

**BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND
DISCIPLINE
IN THE MATTER OF
Ralph A. Digiacomo MD
License Number 06546**

No. C07-221

Voluntary Surrender

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §5-37-5.2, 1956, as amended, (2002 Reenactment) information was received by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline [Board] regarding Ralph A. Digiacomo MD (“Respondent”) from the Board of Pharmacy detailing the Respondents ordering of certain controlled substances (hydrocodone containing medications) in gross and excessive quantities over a two year period. Preliminary investigation indicated that these medications were not ordered for use in patient care; and that federal regulatory requirements for controlled substance documentation were not met. The following are findings of fact and conclusions of law:

FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Respondent is a 1982 graduate of the St. Georges School of Medicine of Grenada. He was born on July 7, 1956. He has been licensed to practice medicine in the State of RI since 1985. He practices Rheumatology and

Internal Medicine. His primary practice location suite 303, Gate Medical Building, 215 Tollgate Road, Warwick RI.

2. Respondent ordered and received a total of 507 #100 tablet stock bottles of hydrocodone/acetaminophen; 10mg/325mg between March 1, 2005 and December 29, 2006.
3. Respondent has not maintained minimally acceptable documentation for these controlled substances.
4. Respondent failed to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in violation of § 5-37-5.1.

The parties agree as follows:

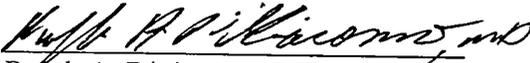
Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board.

- (1) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
 - b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
 - c. The right to cross examine witnesses;
 - d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;

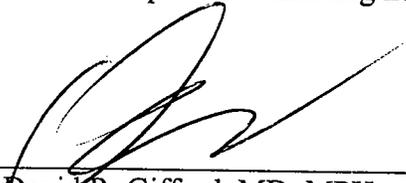
- e. The right to further procedural steps except for specifically contained herein;
 - f. Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
 - g. Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;
 - h. Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to review adequately this Consent Order;
 - i. Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order.
- (2) Acceptance of this Consent Order constitutes an admission by the Respondent of the findings of fact made by the Board.
 - (3) This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties.
 - (4) Failure to comply with this Consent Order, when signed and accepted, shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.
 - (5) Respondent voluntarily surrenders his license to practice medicine and DEA registration immediately.
 - (6) Respondent agrees to notify all other jurisdictions in which he holds a medical license of this surrender as well as any third party insurances, hospitals or other licensed facilities that he is affiliated with.

- (7) Respondent and his office(s) shall facilitate the transfer of care of his patients to another appropriate licensed healthcare provider.
- (8) Respondent agrees to pay an administrative fee of one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars within 60 days of ratification of this Order.

Signed this 6th day of April, 2007.


Ralph A. Digiacomo MD

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline at a meeting held
on April 11th, 2007.


David R. Gifford, MD, MPH
Director of Health