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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	
Friederike Carla Von Lintig, M.D. Physician's and Surgeon's	Case No. 800-2021-079384
Certificate No. A 84284	
Respondent.	

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 <u>September 27, 2024.</u>

IT IS SO ORDERED September 20, 2024.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Reji Varghese Executive Director

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General KAROLYN M. WESTFALL Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 234540 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9465 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9	REFORI	THE	
10	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
12	STATE OF CA	ALIFORNIA	
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2021-079384	
14 15	FRIEDERIKE CARLA VON LINTIG, M.D. 2815 S Grade Road Alpine, CA 91901	OAH No. 2024030370 STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284,	LICENSE AND DISCH LINARY ORDER	
17 18	Respondent.		
19	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGRI	EED by and between the parties to the above-	
20	entitled proceedings that the following matters are	true:	
21	PART	<u>IES</u>	
22	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Ex	recutive Director of the Medical Board of	
23	California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this		
24	matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Karolyn M. Westfall,		
25	Deputy Attorney General.	,	
26	2. Friederike Carla Von Lintig, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by		
27	attorneys Jeffrey S. Doggett Esq., and Katie K. Schuler, Esq., whose address is: Law Offices of		
28	Lotz, Doggett & Rawers, LLP, 101 West Broadway, Suite 1330, San Diego, CA 92101.		
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- 3. On or about August 8, 2003, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284 to Respondent. The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2021-079384, and will expire on November 30, 2024, unless renewed.
- 4. On or about July 3, 2023, an Interim Order of Suspension was issued by the Office of Administrative Hearings, immediately suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284 and prohibiting Respondent from practicing medicine in the State of California. As a result, Respondent remains suspended from the practice of medicine pending the issuance of a final decision on Accusation No. 800-2021-079384.

JURISDICTION

5. Accusation No. 800-2021-079384 was filed before the Board and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on October 3, 2023. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A true and correct copy of Accusation No. 800-2021-079384 is attached hereto as Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, and fully understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2021-079384. Respondent also has carefully read, and fully understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel, at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Having the benefit of counsel, Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent admits that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a *prima facie* case with respect to the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2021-079384, agrees that she has thereby subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284 to disciplinary action, and hereby surrenders her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284 for the Board's formal acceptance.
- 10. Respondent further agrees that if she ever petitions for reinstatement, or if an accusation is filed against her before the Medical Board of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2021-079384 shall be deemed true, correct, and fully admitted by Respondent for purposes of any such proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving Respondent in the State of California or elsewhere.
- 11. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation she enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate without further process.

CONTINGENCY

- 12. Business and Professions Code section 2224, subdivision (b), provides, in pertinent part, that the Medical Board "shall delegate to its executive director the authority to adopt a ... stipulation for surrender of a license."
- 13. Respondent understands that, by signing this stipulation, she enables the Executive Director of the Board to issue an order, on behalf of the Board, accepting the surrender of her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284 without further notice to, or opportunity to be heard by, Respondent.
- 14. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Director on behalf of the Board. The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be submitted to the Executive Director for his consideration in the above-entitled matter and, further, that the Executive Director shall have a reasonable period of time in which to consider and act on this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order after receiving it. By signing this stipulation, Respondent fully understands

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and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind this stipulation prior to the time the Executive Director, on behalf of the Medical Board, considers and acts upon it.

The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be null and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved and adopted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board, except for this paragraph, which shall remain in full force and effect. Respondent fully understands and agrees that in deciding whether or not to approve and adopt this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, the Executive Director and/or the Board may receive oral and written communications from its staff and/or the Attorney General's Office. Communications pursuant to this paragraph shall not disqualify the Executive Director, the Board, any member thereof, and/or any other person from future participation in this or any other matter affecting or involving Respondent. In the event that the Executive Director on behalf of the Board does not, in his discretion, approve and adopt this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, with the exception of this paragraph, it shall not become effective, shall be of no evidentiary value whatsoever, and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto. Respondent further agrees that should this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order be rejected for any reason by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board, Respondent will assert no claim that the Executive Director, the Board, or any member thereof, was prejudiced by its/his/her review, discussion and/or consideration of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order or of any matter or matters related hereto.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

- 16. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties in the above-entitled matter.
- 17. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, including copies of the signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures and, further, that such copies shall have the same force and effect as originals.

18. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree the Executive Director of the Board may, without further notice to or opportunity to be heard by Respondent, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order on behalf of the Board:

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284, issued to Respondent Friederike Carla Von Lintig, M.D., is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

- 1. The surrender of Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.
- 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a physician and surgeon in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board her pocket license and, if one was issued, her wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.
- 4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked or surrendered license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2021-079384 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.
- 5. Respondent shall pay the agency its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$61,508.00 (sixty-one thousand five hundred and eight dollars and zero cents) prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.
- 6. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2021-079384 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

i	ACCEPTANCE		
2	I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order. I		
3	understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate		
4	I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly,		
5	and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of		
6	California.		
7 8	DATED: 09/06/2024 Friedrich (wa von Lintig, M.D. Respondent		
10	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Friederike Carla Von Lintig, M.D., the		
11	terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and		
12	Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.		
13 14	DATED: September 13, 2024		
15 16	JEFFREY S. DOGGETT, ESQ. KATIE K. SCHULER, ESQ. Attorneys for Respondent		
17	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>		
18	The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order is hereby		
19	respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of		
20	Consumer Affairs.		
21	DATED: 9/13/24 Respectfully submitted,		
22	ROB BONTA		
23	Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
24			
25	Cullestfall		
26 27	KAROLYN M. WESTFALL Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant		
:8	84710689.docx		

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2021-079384

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Supervising Deputy Attorney General KAROLYN M. WESTFALL Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 234540 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9465 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061			
8	Attorneys for Complainant	1		
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10	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS			
12	STATE OF CA	ILIFORNIA		
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14	FRIEDERIKE CARLA VON LINTIG, M.D. 2815 S Grade Road	ACCUSATION		
15	Alpine, CA 91901			
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284,			
17	Respondent.			
18				
19	PART	TFS.		
20		nis Accusation solely in his official capacity as		
· 21				
22	the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs			
23	(Board).	cal Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's		
24 25	2. On or about August 8, 2003, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284 to Friederike Carla Von Lintig, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and			
26	Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought			
27	herein and will expire on November 30, 2024, unless renewed.			
28	nerem and win expire on November 50, 2021, dimensioners.			
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	(FRIEDERIKE CARLA VON LINTIG, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2021-079384			
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(FRIEDERIKE CARLA VON LINTIG, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2021-079384

- 10. On or about November 6, 2019, Patient A, a then twenty-four-year-old female, was booked into a criminal detention facility. During her initial intake at the facility, Patient A admitted to regular use of heroin, alcohol, and Xanax,² with her last use being approximately two hours prior to booking. Patient A identified her prior withdrawal symptoms to include tremors or shakes, sweating, headache, and nausea or vomiting, but denied any prior seizure activity. An on-site pregnancy test revealed positive results. Patient A was determined to be fit to continue the booking process and a standard nursing protocol was ordered, which consisted of a daily prenatal vitamin and ondansetron³ 4 mg twice daily for five days. Patient A was advised to drink fluids as tolerated and to notify staff if her condition worsens. Patient A was not placed on a polysubstance withdrawal protocol.
- 11. Between on or about November 6, 2019, and on or about November 10, 2019, while housed in mainline housing, Patient A was witnessed by other inmates and staff to be experiencing repeated intractable emesis, at times self-induced. Patient A was encouraged to continue to drink fluids as tolerated.
- 12. On or about November 10, 2019, at approximately 10:18 a.m., Patient A was seen by C.G., M.D. (Dr. C.G.) for the first time. Patient A complained of intractable vomiting, reported that she was approximately five weeks pregnant with a desire for termination, and was withdrawing from heroin and alcohol. Dr. C.G. obtained Patient A's blood pressure, temperature, and pulse, but otherwise did not conduct a physical examination at that time or anytime thereafter. Dr. C.G. noted Patient A was orthostatic, but alert and conversant. Dr. C.G. diagnosed Patient A with intrauterine pregnancy with vomiting and mild dehydration. Dr. C.G. ordered Patient A to be transferred to the Medical Observation Unit (MOB) for observation and oral hydration,

² Xanax (brand name for alprazolam) is a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11057, subdivision (d), and a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 of the Code. It is a benzodiazepine medication used to treat anxiety and panic disorder.

³ Ondansetron (brand name Zofran) is a medication used to prevent nausea and vomiting. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 of the Code.

⁴ Orthostatic is a form of low blood pressure that happens when standing up from sitting or lying down.

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 prescribed Zofran 8 mg three times daily, and referred Patient A to Planned Parenthood for termination.

- 13. On or about November 10, 2019, at approximately 11:21 a.m., Dr. C.G. noted that Patient A had not yet received treatment for withdrawal since her admission to the detention facility four days earlier, and ordered Vistaril⁵ 50 mg twice daily.
- 14. On or about November 10, 2019, Patient A was admitted to the MOB and was housed with multiple other inmates. Throughout the day, Patient A was witnessed by other inmates and staff to be experiencing repeated intractable emesis, at times self-induced. At some point that evening, Patient A was transferred to an isolation unit within the MOB.
- 15. On or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 8:40 a.m., Patient A was seen by L.R., R.N. (Nurse L.R.). Patient A complained of repeated fainting and vomiting and was advised to refrain from self-induced vomiting.
- Respondent for the first time. Respondent noted Patient A had been admitted to the MOB for "fainting spells," but understood medical staff had a high suspicion of Patient A staging her "fainting spells" for second gain purposes. Respondent incorrectly noted in Patient A's chart that she had finished treatment for alcohol and heroin withdrawal. Patient A complained of vomiting all of her food and drinks and requested IV hydration. Respondent did not obtain Patient A's vital signs and did not perform and/or document a physical examination at that time. Respondent instructed Patient A to rest, to ingest only small amounts of food and drink at a time, and to refrain from self-induced vomiting. At the conclusion of the visit, Respondent ordered Patient A to be on a full liquid diet for three days and to be discharged that day from the MOB back to mainline housing. Respondent did not at that time, or any time thereafter, refer Patient A to the emergency department for treatment of her active substance use withdrawal during pregnancy,

⁵ Vistaril (brand name for hydroxyzine pamoate) is an antihistamine with anticholinergic (drying) and sedative properties used as a sedative to treat anxiety and tension. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 of the Code.

did not order a stat comprehensive blood panel, complete blood count, urinalysis, or electrocardiogram, and did not order IV fluids.

- 17. On or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 1:00 p.m., Patient A was being transported from the MOB back to mainline housing. While seated in a wheelchair outside her isolation cell, Patient A's body suddenly stiffened with her head resting on the back of the chair and her legs dangling on the floor. Patient A's eyes were open and her pupils were slightly dilated but reactive to light. Patient A was not verbally responsive and was not following commands. Patient A was placed back into her cell onto a mattress on the floor, given oxygen, and an urgent call for medical personnel was initiated.
- 18. On or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 1:03 p.m., Dr. C.G. responded to Patient A's isolation cell. Upon her arrival, Dr. C.G. spoke with nursing staff and ordered Patient A be given Ativan⁶ 1 mg by mouth.
- 19. On or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 1:06 p.m., Respondent responded to Patient A's isolation cell, spoke with nursing staff and Dr. C.G., and then assumed the care of Patient A.⁷ Respondent performed a physical examination of Patient A and noted her hands and feet were very cold to the touch but the remainder of her body felt warm. Respondent further noted Patient A to be awake and alert, had no visible tongue bite, supple neck, and no urinary incontinence. Patient A's initial oxygen saturation was measured to be 87% and a subsequent reading was unable to be obtained despite Respondent's efforts. Respondent further noted Patient A had "normal" vital signs, but did not document any vital signs in the patient's chart. Respondent's assessment was that Patient A had not experienced a "true seizure," but she was unable to exclude a medical cause for the patient's weakness and fainting spells. Respondent did not perform a complete physical or neurological examination of Patient A, did not refer Patient A to the emergency department, and did not order a stat comprehensive blood panel, complete blood

⁶ Ativan (brand name for lorazepam) is a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11057, subdivision (d), and a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 of the Code. It is a benzodiazepine medication used to treat anxiety.

⁷ Shortly after Respondent assumed the care of Patient A, Dr. C.G. left the area and never returned.

count, urinalysis, electrocardiogram, or IV fluids. At the conclusion of the visit, Respondent ordered Patient A to remain in the MOB for observation, with a plan to recheck in the morning and discharge her back to mainline housing at that time.

- 20. On or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 3:15 p.m., staff witnessed Patient A sitting backwards on the toilet when her body stiffened with her head resting on the floor and her feet in the air. A deputy and Nurse L.R., responded to Patient A's cell and placed Patient A back onto her mattress on the floor. Shortly thereafter, Patient A came out of her stiffness and began responding to questions. Nurse L.R. called the medical clinic and relayed to R.I., R.N. (Nurse R.I.), a request to have Respondent return to the MOB to evaluate Patient A. Nurse R.I. relayed the message to Respondent. Sometime thereafter, Respondent watched Patient A in her isolation cell for a few moments through a video monitor, but did not at that time, or anytime thereafter, return to the MOB to evaluate Patient A.
- 21. On or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 8:06 p.m., Patient A was found non-responsive in her cell and was subsequently pronounced dead as a result of complications of polysubstance abuse with early intrauterine pregnancy.
- 22. Respondent committed gross negligence in her care and treatment of Patient A, which included, but was not limited to, the following:
 - A. Failing to appropriately medically manage a pregnant patient in active withdrawal on or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 9:40 a.m.;
 - B. Failing to perform an appropriate physical exam, work-up, and plan of treatment for a patient with an undiagnosed acute medical condition on or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 1:00 p.m.; and
 - C. Failing to perform an appropriate physical exam, work-up, and plan of treatment for a patient with an undiagnosed acute medical condition on or about November 11, 2019, at approximately 3:15 p.m.

⁸ Respondent did not issue and/or document more specific orders regarding how frequent Patient A should be "observed" or what that observation should entail.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Repeated Negligent Acts)

23. Respondent has further subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2234, subdivision (c), of the Code, in that she committed repeated negligent acts in her care and treatment of Patient A, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 9 through 22(C), above, which are hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Maintain Adequate and Accurate Records)

24. Respondent has further subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2266, of the Code, in that Respondent failed to maintain adequate and accurate records regarding her care and treatment of Patient A, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 9 through 21, above, which are hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

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PRAYER

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

- 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 84284, issued to Respondent Friederike Carla Von Lintig, M.D.;
- 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Friederike Carla Von Lintig, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;
- 3. Ordering Respondent Friederike Carla Von Lintig, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring; and
 - Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

OCT 0 3 2023

DATED: _____

REJI VARGHESE
Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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