STATE OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Petitioner,

vs.

DOH CASE NO.: 2016-23946
LICENSE NO.: ME0033030

PETER K. SENECHAL, M.D.,

Respondent.

____________________________________

FINAL ORDER

THIS CAUSE came before the BOARD OF MEDICINE (Board) pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, on June 8, 2018, in Tampa, Florida, for the purpose of considering a Settlement Agreement (attached hereto as Exhibit A) entered into between the parties in this cause. Upon consideration of the Settlement Agreement, the documents submitted in support thereof, the arguments of the parties, and being otherwise full advised in the premises, the Board rejected the Settlement Agreement and offered a Counter Settlement Agreement which was accepted on the record by the parties. The Counter Settlement Agreement incorporates the original Settlement Agreement with the following amendments:

1. The costs set forth in Paragraph 3 of the Stipulated Disposition shall be set at $2,451.15.
2. The continuing medical education (CME) set forth in Paragraph 4 of the Stipulated Disposition shall be amended to require said CME to be in the subject area of rare cutaneous neoplasms.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Settlement Agreement as submitted be and is hereby approved and adopted in toto and incorporated by reference with the amendments set forth above. Accordingly, the parties shall adhere to and abide by all the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement as amended.

This Final Order shall take effect upon being filed with the Clerk of the Department of Health.

DONE AND ORDERED this ___ day of June, 2018.

BOARD OF MEDICINE

[Signature]
Claudia Kemp, J.D., Executive Director
For Jorge J. Lopez, M.D., Chair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Final Order has been provided by U.S. Mail to PETER K. SENECHAL, M.D., 131 Magnolia Avenue, SE, Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32548; to Michael W. Kehoe, Esquire, Quintairos, Prieto,
Wood & Boyer, P.A., 114 W. Gregory Street, Pensacola, Florida 32502; by email to Allison Dudley, Assistant General Counsel, Department of Health, at Allison.Dudley@flhealth.gov; and by email to Edward A. Tellechea, Chief Assistant Attorney General, at Ed.Tellechea@myfloridalegal.com this 6th day of July, 2018.

Amber Greene  
Deputy Agency Clerk
MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 19, 2018

TO: Adrienne Rodgers, J.D., Bureau Chief
Bureau of Health Care Practitioner Regulation

FROM: Claudia Kemp, Executive Director
Board of Medicine

SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority

Good Morning,

This is to advise you that while I am out of the office Tuesday June 19-21 2018, the following Program Operation Administrators are delegated to serve as Acting Executive Director for the Board of Medicine.

- Crystal Sanford: June 19, 2018 Program Operations Administrator
  (850) 245-4132

- Wendy Alls: June 20-21, 2018 Program Operations Administrator
  (850) 245-4135

JW/ac

cc: Executive Directors
    Board Staff
STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
Petitioner,

v.

DOH Case No. 2016-23946

PETER K. SENECHAL, M.D.,
Respondent.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Peter K. Senechal, M.D., referred to as the "Respondent," and the Department of Health, referred to as "Department," stipulate and agree to the following Agreement and to the entry of a Final Order of the Board of Medicine, referred to as "Board," incorporating the Stipulated Facts and Stipulated Disposition in this matter.

Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating the practice of medicine pursuant to Section 20.43, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 456, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 458, Florida Statutes.

STIPULATED FACTS

1. At all times material hereto, Respondent was a licensed physician in the State of Florida having been issued license number ME 33030.

2. The Department charged Respondent with an Administrative Complaint that was filed and properly served upon Respondent alleging violations of Chapter 458,
Florida Statutes, and the rules adopted pursuant thereto. A true and correct copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

3. For purposes of these proceedings, Respondent neither admits nor denies the allegations of fact contained in the Administrative Complaint.

**STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Respondent admits that, in his capacity as a licensed physician, he is subject to the provisions of Chapters 456 and 458, Florida Statutes, and the jurisdiction of the Department and the Board.

2. Respondent admits that the facts alleged in the Administrative Complaint, if proven, would constitute violations of Chapter 458, Florida Statutes.

3. Respondent agrees that the Stipulated Disposition in this case is fair, appropriate and acceptable to Respondent.

**STIPULATED DISPOSITION**

1. **Letter of Concern** - The Board shall issue a Letter of Concern against Respondent's license.

2. **Fine** - The Board shall impose an administrative fine of **Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents ($2,500.00)** against Respondent's license which Respondent shall pay to: Payments, Department of Health, Compliance Management Unit, Bin C-76, P.O. Box 6320, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6320, within thirty (30) days from the date of filing of the Final Order accepting this Agreement ("Final Order"). All fines shall be paid by cashier's check or money order. Any change in the terms
of payment of any fine imposed by the Board **must be approved in advance by the Probation Committee of the Board.**

RESPONDENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF THE FINE IS HIS LEGAL OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICING IF THE FINE IS NOT PAID AS AGREED IN THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT. SPECIFICALLY, IF RESPONDENT HAS NOT RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF FILING OF THE FINAL ORDER THAT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE FINE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OFFICE, RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICE UNTIL RESPONDENT RECEIVES SUCH WRITTEN CONFIRMATION FROM THE BOARD.

3. **Reimbursement of Costs** - Pursuant to Section 456.072, Florida Statutes, Respondent agrees to pay the Department for the Department's costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this case ("Department costs"). Such costs exclude the costs of obtaining supervision or monitoring of the practice, the cost of quality assurance reviews, any other costs Respondent incurs to comply with the Final Order, and the Board's administrative costs directly associated with Respondent's probation, if any. Respondent agrees that the amount of Department costs to be paid in this case is **One Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-two Dollars and Forty-four Cents ($1,862.44), but shall not exceed Three Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-two Dollars and Forty-four Cents ($3,862.44).** Respondent will pay such Department costs to: Payments, Department of Health, Compliance Management Unit,
Bin C-76, P.O. Box 6320, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6320, within thirty (30) days from the date of filing of the Final Order. All costs shall be paid by cashier's check or money order. Any change in the terms of payment of costs imposed by the Board must be approved in advance by the Probation Committee of the Board.

RESPONDENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF THE COSTS IS HIS LEGAL OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICING IF THE COSTS ARE NOT PAID AS AGREED IN THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT. SPECIFICALLY, IF RESPONDENT HAS NOT RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE DATE OF FILING OF THE FINAL ORDER THAT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE COSTS NOTED ABOVE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OFFICE, RESPONDENT AGREES TO CEASE PRACTICE UNTIL RESPONDENT RECEIVES SUCH WRITTEN CONFIRMATION FROM THE BOARD.

4. Continuing Medical Education - Respondent shall document completion of ten (10) hours of Continuing Medical Education (CME) in "dermatology" within one (1) year from the date the Final Order is filed.

5. Continuing Medical Education - "Risk Management" - Respondent shall complete this requirement and document such completion within one (1) year from the date the Final Order is filed. Respondent shall satisfy this requirement in one of the two following ways:

(a) Respondent shall complete five (5) hours of CME in "Risk Management" after first obtaining written advance approval from the Board's Probation
Committee of such proposed course, and shall submit documentation of such completion, in the form of certified copies of the receipts, vouchers, certificates, or other official proof of completion, to the Board’s Probation Committee; or

(b) Respondent shall complete (5) five hours of CME in risk management by attending one full day or eight (8) hours, whichever is more, of disciplinary hearings at a regular meeting of the Board of Medicine. In order to receive such credit, Respondent must sign in with the Executive Director of the Board before the meeting day begins, Respondent must remain in continuous attendance during the full day or eight (8) hours of disciplinary hearings, whichever is more, and Respondent must sign out with the Executive Director of the Board at the end of the meeting day or at such other earlier time as affirmatively authorized by the Board. Respondent may not receive CME credit in risk management for attending the disciplinary hearings portion of a Board meeting unless the Respondent is attending the disciplinary hearings portion for the sole purpose of obtaining the CME credit in risk management. In other words, Respondent may not receive such credit if appearing at the Board meeting for any other purpose, such as pending action against Respondent’s medical license.

STANDARD PROVISIONS

1. Appearance - Respondent is required to appear before the Board at the meeting of the Board where this Agreement is considered.

2. No Force or Effect until Final Order - It is expressly understood that this Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and the Department. In this regard, the foregoing paragraphs (and only the foregoing paragraphs) shall have no
force and effect unless the Board enters a Final Order incorporating the terms of this Agreement.

3. **Continuing Medical Education** - Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, Respondent shall first submit a written request to the Probation Committee for approval prior to performance of said CME course(s). Respondent shall submit documentation to the Board's Probation Committee of having completed a CME course in the form of certified copies of the receipts, vouchers, certificates, or other papers, such as physician's recognition awards, documenting completion of this medical course within one (1) year of the filing of the Final Order in this matter. All such documentation shall be sent to the Board's Probation Committee, regardless of whether some or any of such documentation was provided previously during the course of any audit or discussion with counsel for the Department. CME hours required by this Agreement shall be in addition to those hours required for renewal of licensure. Unless otherwise approved by the Board's Probation Committee, such CME course(s) shall consist of a formal, live lecture format.

4. **Addresses** - Respondent must provide current residence and practice addresses to the Board. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of any changes of said addresses.

5. **Future Conduct** - In the future, Respondent shall not violate Chapter 456, 458 or 893, Florida Statutes, or the rules promulgated pursuant thereto, or any other state or federal law, rule, or regulation relating to the practice or the ability to practice medicine to include, but not limited to, all statutory requirements related to
practitioner profile and licensure renewal updates. Prior to signing this agreement, the Respondent shall read Chapters 456, 458 and 893 and the Rules of the Board of Medicine, at Chapter 64B8, Florida Administrative Code.

6. **Violation of Terms** - It is expressly understood that a violation of the terms of this Agreement shall be considered a violation of a Final Order of the Board, for which disciplinary action may be initiated pursuant to Chapters 456 and 458, Florida Statutes.

7. **Purpose of Agreement** - Respondent, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, executes this Agreement. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Board to review and examine all investigative file materials concerning Respondent prior to or in conjunction with consideration of the Agreement. Respondent agrees to support this Agreement at the time it is presented to the Board and shall offer no evidence, testimony or argument that disputes or contravenes any stipulated fact or conclusion of law. Furthermore, should this Agreement not be accepted by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Agreement and other documents and matters by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from further participation, consideration or resolution of these proceedings.

8. **No Preclusion Of Additional Proceedings** - Respondent and the Department fully understand that this Agreement and subsequent Final Order will in no way preclude additional proceedings by the Board and/or the Department against
Respondent for acts or omissions not specifically set forth in the Administrative Complaint attached as Exhibit A.

9. **Waiver Of Attorney’s Fees And Costs** - Upon the Board’s adoption of this Agreement, the parties hereby agree that with the exception of Department costs noted above, the parties will bear their own attorney’s fees and costs resulting from prosecution or defense of this matter. Respondent waives the right to seek any attorney’s fees or costs from the Department and the Board in connection with this matter.

10. **Waiver of Further Procedural Steps** - Upon the Board’s adoption of this Agreement, Respondent expressly waives all further procedural steps and expressly waives all rights to seek judicial review of or to otherwise challenge or contest the validity of the Agreement and the Final Order of the Board incorporating said Agreement.

[Signatures appear on the following page.]
SIGNED this 9th day of February, 2018.

Peter K. Senechal, M.D.

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Okaloosa

BEFORE ME personally appeared Peter k. Senechal, whose identity is known to me or who produced driver license PA (type of Identification) and who, under oath, acknowledges that his signature appears above.

SWORN TO and subscribed before me this 9th day of February, 2018.

Crystal Weatherston
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:
June 27, 2020

APPROVED this 30th day of March, 2018.

Celeste Philip, MD, MPH
Surgeon General and Secretary

By: Chad Dunn
Assistant General Counsel
Department of Health
STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

PETITIONER,

v.

PETER K. SENECHAL, M.D.,

RESPONDENT.

CASE NO.: 2016-23946

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Petitioner Department of Health files this Administrative Complaint before the Board of Medicine against Respondent Peter K. Senechal, M.D., and in support thereof alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating the practice of medicine pursuant to Section 20.43, Florida Statutes; Chapter 456, Florida Statutes; and Chapter 458, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material to this Complaint, Respondent was a licensed physician within the State of Florida, having been issued license number ME 33030.

3. Respondent's address of record is 131 Magnolia Ave SE, Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32548.
4. Respondent is board certified in family medicine.


6. On or about April 4, 2014, Respondent excised a 3-4 cm mass from Patient L.C.’s right forearm.

7. Respondent sent the specimen out for review by a pathologist.

8. On or about April 15, 2014, the pathologist via a pathology report listed a diagnosis of deep cellular fibrous histioctoma with a differential diagnosis of low grade myofibroblastic sarcoma.

9. The pathology report further stated that re-excision was "strongly recommended."

10. On or about April 16, 2014, at a follow-up appointment, Respondent informed Patient L.C. that the mass was benign. Respondent informed Patient L.C. that a wait-and-see approach would be appropriate, and, if the mass returned, further excision would be recommended.


12. Respondent did not advise Patient L.C. that re-excision was strongly recommended by the pathologist.
13. On or about January 30, 2015, the mass on Patient L.C.'s forearm returned and was larger.

14. On or about March 5, 2015, a general surgeon performed a second excision on Patient L.C.

15. On or about March 11, 2015, the pathology report of the second excision stated a diagnosis of high grade myxofibrosarcoma.

16. At all times material to this complaint, the prevailing professional standard of care required a physician who performs a mass excision on a patient to fully inform the patient of the pathology report findings and inform the patient if re-excision is strongly recommended.

17. Section 458.331(1)(t), Florida Statutes (2013-2014), subjects a licensee to discipline for committing medical malpractice as defined in Section 456.50, Florida Statutes. Section 456.50(1)(g), Florida Statutes (2013-2014), states medical malpractice means the failure to practice medicine in accordance with the level of care, skill, and treatment recognized in general law related to health care licensure. Section 766.102, Florida Statutes (2013-2014), provides that the prevailing standard of care for a given healthcare provider shall be that level of care, skill, and treatment which, in light of all relevant surrounding circumstances, is
recognized as acceptable and appropriate by reasonably prudent similar health care providers.

18. Respondent fell below the standard of care in his treatment of Patient L.C. in one or more of the following ways:

   a. By failing to fully inform Patient L.C. of the pathology report findings; and/or

   b. By failing to inform Patient L.C. that re-excision was strongly recommended by the pathologist.


   WHEREFORE, the Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board of Medicine enter an order imposing one or more of the following penalties: permanent revocation or suspension of Respondent’s license, restriction of practice, imposition of an administrative fine, issuance of a reprimand, placement of the Respondent on probation, corrective action, refund of fees billed or collected, remedial education and/or any other relief that the Board deems appropriate.

   [Signature appears on the following page.]
SIGNED this 31st day of October, 2017.

Celeste Philip, MD, MPH
Surgeon General and Secretary

FILED
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DEPUTY CLERK

Chad Dunn
Assistant General Counsel
Florida Bar No. 111963
DOH-Prosecution Services Unit
4052 Bald Cypress Way-Bin C-65
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3265
(850) 245-4444, Ext. 8224
(850) 245-4684 fax
E-Mail: chad.dunn@flhealth.gov

CD/In

PCP Date: October 23, 2017
PCP Members: Dr. Mark Avila, Dr. Steven Rosenberg, and Mr. Donald Mullins

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NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Respondent has the right to request a hearing to be conducted in accordance with Section 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, to be represented by counsel or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses and to have subpoena and subpoena duces tecum issued on his or her behalf if a hearing is requested.

A request or petition for an administrative hearing must be in writing and must be received by the Department within 21 days from the day Respondent received the Administrative Complaint, pursuant to Rule 28-106.111(2), Florida Administrative Code. If Respondent fails to request a hearing within 21 days of receipt of this Administrative Complaint, Respondent waives the right to request a hearing on the facts alleged in this Administrative Complaint pursuant to Rule 28-106.111(4), Florida Administrative Code. Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the material facts or charges contained in the Administrative Complaint must conform to Rule 28-106.2015(5), Florida Administrative Code.

Mediation under Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

NOTICE REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF COSTS

Respondent is placed on notice that Petitioner has incurred costs related to the investigation and prosecution of this matter. Pursuant to Section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes, the Board shall assess costs related to the investigation and prosecution of a disciplinary matter, which may include attorney hours and costs, on the Respondent in addition to any other discipline imposed.