

FILED

November 8, 1989

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

WILLARD COOK, M.D.

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Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners by way of receipt of information indicating that Dr. Willard Cook, M.D. may have aided and abetted the unlicensed practice of medicine by Raymond Salani, Jr., from in or about 1983 to in or about 1986 in that he gave credence to the Nutri-Care Health Center run by Mr. Salani by lending his (Dr. Cook's) name to it as the medical consultant; in that he continued to maintain the relationship and perform medical screenings for Nutri-Care Health Center even after he knew that patient bills were going out for third party reimbursement for services performed by Salani under Cook's name (but with objection having been posed by Cook) in that he allowed lab work to be ordered under his name although he had not seen the patients in every instance (as was provided in an agreement between Cook and Salani), in that he allowed Mr. Salani to receive the results and had no control over or connection with the lab work, except that Dr. Cook had pre-selected tests for Mr. Salani for every client that Salani saw, (which client or clients were supposed to be scheduled to be seen by Cook subsequently according to the protocol).

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

All patients were in fact seen and interviewed by an unlicensed person, that is by Mr. Salani, and at least two (2) patients never saw Dr. Cook at all although lab work was done for them, the results given solely to Salani. In addition Dr. Cook's relationship with Mr. Salani allowed him to mark up the cost of medical tests to the patient (without Cook's knowledge) although no medical services were being provided by Nutri-Care Health Center regarding the tests. Finally patients were misled by Salani to believe there was medical supervision of the program when in fact there was not.

The Board having reviewed this information and testimony by Dr. Cook and determining that Dr. Cook's actions aided and abetted the unlicensed practice of medicine by Salani, and Dr. Cook, having indicated that he attempted to persuade Mr. Salani to stop billing under his name, and having indicated that he was unaware that a nutritionist was not entitled to insurance reimbursement; but having admitted that he, despite his awareness that Mr. Salani continued to bill for patient consultations and lab work under Dr. Cook's name, did not take sufficient action to cause Salani to stop his practices and having indicated that he does not wish to contest this matter, and the parties being desirous of resolving this matter without recourse to formal proceedings herein, it is thus and for good cause shown;

ON THIS ^{6th} DAY OF November, 1989

ORDERED:

1. That Willard Cook, M.D. shall be reprimanded for aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine.

2. That Willard Cook, M.D. shall pay a civil penalty of \$2,500.00.

3. That Willard Cook, M.D. shall cease and desist from aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine.

4. That Willard Cook, M.D. shall cooperate in any proceeding brought by the State against Raymond Salani in connection with the activities of Raymond Salani, Mill Run Associates or Nutri-Care Health Center.

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: Michael B. Grossman, D.O.
MICHAEL GROSSMAN, D.O., PRESIDENT

I have read the terms of the within Order.
I understand the terms and I agree to the
form and entry of the within Order.

Willard Cook, M.D.

Willard Cook, M.D.

Consented to as to form and entry.

James J. McGuire, Jr.