STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

In Re: PROVIDER SUSPENSION

KAREN SARKISSIAN,

Respondent.

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1)(A) requires the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation (Administrative Director) to suspend any physician, practitioner, or provider from participating in the California workers' compensation system as a physician, practitioner, or provider if the individual or entity has been convicted of any felony or misdemeanor and that crime either: (1) involves fraud or abuse of the federal Medicare or Medicaid programs, the Medi-Cal program, or the workers' compensation system, or fraud or abuse of any patient; (2) relates to the conduct of the individual's medical practice as it pertains to patient care; or (3) is a financial crime that relates to the federal Medicare or Medicaid programs, the Medi-Cal program, or the workers' compensation system.

Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1)(B) requires the Administrative Director to suspend any physician, practitioner, or provider from participating in the California workers' compensation system as a physician, practitioner, or provider if the individual or entity has been suspended, due to fraud or abuse, from the federal Medicare or Medicaid programs or the Medi-Cal program.

On or about September 15, 2016, Respondent Karen Sarkissian (Sarkissian) was convicted in the United States District Court, Central District of California, of a crime described in Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1)(A). (USA v. Sarkissian, Case No. CR 13-719 (A)-PSG-4.)

Respondent Sarkissian was suspended, due to fraud or abuse, from the federal Medicare or Medicaid programs.

On or about June 14, 2022, the Administrative Director mailed to Respondent Sarkissian a written notice of the right to a hearing regarding the suspension and the procedure to follow to request a hearing, as provided in Labor Code section 139.21(b)(2) and California Code of Regulations, title 8, section 9788.1.

Pursuant to Labor Code section 139.21(b)(2) and California Code of Regulations, title 8, section 9788.1(d), the written notice advised Respondent Sarkissian that the suspension would start thirty (30) calendar days after the date of mailing of written notice, unless Respondent Sarkissian submitted a written request for a hearing within ten (10) calendar days of the date of mailing of the notice.

Respondent Sarkissian did not submit a written request for hearing within ten (10) calendar days of the date of mailing of the notice.

The Administrative Director is required to suspend any physician, practitioner, or provider pursuant to Labor Code section 139.21 and California Code of Regulations, title 8, section 9788.2, after thirty (30) days from the date the notice was mailed, unless the physician, practitioner, or provider submits a written request for a hearing within ten (10) calendar days of the date of mailing of the notice;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent Karen Sarkissian is hereby suspended from participating in the California workers' compensation system as a physician, practitioner, or provider.

Date: July 27, 2022

/S/ George P. Parisotto

George P. Parisotto
Administrative Director
Division of Workers' Compensation