

Robert D. Cendo, M.D.

Cumberland, MD 21502

May 30, 2013

Andrea L. Mathias, M.D., Chair  
Maryland State Board of Physicians  
4201 Patterson Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

RE: Surrender of License to Practice Medicine  
License Number: D37970  
Case Number: 2009-0613

Dear Dr. Mathias and Members of the Board,

Please be advised that I have decided to **PERMANENTLY SURRENDER** my license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland, License Number D37970, effective immediately. I understand that upon surrender of my license, I may not give medical advice or treatment to any individual, with or without compensation, and cannot prescribe medications or otherwise engage in the practice of medicine in the State of Maryland as it is defined in the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann., § 14-101 *et seq.* (2009 Repl. Vol. and 2012 Supp.) and other applicable laws. In other words, as of the effective date of this Permanent Letter of Surrender, I understand that the surrender of my license means that I am in the same position as an unlicensed individual in the State of Maryland.

I understand that this Permanent Letter of Surrender is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT**, and upon the Board's acceptance, becomes a **FINAL ORDER** of the Board.

My decision to permanently surrender my license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland has been prompted by the Board's investigation into allegations that I violated my Rehabilitation Agreement and my October 2, 2012, Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation.

On July 12, 2010, the Board charged me with violating the Maryland Practice Act. These charges were resolved in a Final Decision and Order, dated January 24, 2012, in which the Board concluded that I had engaged in unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine. The Board suspended my license to practice medicine in Maryland for a minimum of 90 days with conditions. The suspension of my license was terminated under the October 2, 2012, Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation, which placed me on probation for a minimum period of three years with terms and conditions. (That Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation is incorporated into this Letter of Surrender as Attachment A.) I acknowledge that the Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation remains and will continue to be a valid

final order of the Board; however, upon acceptance of the Permanent Letter of Surrender, I will no longer be required to comply with the probationary conditions as long as I have terminated my medical practice and do not possess a medical license.

Under the Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation I was required to enroll in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program (MPRP) for treatment and comply with all of the MPRP's rules and regulations and all of the terms and conditions of any Rehabilitation Agreement or Rehabilitation Plan. I did not advise the MPRP about the events that occurred on and around April 18, 2013, that included a petition for emergency evaluation, positive test results for opiates and benzodiazepines, and summary suspension from a surgical center. I understand that based on my actions the Board could charge me with violation of terms and conditions of the October 2, 2012, Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation.

I have decided to surrender my license to practice as a physician to avoid further investigation and prosecution of the aforementioned facts. The basis of charges against me, if pursued, would include the findings of my lack of compliance with my Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation, as described herein. I understand that by executing this Letter of Surrender I am waiving any right to contest the findings set forth in the paragraph above in a formal evidentiary hearing at which time I would have the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law, including the right to appeal.

I do not wish to contest these allegations. I wish to make it clear that I have voluntarily, knowingly and freely chosen to submit this Letter of Surrender.

I understand that the Board will advise the Federation of State Medical Boards and the National Practitioners' Data Bank and the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Databank of this Letter of Surrender, and in response to any inquiry, that I am subject to an Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation and subsequently surrendered my license. I also understand that in the event I apply for license in any form in any other state or jurisdiction, this Letter of Surrender may be released or published by the Board to the same extent as a final order that would result from disciplinary action, pursuant to Md. State Gov't Code Ann. § 10-611 *et seq.* (2009 Repl. Vol. and 2012 Supp.), and that this Letter of Surrender is considered a disciplinary action by the Board.

I affirm that as of the date of this Letter of Surrender, I will present to the Board my original Maryland medical license number D37970, and my most recent wallet-sized renewal card. I acknowledge that on or before the date the Board accepts this Letter of Surrender, I shall deliver to the Board: (1) any and all Medical Assistance prescription forms in my possession; (2) any prescription forms and pads in my possession; (3) any prescription forms or pads on which my name and Drug Enforcement Administration Registration Number are imprinted; and (4) within thirty (30) days of signing this letter of Surrender, I will destroy any controlled dangerous substances in my possession, other

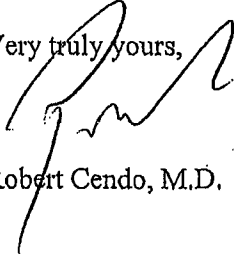
than those prescribed by a licensed physician for me, and furnish proof to the Board that the controlled dangerous substances have been destroyed.

I acknowledge that on or before the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I shall deliver to Chandra Mouli, R.Ph., Acting Division Chief, or any successor, Division of Drug Control, 4201 Patterson Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21215, my Maryland Controlled Dangerous Substances Certificate # M44844 (expiration date April 30, 2014); and that I will not renew my Drug Enforcement Administration Registration Cards #AC2295459 and BC5891913, which expire on August 31, 2014 and August 31, 2013, respectively.

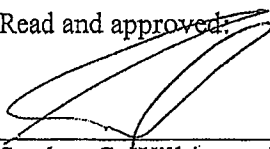
I further recognize and agree that by submitting this Letter of Surrender that my license will remain permanently surrendered. In other words, I agree that I have no right to reapply for a license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. I further agree that the Board is not obligated to consider any application for licensure that I might file at a future date and that I waive any hearing rights that I might possess regarding any such application.

I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason whatsoever. Finally, I wish to make clear that I have consulted with counsel before signing this Letter of Surrender. I understand both the nature of the Board's actions and this Letter of Surrender fully. I acknowledge that I understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms and effect of this Letter of Surrender. I make this decision knowingly and voluntarily.

Very truly yours,

  
Robert Cendo, M.D.

Read and approved:

  
Stephen C. Wilkinson, Esquire

NOTARY

STATE OF MARYLAND

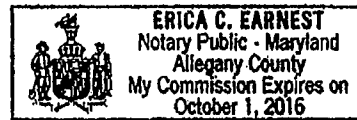
CITY/COUNTY OF Allegheny

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2013 before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appear Robert Cendo, M.D., and declared and affirmed under the penalties of perjury that the signing of the foregoing Letter of Surrender was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Erica Earnest  
Notary Public

My commission expires: 10-1-2016



ACCEPTANCE

On this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013, I, Andrea L. Mathias, M.D., on behalf of the Maryland State Board of Physicians, accept Robert Cendo, M.D.'s PUBLIC PERMANENT SURRENDER of his license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland.

Andrea Mathias MD MPH

Andrea L. Mathias, M.D.  
Chair  
Maryland State Board of Physicians