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5	455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004		
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7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE		
9	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11			
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2021-077352	
13	Lindsay Marie Clark, M.D.	ACCUSATION	
14	1250 Newell Ave., Rm. 200 Walnut Creek, CA 94596		
15	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 96580,		
16	Respondent.		
17.			
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19	PART	<u>TIES</u>	
20	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as		
21	the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs		
22	(Board).		
23	2. On July 28, 2006, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate		
24	Number A 96580 to Lindsay Marie Clark, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's		
25	Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will		
26	expire on December 31, 2023, unless renewed.		
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JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 2001.1 of the Code provides that the Board's highest priority shall be public protection.
 - 5. Section 2004 of the Code states:

The board shall have the responsibility for the following:

- (a) The enforcement of the disciplinary and criminal provisions of the Medical Practice Act.
 - (b) The administration and hearing of disciplinary actions.
- (c) Carrying out disciplinary actions appropriate to findings made by a panel or an administrative law judge.
- (d) Suspending, revoking, or otherwise limiting certificates after the conclusion of disciplinary actions.
- (e) Reviewing the quality of medical practice carried out by physician and surgeon certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the board.
 - (f) Approving undergraduate and graduate medical education programs.
- (g) Approving clinical clerkship and special programs and hospitals for the programs in subdivision (f).
 - (h) Issuing licenses and certificates under the board's jurisdiction.
 - (i) Administering the board's continuing medical education program.
- 6. Section 2227 of the Code states:
- (a) A licensee whose matter has been heard by an administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel as designated in Section 11371 of the Government

Code, or whose default has been entered, and who is found guilty, or who has entered into a stipulation for disciplinary action with the board, may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter:

- (1) Have his or her license revoked upon order of the board.
- (2) Have his or her right to practice suspended for a period not to exceed one year upon order of the board.
- (3) Be placed on probation and be required to pay the costs of probation monitoring upon order of the board.
- (4) Be publicly reprimanded by the board. The public reprimand may include a requirement that the licensee complete relevant educational courses approved by the board.
- (5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as part of an order of probation, as the board or an administrative law judge may deem proper. . . .
- 7. Section 2234 of the Code, states:

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 or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.
 - (b) Gross negligence.
- (c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.

- (1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.
- (2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.
 - (d) Incompetence.
- (e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
 - (f) Any action or conduct that would have warranted the denial of a certificate.
- (g) The failure by a certificate holder, in the absence of good cause, to attend and participate in an interview by the board. This subdivision shall only apply to a certificate holder who is the subject of an investigation by the board.
- 8. Section 2236 of the Code states:
- (a) The conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act]. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred.
 - (d) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction after a plea of nolo contendere is

deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section and Section 2236.1.

The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred.

COST RECOVERY

9. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case, with failure of the licensee to comply subjecting the license to not being renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be included in a stipulated settlement.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 10. On April 1, 2021, Respondent was indicted by a federal grand jury and was charged in the United States District Court, Northern District of California, with Count One as follows: "21 U.S.C. sections 331(c), 333(a)(2), Receipt in interstate commerce of drugs that are misbranded, and devices that are misbranded and adulterated, and the delivery and proffered delivery thereof for pay or otherwise, with intent to defraud and mislead." 1
- 11. On November 22, 2022, Respondent pled guilty to Count One of the Indictment, Receipt in Interstate Commerce of Adulterated and Misbranded Drugs and Devices, in violation of 21 U.S.C. sections 331(c), 333(a)(1), as a misdemeanor. In her signed plea agreement, Respondent admitted the following:

"From at least April 1, 2016, until no earlier than June 3, 2020, I obtained and injected patients with prescription drugs and devices that were not the subject of an FDA biologics license, drug approval, or Class III device approval, from foreign sources, primarily by ordering the drugs and devices over the phone and internet. I took steps to conceal this conduct from patients, Allergan and the FDA."²

 $^{^{\}rm l}$ United States of America v. Lindsay Marie Clark, Case No. 3:21-CR-00132 SI, Indictment.

² Plea Agreement, 3:21-CR-00132-SI, pp. 2-3.

- 12. In her plea agreement, Respondent admitted that her practice purchased at least \$270,951 in products from these illegitimate suppliers, and that her practice received at least \$1,069,880 in revenue from services rendered in connection with these products.³
- 13. Respondent admitted that the botulinum toxin drugs received by her practice from online sources and delivered to patients were misbranded. She admitted that the injectable hyaluronic acid devices received by her practice were adulterated and misbranded.⁴
- 14. Respondent admitted that she "injected misbranded and adulterated botulinum toxin drugs and hyaluronic acid devices into patients."⁵
- 15. Respondent agreed that her medical corporation would plead guilty to a felony count for the same acts for which Respondent pled guilty. At the time of the conviction, there was sufficient unity of interest, ownership, and control that the separate personalities of the Respondent and the corporate entities no longer existed.
- 16. On April 20, 2023, Respondent was sentenced by the United States District Court. Respondent was placed on federal criminal probation for a period of three years and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$1,069,880.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct/Dishonest or Corrupt Acts)

- 17. The allegations set for in Paragraphs 9 through 16 are incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein.
- 18. Respondent Lindsay Marie Clark, M.D., is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234 and/or 2234(e) when she repeatedly injected misbranded and adulterated botulinum toxin

³ Plea Agreement, 3:21-CR-00132-SI, p. 3.

⁴ Id. at 10-11. The botulinum toxin drugs were misbranded in that their labeling was false and misleading (21 U.S.C. sec. 352(a)), lacked adequate directions for their intended use (21 U.S.C. sec. 352(f)(1)), and failed to bear "Rx only" on their label (21 U.S.C. sec. 353(b)(4)(A)).

⁵ Id. at 25-26. The devices were adulterated in that they were Class III devices that required, but lacked, FDA approval (21 U.S.C. sec. 351(f)(1)(B)), and were misbranded in that their labeling was false and misleading (21 U.S.C. sec. 352(a), and they lacked adequate directions for their intended uses (21 U.S.C. sec. 352(f)(1)).

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1	5. Taking such other and furth	her action as deemed necessary and proper.
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3	DATED: JUL 1 4 2023	REJI VARGHESE
4		Executive Director Medical Board of California
5	-	Department of Consumer Affairs State of California
7		Complainant
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