1 **BEFORE THE** 2 **BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS** 3 STATE OF OREGON 4 5 In the Matter of 6 FINAL ORDER BY DEFAULT 7 Heidi Walter, C.A. 8 9 10 Licensee. Case # 2009-3019 11 The Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Board) is the state agency responsible for 12 licensing, regulating and disciplining chiropractic physicians in the State of Oregon. Heidi Walter 13 C.A. (Licensee) is certified by the Board to practice as a certified chiropractic assistant in the 14 State of Oregon. 15 16 17 FINDINGS OF FACT 18 1. 19 The Board received a complaint regarding Licensee who allegedly took HIPAA protected information from the clinic where she worked when she left that employment. The information 20 was taken without the authority of the patients or clinic owner and was found in Licensee's 21 workspace. The information was found by the subsequent employer and returned to the original 22 23 clinic from which it was taken. 24 25 2. The investigation revealed that there were 350 pages of documents that included a list of 26 patients with patient names, addresses, phone numbers, balance owed for treatment, patient 27 health questionnaire with diagnosis codes, insurance information including authorizations for 28 insurance payment and appointment activity. That information was what was returned to the 29 original clinic by the subsequent employer. 30 31 32 On April 12, 2009, the Notice of Proposed Discipline was sent to Licensee's address and 33 was not returned. On April 20, 2010, Licensee contacted the Board's investigator and stated she 34 was not going to contest the notice and acknowledged that she had received it. In the Notice, 35 Licensee was advised that if a request for hearing was not filed, the record herein would be used 36 to establish the record for purposes of default. 37 38 39 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW 40 The Board finds that conduct described above is a violation of OAR 811-010-0110 41 (14)(a) (unlawful disclosure of patient information) and (15)(k) (practice that is harmful to the 42

public), OAR 811-035-0015(11) and ORS 684.100(1)(f)(A) in that certificate holder has acted

unprofessionally and dishonorably and has used an unethical, deceptive or deleterious conduct or practice that is harmful to the public. In addition, this violated the Federal HIPAA requirements to hold all patients information and records as confidential and not to release those unless authorized by written consent. ORDER 5. Due to the aforementioned violations, the OBCE finds that Licensee has acted unprofessionally and dishonorably and has violated the above statutes and rules which warrants a revocation of the certificate holder. DATED this 27th day of May 2010. BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS State of Oregon Original signature on file at OBCE Dave McTeague, Executive Director A party is entitled to judicial review of the Final Order. Judicial review is by the Oregon Court of Appeals pursuant to the provisions of ORS 183.482. Judicial review may be obtained by filing a petition for review with the Office of State Court Administrator, Supreme Court Building, Salem, Oregon 97310. ORS 183.482 requires that an appeal is requested by filing a petition in the Court of Appeals within 60 days following the date the order upon which the petition is based is served.

1	
2	
3	State of Oregon) Case # 2009-3019
4	County of Marion)
5	
6	I, Dave McTeague, being first duly sworn, state that I am the Executive Director of the
7	Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners, and as such, am authorized to verify pleadings in this
8	case: and that the foregoing Final Order By Default is true to the best of my knowledge as I verily
9,	believe.
10	Original signature on file at OBCE
11	
12	Davis MaT.
13	Dave McTeague, Executive Director
14	Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me
20	this 26th day of May, 2010
21	Original signature on file at OBCE
22	or ignar signarure on the at OBCE
23	
24	NOTARY PUBLIC FOR OREGON My Commission Expires: 10/7/2011
25	
25 26	
26 27	(2000 and
27	OFFICIAL SEAL K J EDMUNDSON NOTARY PUBLIC - OREGON COMMISSION NO. 421757 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 7, 2011
	and the control of th

1		
2		
3		Certificate of Service
4	I Daya MaTagana	4.0 41
5	Default upon the party barate	rtify that on May 27, 2010, I served the foregoing Final Order By
6	copy thereof to:	by mailing, certified mail, postage prepaid, a true, exact and full
7	copy increase to.	
8	Heidi Walter c/o	
9	Elite Chiropractic and Wellne	ss Center
10	23440 SE Stark St.	55 Center
11	Gresham, OR 97030	
12		
13	Heidi Walter	
14	1316 SW 26th St	
15	Troutdale, OR 97060	Original
16		Original signature on file at OBCE
17		
18		Dave McTeague
19		Executive Director
20		Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners
21 22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		
32		
33		

BEFORE THE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of)	
Heidi Walter, C.A.)))	NOTICE OF PROPOSED DISCIPLINARY ACTION
	Licensee.)	Case # 2009-3019

The Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Board) is the state agency responsible for licensing, regulating and disciplining chiropractic physicians in the State of Oregon. Heidi Walter (CCA or Licensee), is certified by the Board to practice as a certified chiropractic assistant in the State of Oregon.

The Board received a complaint alleging CCA took HIPAA protected information from Clinic 1 where she worked until she left that position in 2007 for a new position in Clinic 2. The information was taken without the authority of the patients or clinic owner and was found in Licensee's workspace in Clinic 2 after her departure from that clinic. The chiropractic physician in Clinic 2 returned records to the original clinic from which they were taken.

The investigation revealed that there were 350 pages of documents that included a list of patients with patient names, addresses, phone numbers, balance owed for treatment, patient health questionnaire with diagnosis codes, insurance information including authorizations for insurance payment and appointment activity. That information was what was returned to Clinic 1 by the subsequent employer in Clinic 2.

3.

The Board finds that conduct described above is a violation of OAR 811-010-0110 (14)(a) (unlawful disclosure of patient information) and (15)(k) (practice that is harmful to the public), OAR 811-035-0015(11) and ORS 684.100(1)(g)(A) in that certificate holder has acted unprofessionally and dishonorably and has used an unethical, deceptive or deleterious conduct or practice that is harmful to the public. In addition, this violated the Federal HIPAA requirements to hold all patients information and records as confidential and not to release those unless authorized by written consent.

Due to the aforementioned violations, the OBCE proposes to revoke certificate holder.

 Certificate holder shall pay costs of this disciplinary proceeding, including investigative costs and attorney fees pursuant to ORS 684.100(9)(g).

5.

Certificate holder has the right, if Licensee requests, to have a formal contested case hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings to contest the matter set out above. At the

hearing, Certificate holder may be represented by an attorney and subpoena and cross examine witnesses. That request for hearing must be made in writing to the OBCE, must be received by the OBCE within 30 days from the mailing of this notice (or if not mailed, the date of personal service), and must be accompanied by a written answer to the charges contained in this notice.

7.

The answer shall be made in writing to the OBCE and shall include an admission or denial of each factual matter alleged in this notice, and a short plain statement of each relevant affirmative defense Certificate holder may have. Except for good cause, factual matters alleged in this notice and not denied in the answer will be considered a waiver of such defense; new matters alleged in this answer (affirmative defenses) shall be presumed to be denied by the agency and evidence shall not be taken on any issue not raised in the notice and answer.

8.

If Certificate holder requests a hearing, before commencement of that hearing, certificate holder will be given information on the procedures, rights of representation and other rights of the parties relating to the conduct of the hearing as required under ORS 183.413-415.

9.

If Certificate holder fails to request a hearing within 30 days, or fails to appear as scheduled at the hearing, the OBCE may issue a final order by default and impose the above sanctions against Certificate holder. Upon default order of the Board or failure to appear, the contents of the Board's file regarding the subject of this automatically become part of the evidentiary record of this disciplinary action upon default for the purpose of proving a prima facie case.

1		
2	DATED April 12, 2010	•
3		
4		BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS
5		State of Oregon
6		Original signature on file at OBCE
7		Original signature on the at observe
8		By
9		Dave McTeague, Executive Director
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		

1 2				
3	State of Oregon)	Case # 2009-3019
4	County of Marion)	Heidi Walter CCA
5				
6				
7	I, Dave McTeague, being f	first duly s	worn,	, state that I am the Executive Director of the
8	Oregon Board of Chiropractic Exa	aminers, ar	nd as	such, am authorized to verify pleadings in this
9	case: and that the foregoing Notice	e of Propo	sed D	Disciplinary Action is true to the best of my
10	knowledge as I verily believe.			. gr. 20 200
11	815	(Oriair	nal signature on file at OBCE
12	King a	4.		The Signature on the at OBCE
12 13)	·	<i>((((((((((</i>	
14				ague, Executive Director
15		Oregoi	ı Boai	rd of Chiropractic Examiners
16				
17				
18 19				
20		SUBSC	RIBED	O AND SWORN to before me
21		this	12+	th day of April, 2010
22				1
22		, reds.	Origi	inal signature on file at OBCE
23	C	1		
24		NOTA	RY P	UBLIC FOR OREGON .
25				ssion Expires: $\sqrt{7/2011}$
26			ges	ige de la comme
27				OFFICIAL SEAL
28				K J EDMUNDSON NOTARY PUBLIC - OREGON COMMISSION NO. 421757 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 7, 2011

1		
2	Certificate of Service	
3		
4	I, <u>Dave McTeague</u> , certify that on April 12, 2010, I served the foregoing Notice	of
5	Proposed Disciplinary Action upon the party hereto by mailing, certified mail, postage	orenaid <i>i</i>
6	true, exact and full copy thereof to:	prepara, a
7		
8	Heidi Walter	
9	Elite Chiropractic and Wellness Center	
10	23440 SE Stark St.	
11	Gresham, OR 97030	
12	Original signature on file at OBCE	•
13		***
14	Dave McTeague	
15	Executive Director	
16	Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners	
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

1		
2		
3		Confidential Identification Key
4		The state of the s
5		
6	Clinic 1	Advanced Care Chiropractic (Drs. Vroom & Waggoner)
7		waggoner)
8		
9		•
10	Clinic 2	Rinnovare Laser & Wellness Center (Dr. Jonathan Hansel)
11		(21. Volladian Halisti)
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		Not a Public Document
22		2 de la constante de la consta
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		