

#### STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Olympia, Washington 98504

RE: Geoffrey S. Ames, M.D.

Master Case No.: M2002-58576

Docket No.:

Document: Order on Request for Termination of Commission Order

Regarding your request for information about the above-named practitioner, certain information may have been withheld pursuant to Washington state laws. While those laws require that most records be disclosed on request, they also state that certain information should not be disclosed.

The following information has been withheld: NONE

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the information that was withheld, please contact:

Customer Service Center P.O. Box 47865 Olympia, WA 98504-7865 Phone: (360) 236-4700

Fax: (360) 586-2171

You may appeal the decision to withhold any information by writing to the Deputy Secretary, Department of Health, P.O. Box 47890, Olympia, WA 98504-7890.

# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

GEOFFREY S. AMES, M.D., License No. MD00026961,

Respondent.

Docket No. 02-06-A-1012MD Master Case No. M2002-58576

ORDER ON REQUEST FOR TERMINATION OF COMMISSION ORDER

# APPEARANCES:

Respondent, Geoffrey S. Ames, M.D., by Law Offices of William R. Bishin, P.S., per William R. Bishin, Attorney at Law,

Department of Health Medical Program, by Karen Caille, Staff Attorney

COMMISSION PANEL:

Frederick H. Dore, Jr., M.D., Panel Chair

Richard Brantner, M.D. Ellen J. Harder, PA-C Susan M. Harvey, M.D.

Frank Hensley, Public Member Judith Page, Public Member Linda A. Ruiz, Public Member

Samuel Selinger, M.D. Anjan K. Sen, M.D.

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Laura Farris, Senior Health Law Judge

The Medical Quality Assurance Commission (Commission) convened a hearing on July 17, 2009, in SeaTac, Washington. The Reviewing Commission Member, Anthony Robins, M.D., did not participate in the Commission's deliberations. Petition for termination of Commission order granted.

ORDER ON REQUEST FOR TERMINATION OF COMMISSION ORDER

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Docket No. 02-06-A-1012M Master Case No. M2002-58576 Based on consideration of the evidence presented at the hearing and the files and records herein, the Commission hereby issues the following:

# PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On June 3, 2009, the Respondent filed a Petition for Termination of Stayed Suspension and for License to Practice Medicine and Surgery without Restrictions and Conditions. On July 8, 2009, the Adjudicative Service Unit issued a Notice of Modification/Reinstatement Hearing, setting the hearing for July 17, 2009.

# **SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDING**

The Respondent testified on his own behalf and did not call any additional witnesses. The Program did not call any witnesses. The following exhibits were admitted:

Exhibit A (1):	Compliance Requirement Summary, dated June 25,
	2009.

Exhibit A (48-51): In Compliance Letters, dated November 19, 2004;

November 18, 2005; August 25, 2006; and July 13,

2007.

Exhibit A (52-59): Quarterly Compliance Declarations, dated

September 5, 2007; November 29, 2007; March 13, 2008; June 9, 2008; September 8, 2008; December 5,

2008; March 2, 2009; and June 1, 2009.

Exhibit A (60-61): Respondent's Petition for Review, dated June 3.

2009.

Exhibit A (62-70): Decision by the Supreme Court, dated June 10, 2009.

Exhibit A (71-74): Notice of Appearance & Declaration of Service, dated

June 10, 2009.

Exhibit B: Decision by the Washington State Court of Appeals.

Division III.

The following exhibit was not admitted:

Exhibit C: Dr. Ames' Supreme Court brief.

## I. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1.1 The Respondent is licensed as a physician and surgeon in the state of Washington.
- 1.2 On May 30, 2004, following an administrative hearing on the charges, the Commission served the parties with a Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Order (the 2004 Final Order). In the 2004 Final Order, the Commission found that the Respondent committed unprofessional conduct by violating RCW 18.130.180(4) [standard of care] and RCW 18.130.180(16) [promotion for personal gain an unnecessary or inefficacious drug, device, treatment, procedure, or service]. The Findings in the 2004 Final Order involved the Respondent's use of the

Life Information System Tens (LISTEN) device in his practice. LISTEN is a galvanic skin response machine.

1.3 The 2004 Final Order suspended the Respondent's license for five years from the date of the Order. This suspension was stayed subject to the Respondent meeting the following conditions: a) not use the LISTEN device to assess for or to treat allergies or have in his medical office(s) where he sees and/or treats patients; b) submit quarterly record reviews; c) submit quarterly compliance declarations; d) stay in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws; and e) pay a \$5,000 fine. The Respondent met all these conditions and is in compliance with the 2004 Final Order.

### II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 2.1 The Commission has jurisdiction over the Respondent and his request for termination of their prior order. RCW 18.130.160.
- 2.2 RCW 18.130.160 permits the Commission to fashion appropriate sanctions in disciplining the Respondent. This includes restrictions or limitations on the Respondent's license.
- 2.3 Based on the above Findings of Fact, the Commission concludes that the Respondent has complied with the terms and conditions of the previous Commission orders. The Commission concludes that the 2004 Final Order should now be terminated and the Respondent reinstated in full.

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## III. ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Commission issues the following ORDER:

3.1 The Respondent's Petition for Termination of Stayed Suspension and for License to Practice Medicine and Surgery without Restrictions and Conditions is GRANTED. The Respondent's license to practice as a physician and surgeon in the state of Washington is reinstated without restriction, subject to meeting any administrative and/or licensing requirements.

Dated this 30 day of July, 2009.

Medical Quality Assurance Commission

FREDERICK H. DORE, JR., M.D.

Panel Chair

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY: (Internal tracking numbers)

Program No. 2001-08-0007

## NOTICE TO PARTIES

This order is subject to the reporting requirements of RCW 18.130.110, Section 1128E of the Social Security Act, and any other applicable interstate or national reporting requirements. If discipline is taken, it must be reported to the Healthcare Integrity Protection Data Bank.

Either party may file a **petition for reconsideration**. RCW 34.05.461(3) and RCW 34.05.470. The petition must be filed within 10 days of service of this order with:

Adjudicative Service Unit P.O. Box 47879 Olympia, WA 98504-7879

and a copy must be sent to:

Department of Health Medical Program P.O. Box 47866 Olympia, WA 98504-7866

This petition must state the specific grounds for reconsideration and what relief is requested. WAC 246-10-704. The petition is denied if the Adjudicative Service Unit does not respond in writing within 20 days of the filing of the petition.

A **petition for judicial review** must be filed and served within 30 days after service of this order. RCW 34.05.542. The procedures are identified in chapter 34.05 RCW, Part V, Judicial Review and Civil Enforcement. A petition for reconsideration is not required before seeking judicial review. If a petition for reconsideration is filed, the above 30-day period does not start until the petition for reconsideration is resolved. RCW 34.05.470(3).

The order is in effect while a petition for reconsideration or petition for review is filed. "Filing" means actual receipt of the document by the Adjudicative Service Unit. RCW 34.05.010(6). This order is "served" the day it is deposited in the United States mail. RCW 34.05.010(19).

For more information, visit our website at http://www.doh.wa.gov/hearings