

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
DENNIS J. MAIMAN, M.D., :  
RESPONDENT. : **ORDER 0007131**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 MED 487

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Dennis J. Maiman, M.D.  
Milwaukee, WI 53226

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board  
P.O. Box 8366  
Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Medical Examining Board (Board). The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Dennis J. Maiman, M.D. (DOB xx-xx-1953), is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice medicine and surgery, having license number 21771-20, first issued on July 14, 1978, with registration current through October 31, 2021. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226.

2. Respondent is a neurosurgeon and at all times relevant hereto, practiced neurosurgery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

3. On July 30, 2015, Respondent first saw Patient A, a male born in 1961, after an MRI taken subsequent to a work injury revealed an incidental finding of an intradural lesion at L1 of Patient A's spine.

4. Due to an anatomical anomaly whereby Patient A had an extra vertebra, Respondent misread the MRI to show the lesion at T12 of Patient A's spine, instead of L1.

5. Respondent recommended surgical removal of the lesion and Patient A consented to a laminectomy performed by Respondent.

6. On August 17, 2015, Respondent performed a laminectomy at T12 of Patient A's spine. Instead of removing the lesion at L1, Respondent inadvertently removed healthy spinal cord tissue at T12, causing neurological impairment to Patient A.

7. Patient A filed a medical malpractice lawsuit which alleged negligence and other claims against Respondent and others, including Respondent's employer and a surgical fellow who assisted with the procedure.<sup>1</sup>

8. In his answer to the civil complaint, Respondent admitted to operating at the wrong anatomical site but denied other allegations related to his pre-operative work-up, his intra-operative conduct, and the post-operative discovery of his error.

9. In resolution of this matter, which includes all issues concerning Respondent's treatment of Patient A, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.03(2)(d) by performing or attempting to perform any surgical or invasive procedure on the wrong patient, or at the wrong anatomical site, or performing the wrong procedure on any patient.

3. As a result of the above conduct, Dennis J. Maiman, M.D., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent is REPRIMANDED.

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<sup>1</sup> Kenosha County Circuit Court Case No. 18-CV-926.

3. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Dennis J. Maiman, M.D., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$585.00.

4. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190  
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264  
[DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov)

Respondent may also submit payment online via DSPTS' Monitoring Case Management System, here: <https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov/>

5. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (no. 21771-20), or Respondent's right to renew his license, may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Board may, in addition and/or in the alternative refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.

6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

by:   
A Member of the Board

16 December 2020  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

DENNIS J. MAIMAN, M.D.,  
RESPONDENT.

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:  
:  
:  
:

STIPULATION

**ORDER 0007131**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 MED 487

Respondent Dennis J. Maiman, M.D., and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
- the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondent;
- the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondent's own behalf;
- the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
- the right to petition for rehearing; and
- all other applicable rights afforded to Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation. Respondent is represented by Attorneys Todd Weir and John Zwieg.


4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

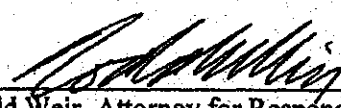
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's attorney, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

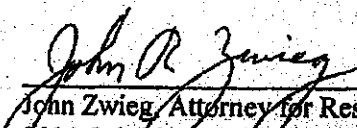
The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

  
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Dennis J. Maiman, M.D., Respondent  
Milwaukee, WI 53226  
License no. 21771-20

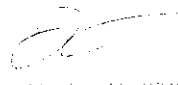
12/4/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Weir, Attorney for Respondent  
Otjen Gendelman Zitzer Johnson & Weir, S.C.  
20935 Swenson Dr., Ste 310  
Waukesha, WI 53186-2057

12/4/20  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Zwieg, Attorney for Respondent  
2114 Oakridge Ave.  
Madison, WI 53704

November 30, 2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joost Kap, Attorney  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

12/5/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date