

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD**

2 In the Matter of

3 **CRAIG R. WOLFF, M.D.**

4 Holder of License No. 40317
5 For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine
6 In the State of Arizona

Case No. MD-10-0577A

**ORDER FOR LETTER OF REPRIMAND
AND CONSENT TO SAME**

7 Craig R. Wolff, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and
8 appeal with respect to this Order for Letter of Reprimand; admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona
9 Medical Board ("Board"); and consents to the entry of this Order by the Board.

9 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

10 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the
11 practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

12 2. Respondent is the holder of license number 40317 for the practice of allopathic
13 medicine in the State of Arizona.

14 3. The Board initiated case number MD-10-0577A after receiving a Disciplinary Alert
15 Report indicating that on April 20, 2010, the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) issued
16 Respondent a Letter of Concern, he was assessed a fine, and he was required to obtain
17 Continuing Medical Education (CME). In addition, Respondent failed to disclose on his 2008
18 Arizona medical license application, the FDOH's pending investigation.

19 4. The FDOH found that in May 2004, Respondent failed to follow the "Pause Rule" to
20 confirm the patient's identification, the intended procedure and the correct surgical/procedure site
21 prior to beginning the surgery. The patient signed a consent form for only a right sided L5-S1
22 lumbar laminoforaminoplasty and proceeded to the right side for a bilateral discectomy. On April
23 20, 2010, the FDOH issued Respondent a Letter of Concern for wrong site surgery, which is
24 equivalent to the Arizona Medical Board's Letter of Reprimand. Respondent was required
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1 to complete a CME course for medical recordkeeping and risk management. Respondent was
2 also required to perform a one-hour lecture/seminar or journal article on wrong surgeries and the
3 importance of the pause rule.

4 5. On February 6, 2008, Respondent submitted his application for an Arizona medical
5 license. Respondent failed to accurately answer question #16 by not disclosing the open
6 investigation with the FDOH. Respondent was issued an Arizona medical license on October 24,
7 2008.

8 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

9 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over
10 Respondent.

11 2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct
12 pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401 (27)(o) (“[a]ction that is taken against a doctor of medicine by
13 another licensing or regulatory jurisdiction due to that doctor’s mental or physical inability to
14 engage safely in the practice of medicine or the doctor’s medical incompetence or for
15 unprofessional conduct as defined by that jurisdiction and that corresponds directly or indirectly to
16 an act of unprofessional conduct prescribed by this paragraph. The action taken may include
17 refusing, denying, revoking or suspending a license by that jurisdiction or a surrendering of a
18 license to that jurisdiction, otherwise limiting, restricting or monitoring a licensee by that jurisdiction
19 or placing a licensee on probation by that jurisdiction.”); and A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(s) (“[v]iolating or
20 attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to
21 violate any provision of this chapter.”); and A.R.S. § 32-1427(B)(1) (“[e]ach application submitted
22 pursuant to this section shall contain the oath of the applicant that: All of the information contained
23 in the application and accompanying evidence or other credentials are true”).

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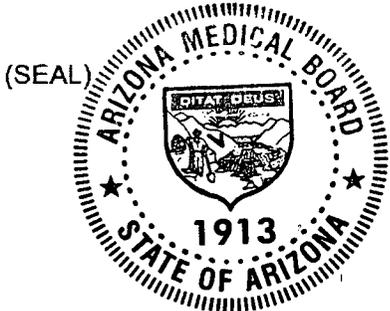
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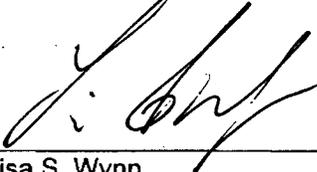
ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Respondent is issued a Letter of Reprimand.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 9TH day of FEBRUARY, 2011.



ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

By 

Lisa S. Wynn
Executive Director

CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER

1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Order"). Respondent acknowledges he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.

2. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Order is entered into freely and voluntarily and that no promise was made or coercion used to induce such entry.

3. By consenting to this Order, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge this Order in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action related thereto or arising from said Order.

4. The Order is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its Executive Director.

5. All admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent are not intended or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or any other state or federal court.

1 6. Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof) to the
2 Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the consent to the entry of the Order.
3 Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any modifications to this original
4 document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties.

5 7. This Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal
6 disciplinary action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data Bank and on
7 the Board's web site as a disciplinary action.

8 8. If any part of the Order is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the
9 remainder of the Order in its entirety shall remain in force and effect.

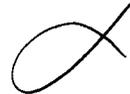
10 9. If the Board does not adopt this Order, Respondent will not assert as a defense that
11 the Board's consideration of the Order constitutes bias, prejudice, prejudgment or other similar
12 defense.

13 10. Any violation of this Order constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result in
14 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(r) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation,
15 consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under
16 this chapter") and 32-1451.

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19 _____
CRAIG R. WOLFF, M.D.

DATED: 1.11.2011

20 EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed
21 this 10th day of February 2011 to:
22 Kevin Nicholas
23 Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard, & Smith, LLP
24 2929 N Central Ave Ste 1700
25 Phoenix AZ 85012-2761
ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
this 10th day of February 2011 with:


1 Arizona Medical Board
9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road
2 Scottsdale, AZ 85258

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Arizona Medical Board Staff

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