# BEFORE THE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 1A-2016-100

XIPING WU 32322 S. Coast Highway, Suite C Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Acupuncture License No. AC 7840

Respondent.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Acupuncture Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on February 7, 2018

It is so ORDERED January 8, 2018

FOR THE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

| H                    |  |                           |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 | Xavier Becerra 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  Attorneys for Complainant  BEFOR  | RE THE                    |
| 10                   | ACUPUNCTURE BOARD  |                           |
| 11                   | DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS<br>STATE OF CALIFORNIA  |                           |
| 12                   |  | A CALIFORNIA              |
| 13                   | In the Matter of the Accusation Against:   | Case No. 1A-2016-100      |
| 14                   | XIPING WU  | STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND |
| 15                   | 32322 S. Coast Highway, Suite C<br>Laguna Beach, CA 92651  | DISCIPLINARY ORDER        |
| 16                   | Acupuncture License No. AC 7840  | *                         |
| 17                   | Respondent.  |                           |
| 18                   |  |                           |
| 19                   | IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-  |                           |
| 20                   | entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:  |                           |
| 21                   | PARTIES  |                           |
| 22                   | Benjamin Bodea (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Acupuncture Board   |                           |
| 23                   | (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this matter by   |                           |
| 24                   | Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Karolyn M. Westfall, Deputy  |                           |
| 25                   | Attorney General.  |                           |
| 26                   | 2. Respondent XiPing Wu (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney   |                           |
| 27                   | Michael J. Khouri, Esq., whose address is Khouri Law Firm, 24012 Calle de la Plata, Suite 210,   |                           |
| 28                   | Laguna Hills, CA 92653.  |                           |
|                      | Market Ma | 1                         |

3. On or about March 15, 2001, the Board issued Acupuncture License No. AC 7840 to respondent. The Acupuncture License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 1A-2016-100, and will expire on May 31, 2018, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

4. On April 24, 2017, Accusation No. 1A-2016-100 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against respondent. A true and correct copy of Accusation No. 1A-2016-100 and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on respondent on April 24, 2017. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A true and correct copy of Accusation No. 1A-2016-100 is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

#### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 1A-2016-100. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. 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 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.
- 7. Having the benefit of counsel, respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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#### **CULPABILITY**

- 8. Respondent agrees that, at an administrative hearing, complainant could establish a *prima facie* case with respect to the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 1A-2016-100, and that she has thereby subjected her Acupuncture License No. AC 7840 to disciplinary action. Respondent further agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.
- 9. Respondent agrees that if an accusation is filed against her before the Board, or in any other proceeding before the Board, including but not limited to a petition for early termination of probation, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 1A-2016-100 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.
- 10. With Respondent's early acknowledgement that cause exists for the Board's action, Complainant finds good cause under Business and Professions Code section 4960.5, and thereby agrees that Respondent may file a petition for early termination of probation eighteen (18) months after the effective date of the Board's Decision. However, under no circumstances shall probation be terminated prior to Respondent's successful completion of two (2) years' of probation.

#### **CONTINGENCY**

- 11. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be subject to approval of the Board. The parties agree that this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be submitted to the Board for its consideration in the above-entitled matter and, further, that the Board shall have a reasonable period of time in which to consider and act on this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order after receiving it. By signing this stipulation, respondent fully understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind this stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it.
- 12. The parties agree that this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be null and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved and adopted by 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 Settlement and Disciplinary Order, 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 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 Board does not, in its discretion, approve and adopt this Stipulated Settlement 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 Settlement and Disciplinary Order be rejected for any reason by the Board, respondent will assert no claim that the Board, or any member thereof, was prejudiced by its/his/her review, discussion and/or consideration of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order or of any matter or matters related hereto.

#### **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

- 13. This Stipulated Settlement 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.
- 14. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Settlement 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.
- 15. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree the Board may, without further notice to or opportunity to be heard by respondent, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

#### DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Acupuncture License No. AC 7840 issued to respondent XiPing Wu is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years from the effective date of the Decision and Order on the following terms and conditions.

1. OBEY ALL LAWS Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws and all

regulations governing the practice of acupuncture in California. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by the respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence.

- 2. <u>QUARTERLY REPORTS</u> Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.
- 3. <u>COURSEWORK</u> Respondent shall take and successfully complete not less than 4 hours of coursework in the area: Ethics and complete the Clean Needle Technique, 7th Edition, course offered by the Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. The coursework shall be taken as approved by the Board. Classroom attendance must be specifically required. Course content shall be pertinent to the violation and all coursework must be completed within the first year of probation. The required coursework must be in addition to any continuing education courses that may be required for license renewal. Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the Decision, respondent shall submit a plan for the Board's prior approval for meeting the educational requirement. All costs of the coursework shall be borne by respondent.
- 4. <u>SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM</u> Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation surveillance program and shall, upon reasonable notice, report to the assigned investigative district office. Respondent shall contact the assigned probation surveillance monitor regarding any questions specific to the probation order. Respondent shall not have any unsolicited or unapproved contact with 1) victims or complainants associated with the case; 2) Board members or members of its staff; or 3) persons serving the Board as expert examiners.
- 5. <u>REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROBATION SURVEILLANCE MONITORING</u>
  Respondent shall reimburse the Board for the hourly costs it incurs in monitoring her probation to ensure compliance for the duration of the probation period.
- 6. <u>INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE</u> Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the Board or its designee upon request at various intervals and with reasonable notice.

- 7. <u>CHANGES OF EMPLOYMENT</u> Respondent shall notify the Board in writing, through the assigned probation surveillance compliance officer of any and all changes of employment, location and address within 30 days of such change.
- 8. <u>TOLLING FOR OUT-OF-STATE PRACTICE OR RESIDENCE</u> In the event respondent should leave California to reside or to practice outside the State, respondent must notify the Board in writing of the dates of departure and return. Periods of residency or practice outside California will not apply to the reduction of this probationary period.
- 9. <u>EMPLOYMENT AND SUPERVISION OF TRAINEES</u> Respondent shall not employ or supervise or apply to employ or supervise acupuncture trainees during the course of this probation. Respondent shall terminate any such supervisorial relationship in existence on the effective date of this probation.
- 10. COST RECOVERY Respondent shall pay to the Board its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$3,485.00. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the probation term and the period of probation shall be automatically extended should respondent require additional time to complete payment of the full sum. Cost recovery will not be tolled. Respondent understands that failure to timely pay costs is a violation of probation, and submission of evidence demonstrating financial hardship does not preclude the Board from pursuing further disciplinary action. However, respondent understands that providing evidence and supporting documentation of financial hardship may delay further disciplinary action. Consideration to financial hardship will not be given should respondent violate this term and condition, unless an unexpected AND unavoidable hardship is established from the date of this order to the date payment(s) is due.
- 11. <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u> If respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board may, after giving respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stated. If an accusation or petition to revoke probation is filed against respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final. No petition

### **ENDORSEMENT** The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Acupuncture Board. Dated: Respectfully submitted, XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California ALEXANDRA M. ALVAREZ Superxising Deputy Attorney General Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant SD2017704458 12723690.doc

Exhibit A

**Accusation No. 1A-2016-100**