

MEDICAL STAFF

February 6, 2019

Dear Medical Staff Member:

It is with sadness that the Medical Executive Committee writes to advise you that we have initiated the Ad Hoc Dispute Resolution Committee Process as per our Medical Staff Bylaws section, 10.4. The Medical Staff's dispute with Administration consists of the following:

1. SMMC Administration has refused to discuss with Medical Staff leaders the sources of clinical services that are to be provided at SMMC through contracts as is required by The Joint Commission Leadership Standard LD.04.03.09. Such refusal prevents the Medical Staff from discharging its rights of self-governance as identified in Section 2282.5 of the California Business and Professions Code.
2. SMMC Administration has initiated steps to terminate existing clinical services contracts and to initiate alternative contracts in retaliation for Medical Staff leaders' advocacy for improved patient protection and peer review policies and procedures at SMMC, in violation of Section 1278 of the California Health and Safety Code. Such actions violate the Medical Staff's rights of self-governance as provided in Section 2282.5.
3. SMMC Administration has taken steps to terminate contract arrangements with key members of Medical Staff leadership (i.e. Vice Chief of Staff) so as to interfere with the Medical Staff's right to select its leadership as provided in Section 2282.5, referenced above.


In view of this dispute, the Medical Executive Committee has asked the Board to direct SMMC Administration to take no further steps to terminate clinical services contracts, or to allow such contracts to expire, until the dispute is resolved.


The Medical Executive Committee has voted to suspend enforcement of Section 4.8.4 of the Medical Staff Bylaws, relating to the status of members' Medical Staff membership and clinical privileges in the event of a termination or expiration of contract arrangements.


St. Mary Medical Center
Medical Staff
February 6, 2019


At this difficult time, the members of the Medical Executive Committee ask for your support and patience as we work through this process. Please know that we will keep you apprised of developments in this regard, but please contact any one of us if you have questions. Thank you.


Sincerely,



Douglas W. McFarland, M.D.
Chief of Staff


Bertram E. Sohl, M.D.
Immediate Past Chief of Staff



Laura Russell, M.D.
Chairperson, Department of Anesthesiology


Nikhil Kapoor, M.D.
Chairperson, Department of Medicine


Hadi Emamian, M.D.
Chairperson, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

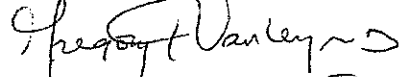


Ammar Istwani, M.D.
Chairperson, Department of Radiology



Thomas Gates, M.D.
Chairperson, Credentials Committee & IDP Committee

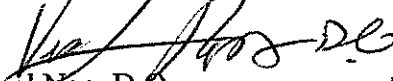

Bahman Chavoshan, M.D.
Graduate Medical Education Representative


CC. California Medical Association


Gregory Vanley, M.D.
Vice Chief of Staff



Brian Fong, M.D. 
Secretary-Treasurer



Arlene Vernon, M.D.
Chairperson, Department of Emergency Medicine



Visal Nga, D.O.
Vice Chairperson, Department of Medicine


Aline Wong, M.D.
Department of Pediatrics


James Murray, M.D.
Chairperson, Department of Surgery


Alan Erlbaum, M.D.
Chief of Staff Appointee


Lisa Shane, M.D.
Pathology Representative


Mauricio Heibron, Jr., M.D.
Chairperson, Medical Staff Peer Review Committee