

**BEFORE THE
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Accusation)
Against:)
)
)
Glenn Martin Strome, M.D.)
)
Physician's and Surgeon's)
Certificate No. G 82083)
)
Respondent)
_____)

Case No. 800-2015-011744

DECISION

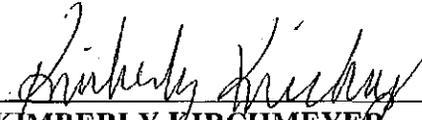
The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on May 17, 2017

IT IS SO ORDERED May 10, 2017

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By:



**KIMBERLY KIRCHMEYER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
2 ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 MARA FAUST
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 111729
California Department of Justice
5 1300 I Street, Suite 125
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Attorneys for Complainant

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10 **BEFORE THE
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
11 STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2015-011744

13 **GLENN MARTIN STROME, M.D.**

14 359 Diamond Street
San Francisco, CA 94114-2820

15 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 82083,

16 Respondent.

**STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
17 LICENSE AND ORDER**

18 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
19 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

20 PARTIES

21 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board
22 of California (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in
23 this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Mara Faust, Deputy
24 Attorney General.

25 2. Glenn Martin Strome, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by
26 attorney Gregory Abrams, whose address is 6045 Shirley Drive, Oakland, CA 94611.

27 3. On or about December 20, 1995, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's
28 Certificate No. G 82083 to Glenn Martin Strome, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and

1 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in
2 Accusation No. 800-2015-011744 and will expire on June 30, 2017, unless renewed.

3 JURISDICTION

4 4. Accusation No. 800-2015-011744 was filed before the (Board), and is currently
5 pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were
6 properly served on Respondent on March 3, 2017. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense
7 contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2015-011744 is attached as Exhibit A
8 and incorporated by reference.

9 ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

10 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the
11 charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2015-011744. Respondent also has carefully read,
12 fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License
13 and Order.

14 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a
15 hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine
16 the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right
17 to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of
18 documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other
19 rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

20 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and
21 every right set forth above.

22 CULPABILITY

23 8. Respondent understands that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2015-
24 011744, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Physician's and
25 Surgeon's Certificate.

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1 1. The surrender of Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate and the
2 acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline
3 against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part
4 of Respondent's license history with the Medical Board of California.

5 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a physician and surgeon in
6 California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.

7 3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board his pocket license and, if one was
8 issued, his wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.

9 4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in
10 the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must
11 comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked license in
12 effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in
13 Accusation No. 800-2015-011744 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent
14 when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

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ACCEPTANCE

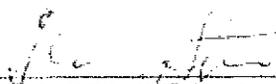
17 I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully
18 discussed it with my attorney, Gregory Abrams. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will
19 have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of
20 License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the
21 Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

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23

24 DATED: _____

12/29/17



GLENN MARTIN STROME, M.D.
Respondent

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I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Glenn Martin Strome, M.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: April 7, 2017 
GREGORY ABRAMS
Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated: April 13, 2017 Respectfully submitted,
XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

MARA FAUST
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
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9 **BEFORE THE**
10 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
11 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2015-011744

13 **GLENN MARTIN STROME, M.D.**
14 359 Diamond Street
San Francisco, CA 94114-2820

A C C U S A T I O N

15 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 82083,
16 Respondent.

17
18 Complainant alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official
21 capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer
22 Affairs (Board).

23 2. On or about December 20, 1995, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's
24 Certificate No. G 82083 to Glenn Martin Strome, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and
25 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought
26 herein and will expire on June 30, 2017, unless renewed.

27 ///

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1 **JURISDICTION**

2 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following
3 laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise
4 indicated.

5 4. Section 2234 of the Code, states:

6 "The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional
7 conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not
8 limited to, the following:

9 (a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the
10 violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

11 (b) Gross negligence.

12 (c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or
13 omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from
14 the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.

15 (1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for
16 that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.

17 (2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that
18 constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a
19 reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the
20 applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the
21 standard of care.

22 (d) Incompetence."

23 5. Section 820 of the Code states:

24 "Whenever it appears that any person holding a license, certificate or permit under this
25 division or under any initiative act referred to in this division may be unable to practice his or her
26 profession safely because the licentiate's ability to practice is impaired due to mental illness, or
27 physical illness affecting competency, the licensing agency may order the licentiate to be
28 examined by one or more physicians and surgeons or psychologists designated by the agency.

1 The report of the examiners shall be made available to the licentiate and may be received as direct
2 evidence in proceedings conducted pursuant to Section 822.”

3 6. Section 822 of the Code states:

4 “If a licensing agency determines that its licentiate’s ability to practice his or her
5 profession safely is impaired because the licentiate is mentally ill, or physically ill affecting
6 competency, the licensing agency may take action by any one of the following methods:

7 (a) Revoking the licentiate’s certificate or license.

8 (b) Suspending the licentiate’s right to practice.

9 (c) Placing the licentiate on probation.

10 (d) Taking such other action in relation to the licentiate as the licensing agency in its
11 discretion deems proper.

12 The licensing section shall not reinstate a revoked or suspended certificate or license until it
13 has received competent evidence of the absence or control of the condition which caused its
14 action and until it is satisfied that with due regard for the public health and safety the person’s
15 right to practice his or her profession may be safely reinstated.”

16 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**
17 **(Mental or Physical Illness Affecting Competency)**

18 7. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2334, 820 and 822 in that
19 he is suffering from an illness that is affecting his ability to practice medicine. The circumstances
20 are as follows:

21 8. On or about February 8, 2015, the Medical Board of California, Central Complaint
22 Unit, (CCU), received a complaint from E.M., the wife of patient C.M.,¹ a 44 year-old man, for
23 whom Respondent had read thoracic and spine CT scans done on October 14, 2014. According to
24 E.M., Respondent interpreted her husband’s scans as abnormal, causing the patient to have to take
25 another abdominal CT scan with contrast. The complaint continues to describe that the second
26 set of scans for patient C.M. were interpreted by another radiologist as normal. Thereafter,

27 ¹ The patient’s full name is not stated to protect his privacy and his full name will be disclosed in
28 subsequent discovery.

1 another radiologist re-read the scans that Respondent had previously interpreted and found them
2 to be normal as well.

3 9. On or about May 18, 2015, the CCU received Respondent's response to the
4 complaint. Respondent stated that he interpreted patient C.M.'s scans on October 16, 2014, and
5 admits that his interpretation of the studies was "strange" but that at the time he was under the
6 care of a psychiatrist for depression and was taking medications that was affecting his memory
7 and his ability to think. Respondent further stated that he took a leave of absence from his job at
8 RadNet on October 21, 2014.

9 10. On or about October 14, 2015, C.G., the VP of Operations of Northern California
10 RadNet informed the investigator that because Respondent appeared to be reading slides wrong in
11 October 2014, a review of many of his cases from both September and October
12 2014 was done resulting in the filing of forty addendums to correct Respondent's incorrect
13 interpretations.

14 11. On or about August 11, 2016, Investigator A.B. interviewed Respondent at the
15 Sacramento Field Office. He indicated in his interview that his job as a radiologist at RadNet was
16 primarily to read and interpret radiographic images.

17 12. On or about October 22, 2014, Respondent was informed by his employer that he had
18 over-read several images and he was placed on medical leave. Looking back, Respondent felt
19 that his clinical problems interpreting images in September and October 2014, was due to his
20 taking medications (including anti-depressants) that impacted his cognitive abilities. Respondent
21 has not practiced medicine since October 2014. At his physician interview, Respondent also
22 signed a voluntary agreement for both a mental examination and a physical examination, and
23 releases for psychiatric and medical records. A urine sample was voluntarily secured from
24 Respondent on August 11, 2016, which showed continued benzodiazepine and anti-depressant
25 use.

26 13. At the physician interview, Respondent provided the investigator with a medication
27 list that he is currently on, a medication list from August 2014 through October 2014, which was
28 provided to him by Dr. T.L. (Dr. L.), his psychiatrist, and a one page letter dated July 18, 2016

1 from Dr. L. In the letter, Dr. L. states, "At the present time, Respondent is not fit to return to
2 work. This is a fact that Respondent is aware of, understands completely, and accepts without
3 reservation."

4 14. On or about October 11, 2016, and October 12, 2016, Board Certified psychiatrist
5 S.K. (Dr. K.) conducted a psychiatric examination with Respondent to determine whether he was
6 safe to practice medicine. It is Dr. K.'s understanding that Respondent has not worked as a
7 physician and surgeon since October 22, 2014 and has been unable to work due to depression.
8 Respondent reported to Dr. K. that he continues to have depressed mood, low energy, feelings of
9 helplessness and hopelessness as well as a lack of motivation. Respondent agrees that his short
10 term and long term memory is poor. In addition, he has cognitive slowing. Respondent has been
11 treated by Dr. L., a psychiatrist for depression since February 2014.

12 15. Dr. K.'s psychiatric evaluation of Respondent includes, in part, the following
13 psychiatric diagnoses:

14 Major Depressive disorder, recurrent; and,

15 Cognitive and other central nervous system side effects from possibly being on multiple
16 medications or from other causes.

17 16. As a result of this psychiatric evaluation, Dr. K. found that Respondent is suffering
18 from an illness that is affecting his ability to practice medicine safely.

19 "Doctor Strome is not safe to practice medicine at this time secondary to his severe
20 depression, the decrease in his cognition, his poor memory, and his poor concentration ...

21 In my professional opinion, he has no periods of remission (i.e. 6 to 12 months) from
22 depression since June 2014. I recommend that there be at least a one-year remission of
23 depression symptoms prior to him restarting the practice of radiology."

24 17. Respondent's treating psychiatrist, Dr. L., believes that Respondent's depression is
25 due to limbic encephalitis, a physiological auto immune inflammatory brain disorder. Dr. L.
26 agrees that currently Respondent is not safe to practice medicine.

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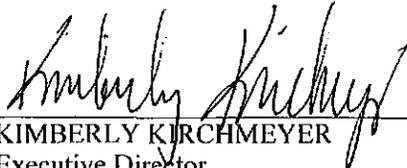
1 18. Respondent is unable to practice safely due to a mental or physical condition, and that
2 permitting him to continue to engage in the practice of medicine at this point in time will
3 endanger the public health, safety, and welfare.

4 **PRAYER**

5 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
6 and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision:

- 7 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 82083, issued
8 to Respondent, Glenn Martin Strome, M.D.;
- 9 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent, Glenn Martin Strome,
10 M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants, pursuant to section 3527 of the Code;
- 11 3. Ordering Respondent, Glenn Martin Strome, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the
12 Board the costs of probation monitoring; and
- 13 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

14
15 DATED: March 3, 2017


KIMBERLY KIRCHMEYER
Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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