

STATE OF NEVADA

BEFORE THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re **Charles Green**, Secretary/Treasurer, Board of Homeopathic Medical Examiners, State of Nevada.

Ethics Complaint Case No. 24-109C

Subject. /

STIPULATED AGREEMENT

- 1. <u>PURPOSE:</u> This Stipulated Agreement resolves Ethics Complaint Case No. 24-109C before the Nevada Commission on Ethics ("Commission") concerning Charles Green ("Green"), former Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Homeopathic Medical Examiners ("Board").
- 2. JURISDICTION: At all material times, Green served as the Secretary/Treasurer for the Board and was a public employee as defined in NRS 281A.150. The Ethics in Government Law ("Ethics Law") set forth in NRS Chapter 281A gives the Commission jurisdiction over elected and appointed public officers and public employees whose conduct is alleged to have violated the provisions of NRS Chapter 281A. See NRS 281A.280. The Commission has jurisdiction over Green in this matter.

3. PROCEDURAL HISTORY BEFORE COMMISSION:

- a. On August 8, 2024, the Commission initiated Ethics Complaint No. 24-109C and directed the Executive Director to issue an *Order Initiating Complaint, Jurisdiction and Investigation* regarding the alleged violations of NRS 281A.420(1) and (3).
- b. On August 13, 2024, the Executive Director served Green with a *Notice of Complaint and Investigation* regarding the alleged violations of NRS 281A.420(1) and (3) and provided Green with an opportunity to submit a response to the allegations.
- c. On September 19, 2024, Green provided his Response to the allegations via a notarized affidavit.

- d. On October 16, 2024, the Executive Director presented a recommendation relating to just and sufficient cause to a three-member review panel pursuant to NRS 281A.725.
- e. A Review Panel Determination issued on October 17, 2024, found the facts established credible evidence to support a determination that just and sufficient cause exists for the Commission to render an opinion in the matter regarding the alleged violations of NRS 281A.420(1) and (3).
- f. On January 28, 2025, the parties attended a settlement conference and reached an agreement to resolve this matter on the terms reflected in this Stipulated Agreement ("Agreement").
- g. In lieu of an adjudicatory hearing before the Commission, Green and the Commission now enter into this Agreement.

4. <u>STIPULATED FACTS:</u>

- a. Green was the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board at all relevant times associated with this Complaint.
 - b. The Secretary/Treasurer is a voting member of Board.
- c. Pursuant to NRS 630A.140 is authorized to receive a salary for work done on behalf of the Board at a rate determined by Board.
- d. At the November 30, 2023 meeting of the Board, agenda item #10 was "Compensation for Secretary-Treasurer board member for accounting, administrative duties".
 - e. Green states he did not vote on the item.
- f. At the time of the November 30, 2023 meeting and several months before the meeting, the Board did not have a hired Executive Director and Green performed numerous important administrative tasks in an effort to make the Board successful.
- g. Prior to the agenda item Green did not make a proper disclosure regarding the full extent of the affect of his pecuniary interests in the matter and Green participated in discussion of the matter as requested by the Board Chair.
 - h. Green left the Board in July of 2024.
- **TERMS / CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**: Based on the foregoing, Green and the Commission agree as follows:

- a. Each of the stipulated facts enumerated in Section 4 of this Agreement is agreed to by the parties.
- b. Allegations that Green violated NRS 281A.420(3) are hereby dismissed by stipulation of the parties.
- c. Green's actions constitute a single course of conduct resulting in one violation of the Ethics Law, implicating the provisions of NRS 281A.420(1).
- d. Based upon the consideration and application of the statutory factors set forth in NRS 281A.775, Green and the Commission agree that pursuant to NRS 281A.170 one non-willful violation will be imposed for his violation of NRS 281A.420(1) for the following reasons:
 - 1) Seriousness of Violation: The Commission has recognized the importance of proper disclosure statements with sufficient detail to inform the public about the public officer's interest in a matter. However, it is noted that in this case the statutes governing the Board expressly allow for the types of payments approved by the Board in the matter.
 - 2) Previous History: Green has not previously been the subject of any violation of the Ethics Law or previous ethics complaints.
 - 3) Cost of Investigation and Proceedings: Green was diligent to cooperate with and participate in the Commission's investigation and resolution of this matter. Because Green was willing to resolve the matter prior to an adjudicatory hearing, significant Commission resources were preserved.
 - 4) Prompt correction of the violation: Green responded immediately to the Executive Director and engaged in the investigation process.
 - 5) Financial Gain: Green recognized a financial gain from the Agenda Item in which he failed to properly disclose but the financial gain is expressly permitted by statute.
 - 6) Additional Factors: The poor meeting management by the Board Chair contributed to confusion around the agenda item in question including which items of discussion were relevant to the item and the extent to which Green may have abstained from voting.

- e. For his non-willful violation of NRS 281A.400(1), Green agrees to pay a penalty of \$500.00 pursuant to NRS 281A.790(3). Of the \$500, \$250 is suspended and will be permanently suspended in one year if:
 - i. The Department of Business and Industry confirms to the Executive Director or Green otherwise provides proof of the return of Board passwords, account information, and any other information held by Green to assist Board in regaining operational ability within 30 days of this agreement; and
 - ii. Green complies in all other aspects with this agreement.
 - f. The initial \$250 penalty is due in one-lump sum 90 days following finalization of this stipulation or as otherwise outlined in a payment plan approved by the Executive Director.
- g. If Green returns to any form of public employment as either a public officer, as defined in NRS 281A.160, or a public employee, as defined in NRS 281A.150, including employment with any board or commission of any State or local government, whether funded by taxes or fees, within 1 year of the execution of this agreement, he will notify the Executive Director of the Commission and will complete Ethics Law training as approved by the Executive Director within 60 days of the start of his employment.
- h. The Commission admonishes Subject pursuant to NRS 281A.785(1)(b) providing this written expression of disapproval of his conduct.
- i. This Agreement is based on the specific facts, circumstances, and law now before the Commission. Facts or circumstances that may come to light after its entry that are in addition to or differ from those contained herein may create a different resolution of this matter.
- j. This Agreement is not intended to be applicable to or create any admission of liability by Green for any other proceeding against or involving Green, and such use is prohibited to the extent permitted by the jurisdiction of the Commission. If the Commission rejects this Agreement, none of the provisions herein shall be considered by the Commission or be admissible as evidence in a hearing on the merits in this matter.

6. WAIVER

a. Green knowingly and voluntarily waives his right to a hearing before the full Commission on the allegations in Ethics Complaint Case No. 24-109C and all rights he

may be accorded with in regard to this matter pursuant to NRS Chapter 281A, the regulations of the Commission (NAC Chapter 281A), the Nevada Administrative Procedures Act (NRS Chapter 233B), and any other applicable provisions of law.

- b. Green knowingly and voluntarily waives his right to any judicial review of this matter as provided in NRS Chapter 281A, NRS Chapter 233B, or any other applicable provisions of law.
- 7. ACCEPTANCE: We, the undersigned parties, have read this Agreement, understand each and every provision therein, and agree to be bound thereby once approved by the Commission. In addition, the parties orally agreed to be bound by the terms of this Agreement during the regular meeting of the Commission on February 19, 2025.1

DATED this day of, 2025.	Charles Green
DATED this day of, 2025.	FOR CHARLES GREEN
	Mont Tanner, Esq.
DATED this 6th day of Feb , 2025.	Ras
	Ross E. Armstrong, Esq. Executive Director

Approved as to form by:

DATED this 14th day ofteb., 2025.

FOR NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

Elizabeth Bassett, Esq. Commission Counsel

¹ Subject waived any right to receive written notice pursuant to NRS 241.033 of the time and place of the Commission's meeting to consider his character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or physical or mental health.

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DATED this day of, 2025.	Ross E. Armstrong, Esq. Executive Director

Subject waived any right to receive written notice pursuant to NRS 241.033 of the time and place of the Commission's meeting to consider his character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or physical or mental health.

The Stipulated Agreement is accepted by the Nevada Commission on Ethics:		
DATED this 19 th day of February, 2025.		
By: /s/ Scott Scherer	By: /s/ Absent	
Scott Scherer, Esq.	John T. Moran III, Esq.	
Chair	Commissioner	
By: <u>/s/ Michael E Langton</u>	By: /s/ Terry J. Reynolds	
Michael E. Langton, Esq.	Terry J. Reynolds	
Commissioner	Commissioner	
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By: /s/ John Miller John Miller	By: <u>/s/ Brianna Smith</u> Brianna Smith, Esq.	
Commissioner	Commissioner	