ELMIRA R. HOWARD (Bar No. 258391)

ELECTRONICALLY FILED Superior Court of California. County of Orange

10/26/2018 at 09:17:00 AM

Clerk of the Superior Court By Alan Silva, Deputy Clerk

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE, CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER

Case No. 30-2018-01014163-CU-CO-CJC

Assigned for Hon. Nathan Scott, Dept. C-15

Action Filed: August 22, 2018

CROSS-COMPLAINT OF ADVANCE OCCUPATIONAL AND HAND THERAPY CENTER DBA SEVENTO7 PHYSICAL & HAND THERAPY

Trial Date: None set.

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Cross-Complainant ADVANCE OCCUPATIONAL AND HAND THERAPY CENTER doing business as SEVENTO7 PHYSICAL & HAND THERAPY ("Cross-Complainant" or "SEVENTO7") hereby alleges as follows:

PARTIES

- 1. Cross-Complainant ADVANCE OCCUPATIONAL AND HAND THERAPY CENTER is a California Corporation doing business as SEVENTO7 PHYSICAL & HAND THERAPY ("SEVENTO7" or "Cross-Complainant"). Cross-Complainant is now, and at all times mentioned in this cross-complaint was, a corporation duly organized under the laws of California, with its principal executive office located in the county of Orange, state of California. Cross-Complainant is in the business of providing physical and occupational therapy services and employs doctors of physical therapy.
- 2. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendant WAJIA GHAFOORI ("GHAFOORI") is, at all relevant times herein, and was, an individual residing in the county of Orange, California, and is subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.
- 3. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendant MARK B. PLUMMER ("PLUMMER"), at all relevant times herein, was an individual residing in the county of Orange, California, and is subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.
- 4. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendant LAW OFFICES OF MARK B. PLUMMER, PC ("PLUMMER LAW"), is a California professional corporation conducting business in the county of Orange, state of California and is subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.
- 5. The true names of defendants named herein as ROES 1 through 50, inclusive, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise are unknown to Cross-Complainant, who therefore sues said cross-defendants, and each of them, by their fictitious names. When the true names and capacities of the ROE cross-defendants, or any of them, are ascertained, Cross-Complainant will seek leave to amend this Cross-Complaint to insert the same.
 - 6. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges, that each of the

Cross-Defendants sued herein as ROES 1 through 50, inclusive, are, and at all times mentioned herein have been, the agents, principals, partners, co-conspirators, aiders and abettors, and/or co-ventures of each other, that, each of them acted within the course, scope and authority of said relationships and conspiracy, and that as a result, ROES 1 through 50, inclusive, are jointly and severally liable for the acts and omissions alleged herein.

- 7. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that on or about May 5, 2014, Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI first began receiving physical therapy and occupational therapy services from Cross-Complainant SEVENTO7.
- 8. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that while receiving treatment at SEVENTO7, Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI was involved in a car accident on or about September 25, 2014, wherein she allegedly suffered injuries.
- 9. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that on or about November 16, 2014, Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI retained PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW to initiate a personal injury lawsuit ("Personal Injury Lawsuit") to recover her purported damages resulting from injuries she allegedly sustained as a result of the accident.
- 10. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that in November of 2014, Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI approached SEVENTO7 and informed SEVENTO7 that she had retained PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW to initiate the Personal Injury Lawsuit and that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW desired that SEVENTO7 not bill her insurance for therapy she was to receive relating to her accident related injuries and rather opted to receive such services under a medical lien.
- 11. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Complainant informed GHAFOORI that a medical lien was not necessary as she had authorization from her insurance to receive physical therapy and occupational therapy treatment from SEVENTO7 and that SEVENTO7 could bill her insurance and was willing to bill her insurance directly.
- 12. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that despite being advised that her insurance would cover her treatments, GHAFOORI, PLUMMER, and

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PLUMMER LAW insisted that SEVENTO7 provide treatment under a medical lien and to not bill her insurance for treatments she received in connection with the injuries she sustained as a result of the car accident.

- 13. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW were adamant about proceeding under a medical lien as it would increase the value of GHAFOORI's personal injury case and alleged damages claimed by GHAFOORI in her lawsuit as to enable them to negotiate a favorable settlement and/or obtain a favorable judgment in her Personal Injury Lawsuit.
- 14. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that on November 20, 2014, GHAFOORI and PLUMMER LAW executed a medical lien which is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** ("Medical Lien").
- 15. The Medical Lien provided that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW would pay directly to SEVENTO7 such sums that are owed to it for medical services rendered to Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI by reason of her car accident and that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW would withhold such sums from any settlement, judgment, or verdict as may be necessary to assure payment to SEVENTO7 for the services rendered.
- 16. The Medical Lien further provided that Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI would be directly responsible to SEVENTO7 for all medical bills submitted for services rendered and that payment for its services was not contingent upon any settlement, judgment or verdict of her personal injury case.
- 17. In reliance on the Medical Lien, Cross-Complainant provided physical therapy and occupational therapy services to Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI for her accident related injuries between December 4, 2014 and March 16, 2015, and did not bill Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI's insurance for the treatments she received during this period.
- 18. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that after completing her physical therapy and occupational therapy relating to her accident related injuries, Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI returned for additional treatment for unrelated injuries during the

period of May 5, 2016 and June 28, 2016. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the therapy received by Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI during this period was billed to her insurance and paid by her insurance.

- 19. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER, and PLUMMER LAW requested that Cross-Complainant provide copies of Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI's records relating to treatments she received with respect to her accident related injuries. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Complainant provided such report to GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMRT LAW.
- 20. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW used Cross-Complainant's report and records relating to treatments GHAFOORI received for her accident-related treatments in order to prove up her damages and to settle her Personal Injury Lawsuit.
- 21. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that on October 13, 2016, Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW settled the Personal Injury Lawsuit filed by Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI and received settlement proceeds. Cross-Complainants are informed and believe and thereon allege that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW were able to enter into a favorable settlement in GHAFOORI's Personal Injury Lawsuit as a result of the services and records furnished by SEVENTO7.
- 22. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges despite receiving settlement proceeds in connection with Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI's Personal Injury Lawsuit, Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER, and PLUMMER LAW have failed to remit payment to SEVENTO7 to pay SEVENTO7's Medical Lien in the amount of \$11,200.00.
- 23. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Complainant repeatedly contacted PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW as to the status of payment of its Medical Lien. PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW responded that it had no intention to pay the Medical Lien because SEVENTO7 did not furnish Cross-Defendants with a report containing

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the fraudulent representations demanded by PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW concerning GHAFOORI's alleged aggravated injuries resulting from her accident.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(BREACH OF CONTRACT AGAINST ALL CROSS-DEFENDANTS AND **ROES 1 THROUGH 50, INCLUSIVE)**

- 24. Cross-Complainant hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully set forth herein.
- 25. On November 20, 2014, Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER, and PLUMMER LAW executed the Medical Lien whereby SEVENTO7 agreed to furnish Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI with physical and occupational therapy services in exchange for a promise that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER, and PLUMMER would provide a lien on any settlement, verdict or judgment obtained in favor of GHAFOORI in connection with her Personal Injury Lawsuit. Cross-Defendants also agreed to withhold all sums owed to SEVENTO7 in connection with treatments rendered relating to GHAFOORI's accident related injuries from any settlement, verdict or judgment received in connection with GHAFOORI's Personal Injury Lawsuit.
- 26. Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI further agreed that she would be directly liable to pay SEVENTO7 for any treatments she received in connection with her accident related injuries and that payment for such services was not contingent upon any favorable settlement, judgment or verdict in her Personal Injury Lawsuit.
- 27. In reliance on the Medical Lien, SEVENTO7 furnished physical and occupational therapy services to Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI for her accident related injuries between December 4, 2014 through March 15, 2015. SEVENTO7 performed all of the obligations, conditions, and covenants required of SEVENTO7 or all conditions have been excused, prevented, or waived by Cross-Defendants' acts and omissions.
- 28. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that on October 13, 2016, Cross-Defendants settled the Personal Injury Lawsuit and obtained a favorable monetary settlement.

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	29.	Cross-Defendants breached the terms of the Medical Lien by failing and refusing to
withhold sums from the settlement to pay SEVENTO7 for the services rendered by it to		
GHAF	OORI.	Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI has further breached the Medical Lien by failing to
pay for	r the ser	vices rendered by SEVENTO7 between the period of December 4, 2014 and
March 15, 2015.		

30. Because of Cross-Defendants' breach of the terms of the Medical Lien. SEVENTO7 has suffered general and special damages in an amount to be proven at trial, but not less than \$11,200.00, with interest on that amount at the rate of 10% percent per year from March 16, 2015.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(FRAUD AGAINST ALL CROSS-DEFENDANTS AND

ROES 1 THROUGH 50, INCLUSIVE)

- 31. Cross-Complainants hereby incorporate paragraphs 1 through 30 as though fully set forth herein.
- 32. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that on November 19, 2014, Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW approached Cross-Complainant and requested that Cross-Complainant provide physical therapy and occupational therapy services to Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI for her accident related injuries on a medical lien and to not bill her insurance for such services. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW represented that they would pay SEVENTO7 for its services from any settlement, verdict or judgment in the Personal Injury Law in favor of Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI. Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW further represented that in the event that Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI did not obtain a favorable settlement, verdict or judgment in her Personal Injury Lawsuit that would be sufficient to pay SEVENTO7 for its services, Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI would pay and would be directly liable to pay SEVENTO7 for such services.
 - 33. Cross-Complainant reasonably relied on the above noted representations and

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proceeded to provide physical and occupational therapy to Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI and did not bill her insurance as she instructed.

- 34. At the time the representations were made, Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER, and PLUMMER LAW knew that they were false and never intended to honor their promises. Specifically, Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW never intended to pay Cross-Complainant for its services and never intended to withhold any sums owed to Cross-Complainant from any settlement, verdict or judgment in the Personal Injury Lawsuit.
- 35. At the time such representations were made, Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW made said false representations, and promises they never intended to honor, with the intent to induce Cross-Complainant to provide physical and occupational therapy to GHAFOORI without billing her insurance in order to increase the value of her Personal Injury Lawsuit and to enable her to negotiate a favorable and substantial settlement.
- 36. Cross-Complainant was unaware that the above noted representations made by Cross-Defendants were false and had no reason to doubt the truth of such representations.
- 37. If Cross-Complainant had known that the above representations were false, or that Cross-Defendants did not intend to honor their promises, Cross-Complainant would not have provided the services to GHAFOORI and/or it would have billed GHAFOORI's insurance for such services.
- 38. As a direct and proximate case of the fraud of Cross-Defendants, and each of them, Cross-Complainant has suffered special damages, including costs, attorney fees, and incidental expenses.
- 39. Cross-Defendants GHAFOORI, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW did the things described herein, among other things, fraudulently, maliciously and oppressively. The conduct of said Cross-Defendants and each of them as describe herein, was despicable, vile, base, contemptible, miserable, wretched and loathsome, and carried on with a willful and conscious disregard of the rights of Cross-Complainant. Cross-Defendants knew and intended that said

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conduct has caused and will continue to cause Cross-Complainant the harm and damages as alleged herein. That by reason of said conduct as described herein, Cross-Complainant is entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(UNFAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES AGAINST PLUMMER, PLUMMER LAW AND **ROES 25 THROUGH 50, INCLUSIVE)**

- 40. Cross-Complainants incorporate paragraphs 1 through 39 as though fully set forth herein.
- 41. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that **PLUMMER** and PLUMMER LAW have handled and continue to handle and file several personal injury lawsuits on behalf of their clients. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that in connection with such personal injury lawsuits, including the subject Personal Injury Lawsuit, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW handles such matters on a contingency agreement and are compensated by way of amounts recovered through settlement, verdict or judgment.
- 42. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that in connection with the personal injury lawsuits it handles, including the subject Personal Injury Lawsuit, PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW demand that medical providers/practitioners treat its clients on a medical lien and not bill its client's insurance as a strategy and tactic to increase the value of the case in order to lead to a substantial settlement and recovery which would benefit PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW.
- 43. Cross-Complainant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that **PLUMMER** and PLUMMER LAW agree to provide medical liens on the personal injury lawsuits they handle, including the subject Personal Injury Lawsuit, with no intention to actually provide such medical lien or withhold sums from the settlement, verdict or judgment to pay such medical lien.
- 44. The above describe conduct constitutes and constituted "unfair and unlawful business acts or practices" pursuant to Business & Professions Code §17200.
- 45. As a result of Cross-Defendant PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW's unfair business practices, Cross-Defendants have reaped unfair benefits at Cross-Complainant's expense.

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- 46. Cross-Defendants' unfair business practices entitle Cross-Complainant to seek restitution, declaratory and injunctive relief and other relief allowable under Section 17200, et seq., including but not limited to orders that Cross-Defendants account for and restore unlawfully withheld compensation to the Cross-Complainant and discontinue its unlawful business practices and conduct.
- 47. Cross-Defendants' unfair business practices also entitle Cross-Complainant to its attorneys' fees and costs.
- 48. As a proximate result of the above described conduct, Cross-Defendants PLUMMER and PLUMMER LAW are required to disgorge all amounts of which said Cross-Defendants have received by making similar false representations and false promises to other medical practitioners.
- 49. As a proximate cause of the above described conduct, Cross-Complainant is entitled to an injunction prohibiting said Cross-Defendants from perpetrating a similar scheme on other medical practitioners.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(BREACH OF IMPLIED CONTRACT AGAINST CROSS-DEFENDANT GHAFOORI AND ROES 1 THROUGH 50, INCLUSIVE)

- 50. Cross-Complainant hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 49 as though fully set forth herein.
- 51. At the instance and request of Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI, Cross-Complainant provided physical therapy and occupational therapy services to Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI between the period of December 4, 2014 and March 16, 2015, for her accident-related injuries.
- 52. Cross-Complainant provided such services with the expectation and understanding that Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI would pay for such treatments.
- 53. Despite demand, Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI has failed to pay Cross-Complainant for the treatments and services she received during the period of December 4, 2014 through March 16, 2015.
 - 54. Because of Cross-Defendant's failure to pay SEVENTO7 for the services she

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received during the period of December 4, 2014 through March 16, 2015, Cross-Complainant has suffered general and special damages in an amount to be proven at trial, but not less than \$11,200.00, with interest on that amount at the rate of 10% percent per year from March 16, 2015.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(QUANTUM MERUIT AGAINST ALL CROSS-DEFENDANTS AND **ROES 1 THROUGH 50, INCLUSIVE)**

- Cross-Complainant hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 54 as though fully set 55. forth herein.
- 56. At the instance and request of Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI, Cross-Complainant provided physical therapy and occupational therapy services to Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI between the period of December 4, 2014 through March 16, 2015, for her accident-related injuries.
- 57. Cross-Complainant provided such services with the expectation and understanding that Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI would pay for such treatments.
- 58. The fair and reasonable value of the services provided by Cross-Complainant to Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI is at least \$11,200.
- 59. No payment has been made by Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI, and there is now owing the sum of at least \$11,200, with interest on that amount at the rate of 10% percent per year from March 16, 2015.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(MONEY HAD AND RECEIVED AGAINST CROSS-DEFENDANT GHAFOORI AND **ROES 1 THROUGH 50, INCLUSIVE)**

- 60. Cross-Complainant hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 59 as though fully set forth herein.
- 61. At the instance and request of Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI, Cross-Complainant provided physical therapy and occupational therapy services to Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI between the period of December 4, 2014 through March 16, 2015, for her accident-related injuries.
- 62. Cross-Complainant provided such services with the expectation and understanding that Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI would pay for such treatments and services.

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- 63. Cross-Complainant has repeatedly demanded payment from Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI.
- 64. No payment has been made by Cross-Defendant GHAFOORI, and there is now owing the sum of at least \$11,200, with interest on that amount at the rate of 10% percent per year from March 16, 2015.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Cross-Complainant prays for judgment against the Cross-Defendants and each of them, as follows:

- 1. For general and special damages according to proof, but not less than \$11,200;
- 2. For interest and other incidental damages according to proof;
- 3. For attorney fees according to proof;
- 4. For disgorgement of ill-gotten gains;
- 5. For injunctive relief;
- 6. For exemplary damages according to proof;
- 7. For punitive damages according to proof;
- 8. For general damages;
- 9. For costs of suit incurred herein;
- 10. For such other and further relief as the court deems just and proper.

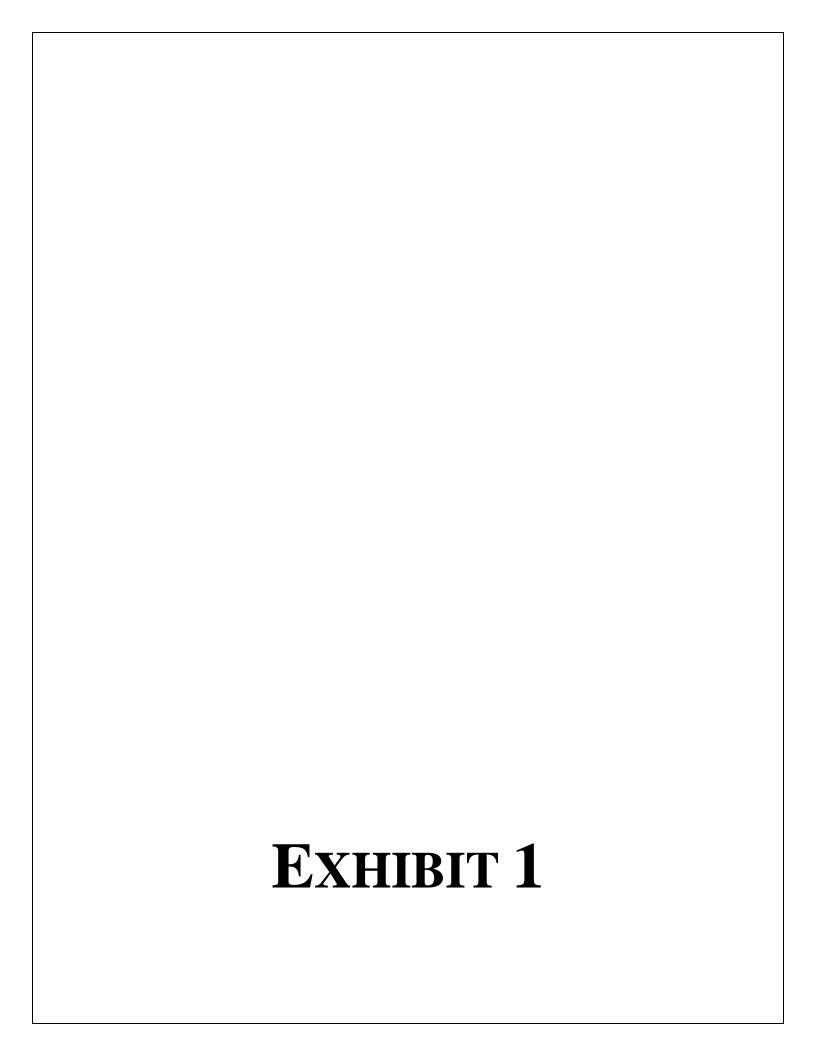
DATED: October 26, 2018 ANDERSON, McPHARLIN & CONNERS LLP

> By: Imira R. Howard

Attorneys for Defendant ROSS REZAEI and Defendant and Cross-Complainant ADVANCE OCCUPATIONAL AND HAND THERAPY CENTER

dba SEVENTO7 PHYSICAL & HAND THERAPY

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Inc. 714-976 3131

1X: 714-976 3130

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Linda a 42 886

Inlary: 710-25-74

Patient Name / Address;

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redacted

Social Security Ramber: redacted

Seven To 7 Physical & Hand Therapy 22 Odyssey Suite 165 Irvine, CA 92618 Phone: (949) 727-2192 Pay: 194

Fax: (949) 727-2193

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I do hereby anthorize the above doctor to furnish you, my attorney, with a full report of his sation, diagnosis, bestween, prognosis, etc., of anyself in regard to the accident in which I was ad.

I hereby authorize and direct you, my attorney, to puy directly to said doctor such arms as may be dowing him for medical service rendered me both by reason of this accident and by reason of any ills that are one his office and withhold such sums from any settlement, judgment or verdict as may be my to adequately protect said doctor. And I hereby further give a lien on my case to said doctor any and all proceeds of any settlement, judgment verdict which may be paid to you, my attorney, or as the result of the injuries for which I have been treated or injuries in connection therewith.

I fully understand that I am directly and fully responsible to said doctor for all medical bills submitted for service readered me and that this agreement is made salely for said doctor's additional protection consideration of his aveiting payment. And I further understand that each payment is not contingent settlement, judgment or variety by which I may eventually recover said for.

11-19-2014

Pafient's Signature:

Print Name:

The undersigned being attorney of record for the above patient does hereby agree to observe all the f the above and agrees to withhold such sums from any settlement, judgment or verdict as may be my to adequately peopled said doctor above named.

Attorney's Signeres

turney: Please date, sign and return by fax one copy to AOH1C (949) 727-2193. Keep one copy is securils.

Odyssey Ste. 165 Eurie, CA 92618 Phone: (945) 727-2192 Fax: (949) 727-2193

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PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within action; my business address is 707 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 4000, Los Angeles, California 90017-3623.

On October 26, 2018, I served the following document(s) described as CROSS-COMPLAINT OF ADVANCE OCCUPATIONAL AND HAND THERAPY CENTER DBA SEVENTO7 PHYSICAL & HAND THERAPY on the interested parties in this action by placing true copies thereof enclosed in sealed envelopes addressed as follows:

Mark B. Plummer, Esq. Law Offices of Mark B. Plummer, PC 18552 Oriente Drive Yorba Linda, CA 92886 Telephone: (714) 970-3131 Facsimile: (714) 970-3130

Attorneys for Plaintiffs Wajia Ghafoori and Law Offices of Mark B. Plummer, PC

BY MAIL: I am "readily familiar" with Anderson, McPharlin & Conners' practice for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. Under that practice, it would be deposited with the United States Postal Service that same day in the ordinary course of business. Such envelope(s) were placed for collection and mailing with postage thereon fully prepaid at Los Angeles, California, on that same day following ordinary business practices.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on October 26, 2018, at Los Angeles, California.