CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A.
AND
THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., and THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO, a state agency charged with enforcing Chapter 4730., Ohio Revised Code.

SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., enters into this CONSENT AGREEMENT being fully informed of her rights under Chapter 119., Ohio Revised Code, including the right to representation by counsel and the right to a formal adjudicative hearing on the issues considered herein.

BASIS FOR ACTION

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into on the basis of the following stipulations, admissions and understandings:

A. THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO is empowered by Section 4730.25, Ohio Revised Code, to limit, revoke, suspend a certificate, refuse to register or reinstate an applicant, or reprimand or place on probation the holder of a certificate who is in violation of Section 4730.25(B)(2), Ohio Revised Code, "[f]ailure to comply with the requirements of this chapter, Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code, or any rules adopted by the board;" to wit: Section 4731.41 Ohio Revised Code, "Practice of medicine or surgery without certificate."

B. THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO enters into this CONSENT AGREEMENT in lieu of formal proceedings based upon the violation of Sections 4730.25(B)(2), Ohio Revised Code, as set forth in Paragraph D below, and expressly reserves the right to institute formal proceedings based upon any other violations of Chapter 4730. of the Revised Code, whether occurring before or after the effective date of this Agreement.

C. SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., has submitted an application for a certificate of registration as a physician assistant in the State of Ohio.

D. SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., ADMITS that in or about June 1997 she submitted an "Application for Physician Assistant Registration Number." MS. HATFIELD further ADMITS that she was notified by THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO that she was assigned a temporary Physician Assistant Registration number [Temporary Certificate], and that it would be effective only until the results of the October 1997 National Commission on Certification of Physician's Assistants [NCCPA] exam were available.

SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., further ADMITS that on September 17, 1997, she entered into a Physician Assistant Supervision Agreement [Supervision Agreement] with Richard J. Kagan, M.D., Glenn D. Warden, M.D., and Kevin P. Yakuboff, M.D. Said Supervision Agreement did not take effect until October 30, 1997. MS. HATFIELD further ADMITS that in or about December 1997 she began working under the supervision of Dr. Kagan and Dr. Warden in Cincinnati, Ohio, at Shriners Burn Hospital and the Division of Burn Surgery, University of Cincinnati. MS. HATFIELD further ADMITS that her job duties as a physician assistant included completing comprehensive histories and physical examinations.

SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., further ADMITS that she received a letter dated December 17, 1997, from THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO, indicating that her Temporary Certificate would expire on January 31, 1998, if THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO did not receive notification from the NCCPA that she had passed the October 1997 exam. MS. HATFIELD further ADMITS that she failed the October 1997 exam and therefore her Temporary Certificate expired on January 31, 1998. MS. HATFIELD further STATES that from December 1997 until June of 1998 she worked as a clinical nurse assistant.

SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., further ADMITS that she took the April 1998 NCCPA exam, was informed in or about June 1998 that she had passed the NCCPA exam, and requested the NCCPA to forward a copy of her passing score to THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO; and that she returned to work as a physician assistant under the supervision of Dr. Kagan and Dr. Warden in Cincinnati, Ohio, at Shriners Burn Hospital and the Division of Burn Surgery, University of Cincinnati.

SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., further ADMITS that in or about August 2000 she contacted THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO to inquire about her registration number as a physician assistant. After being notified by staff that she was not a licensed physician assistant, she

submitted an application for a certificate of registration as a physician assistant on or about August 14, 2000.

SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., STATES that she did not know that she has been working as an unlicensed physician assistant. MS. HATFIELD further STATES that she was performing her job duties as directed by her supervising physicians, Dr. Kagan and Dr. Warden. MS. HATFIELD further STATES that she stopped working as an unlicensed physician assistant on or about November 13, 2000.

AGREED CONDITIONS

Wherefore, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual promises hereinafter set forth, and in lieu of any formal proceedings at this time, SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A., shall be granted a certificate of registration as a physician assistant in the State of Ohio, and knowingly and voluntarily agrees with THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO, (hereinafter BOARD), to the following terms, conditions and limitations:

REPRIMAND

1. MS. HATFIELD is hereby REPRIMANDED.

PROBATIONARY TERMS

2. MS. HATFIELD shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and all rules governing the practice of medicine in Ohio;

3. Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, MS. HATFIELD shall provide a copy of this CONSENT AGREEMENT to all employers or entities with which she is under contract to provide health care services or is receiving training; and the Chief of Staff at each hospital where she is employed. Further, MS. HATFIELD shall provide a copy of this CONSENT AGREEMENT to all employers or entities with which she contracts to provide health care services, or applies for or receives training, and the Chief of Staff at each hospital where she applies for employment, privileges, or appointments;

4. Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, MS. HATFIELD shall provide a copy of this CONSENT AGREEMENT by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the proper licensing authority of any state or jurisdiction in which she currently holds any professional license. MS. HATFIELD further agrees to provide a copy of this CONSENT AGREEMENT by certified mail,

return receipt requested, at time of application to the proper licensing authority of any state in which she applies for any professional license or reinstatement of any professional license. Further, MS. HATFIELD shall provide this BOARD with a copy of the return receipt as proof of notification within thirty (30) days of receiving that return receipt;

FAILURE TO COMPLY

If, in the discretion of the Secretary and Supervising Member of the BOARD, MS. HATFIELD appears to have violated or breached any term or condition of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, the BOARD reserves the right to institute formal disciplinary proceedings for any and all possible violations or breaches, including, but not limited to, alleged violations of the laws of Ohio occurring before the effective date of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.

DURATION/MODIFICATION OF TERMS

MS. HATFIELD shall not request modification to the probationary terms, limitations and conditions contained herein for at least one (1) year. Otherwise, the above described probationary terms, limitations and conditions may be amended or terminated in writing at any time upon the agreement of both parties.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS/LIABILITY RELEASE

MS. HATFIELD acknowledges that she has had an opportunity to ask questions concerning the terms of this CONSENT AGREEMENT and that all questions asked have been answered in a satisfactory manner.

Any action initiated by the BOARD based on alleged violations of this CONSENT AGREEMENT shall comply with the Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 119., Ohio Revised Code.

MS. HATFIELD hereby releases THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD OF OHIO, its members, employees, agents, officers and representatives jointly and severally from any and all liability arising from the within matter.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43, Ohio Revised Code. Further, this information may be reported to appropriate organizations, data banks and governmental bodies.

EFFECTIVE DATE

It is expressly understood that this CONSENT AGREEMENT is subject to ratification by the BOARD prior to signature by the Secretary and Supervising Member and that it shall become effective upon the last date of signature below.

SUSAN MERKEL HATFIELD, P.A.

Dec 13 2000
DATE

ANAND G. GARG, M.D.
Secretary

12/13/00
DATE

RAYMOND J. ALBERT
Supervising Member

12/13/00
DATE

ANNE B. STRAIT, ESQ.
Assistant Attorney General

12/13/00
DATE