

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

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
EX REL. THE OKLAHOMA BOARD)
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE)
AND SUPERVISION,)
)
Plaintiff,)

v.) **Case No. 12-02-4506**
)
ANOOP PALSINGH SANGHA, M.D.,)
LICENSE NO. 26835,)
)
Defendant.)

**ORDER ACCEPTING
VOLUNTARY SUBMITTAL TO JURISDICTION**

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 for the State of Oklahoma, and the staff of the Board, as represented by the Secretary of the Board, Gerald C. Zumwalt, M.D., and the Executive Director of the Board, Lyle Kelsey, and the Defendant, Anoop Palsingh Sangha, M.D., Oklahoma license no. 26835, who appears in person and pro se, proffer this Agreement for acceptance by the Board *en banc* pursuant to Section 435:5-1-5.1 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code ("OAC").

AGREEMENT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY DEFENDANT

By voluntarily submitting to jurisdiction and entering into this Order, Defendant pleads guilty to the allegations in the Complaint and Citation filed herein on June 8, 2012 and acknowledges that hearing before the Board would result in some sanction under the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act (the "Act").

Defendant, Anoop Palsingh Sangha, M.D., states that he is of sound mind and is not under the influence of, or impaired by, any medication or drug and that he fully recognizes his right to appear before the Board for evidentiary hearing on the allegations made against him. Defendant hereby voluntarily waives his right to a full hearing, submits to the jurisdiction of the Board and agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of this Order. Defendant acknowledges that he has read and understands the terms and conditions stated herein.

PARTIES' AGREEMENT AND STIPULATIONS

Plaintiff, Defendant and the Board staff stipulate and agree as follows:

Findings of Fact

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.* The Board has jurisdiction over this matter, and notice has been given in all respects in accordance with law and the rules of the Board.

2. Defendant, Anoop Palsingh Sangha, M.D., holds Oklahoma license no. 26835 and at the time of the incidents in question, practiced emergency medicine at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

3. From approximately 1996 through 2012, Defendant repeatedly used and abused numerous drugs, including alcohol, Xanax, Ambien, Hydrocodone, Valium, Marijuana, Cocaine, Ecstasy, LSD and mushrooms.

4. Beginning on or around February 21, 2011 and continuing through April 14, 2011, Defendant forged the signature of G. Bruce Carrico, M.D., another emergency room physician in Tulsa, and wrote seven (7) prescriptions for controlled dangerous substances to himself. These prescriptions included three (3) prescriptions for Oxycodone, a Schedule II controlled dangerous substance, and four (4) prescriptions for Hydrocodone, a Schedule III controlled dangerous substance. Defendant picked up these medications at three (3) different pharmacies in the Tulsa area.

5. Beginning on or around December 7, 2010 and continuing through February 15, 2012, Defendant forged the signature of Stephen Jaskowiak, M.D., another emergency room physician in Tulsa, and wrote twenty-three (23) prescriptions for controlled dangerous substances in the name of Rajeshwar Sangha, Defendant's father. These prescriptions included seven (7) prescriptions for Oxycodone and Dextroamphetamine, Schedule II controlled dangerous drugs, thirteen (13) prescriptions for Hydrocodone, a Schedule III controlled dangerous drug, and three (3) prescriptions for Alprazolam and Ambien, Schedule IV controlled dangerous drugs. Defendant picked up these medications at seven (7) different pharmacies in the Tulsa area. The controlled dangerous substances were not for the use of Defendant's father but were for the personal use of Defendant.

6. Beginning on or around March 21, 2011 and continuing through February 16, 2012, Defendant forged the signature of Stephen Jaskowiak, M.D., and wrote thirty-three (33) prescriptions for controlled dangerous substances to himself. These prescriptions included ten (10) prescriptions for Oxycodone, Meperidine and Dextroamphetamine, Schedule II controlled dangerous drugs, seventeen (17) prescriptions for Hydrocodone, a Schedule III controlled

dangerous drug, and six (6) prescriptions for Alprazolam and Ambien, Schedule IV controlled dangerous drugs. Defendant picked up these medications at nine (9) different pharmacies in the Tulsa area.

7. In February 2012, Defendant attempted to fill one of the forged prescriptions at the pharmacy by St. John Medical Center. The pharmacist questioned the signature of Dr. Jaskowiak and contacted him. Dr. Jaskowiak advised the pharmacist that he had not issued any prescriptions to Defendant, or to Defendant's father. The pharmacist therefore refused to fill the prescription and contacted the Chief Medical Officer at St. John Medical Center.

8. The next morning, the Chief Medical Officer confronted Defendant about the forged prescription. At that time, Defendant admitted that he had forged all of the prescriptions to himself and to his father, and that the drugs were for his personal use. Defendant's hospital privileges were then suspended and Defendant was terminated from his practice group.

9. Upon questioning by Board investigators, Defendant admitted that he had forged Dr. Jaskowiak's and Dr. Carrico's signatures on these prescriptions in order to obtain the drugs for his personal use.

10. Defendant also admitted to Board investigators that during this same period of time, he approached two (2) physicians he worked with, Eric Brown, M.D. and Lynn McClintock, M.D., and asked them to prescribe Ambien to him. Defendant admits that he was never a patient of either of these physicians, nor was he examined by them in any way. Defendant admits the he simply asked them for prescriptions and that they complied with his request.

11. Based on the allegations stated above, Defendant is guilty of unprofessional conduct in that he:

A. Habitually uses habit-forming drugs in violation 59 O.S. 407 §509(4) 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(8) 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(13) 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(15) 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 classified 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. Prescribed, sold, administered, distributed, ordered or gave any drug legally classified as a controlled substance or recognized as an addictive or dangerous drug for other than medically accepted therapeutic purposes in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(24).

H. Committed any 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(9).

I. Violated a state or federal law or regulation relating to controlled substances in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(27) and 63 O.S. §§2-402, 2-404, 2-406 and 2-407 and OAC 435:25-1-3 and OAC 435:30-1-3.

J. 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(11).

K. Prescribed or administered a drug or treatment without sufficient examination and the establishment of a valid physician patient relationship in violation of 59 O.S. §509(12).

L. Prescribed, dispensed or administered controlled substances or narcotic drugs in excess of the amount considered good medical practice, or prescribed, dispensed or administered controlled substances or narcotic drugs without medical need in accordance with published standards in violation of 59 O.S. §509(16) and OAC 435:10-7-4(2) and (6).

M. Engaged in the use of any false, fraudulent, or deceptive statement in any document connected with the practice of medicine and surgery in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(19).

N. Procured, aided or abetted a criminal operation in violation of 59 O.S. §509(1).

O. Was convicted of or confessed to a crime involving violation of the antinarcotics or prohibition laws and regulations of the federal government or the laws of this state in violation of 59 O.S. §509(7).

Conclusions of Law

1. The Board has jurisdiction and authority over the Defendant and subject matter herein pursuant to the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act (the "Act") and its applicable regulations. The Board is authorized to enforce the Act as necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

2. Defendant, Anoop Palsingh Sangha, M.D., Oklahoma medical license 26835, is guilty of unprofessional conduct set forth below based on the foregoing facts:

A. Habitually uses habit-forming drugs in violation 59 O.S. 407 §509(4) 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(8) 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(13) 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(15) 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 classified 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. Prescribed, sold, administered, distributed, ordered or gave any drug legally classified as a controlled substance or recognized as an addictive or dangerous drug for other than medically accepted therapeutic purposes in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(24).

H. Committed any 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(9).

I. Violated a state or federal law or regulation relating to controlled substances in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(27) and 63 O.S. §§2-402, 2-404, 2-406 and 2-407 and OAC 435:25-1-3 and OAC 435:30-1-3.

J. 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(11).

K. Prescribed or administered a drug or treatment without sufficient examination and the establishment of a valid physician patient relationship in violation of 59 O.S. §509(12).

L. Prescribed, dispensed or administered controlled substances or narcotic drugs in excess of the amount considered good medical practice, or prescribed, dispensed or administered controlled substances or narcotic drugs without medical need in accordance with published standards in violation of 59 O.S. §509(16) and OAC 435:10-7-4(2) and (6).

M. Engaged in the use of any false, fraudulent, or deceptive statement in any document connected with the practice of medicine and surgery in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(19).

N. Procured, aided or abetted a criminal operation in violation of 59 O.S. §509(1).

O. Was convicted of or confessed to a crime involving violation of the antinarcotics or prohibition laws and regulations of the federal government or the laws of this state in violation of 59 O.S. §509(7).

Order

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision as follows:

1. The Board *en banc* hereby adopts the agreement of the parties in this Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction.

2. The license of Defendant, Anoop Palsingh Sangha, M.D., Oklahoma license no. 26835, is hereby **SUSPENDED** beginning February 20, 2012, and continuing for a period of a **SIX (6) MONTHS** until August 20, 2012.

3. Pursuant to the parties' voluntary agreement and submittal to jurisdiction, at the conclusion of the period of suspension, Defendant shall be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of **FIVE (5) YEARS** under the following terms and conditions:

A. Defendant will conduct his practice in compliance with the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act as interpreted by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision. Any question of interpretation regarding said Act shall be submitted in writing to the Board and no action based on the subject of the question will be taken by Defendant until clarification of interpretation is received by Defendant from the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision.

B. Upon request of the Board Secretary, Defendant will request all hospitals in which he anticipates practicing to furnish to the Board Secretary of the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision a written statement regarding monitoring of his practice while performing services in or to that hospital.

C. Defendant will furnish to each and every state in which he holds licensure or applies for licensure and hospitals, clinics or other institutions in which he holds or anticipates holding any form of staff privilege or employment, a copy of the Board Order stipulating sanctions imposed by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision.

D. Defendant will not supervise allied health professionals that require surveillance of a licensed physician.

E. Defendant will execute such releases of medical and

psychiatric records during the entire term of probation as necessary for use by the Compliance Consultant or other Board designee to obtain copies of medical records and authorize the Compliance Consultant or other Board designee to discuss Defendant's case with Defendant's treating physicians and/or physicians holding Defendant's records.

F. Defendant will submit biological fluid specimens to include, but not limited to, blood and urine, for analysis, as well as hair follicles, upon request of the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision or its designee, and Defendant will pay for the analysis thereof.

G. Defendant will not prescribe, administer or dispense any medications for personal use or for that of any family member.

H. Defendant will take no medication except that which is authorized by a physician treating him for a legitimate medical need and only during that time in which he is being treated by the physician for that specific medical need. Defendant has the affirmative duty to inform any and every doctor treating him of the Board Order immediately upon initiation, or continuation of treatment.

I. Defendant will have the affirmative duty not to ingest any substance, including but not limited to alcohol, which will cause a body fluid sample to test positive for prohibited substances.

J. Defendant will authorize in writing the release of any and all information regarding his treatment at Bradford Health Service and any other records of his medical, emotional or psychiatric treatment to the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision.

K. Defendant will abide by the terms and recommendations of Bradford and with all terms of his postcare contracts with Bradford and the Oklahoma Health Professionals Recovery Program.

L. Defendant will sign a contract with and attend a minimum of one (1) meeting per week of the Health Professionals Recovery Program unless excused by the HPRP. Defendant shall abide by all requirements of his contract with the HPRP.

M. Defendant will attend ninety (90) meetings in ninety (90) days after his discharge from treatment and thereafter, a minimum of four (4) 12-Step meetings per week in addition to his weekly HPRP meeting.

N. Defendant shall obtain a primary care physician who shall monitor his general health and who shall also be responsible for managing the use of all prescription and non-prescription medications. Defendant's primary care physician shall be approved in advance in writing by the Board Secretary.

O. Defendant shall obtain a sponsor.

P. Defendant shall engage in individual therapy with Dr. Cynthia Murphy or another therapist approved in advance in writing by the Board Secretary. Defendant shall submit quarterly reports of his treatment from his therapist to the Board Secretary or his designee for his review. Defendant shall continue his counseling until his therapist and the Board Secretary deems it no longer necessary.

Q. Defendant shall promptly notify the Board of any relapse, including any entry, or re-entry, into a treatment program for substance abuse.

R. Defendant shall promptly notify the Board of any citation or arrest for traffic or for criminal offenses involving substance abuse.

S. Defendant will keep the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision informed of his current address.

T. Defendant will keep current payment of all assessments by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision for prosecution, investigation and monitoring of his case, which shall include but is not limited to a one hundred fifty dollar (\$150.00) per month fee during the term of probation.

U. Until such time as all indebtedness to the Oklahoma State Board of Medial Licensure and Supervision has been satisfied, Defendant will reaffirm said indebtedness in any and all bankruptcy proceedings.

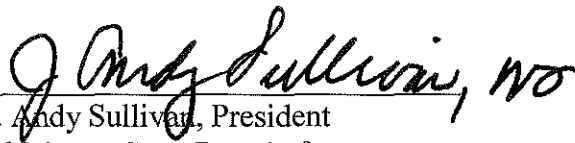
V. Defendant shall make himself available for one or more personal appearances before the Board or its designee upon request.

W. Defendant shall submit any required reports and forms on a timely, accurate and prompt basis to the Compliance Coordinator or designee.

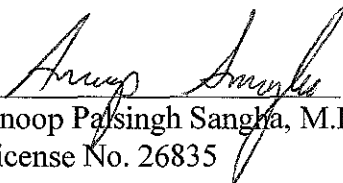
X. Failure to meet any of the terms of this Board Order will constitute cause for the Board to initiate additional proceedings to suspend, revoke or modify Defendant's license after due notice and hearing.

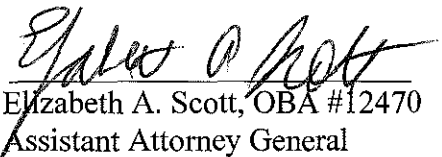
4. Defendant's suspended license shall not be reinstated unless Defendant has reimbursed the Board for all taxed costs and expenses incurred by the State of Oklahoma.

5. Promptly upon receipt of an invoice, Defendant shall pay all costs of this action authorized by law, including without limitation, legal fees and investigation costs.



J. Andy Sullivan, President
Oklahoma State Board of
Medical Licensure and Supervision

AGREED AND APPROVED


Anoop Palsingh Sangha, M.D.
License No. 26835



Elizabeth A. Scott, OBA #12470
Assistant Attorney General
State of Oklahoma
101 N.E. 51st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Attorney for the Oklahoma State
Board of Medical Licensure and
Supervision


Gerald C. Zumwalt, M.D.
Secretary and Medical Advisor
Oklahoma State Board of
Medical Licensure and Supervision

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that on the 13 day of July, 2012, a mailed a true and correct copy of the Order Accepting Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction to Anoop Palsingh Sangha, Attn: Karen Bagwell, 1515 N. Harvard, Suite E, Tulsa, OK 74115-4904.


Shelley Crowder