SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ORANGE CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER Andres Quezada Palacios 1 927 West F Street 2 Colton, CA 92324 OCT 27 2022 Tel(760)550-0375 3 DAVID H. YAMASAKI, Clerk of the Court 4 ----DEPUTY 5 Attorney for Andres Quezada Palacios 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 COUNTY OF ORANGE 10 30-2022 11 ANDRES QUEZADA PALACIOS, Case No. 01288456 an individual, 12 Plaintiff, COMPLAINT FOR: 13 1. MEDICAL MALPRACTICE 14 2. GROSS NEGLIGENCE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE 3. ELDER ABUSE 15 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, a public 4. NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF entity; UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA **EMOTIONAL DISTRESS** 16 IRVINE MEDICAL CENTER, a public 5. FRAUD entity; UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA JUDGE CRAIG GRIFFIN 17 HEALTH, IRVINE, a public entity; DINORA B. CHINCHILLA, M.D., an Assigned for All Purposes individual; AARON D. KHERIATY, M.D., 18 an individual: NIRAL MUKUND PATEL, 19 M.D., an individual; MUDIT DABRAL, M.D., an individual; SOLOMON LIAO, 20 M.D., an individual; SARAH ESSAYLI (MSW), an individual; MARLENE 21 INYANG (CM), an individual: STEFANIE YOSHII (PE), an individual; JULIE ANN 22 SCHNEIDER (DRM/RA), an individual; MINI THOMAS (CN), an individual; 23 SANDY STEIN (CM), an individual; JENNIFER HIGGINS (SWS), an 24 individual; PAUL REEVES (RN), an individual; JORDAN MAJOR (RN) an 25 individual; SHIHO ITO, M.D., an individual; JEFFRY NAHMIAS, M.D., an

COMPLAINT FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

28 |

26

27

individual; YUVAL PELEG, M.D., an

į		
1	15.	Defendant SANDY STEIN (CM), an individual, at all times mentioned herein is and
2		was an employee of Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
3	16.	Defendant JENNIFER HIGGINS (SWS), an individual, at all times mentioned herein
4		is and was an employee of Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
5	17.	Defendant PAUL REEVES (RN), an individual, at all times mentioned herein is and
6	į	was an employee of Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
7	18.	Defendant JORDAN MAJOR (RN) an individual, at all times mentioned herein is
8		and was an employee of Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
9	19.	Defendant SHIHO ITO, M.D., an individual, at all times mentioned herein is and
10		was a medical doctor licensed in the State of California and an employee of
11		Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
12	20.	Defendant JEFFRY NAHMIAS, M.D., an individual, at all times mentioned herein
13		is and was a medical doctor licensed in the State of California and an employee of
14		Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
15	21.	Defendant YUVAL PELEG, M.D., an individual, at all times mentioned herein is
16		and was a medical doctor licensed in the State of California and an employee of
17		Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
18	22.	Defendant KYLE DIGRANDE, M.D., an individual, at all times mentioned herein
19		is and was a medical doctor licensed in the State of California and an employee of
20		Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
21	23.	Defendant WILLIAM A. UENG, M.D., an individual, at all times mentioned herein
22		is and was a medical doctor licensed in the State of California and an employee of
23		Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
24	24.	Defendant JASON WILLIAMS (Ethics), an individual, at all times mentioned herein
25		is and was an employee of Defendants the BOARD, UCIMC, and UCHI.
26	25.	Defendant NANCY MUNOZ (PE), an individual, at all times mentioned herein is
27		COMPLAINT FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Court to amend his complaint by setting forth such.

1	42.	In April 2018 PALACIOS became a patient of BREM, who monitored PALACIOS'S
2		condition for one year and eight months.
3	43.	In December 2019 BREM initiated treatment of PALACIOS with chemotherapy to
4		which PALACIOS responded well.
5	44.	In March 2020 BREM referred PALACIOS to YU-PO LEE, M.D. (Y. LEE), a spinal
6		specialist at UCIMC, who performed a spinal biopsy on March 28, 2020, which
7		showed negative for any cancer on PALACIOS'S spine. As a result of the spinal
8		biopsy PALACIOS qualified for maintenance chemotherapy treatment.
9	45.	In June 2020 PALACIOS'S post surgery appointment showed favorable recovery.
10	46.	In July and August 2020 PALACIOS manifested symptoms of cancer recurrence so
11		BREM increased chemotherapy dosage for PALACIOS.
12	47.	In September 2020 PALACIOS had an appointment with LEE who stated although
13		surgery was successful the cancer had metastasized throughout different areas of
14		PALACIOS'S upper body.
15	48.	BREMreferredPALACIOStoJEREMYP.HARRIS, M.D.(HARRIS)forradiation.
16	49.	On October 15, 2020, PALACIOS had his first radiation treatment with HARRIS.
17		HARRIS noticed PALACIOS was not feeling well and after examining PALACIOS,
18		HARRIS ordered a CT and MRI. HARRIS asked PALACIOS if he had contracted
19		and recovered from Covid as his image showed abnormalities in PALACIOS'S lungs.
20	50.	HARRIS had his nurse rush PALACIOS to UCIMC Emergency Department.
21	51.	PALACIOS stayed at UCIMC Emergency Department for a few hours and at 9:00
22		p.m. PALACIOS was rolled out in a wheelchair and left out in the cold without a
23		diagnosis.
24	52.	Plaintiff took PALACIOS home and ten days later rushed PALACIOS to ULLMC
25		Emergency Department, where PALACIOS was diagnosed and treated.
26	53.	Thereafter, PALACIOS resumed chemotherapy and radiation treatment at UCIMC.
27		COMPLAINT FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
28	apalaceos-raci	- , -

Within less than twenty-four hours of arrival at UCIMC Emergency Department,

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

60.

- PALACIOS was transferred to Intensive Care Unit (ICU) because PALACIOS'S breathing had become more challenged.
- 61. PALACIOS was erroneously diagnosed by UCIMC with cryptococcus, a fungal infection.
- 62. BREM and DEEPA JEYAKUMAR, M.D. (JEYAKUMAR) arrived at ICU after PALACIOS'S admission. Plaintiff requested that BREM and JEYAKUMAR intercede with the ICU physicians and inform them that PALACIOS was suffering from the side effects of chemotherapy and radiation. BREM and JEYAKUMAR did not intervene and as a result PALACIOS did not receive the proper treatment and continued to deteriorate.
- 63. Commencing with PALACIOS date of admission to UCIMC on May 27, 2021 up to and including date of death July 30, 2021, UCIMC misdiagnosed PALACIOS'S condition, administered treatment inconsistent with his condition, prescribed medications, including but not limited to, fentanyl, opiates, sedatives, paralytics while intubated, which affected PALACIOS'S brain function and caused encephalopathy, cerebral microhemorrhage, cranial pressure, which provoked failure of the lungs, kidneys, heart and other organs. All the foregoing prevented PALACIOS from recovering. Instead PALACIOS developed large and fatal stage four bedsores, which caused recurring fevers, infections, sepsis, shock, pain and suffering in his final days of life. PALACIOS had a profound desire to live. He did not request a Do Not Resuscitate Order (DNR) but one was ordered by the doctors and staff of UCIMC, thereby denying PALACIOS of his civil rights, civil liberties, and patient rights.
- 64. UCIMC, its doctors, nurses, staff, and employees, falsified PALACIOS'S cause of death to cover up their incompetence, negligence, and abuse of an elderly, ill, and fragile man. UCIMC perpetrated a fraud by conspiring to hide the truth.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Medical Malpractice

(As to All Defendants)

- 65. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 64 above.
- 66. The California Department of Public Health licensed and certified UCIMC as a hospital permitting UCIMC to offer medical and health services to the general public.

 As a state licensed and certified medical facility, UCIMC must adhere to the Business and Professions Code as well as the Health and Safety Code.
- 67. It is the duty of UCIMC to use reasonable care in caring for a patient as well as maintaining and ensuring the competency of its staff. UCIMC failed its duty to PALACIOS in that it did not use the standard of care acceptable in the medical community by misdiagnosing PALACIOS, administering treatment inconsistent with his medical needs, and administering medications that exacerbated his decline and ultimately led to PALACIOS'S unnecessary and untimely death. UCIMC did not supervise its medical staff and employees thus negligently causing the suffering and death of PALACIOS.
- 68. Medical staff, including but not limited to, doctors and nurses had a duty to

 PALACIOS to use their education, skill and knowledge with reasonable diligence.

 The acts and/or omissions of UCIMC and its medical staff and employees constitutes professional negligence and as such are the proximate cause of PALACIOS'S death.
- 69. As a direct and proximate result of UCIMC and all Defendants' malicious actions which amount to medical malpractice, Plaintiff is entitled to damages not to exceed \$250,000.
- 70. As a direct and proximate result of UCIMC and all Defendants' acts alleged herein committed with a conscious disregard for PALACIOS'S and Plaintiff's suffering,

COMPLAINT FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE - 10 -

COMPLAINT FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
- 12 -

amount to be determined at trial but in no less and amount than \$1,000,000.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress

(As to All Defendants)

- 82. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 81 above.
- 83. UCIMC, doctors, nurses, and medical staff ignored PALACIOS'S pleas and Plaintiff's inquiries regarding PALACIOS'S treatment. Plaintiff was present during examination and treatment of PALACIOS and was PALACIOS'S advocate, asking doctors, nurses and medical staff questions regarding treatment of PALACIOS, including but not limited to, diagnosis, prognosis, medications, various treatments, lack of progress in PALACIOS'S recovery, increasing bed sores, reactions of PALACIOS to medications, lack of treatment, and more. Plaintiff was fully involved and participated in all discussions, even having to initiate discussions with doctors and nurses when they ignored his inquiries regarding treatment or omission of treatment of PALACIOS.
- 84. Plaintiff suffered severe emotional distress by witnessing treatment or lack of treatment of PALACIOS by doctors, nurses, and medical staff. Plaintiff suffered severe emotional distress by the willful and negligent conduct of doctors, nurses, medical staff, including but not limited to administrative and clerical staff of UCIMC.
- 85. Plaintiff has suffered severe emotional distress by loss of PALACIOS who if he had received the standard care of a patient in like circumstances PALACIOS would have been restored to health and return home to his family, son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren.
- 86. Plaintiff's distress is severe, substantial and continuing, and as such Plaintiff should not be expected to endure it.
- 87. As a direct and proximate result of UCIMC, doctors, nurses, medical staff,

COMPLAINT FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

administrative and clerical staff's breach of duty to not cause injury or harm, Plaintiff has suffered severe emotional distress that no ordinary man should have to endure. Thus Plaintiff is entitled to recover compensatory damages, emotional distress damages, punitive damages, and attorney fees in an amount to be determined at trial but in no less and amount than \$1,000,000.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Fraud

(As to All Defendants)

- 88. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 87 above.
- 89. Plaintiff and PALACIOS relied on UCIMC, doctors, nurses and medical staff's misrepresentations and false promises that the care and treatment of PALACIOS was correct and reasonable. These assurances misled PALACIOS and Plaintiff into continuing PALACIOS treatment by Defendants and all of them.
- 90. When Plaintiff and PALACIOS expressed their doubts and considered transferring PALACIOS to another medical facility, UCIMC, doctors, nurses, medical staff, administrative staff and clerical staff told Plaintiff and PALACIOS that PALACIOS could not be transferred. Plaintiff and PALACIOS relied on this misrepresentation of a material fact affecting PALACIOS'S treatment and if Plaintiff and PALACIOS had known otherwise, Plaintiff would have transferred PALACIOS to another hospital. In effect, PALACIOS was held prisoner by UCIMC, doctors, nurses, medical staff, administrative staff, and clerical staff.
- 91. Defendants and all of them knew the falsity of the misrepresentation and concealed a material fact from Plaintiff and PALACIOS that would have altered their decision to keep PALACIOS in the care and custody of UCIMC.
- 92. Defendants and all of them intended to induce Plaintiff and PALACIOS to alter their

Verification

I am the plaintiff in the above entitled action. I have read the foregoing COMPLAINT FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE and know its contents. I am informed and believe, and on that ground allege, that the matters stated in the complaint are true.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on Oct. 21, 2022, at Colton, California.

Andres Quezada Palacios

COMPLAINT FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE