STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS CONCORD NH 03301

In the Matter of:

Kenneth Minasian, DMD License #01488 Docket No. 2022-DEN-008

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

In order to avoid the delay and expense of further proceedings and to promote the best interests of the public and the practice of dentistry, the New Hampshire Board of Dental Examiners ("Board") and Kenneth P. Minasian, DMD ("Respondent"), a dentist licensed by the Board, do hereby stipulate and agree to resolve certain allegations of professional misconduct now pending before the Board according to the following terms and conditions:

1. Pursuant to RSA 317-A:17; RSA 317-A:18; RSA 310-A:1-j, and RSA 541-A:31, V; and Dental Administrative Rule ("Den") 208 and 212, the Board has jurisdiction and authority to investigate and commence a disciplinary proceeding pertaining to allegations of professional misconduct committed by licensees of the Board. Pursuant to RSA 317-A:18, VIII; RSA 310-A:1-k, III; and RSA 541-A, V, the Board may at any time before or during a disciplinary proceeding resolve allegations of professional misconduct by a written *Settlement Agreement* approved by the Board and licensees provided the complainant has an opportunity to comment upon the terms of the *Settlement Agreement* before the *Settlement Agreement* has been executed.

- On 05/20/1977, the Board first granted Respondent a license to practice dentistry in the State of New Hampshire. Respondent holds license number 1488. Respondent practices dentistry in Nashua, New Hampshire.
- 3. As a result of a routine inspection on 05/06/2022 and subsequent follow-up, Compliance Investigator James Queenan ("Investigator Queenan") filed a complaint alleging that during a routine inspection of pharmaceutical records and storage, the Respondent failed to provide proper records of purchased controlled substances and improperly disposed of the purchased controlled substances.
- 4. In response to the complaint, the Board conducted an investigation and obtained information from various sources including obtaining a response from the Respondent pertaining to whether the Respondent's conduct constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to the Board's statutes and rules. As a result, the Board voted on 08/01/2022 to initiate a disciplinary proceeding in this matter.
- 5. Respondent stipulates that if a disciplinary proceeding were held, Hearing Counsel could prove that Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined under RSA 317-A:17, II. (j)(1) by violations of Den 502.01(a), RSA 318-B:12, and 21 U.S.C. sections 1304.11(a), (b), and (c) according to the following facts:
 - a. Respondent is a Drug Enforcement Agency registrant have the number DEA AM-7672668.
 - In August 2021, Respondent ordered 100 Diazepam 5 mg tables and 100 Zolpidem 10 mg tablets from Henry Schein.
 - c. On 05/06/2022, Investigator Queenan performed a routine inspection of Respondent's office at 15 Broad St., Nashua, NH.
 - d. During the inspection, Investigator Queenan did not observe any controlled substances or controlled substance records.

- e. During a follow-up inspection, Inspector Queenan presented Respondent with the invoice for the purchase of Diazepam and Zolpidem and requested the required documentation.
- f. Respondent could not produce any invoices, biennial inventory, destruction, or distribution records to account for the purchased Diazepam and Zolpidem.
- g. Respondent claims that he disposed of the purchased Diazepam and Zolpidem at a police drop-off box.
- The Board finds Respondent committed the acts as described above and concludes that, by
 engaging in such conduct, Respondent violated the statutes and administrative law outlined
 above.
- 7. Respondent acknowledges that this conduct set forth in paragraph 5 is the basis for the Board's decision to impose disciplinary sanctions against Respondent's license to practice as a dentist in the State of New Hampshire pursuant to the RSA 317-A:17, III.
- 8. WHEREFORE, the Respondent consents to the Board imposing the following discipline pursuant to RSA 317-A:17, III and RSA 310-A:1-m:
 - a. Respondent is REPRIMANDED for unlawful practices concerning recordkeeping and disposal of controlled substances.
 - b. Respondent is assessed an **ADMINISTRATIVE FINE** in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00). Respondent shall pay the administrative fine within thirty (30) days from the effective date of this *Settlement Agreement* and according to the terms in paragraph 7.d.
 - c. The Respondent shall pay a fee toward the COSTS OF INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) to be paid within thirty (30) days from the effective date of this Settlement Agreement and according to the terms in paragraph 7.d.

d. All payments shall be in the form of a check or money order made payable to the

Treasurer, State of New Hampshire. The payment of the administrative fine shall be

made separate from the payment of the costs of investigation and prosecution. Each

payment shall specify on the memo line whether the payment is for "DEN Disciplinary

Fine" or "DEN Costs of Investigation and Prosecution." Each payment shall be mailed

with a printed copy of this Settlement Agreement. All payments shall be sent to:

ATTN: OPLC Finance and NH Board of Dental Examiners
Office of Professional Licensure and Certification
7 Eagle Sq.
Concord, NH 03301

- e. Respondent is required to meaningfully participate in a total of three (3) hours of CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION which shall cover the topics of DEA registrant duties and responsibilities and the storage, documentation, and destruction of controlled substances. These hours shall be in addition to the hours required by the Board for renewal of licensure and shall be completed within ninety (90) days from the effective date of this *Settlement Agreement*. Within fifteen (15) days of completing these required courses, Respondent shall notify the Board and provide the Board with proof of completion of the course hours, a syllabus/course outline, and a Letter of Reflection.

 The following terms apply to the Letter of Reflection:
 - i. The Letter of Reflection shall be written by the Respondent in the Respondent's own words and shall demonstrate that the Respondent has achieved a satisfactory degree of skill and understanding in the areas of deficiency as described in the above stated facts.

- ii. The Letter of Reflection at a minimum shall apply the content learned during the continuing education course to the Respondent's conduct described in the facts above and reflect on how the conduct may have been changed.
- iii. Such Letter of Reflection shall be confidential and exempt from disclosure under RSA 91-A.
- iv. Within forty-five (45) days of receipt, the Board shall notify the Respondent whether or not the Letter of Reflection demonstrates a satisfactory degree of skill and understanding in the area(s) of deficiency.
- v. If the Board fails to notify the Respondent within forty-five (45) days, the Letter of Reflection shall be deemed that the Respondent demonstrated a satisfactory degree of skill and understanding in the area(s) of deficiency.
- vi. If the Board finds the Letter of Reflection fails to demonstrate a satisfactory degree of skill and understanding and timely notifies the Respondent, the Board may order the Respondent to appear at a non-disciplinary show cause hearing to answer as to why the letter failed to demonstrate sufficient skill and understanding and to address the Board's concerns and/or may order the Respondent to take additional continuing education courses not to exceed the above stated hour requirement.
- 9. The Board may consider Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions herein in any subsequent proceeding before the Board regarding Respondent's license. Respondent's breach of any terms or conditions of this *Settlement Agreement* shall constitute unprofessional conduct and shall serve as a separate and sufficient basis for further disciplinary action by the Board.
- 10. Except as provided herein, this *Settlement Agreement* shall bar the commencement of further disciplinary action by the Board based upon the misconduct described above. However, the Board

- may consider this misconduct as evidence of a pattern of conduct in the event that similar misconduct is proven against Respondent in the future.
- 11. This *Settlement Agreement* shall become a permanent part of the Respondent's file, which is maintained by the Board as a public document.
- 12. Respondent voluntarily enters into and signs this *Settlement Agreement* and states that no promises or representations have been made to Respondent other than those terms and conditions expressly stated herein.
- 13. The Board agrees that in return for Respondent's executing this *Settlement Agreement*, the Board will not proceed with the formal adjudicatory process based upon the facts described herein.
- 14. Respondent understands that Respondent's action in entering into this *Settlement Agreement* is a final act and not subject to reconsideration or judicial review or appeal.
- 15. Respondent has had the opportunity to seek and obtain the advice of an attorney of Respondent's choosing in connection with his decision to enter into this *Settlement Agreement*.
- 16. Respondent understands that the Board must review and accept the terms of this Settlement Agreement. If the Board rejects any portion, the entire Settlement Agreement shall be null and void. Respondent specifically waives any claims that any disclosures made to the Board during its review of this Settlement Agreement has prejudiced Respondent's right to a fair and impartial hearing in the future if this Settlement Agreement is not accepted by the Board.
- 17. Respondent agrees to support the adoption of this Settlement Agreement by the Board.
- 18. Respondent is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol and is otherwise of sound mind at the time the Respondent signs this agreement.
- 19. Respondent certifies that Respondent has read this document titled *Settlement Agreement*.

 Respondent understands that Respondent has the right to a formal adjudicatory hearing concerning this matter and that at said hearing Respondent would possess the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses, to call witnesses, to present evidence, to testify on Respondent's

own behalf, to contest the allegations, to present oral argument, and to appeal to the courts. Further, Respondent fully understands the nature, quality, and dimensions of these rights. Respondent understands that by signing this *Settlement Agreement*, Respondent waives these rights as they pertain to the misconduct described herein. This *Settlement Agreement* shall take effect as an Order of the Board on the date it is signed by an authorized representative of the Board.

FOR RESPONDENT

I. Kenneth Minasian, have reviewed the foregoing Settlement Agreement settling misconduct allegations pending against me and, of my own free will and without duress, and being knowledgeable about all of the consequences, admit to the validity thereof, and agree to all of the terms of this Settlement Agreement. Further, I. Kenneth Minasian, knowingly and freely waive the right to further notice, opportunity for hearing, substantial evidence, and findings and conclusions with regard to the allegations, which have been settled by the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

Dated: 4/29/23.2022

Territ P. Marasen

Respondent

On this day of September 2022 personally appeared the person who subscribe to the following instrument and acknowledged the same as her/his voluntary act and deed before me.

FOR THE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

Dated: 10 03 . 2022

DA. PUNEET KOCHHAR

My commission expires:

(Print Name)

NH Office of Professional Licensure and Certification Authorized Representative of the NH Board of Dental Examiners

of the Peace/Notary Public

JUSTIN A MARCOTTE

NOTARY PUBLIC State of New Hampshire My Commission Expires February 3, 2026