BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of **SAKINA FATIMA RAZA, M.D.,** Holder of License No. **23272** For the Practice of Medicine In the State of Arizona.	**Case No. MD-00-0034** **INVESTIGATION NO. 13459** **FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDERS** (Letter of Reprimand)

INTRODUCTION

This matter was considered by the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") at its public meeting on December 13, 2000. Sakina Raza, M.D. appeared before the Board, with legal counsel, Jay Fradkin, Esq., for the purpose of the Board conducting a formal interview, pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by A.R.S. § 32-1451(G). After due consideration of the facts and law applicable to this matter, the Board voted to issue the following findings of fact, conclusions of law and order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
2. Dr. Raza is the holder of License No. 23272, for the practice of medicine in the State of Arizona.
3. Board Investigation No. 13459 was initiated after the Board was notified, regarding and eight-day-old female infant.
4. Investigation revealed that on 10/1/96, the patient was taken to Herbert Brown, M.D., regarding concerns of jaundice and difficulty with bowel movements. Dr. Brown contacted the office of Phillip Gear, M.D. and

arranged for a same-day pediatric consultation. Dr. Brown saw the patient but did not perform a physical examination and ordered blood tests to determine the cause of the jaundice.

5. The patient's mother indicated that the infant was having problems passing stools and Dr. Gear reassured her that this should not be a problem. The blood test indicated an elevated bilirubin that was slowly resolving.

6. The patient's mother called Dr. Gear's office on multiple occassions regarding stool movement problems. On 10/11/96, the patient was seen for a two-week check up by Dr. Raza. The patient's mother indicated that the patient was having stool movement problems. Dr. Raza performed a physical examination, noted no abnormalties and counseled the patient's mother on constipation issues. Dr. Raza did not perform a rectal exam.

7. On 10/16/96, the patient's mother called Dr. Gear's office again regarding the patient's problems and spitting up milk, and the mother was advised to continue using formula. Later that same day, the patient was taken by paramedics to St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona. The patient was having increased abdominal distention, failing to feed, not breathing well and had poor color. The patient was diagnosed with imperforate anus upon examination of the perineum area, along with toxic magacolon, rectal/vaginal fistula and sepsis.

8. The patient was admitted for further inpatient care but expired on 10/23/96, due to complications of multi organ failure and septic shock.

9. Dr. Raza failed to perform a rectal exam on a child with a complaint of difficult bowel movements, which falls below the standard of care.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Dr. Raza, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401 *et seq.*

2. The conduct and circumstances described above in paragraphs 3 through 8 constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(25)(II) "Conduct that the Board determines is gross negligence, repeated negligence or negligence resulting in harm to or death of a patient."

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

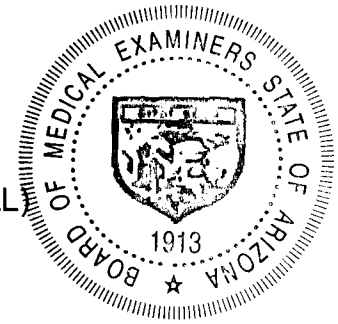
1. A letter of reprimand be issued to Sakina Fatima Raza, M.D. for the aforementioned unprofessional conduct.

RIGHT TO PETITION FOR REVIEW

Dr. Raza is hereby notified that he has the right to petition for a rehearing. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.09, as amended, the petition for rehearing must be filed with the Board's Executive Director within thirty (30) days after service of this Order and pursuant to A.A.C. R4-16-102, it must set forth legally sufficient reasons for granting a rehearing. Service of this Order is effective five (5) days after the date of mailing. If a motion for rehearing is not filed, the Board's Order becomes effective thirty-five (35) days after it is mailed to Dr. Raza.

Dr. Raza is further notified that the filing of a petition for rehearing is required to preserve any rights of appeal to the Superior Court that he may wish to pursue.

DATED this 23 day of February, 2001.



(SEAL)

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

By Tom Adams
for CLAUDIA FOUTZ
Executive Director

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
this 23rd day of February, 2001, with:

The Arizona Board of Medical Examiners
9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed by
Certified Mail this 23rd day of February, 2001, to:

Sakina Fatima Raza, M.D.
6702 North 19th Av.
Phoenix, AZ 85015

EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed
this 23rd day of February, 2001, to:

Jay Fradkin, Esq.
Jennings Strouss & Salmon PLC
Two North Central - 16th Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85003-2393
Counsel for Drs. Gear and Raza

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COPY of the foregoing hand-delivered this
23rd day of February, 2001, to:

Richard F. Albrecht, Esq., Assistant Attorney General
c/o Arizona Board of Medical Examiners
9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85258
Counsel for the Board