychotherapy, until the Board or its designee deems that no further psychotherapy is necessary upon recommendation of the treating psychotherapist.

The psychotherapist shall consider any information provided by the Board or its designee and any other information the psychotherapist deems relevant and shall furnish a written evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall cooperate in providing the psychotherapist any information and documents that the psychotherapist may deem pertinent. Respondent shall have the treating psychotherapist submit quarterly status reports to the Board or its designee. The Board or its designee may require Respondent to undergo psychiatric evaluations by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist. If, prior to the completion of probation, Respondent is found to be mentally unfit to resume the practice of medicine without

restrictions, the Board shall retain continuing jurisdiction over Respondent's license and the period of probation shall be extended until the Board determines that Respondent is mentally fit to resume the practice of medicine without restrictions. Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychotherapy and psychiatric evaluations.

STANDARD CONDITIONS

1. <u>NOTIFICATION</u>. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, the Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine, including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15 calendar days.

This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

- 2. <u>SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS</u>. During probation, Respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants.
- 3. <u>OBEY ALL LAWS</u>. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, shall comply with all rules governing the practice of medicine in California, and shall remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.
- 4. <u>QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS</u>. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.

Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

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5. GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS.

Compliance with Probation Unit

Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation unit and all terms and conditions of this Decision.

Address Changes

Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Board informed of Respondent's business and residence addresses, email address (if available), and telephone number. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Board or its designee. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business and Professions Code section 2021(b).

Place of Practice

Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine in Respondent's or any patient's place of residence unless the patient resides in a skilled nursing facility or other similar licensed facility.

License Renewal

Respondent shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's license.

Travel or Residence Outside California

Respondent shall immediately inform the Board or its designee, in writing, of travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than thirty (30) calendar days. In the event Respondent should leave the State of California to reside or to practice Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

- 6. <u>INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE</u>. Respondent shall be available in person upon request for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.
- 7. NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 15 calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than

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25 26 30 calendar days and within 15 calendar days of Respondent's return to practice. Non-practice is defined as any period of time Respondent is not practicing medicine in California as defined in Business and Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least 40 hours in a calendar month in direct patient care, clinical activity or teaching, or other activity as approved by the Board. All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-practice. Practicing medicine in another state of the United States or Federal jurisdiction while on probation with the medical licensing authority of that state or jurisdiction shall not be considered non-practice. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a period of non-practice.

In the event Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation exceeds 18 calendar months, Respondent shall successfully complete a clinical training program that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's "Manual of Model Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two (2) years. Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

Periods of non-practice will relieve Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws; and General Probation Requirements.

- COMPLETION OF PROBATION. Respondent shall comply with all financial 8. obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.
- 9. VIOLATION OF PROBATION. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an accusation or petition to revoke probation or an interim suspension order is filed against Respondent during probation, the

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Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

- 10. <u>LICENSE SURRENDER</u>. Following the effective date of this Decision, if
 Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy
 the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request to surrender his or her license.
 The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in
 determining whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate
 and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, Respondent
 shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the Board or its
 designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject
 to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the
 application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.
- 11. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS. Respondent shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board. Current costs of probation monitoring, which may be adjusted on an annual basis, are \$4,080. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar year.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Sharon Barclay Kime. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED:	a production of	gall of the second	
		IAMES GREGORY HENDRICKS M.D.	

JAMES GREGORY HENDRICKS, M.D.

Respondent

Respondent

1	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent James Gregory Hendricks, M.D. the		
2	terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and		
3	Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.		
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5	DATED: 9.6.13 Charan Diday Kene		
6	SHARON BARCLAY KIME Attorney for Respondent		
7			
8	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>		
9	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully		
10	submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer		
11	Affairs.		
12	Dated: Lnt. 23 2013 Respectfully submitted,		
13	Dated: Sept. 23 2013 Respectfully submitted, KAMALA D. HARRIS		
14	Attorney General of California Jose R. Guerrero		
15	Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
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17	DAVID CARR		
18	Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant		
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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 12-2011-217067

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Kamala D. Harris Attorney General of California Jose R. Guerrero Supervising Deputy Attorney General David Carr Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 131672 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004 Telephone: (415) 703-5538 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480 Attorneys for Complainant	FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA SACRAMENTO Decompare 10, 20 12 BY: Liller ANALYST	
8	DEEODE THE		
9	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Agency Case No. 12-2011-217067	
12	JAMES GREGORY HENDRICKS, M.D.	OAH Case No.	
13	3520 Beard Road,	ACCUSATION	
14	Napa, CA 94558		
15 16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G84825,		
17	Respondent.		
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19			
20	Complainant alleges:		
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22	PARTIES		
23	1. Linda K. Whitney ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her official		
24	capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California.		
25	2. On or about September 4, 1998, the Medical Board of California issued		
26	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number G84825 to James Gregory Hendricks, M.D.		
27	("Respondent"). This Certificate will expire December 31, 2013, unless renewed.		
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Accusation No. 12-2011-217067

JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Medical Board of California ("Board"), under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Board¹ deems proper.
- 5. Section 2234 of the Code provides in pertinent part that the Board "shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - "(a) Violating . . . any provision of this chapter.

- 6. Section 2239 states, in relevant part:
 - "(a) The use or prescribing for or administering to himself or herself, of any controlled substance; or the use of any of the dangerous drugs specified in Section 4022, or of alcoholic beverages, to the extent, or in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to the licensee, or to any other person or to the public, or to the extent that such use impairs the ability of the licensee to practice medicine safely...constitutes unprofessional conduct."

FACTS

7. On or about July 12, 2011, at about 11:55 p.m. an officer of the California Highway Patrol saw a car on State Route 221 near Napa traveling approximately 20 miles per hour faster than the posted speed limit of 40 miles per hour and weaving within the lane. The

¹ Effective January 1, 2008, the Legislature abolished the divisions of the Medical Board of California. Under Business and Professions Code section 2002, any reference to the "Division of Medical Quality" or the "Division of Licensing" in the Medical Practice Act (Business and Professions Code section 2000 *et seq*) or any other provision of law now refers to the Medical Board.

officer stopped the car and spoke with the driver, Respondent. Based on his training and experience, the officer believed Respondent was under the influence of alcohol. Respondent's performance on a series of field sobriety tests administered by the officer supported that conclusion. Respondent thereafter consented to a blood draw for testing, which revealed Respondent's blood alcohol at about 12:40 a.m. on July 13 to be 0.17%. Respondent was promptly arrested for driving under the influence.

- 8. On or about August 17, 2011, Criminal Complaint No. CR158193 was filed in Napa County Superior Court, charging Respondent with misdemeanor violations of Vehicle Code sections 23152(a) (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs) and 23152(b) (Driving With an 0.08% or Higher Blood Alcohol), and violation of the specific allegation of Vehicle Code section 23578 (Driving With a 0.15% or More Blood Alcohol).
- 9. On or about November 30, 2011, Respondent, appearing through his attorney, entered a no contest plea to the alleged violations of Vehicle Code sections 23152(b) and 23578. Respondent was sentenced that day to serve 4 days in custody, to pay a fine, and to comply with standard conditions of probation for 5 years.
- investigation of the circumstances of the incident. On December 13, 2011, Board investigators interviewed Respondent at his medical office in Napa. Respondent related the details of his arrest and conviction. Respondent informed the investigators that he has privileges at Queen of the Valley Hospital in Napa, and is on call there one weekend per month. Respondent stated that he was scheduled to work July 13, 2011, the day following his arrest, but said he was not on call the night of his arrest. When asked by the investigators if he had drunk any alcohol the night before this interview, Respondent said he had consumed a glass and half of wine the preceding night. At the investigators' request Respondent provided a urine sample for testing. Respondent then amended his statement regarding his alcohol consumption the preceding night, saying that he had drunk 2 or 3 glasses of wine. By a telephone call the following day to the investigators, Respondent corrected his earlier denial that he was on call the night of July 12 when he was arrested.

11. Documentation obtained by the Medical Board investigators from Queen of the Valley Hospital in Napa confirmed that Respondent was on call July 12, 2011, the night of his arrest. That hospital record also revealed that Respondent was again on call the night of December 12, 2011, the night preceding his interview with the investigators when Respondent had acknowledged drinking 2 or 3 glasses of wine.

CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Excessive Use of Alcohol)

12. Respondent's license is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct by violation of section 2239(a), in that he consumed a quantity of alcohol sufficient to produce a blood alcohol reading of 0.17% while he was on hospital call and that he also drank 2 or 3 glasses of wine on another night when he was on call. Respondent was therefore using alcohol in a manner so as to be dangerous to the public or to impair his ability to practice medicine safely.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Medical Board issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number G84825, issued to James Gregory Hendricks, M.D.;
- 2. Revoking, suspending, or denying approval of James Gregory Hendricks, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants, pursuant to section 3527 of the Code;
- 3. Ordering James Gregory Hendricks, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the costs of probation monitoring; and
 - 4. Taking such other and further action as deeped necessary and proper.

DATED: December 10, 2012

Executive Director
Medical Board of California
State of California

Complainant