November 16, 2016

Via Attorney of Record

Gregory Gerard Bebb, M.D.
Wilmington Surgical Associates, PA
1414 Medical Center Drive
Wilmington, NC 28401

Dear Dr. Bebb:

The North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") has concluded its investigation regarding the professional liability payment paid on your behalf on December 15, 2015. It is the Board’s decision not to commence formal proceedings against your license to practice medicine at this time. However, the Board did vote to issue you this public letter of concern. The Board does not consider a public letter of concern to be a disciplinary action or a limitation or restriction on your license.

Patient A, a 51 year old female, presented to you in 2012 with recurrent diverticulitis and a history of multiple prior abdominal and gynecological surgeries. As a result of Patient A’s history and symptoms you performed a partial sigmoid colectomy or bowel resection. Two days postoperatively, the patient began to exhibit symptoms consistent with a colovaginal anastomosis, an erroneous connection of Patient A’s colon to her vagina rather than her rectum as intended. When the error was discovered, you immediately notified Patient A and advised her of the need for corrective surgery. Patient A returned to surgery where you corrected the error.

The Board submitted Patient A’s medical records to an independent expert for review. The expert noted the creation of a colovaginal anastomosis is an avoidable surgical error. Specifically, the expert stated that by visually and manually inspecting the proper placement of the stapler this error can be prevented. The expert remarked that your care of Patient A after the error was discovered was “exemplary”. The expert also applauded you for immediately notifying Patient A of the mistake.

The Board is concerned that your care of Patient A may have failed to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in North Carolina. The Board urges you to take steps to ensure the conduct giving rise to the Board’s concerns does not happen again. Otherwise, the Board may vote to commence formal disciplinary proceedings against your license to practice medicine. If that happens, this letter may be entered into evidence in determining the appropriate discipline.

This letter is a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and is subject to public inspection and dissemination as required by that law. It will be reported to the Federation of State Medical Boards; however, it will not be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Sincerely,

Eleanor E. Greene, M.D.
President

POU/BB/wl
Consent and Waiver

I, Gregory Gerard Bebb, M.D., would like to resolve this matter without the need for more formal proceedings and consent to the Board’s issuance of this public letter of concern in resolution of the matter pertaining to Patient A (NCMB case no. 2016-0035) referenced above.

Consented to this the 15 day of November, 2016.

[Signature]

Gregory Gerard Bebb, M.D.

State of North Carolina

County of New Hanover

I, Iva Scott Joyner, a Notary Public for the above named County and State, do hereby certify that Gregory Gerard Bebb, M.D. personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal

This the 15 day of November, 2016.

[Signature]

Iva Scott Joyner

Notary Public

(SEAL)

My Commission expires: March 30, 2020