

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

In the Matter of the Accusation)	
Against:)	
)	
)	
Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D.)	Case No. 800-2014-007654
)	
Physician's and Surgeon's)	
Certificate No. A109130)	
)	
Respondent)	
_____)	

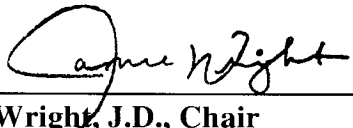
DECISION

The attached Stipulated Settlement is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on June 14, 2017.

IT IS SO ORDERED May 15, 2017.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By: 
Jamie Wright, J.D., Chair
Panel A

1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
2 JANE ZACK SIMON
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 KEITH C. SHAW
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 227029
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000
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Attorneys for Complainant

7
8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:
13 **TIFFANY DIONE ISLES, M.D.**
14 **1432 W. San Carlos Street, #402**
15 **San Jose, CA 95126**
16 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.**
17 **A109130**
18 Respondent.

Case No. 800-2014-007654

19 **STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND**
20 **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

21 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
22 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

23 PARTIES

24 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board
25 of California (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in
26 this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Keith C. Shaw,
27 Deputy Attorney General.

28 2. Respondent Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D. is represented in this proceeding by attorney
Thomas E. Still, Esq, whose address is: Hinshaw, Marsh, Still & Hinshaw, LLP, 12901 Saratoga
Ave., Saratoga, CA 95070.

1 **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

2 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A109130 issued
3 to Respondent Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D. is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and
4 Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions:

5 1. EDUCATION COURSE. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this
6 Decision, and on an annual basis thereafter, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee
7 for its prior approval educational program(s) or course(s) which shall not be less than 40 hours
8 per year, for each year of probation. The educational program(s) or course(s) shall be aimed at
9 correcting any areas of deficient practice or knowledge and shall be Category I certified. The
10 educational program(s) or course(s) shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to
11 the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure. Following the
12 completion of each course, the Board or its designee may administer an examination to test
13 Respondent's knowledge of the course. Respondent shall provide proof of attendance for 65
14 hours of CME of which 40 hours were in satisfaction of this condition.

15 2. MEDICAL RECORD KEEPING COURSE.

16 Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, respondent shall enroll in
17 a course in medical record keeping approved in advance by the Board or its designee.
18 Respondent shall provide the approved course provider with any information and documents
19 that the approved course provider may deem pertinent. Respondent shall participate in and
20 successfully complete the classroom component of the course not later than six (6) months
21 after respondent's initial enrollment. Respondent shall successfully complete any other
22 component of the course within one (1) year of enrollment. The medical record keeping
23 course shall be at respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical
24 Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

25 A medical record keeping course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the
26 Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the
27 Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course
28

1 would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the course been taken after the
2 effective date of this Decision.

3 Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its
4 designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not
5 later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

6 3. PSYCHOTHERAPY. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision,
7 Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval the name and
8 qualifications of a California-licensed board certified psychiatrist or a licensed psychologist who
9 has a doctoral degree in psychology and at least five years of postgraduate experience in the
10 diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders. Upon approval, Respondent shall
11 undergo and continue psychotherapy treatment, including any modifications to the frequency of
12 psychotherapy, until the Board or its designee deems that no further psychotherapy is necessary.

13 The psychotherapist shall consider any information provided by the Board or its designee
14 and any other information the psychotherapist deems relevant and shall furnish a written
15 evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall cooperate in providing the
16 psychotherapist any information and documents that the psychotherapist may deem pertinent.

17 Respondent shall have the treating psychotherapist submit quarterly status reports to the
18 Board or its designee. The Board or its designee may require Respondent to undergo psychiatric
19 evaluations by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist. If, prior to the completion of
20 probation, Respondent is found to be mentally unfit to resume the practice of medicine without
21 restrictions, the Board shall retain continuing jurisdiction over Respondent's license and the
22 period of probation shall be extended until the Board determines that Respondent is mentally fit
23 to resume the practice of medicine without restrictions.

24 Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychotherapy and psychiatric evaluations.

25 4. NOTIFICATION. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, the
26 Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the
27 Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to
28 Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine,

1 including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief
2 Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to
3 Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15
4 calendar days.

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

6 5. SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS. During probation, Respondent is
7 prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses.

8 6. OBEY ALL LAWS. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules
9 governing the practice of medicine in California and remain in full compliance with any court
10 ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.

11 7. QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations
12 under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been
13 compliance with all the conditions of probation.

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

16 8. GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS.

17 Compliance with Probation Unit

18 Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation unit.

19 Address Changes

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

25 Place of Practice

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

1 License Renewal

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

4 Travel or Residence Outside California

5 Respondent shall immediately inform the Board or its designee, in writing, of travel to any
6 areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than thirty
7 (30) calendar days.

8 In the event Respondent should leave the State of California to reside or to practice
9 Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of
10 departure and return.

11 9. INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE. Respondent shall be
12 available in person upon request for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the
13 probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.

14 10. NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Respondent shall notify the Board or
15 its designee in writing within 15 calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than
16 30 calendar days and within 15 calendar days of Respondent's return to practice. Non-practice is
17 defined as any period of time Respondent is not practicing medicine as defined in Business and
18 Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least 40 hours in a calendar month in direct
19 patient care, clinical activity or teaching, or other activity as approved by the Board. If
20 Respondent resides in California and is considered to be in non-practice, Respondent shall
21 comply with all terms and conditions of probation. All time spent in an intensive training
22 program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-
23 practice and does not relieve Respondent from complying with all terms and conditions of
24 probation. Practicing medicine in another state of the United States or Federal jurisdiction while
25 on probation with the medical licensing authority of that state or jurisdiction shall not be
26 considered non-practice. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a
27 period of non-practice.

28

1 In the event Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation exceeds 18 calendar
2 months, Respondent shall successfully complete the Federation of State Medical Board's Special
3 Purpose Examination, or, at the Board's discretion, a clinical competence assessment program
4 that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's "Manual of Model
5 Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

6 Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two (2) years.

7 Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

8 Periods of non-practice for a Respondent, living outside of California, will relieve
9 Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the
10 exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws;
11 and General Probation Requirements; Quarterly Declarations; Abstain from Use of Alcohol
12 and/or Controlled Substances; and Biological Fluid Testing.

13 11. COMPLETION OF PROBATION. Respondent shall comply with all financial
14 obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the
15 completion of probation. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall
16 be fully restored.

17 12. VIOLATION OF PROBATION. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition
18 of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the
19 Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and
20 carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, or Petition to Revoke Probation,
21 or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have
22 continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until
23 the matter is final.

24 13. LICENSE SURRENDER. Following the effective date of this Decision, if
25 Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy
26 the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request to surrender her license. The
27 Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in
28 determining whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate

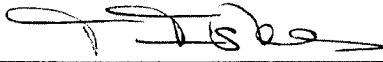
1 and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, Respondent
2 shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the Board or its
3 designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject
4 to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the
5 application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.

6 14. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS. Respondent shall pay the costs associated
7 with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which
8 may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of
9 California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar
10 year.

11 ACCEPTANCE

12 I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully
13 discussed it with my attorney, Thomas E. Still, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it
14 will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and
15 Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the
16 Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

17
18 DATED: 3/18/17



TIFFANY DIONE ISLES, M.D.
Respondent

20 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D. the terms and
21 conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
22 I approve its form and content.

23 DATED: 3/18/17



THOMAS E. STILL, ESQ
Attorney for Respondent

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ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.

Dated: 3/20/17

Respectfully submitted,

XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
JANE ZACK SIMON
Supervising Deputy Attorney General



KEITH C. SHAW
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2014-007654

1 KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General of California
2 JANE ZACK SIMON
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
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Deputy Attorney General
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7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

FILED
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
SACRAMENTO October 25 2016
BY R. Firdaus ANALYST

8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:
12 **Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D.**
13 **P.O. Box 1679**
14 **Sacramento, CA 95812**
15 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
No. A 109130,
16 Respondent.

Case No. 800-2014-007654

A C C U S A T I O N

18 Complainant alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

- 20 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official
21 capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California (Board).
22 2. On or about August 7, 2009, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's
23 Certificate Number A 109130 to Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and
24 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein
25 and will expire on April 30, 2017, unless renewed.

26 **JURISDICTION**

27 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws.
28 All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

1 4. Section 2004 of the Code provides that the Board shall have the responsibility for the
2 enforcement of the disciplinary and criminal provisions of the Medical Practice Act.

3 5. Section 2227 of the Business and Professions Code authorizes the Board to take
4 action against a licensee by revoking, suspending for a period not to exceed one year, placing the
5 license on probation and requiring payment of costs of probation monitoring, or taking such other
6 action taken as the Board deems proper.

7 6. Section 2234 of the Code, states:

8 "The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional
9 conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not
10 limited to, the following:

11 "(b) Gross negligence."

12 7. Section 822 of the Code states:

13 "If a licensing agency determines that its licentiate's ability to practice his or her profession
14 safely is impaired because the licentiate is mentally ill, or physically ill affecting competency, the
15 licensing agency may take action by any one of the following methods:

16 "(a) Revoking the licentiate's certificate or license.

17 "(b) Suspending the licentiate's right to practice.

18 "(c) Placing the licentiate on probation.

19 "(d) Taking such other action in relation to the licentiate as the licensing agency in its
20 discretion deems proper.

21 "The licensing section shall not reinstate a revoked or suspended certificate or license until it
22 has received competent evidence of the absence or control of the condition which caused its action
23 and until it is satisfied that with due regard for the public health and safety the person's right to
24 practice his or her profession may be safely reinstated."

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26 ///

27 ///

28 ///

1 **MEDICAL BOARD INVESTIGATION**

2 8. On or about January 9, 2015, the Medical Board of California received a consumer
3 complaint alleging Respondent negligently performed a cesarean section on Patient¹ requiring two
4 additional surgeries, including a full hysterectomy.

5 9. The Medical Board of California conducted an investigation which revealed
6 Respondent had not followed recommended guidelines prior to the performance of a
7 hysterectomy, as set forth in more detail hereafter.

8 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

9 **(Unprofessional Conduct: Gross Negligence)**

10 10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234 and 2234, subdivision
11 (b), of the Code in that Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct and was grossly negligent
12 in her care and treatment of Patient. The circumstances are as follows:

13 11. On or about January 15, 2014, Respondent performed the cesarean section of Patient.
14 Respondent documented no complications, and a 600 ml blood loss. Shortly after reaching the
15 recovery room, Patient began vaginally hemorrhaging postpartum from what was diagnosed as
16 uterine atony. Respondent determined Patient was unstable and would need to return to the
17 Operating Room (OR) after administering fluids and blood products and conducting a uterine
18 massage. Once in the OR, Patient was stabilized, yet continued persistent vaginal bleeding. The
19 decision was made by Respondent to reopen the abdomen and explore the prior cesarean section.
20 After inspecting the uterus, Respondent made the determination that a supracervical hysterectomy
21 was necessary.

22 12. A supracervical hysterectomy was performed by Respondent and another physician.
23 Once completed, a bimanual exam showed ongoing bleeding from the cervix. An unsuccessful
24 attempt was made to control the bleeding. At this point, the determination was made to remove
25 the cervix through the abdominal incision and a full hysterectomy was performed by Respondent
26 and another physician. After the second surgery, Patient was taken to recovery in stable condition.

27 ¹ The patient is identified only as "Patient" to protect her right to privacy. The patient's
28 identity will be revealed to Respondent in discovery.

1 A discharge summary of Patient showed both placenta accreta and placenta increta in the
2 endometrium and upper myometrium.

3 13. When Patient began hemorrhaging postpartum, Respondent appropriately returned to
4 Patient's bedside and examined her, and ordered fluids and blood products as she alerted staff that
5 Patient would need to return to the OR. Once in the OR, however, Respondent failed to attempt
6 more conservative therapies, including B-lynch suture, intrauterine balloon, uterine artery ligation,
7 hypogastric artery ligation, and dilation and curettage. There is no documentation that
8 Respondent considered these options or ruled them out as potential actions prior to performing a
9 hysterectomy on Patient.

10 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

11 **(Licensee Unable to Safely Practice Medicine)**

12 14. On June 7, 2016, Respondent underwent an evaluation by a Board appointed
13 psychiatrist. The psychiatrist concluded that Respondent suffers from Major Depressive Disorder,
14 Recurrent, and an Unspecified Anxiety Disorder; conditions that impair her ability to safely
15 practice medicine. The evaluator further concluded that Respondent's mental condition requires
16 ongoing treatment, medication and oversight in order to ensure that she can safely practice.

17 15. Respondent's license is subject to Board action pursuant to Sections 822 and 2227 of
18 the Code in that Respondent is impaired in her ability to safely practice medicine by virtue of
19 mental illness.

20 **PRAYER**

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

23 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 109130,
24 issued to Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D.;

25 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D.'s authority to
26 supervise physician assistants, pursuant to section 3527 of the Code;

27 ///

28

1 3. Ordering Tiffany Dione Isles, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the Board the costs
2 of probation monitoring; and

3 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

4
5 DATED: October 25, 2016



KIMBERLY KIRCHMEYER
Executive Director
Medical Board of California
State of California
Complainant

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