# **Discipline Narrative**

Name: GORDON JOHNSON CROZIER

Profession: OS11510

**Date Action Taken:** 

May 27, 2021

DOH Case Number: 2017-07957

#### Allegation:

Allegations that the Respondent committed medical malpractice by falling below the minimum standards of care and the Respondent exercised influence on a patient for financial gain.

#### **Final Disciplinary Action:**

Pursuant to the Final Order the following penalties were imposed: Letter of Concern; Complete continuing education in Ethics within one (1) year; Complete continuing education in "Risk Management" within one year; pay a fine in the amount of \$15,000.00 within thirty (30) days and costs of \$4,791.01 within thirty (30) days.

Final Order No. DOH-21-0703- 5 -MQA MAY 27 2021 FILED DATE -Department of Health mai Bv:

#### STATE OF FLORIDA BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Petitioner,

Case No: 2017-07957 License No.: OS 11510

vs.

GORDON JOHNSON CROZIER, D.O.,

Respondent.

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#### FINAL ORDER ACCEPTING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This matter came before the Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine (Board) pursuant to Section 120.569 and 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, at a duly-noticed public video and telephonic meeting on May 14, 2021, for consideration of a Settlement Agreement (attached hereto as Exhibit "A") entered into between the parties in this cause and incorporated by reference into this Final Order. The Department of Health (hereinafter "Petitioner") was represented by Cynthia Nash-Early, Assistant General Counsel, with the Department of Health. Gordon Johnson Crozier, D.O., (hereinafter "Respondent") was present and was represented by David Spicer, Esq.

During the hearing both parties agreed to orally amend the Settlement Agreement to state that for the continuing medical education required in Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Stipulated Disposition, the Ethics Course shall include the topic of exercising influence over the patient for financial gain and the Risk Management Course shall include the topic of the approved use of non-FDA-approved medication or therapies in patient care, and the courses shall be pre-approved by the Board Chair. The Petitioner filed an Administrative Complaint against the Respondent on January 16, 2020, attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and incorporated by reference into this Final Order.

Upon consideration of the Amended Settlement Agreement, the documents submitted in support thereof, the arguments of the parties and otherwise being advised in the premises, the Board accepted the Settlement Agreement as amended. Costs are assessed in the amount of \$4,791.01 and payable within thirty (30) days from the filing date of this Final Order.

WHEREFORE, the Board hereby accepts the Amended Settlement Agreement, settling all matters in this case consistent with the terms of the agreement between the parties, and Respondent is hereby ORDERED to abide by the terms of the Settlement Agreement as amended. This Final Order shall be placed in and made part of the Respondent's official records.

This Final Order shall become effective upon filing with the Clerk for the Department of Health.

DONE AND ORDERED this 25 day of May \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

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Kama Monroe, J.D., Executive Director on behalf of Sandra Schwemmer, D.O., Chair

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail to Gordon John Crozier, D.O., 3448 Fernlake Place, Longwood, FL 32779; and David Spicer, Esq., Law Offices of Spicer & Chambers, PLLC, 110 Front Street, Harbourside Place, Suite 300, Jupiter, FL 33477; and by email to Donna C. McNulty, Special Counsel, at <u>Donna.McNulty@myfloridalegal.com</u>; Cynthia Nash-Early, Assistant General Counsel, at <u>Cynthia.NashEarly@flhealth.gov</u>, and Sarah Corrigan, Assistant General Counsel, at <u>Sarah.Corrigan@flhealth.gov</u>; this <u>27</u> day of <u>Mou</u>, 2021.

Chunch Marcus

Deputy Agency Clerk

# STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,**

## Petitioner,

v.

CASE NO.: 2017-07957

# **GORDON JOHNSON CROZIER, D.O.,**

## **Respondent.**

## SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Gordon Johnson Crozier, D.O., 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 Osteopathic 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 459, Florida Statutes.

### STIPULATED FACTS

1. At all times material hereto, Respondent was a licensed osteopathic physician in the state of Florida having been issued license number OS 11510.

2. The Department charged Respondent with an Administrative Complaint that was filed and properly served upon Respondent alleging violations of chapter 459, 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 osteopathic physician, he is subject to the provisions of chapters 456 and 459, 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 459, Florida Statutes.

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

## STIPULATED DISPOSITION

1. <u>Letter of Concern</u> – The Board shall issue a Letter of Concern against Respondent's license.

2. <u>Fine</u> - The Board shall impose an administrative fine of *Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)* 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"). <u>All fines shall be paid by cashier's</u> <u>check or money order.</u> Any change in the terms of payment of any fine imposed by the Board <u>must be approved in advance by the Board.</u>

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 <u>45</u> 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.

Reimbursement of Costs - Pursuant to section 456.072, 3. 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 Three Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-One Dollars and Fifty-Nine Cents (\$3,951.59) but shall not exceed Five Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-One Dollars and Fifty-Nine Cents (\$5,951.59). 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 <u>must be</u> approved in advance by the Board.

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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 <u>45</u> 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 five (5) hours of CME in Ethics within one-year (1) year from the date the Final Order is filed.

5. <u>Continuing Medical Education – "Risk Management"</u> -Respondent shall complete this requirement and document such completion within one (1) year from the date of 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 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; or

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Respondent shall complete (5) five hours of CME in risk (b) management by attending one full day or eight (8) hours, whichever is more, of disciplinary hearings at a regular meeting of the Board of Osteopathic 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 hearing 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 osteopathic medical license.

## STANDARD PROVISIONS

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

2. <u>No Force or Effect until Final Order</u> - 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. <u>Continuing Medical Education</u> - Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement Respondent shall first submit a written request to the Board for approval prior to performance of said CME course(s). Respondent shall submit documentation to the Board 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, regardless of whether some or any of such documentation was provided previously during

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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, such CME course(s) shall consist of a formal, live lecture format.

4. <u>Addresses</u> - 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, 459 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, 459 and 893 and the Rules of the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, at Chapter 64B15, Florida Administrative Code.

6. <u>Violation of Terms</u> - 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 459, Florida Statutes.

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7. <u>Purpose of Agreement</u> - 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. <u>No Preclusion Of Additional Proceedings</u> - 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. <u>Waiver Of Attorney's Fees And Costs</u> - Upon the Board's adoption of this Agreement, the parties hereby agree that with the exception

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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. <u>Waiver of Further Procedural Steps</u> - 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 18 day of Februar <u>, 202 1</u>. Gordon Johns bžier, D.O. STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF Seminale.

BEFORE ME personally appeared Good Johnson Crozer whose identity is known to me or who produced Drivers (icense (type of identification) and who, under oath, acknowledges that his/her signature appears above.

sworn t February	o and	subscribed	before	me	this	18th day	of
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			NOTAR	CLA Y PUI		<u></u>	<u> </u>

My Commission Expires:  $(2/5)^2$ 

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APPROVED this 22nd day of February 2021.

Scott A. Rivkees, M.D. State Surgeon General

Cynthia Mash-Early

By: Cynthia Nash-Early Assistant General Counsel Department of Health

# STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

#### PETITIONER,

V.

## CASE NO, 2017-07957

GORDON JOHNSON CROZIER, D.O.,

**RESPONDENT.** 

# ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Petitioner Department of Health files this Administrative Complaint before the Board of Osteopathic Medicine against Respondent, Gordon Johnson Crozier, D.O., and in support thereof alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating the practice of Osteopathic Medicine pursuant to section 20.43, Florida Statutes; Chapter 456, Florida Statues; and Chapter 459, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material to this Complaint, Respondent was a licensed osteopathic physician within the state of Florida, having been issued license number OS 11510.

3. Respondent's address of record is 3448 Fernlake Place, Longwood, Florida 32779.

4. At all times material to this Administrative Complaint, Respondent was practicing as an osteopathic physician Florida.

5. At all times material to this complaint, Respondent treated Patient S.L. at Excellent Living in Lake Mary, Florida.

6. On or about March 13, 2016, Patient S.L. presented to Respondent's office with complaints of headaches, cognitive decline, fatigue, and hair loss.

7. Respondent diagnosed Patient S.L. with mold toxicity and elevated C4a levels.

8. Respondent treated Patient S.L. with intravenous treatments of phenylbutyrate<sup>1</sup>, leucovorin<sup>2</sup>, amino acid essential infusion<sup>3</sup>, hydrogen peroxide<sup>4</sup>, vitamin C infusion, and silver infusion.

Phenylbutyrate is a drug approved for the treatment of hyperammonemia in patients with urea cycle disorders, a series of at least eight rare genetic enzyme deficiencies.

series of at least eight rate genetic enzyme denoteners. <sup>2</sup> Leucovorin is a prescription medication used to decrease the toxic effects of a cancer medication called methotrexate. It can treat anemia caused by a lack of folic acid. It is also used in supportive care of patient with colon cancer and to treat overdoses of certain medicines.

colon cancer and to treat overdoses of certain incluences. <sup>3</sup> Amino acids are used by the body as a source of protein and nitrogen. Amino acid injections are used in patients unable to eat properly due to illness or surgery.

unable to eat property due to miness of surgery. <sup>4</sup> Hydrogen peroxide is the simplest peroxide (a compound with an oxygen-oxygen single bond). It is used as an oxidizer; bleaching agent, and antiseptic. Hydrogen peroxide is unstable and slowly decomposes in the presence of light.

Respondent also prescribed the following supplements for 9. Patient S.L.: digestive enzymes<sup>5</sup>, magnesium citrate<sup>6</sup>, adrenal complex<sup>7</sup>, omega-3 fatty acids<sup>8</sup>, tox binder<sup>9</sup>, and Neuromag<sup>10</sup>.

## Standard of Care

The prevailing professional standard of care for a physician who 10. is treating a patient for complaints including but not limited to headaches, cognitive decline, fatigue, and hair loss require a physician to:

> a. Refrain from offering unproven, deceptive, and misleading tests and treatments;

> b. Refer patients to ancillary medical providers to aid with

complaints;

c. Prescribe appropriate medications that have proven efficacy and scientific evidence to support use; and/or

d. Refrain from prescribing treatments that put the patient at risk for serious health complaints.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Digestive enzymes are a group of enzymes that break down polymeric macromolecules into their smaller building blocks, in order to facilitate their absorption by the body.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Magnesium citrate is a magnesium preparation in salt form with citric acid in a 1:1 ratio. The name "magnesium citrate" is ambiguous and sometimes may refer to other salts such as trimagnesium citrate which has a magnesium citrate ratio of 3:2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Adrenal complex is a glandular-based product designed to support overall adrenal function.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Omega-3 fatty acids are polyunsaturated fatty acids characterized by the presence of a double bond three atoms away from the terminal methyl group in their chemical structure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Tox binders or toxin binders are made up of selected silicates, or yeast cell wall components, or both organic acids and surfactants. They are used to reduce mycotoxicosis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Neuro-mag is Magnesium L-Threonate. Neuro-mag supports healthy memory and cognition by optimizing magnesium levels in the brain.

### <u>Count I</u>

11. Petitioner realleges and incorporates paragraphs one (1) through ten (10) as if fully set forth herein.

12. Section 459.015(1)(x), Florida Statutes (2015-2016), subjects a licensee to discipline for committing medical malpractice as defined in section 456.50, Florida Statutes. Section 456.50(1)(g), Florida Statutes (2015-2016), 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 (2015-2016), 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 healthcare providers.

13. Respondent fell below the minimum standard of care in his treatment of Patient S.L. in one or more of the following ways:

a. By offering unproven, deceptive, and misleading tests and treatments;

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b. By failing to refer Patient S.L. to ancillary medical providers to aid with her medical complaints;

c. By prescribing inappropriate medications that have no proven efficacy and no scientific evidence to support use; and/or

d. By prescribing infusions with substances that put Patient S.L. at risk for serious health complications.

14. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated section 459.015(1)(x), Florida Statutes (2015-2016), by committing medical malpractice.

#### <u>Count II</u>

15. Petitioner realleges and incorporates paragraphs one (1) through ten (10) as if fully set forth herein.

16. Section 459.015(1)(q), Florida Statutes (2015-2016), subjects a licensee to discipline for exercising influence on the patient or client in such a manner as to exploit the patient or client for financial gain of the licensee or of a third party which shall include, but not be limited to, the promotion or sale of services, goods, appliances, or drugs.

17. Respondent exercised influence on Patient S.L. for financial gain in one or more of the following ways:

a. By offering unproven, deceptive, and misleading tests and treatments;

b. By prescribing inappropriate medications that have no proven efficacy and no scientific evidence to support use; and/or

c. By prescribing infusions with substances that put PatientS.L. at risk for serious health complications.

18. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated section 459.015(1)(q), Florida Statutes (2015-2016), by exercising influence over a patient for financial gain.

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WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board of Osteopathic 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.

SIGNED this <u>15th</u> day of <u>January</u>, 2020.

FILED DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DEPUTY CLERK CLERK: JUNIC MOULD DATE: JAN 1 6 2020 Cynthia Nash-Early

Cynthia Nash-Early Assistant General Counsel DOH Prosecution Services Unit 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-65 Tallahassee, FL 32399-3265 Florida Bar No.: 20554 (850) 558-9872 Telephone (850) 245-4684 Facsimile E-Mail: Cynthia.NashEarly@flhealth.gov

PCP Date: January 15, 2020

PCP Members: Glenn Moran, D.O. and Anna Hayden, D.O.

## 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 Florida 28-106.111(2), Rule to pursuant Complaint, 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.