IN AND BEFORE THE OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION
Case No. 00-10-2256

COMPLAINT

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, the State of Oklahoma ex rel. the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (the "Board"), by and through its attorney, Elizabeth A. Scott, Assistant Attorney General, and for its Complaint against the Defendant, Elliott Hampton Howe, Jr., M.D., alleges and states as follows:

- 1. The Board is a duly authorized agency of the State of Oklahoma empowered to license and oversee the activities of physicians and surgeons in the State of Oklahoma pursuant to 59 Okla, Stat. §480 et seq.
 - Defendant, Elliott Hampton Howe, Jr., M.D., holds Oklahoma license no. 14304.
- 3. In June 1999, Defendant was admitted to Talbott Recovery Center for the treatment of chemical dependency. Defendant was subsequently released in October 1999.
- 4. Defendant has admitted that from January 2000 through September 2000, he periodically wrote prescriptions for Hydrocodone and Hycotuss, both Schedule III controlled dangerous substances, in the names of former patients. Defendant additionally admits that he picked up these medications and that they were for his own personal use rather than for his former patients. For the past year, he has taken from seven (7) to twenty (20) Hydrocodone tablets per day, and four (4) to five (5) ounces of Hycotuss per day.
- 5. Defendant was subsequently contacted by a representative of the Tulsa County Police Department regarding his illegal actions pursuant to 63 O.S §2-407 (A-1), Obtaining a Controlled Dangerous Substance by Fraud.

- 6. Defendant is guilty of unprofessional conduct in that he:
 - A. Habitually uses habit-forming drugs in violation 59 O.S. 407 §509(5) and OAC 435:10-7-4(3).
 - B. Engaged in dishonorable or immoral conduct which is likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public in violation of 59 O.S. §509(9) and OAC 435:10-7-4(11).
 - C. Violated any provision of the medical practice act or the rules and regulations of the Board or of an action, stipulation, or agreement of the Board in violation of 59 O.S. §509(14) and OAC 435:10-7-4(39),
 - D. Is unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of age, illness, drunkenness, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physician condition in violation of 59 O.S. §509(16) and OAC 435:10-7-4(40).
 - E. Purchased or prescribed a regulated substance in Schedules I through V for the physician's personal use in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(5).
 - F. Prescribed, sold, administered, distributed, ordered or gave a drug legally classifed as a controlled substance or recognized as an addictive dangerous drug to a family member or to himself or herself in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(26).
 - G. Wrote a false or fictitious prescription for any drugs or narcotics declared by the laws of this state to be controlled or narcotic drugs in violation of 59 O.S. §509(12).
 - H. Is physically or mentally unable to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety in violation of 435:10-7-4(17).

- I. Confessed to a crime involving a violation of the antinarcotic laws of the federal government or the laws of this state in violation of 59 O.S. §509(8) and 63 O.S. §2-407.
- J. Committed an act which is a violation of the criminal laws of any state when such act is connected with the physician's practice of medicine in violation of 59 O.S. §509(10).
- K. Prescribed a controlled substance without medical need in accordance with published standards in violation of 59 O.S. §509(17) and OAC 435:10-7-4(2) and (6).
- L. Used a false, fraudulent or deceptive statement in a document connected with the practice of medicine and surgery in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(19).
- M. Violated a state or federal law or regulation relating to controlled substances in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(27), 63 O.S. §2-407, and OAC 475:20-1-2, OAC 475:20-1-6, OAC 475:25-1-3 and OAC 475:30-1-3.

Conclusion

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Board conduct a hearing, and, upon proof of the allegations contained herein, impose such disciplinary action as authorized by law, up to and including suspension or revocation and any other appropriate action with respect to Defendant's medical license, and an assessment of costs and attorney's fees incurred in this action as provided by law.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Scott (OBA #12470)

Assistant Attorney General

State of Oklahoma

5104 N. Francis, Suite C

Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Attorney for the Plaintiff