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1995-2002

# Nevada Medical Malpractice Filings and State Demographics

| Year | MLSP<br>Filings in<br>Clark Co. | MLSP Filings<br>Yearly<br>Increase % | Court Filings<br>in Clark Co. | Court Filing<br>Yearly<br>Increase % | Clark Co.<br>Population | Population<br>Yearly<br>Increase % | Six Repeat<br>Offenders |
|------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1995 | 117                             | 8:                                   | 120                           | n/a                                  | 1,036,290               | 9:9                                | 1                       |
| 1996 | 121                             | 3.4                                  | 130                           | 8.3                                  | 1,115,940               | L.7                                | 9                       |
| 1997 | 126                             | 4.1                                  | 132                           | 1.5                                  | 1,192,200               | 8.9                                | 7                       |
| 1998 | 134                             | 6.4                                  | 133                           | .75                                  | 1,255,200               | 5.3                                | 4                       |
| 1999 | 152                             | 13.4                                 | 148                           | 11.3                                 | 1,343,540               | 7.0                                | 7                       |
| 2000 | 174                             | 14.5                                 | 158                           | 6.8                                  | 1,425,723               | 6.1                                | 6                       |
| 2001 | 181                             | 4.0                                  | 151                           | -4.4                                 | 1,485,855               | 4.2                                | 11                      |
| 2002 | 244*                            | 34.8                                 | 337**                         | 123.0                                | 1,560,653               | 5.0                                | 16                      |

95-01 average Court filing growth rate in Clark County - 5.5% 95-01 average MLSP filing growth in Clark County - 6.7% 95-01 average population growth in Clark County - 6.2%

5% difference equals 7 filings per year

Source: Nevada State Demographer at <a href="http://www.nsbdc.org/demographer/pubs/pop">http://www.nsbdc.org/demographer/pubs/pop</a> increase.html</a>
'only through November, 2002
\*236 cases coming out of the panel ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY
DATE: 4-07-03 ROOM 3138 EXHIBIT
SUBMITTED BY: Bill Bradley

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# Richard Wagner:

# PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY CLAIM, SETTLEMENT, OR JUDGMENT OF \$5,000 OR MORE:

1) Date Received by the Board: 5/6/2002

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 12/10/1996

Details: Alleged negligence during a vocal cord striping procedure resulting

in permanent damage to voice.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of Malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$350,000

Total Pages: 4

2) Date Received by the Board: 11/12/1999

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 4/26/1994

Details: Alleged residual problems following bilateral antrostomies, anterior

septoplasty and turbinate modifications surgery.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Unable to decide if there is

reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$ 240,000

Total Pages: 4

3) Date Received by the Board: 11/10/1999

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 10/21/1991

Details: Alleged a radical turbinectomy was performed resulting in the loss

of too much tissue and permanent nasal complications.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: No reasonable probability of

malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$275,000

Total Pages: 1

4) Date Received by the Board: 6/16/1999

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 10/4/1994

Details: Alleged negligence while performing turbinectomy.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of Malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$150,000

Total Pages: 5

5) Date Received by the Board: 6/14/1999

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 11/20/1992

Details: Allegedly Dr. performed a resection of the tubinates bilaterally which

was unnecessary and resulted in residual problems.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Unable to decide if there is

reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$158,000

Total Pages: 4

6) Date Received by the Board: 10/16/1997 Reported by: Nevada Division of Insurance Date of Act/Omission: None reported

Details: None reported

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Unable to decide if there is

reasonable probability of malpractice. Settlement Amount: \$ 225,000

Total Pages: 1

7) Date Received by the Board: 10/24/1994 Reported by: NML Insurance Company Date of Act/Omission: None reported

Details: Alleged wrongful death due to sinus surgery. Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$300,000

Total Pages: 1

# Albert Capanna:

# PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY CLAIM, SETTLEMENT, OR JUDGMENT OF \$5,000 OR MORE:

1) Date Received by the Board: 6/20/2001

Reported by: Nevada Medical Professional Liability

Date of Act/Omission: 03/24/1995

Details: Alleged negligence in performing thoracic laminectomy

T4-5 with resection of tumor, probable plasmocytoma

T4-5 disc space.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: No reasonable probability

of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$10,000

Total Pages: 5

2) Date Received by the Board: 1/27/2000

Reported by: Nevada Medical Professional Liability

Date of Act/Omission: 4/1/1994

Details: Alleged that Dr. performed a right frontal craniectomy,

micro-endoscopic visualization, lysis of arachnoid

adhesions, external ventricular drain, and removal of the

prior obstructed ventriculoperitoneal shunt which resulted

in patient suffering permanent brain damage.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Unable to decide if there is

reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$700,000

Total Pages: 1

3) Date Received by the Board: 9/20/1999

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 7/5/1993

Details: Alleged complication following surgery.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Unable to decide if there is

reasonable probability of malpractice. Settlement Amount: \$526,056.88

Total Pages: 4

4) Date Received by the Board: 4/23/1998 Reported by: Nevada Division of Insurance Date of Act/Omission: None reported

Details: None reported

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$3,500,000

Total Pages: 1

5) Date Received by the Board: 9/9/1996

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 6/10/1991

Details: Alleged negligence in performance of surgery to repair A-V

malformation resulting in patient's death.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$710,000

Total Pages: 2

6) Date Received by the Board: 8/15/1991

Reported by: NAIC Medical Professional Liability Insurance

Date of Act/Omission: 6/26/1985

Details: Alleged failure to inform the patient of risks and alternatives

of the surgical procedure.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement/Indemnity Amount: \$50,000

**Total Pages:** 

### William Robinson:

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY CLAIM, SETTLEMENT,

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# OR JUDGMENT OF \$5,000 OR MORE:

1) Date Received by the Board: 6/8/2001

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 7/24/1996

Details: Alleged negligence during prenatal delivary and post delivery

of twins, resulting in death of one newborn and possible neuro-

logical damage to other.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: No reasonable probability of

malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$19,000

Total Pages: 3

2) Date Received by the Board: 12/20/1999

Reported by: Nevada Medical Professional Liability

Date of Act/Omission: 7/13/1994

Details: Alleged that patient was delivered following a long and difficult

delivery. Shoulder dystocia was present, and the Dr. utilized vacuum forceps and low forceps to successfully extract the baby. The baby required resuscitation and was placed on a vertilator while experiencing seizures. The patient claims a cesarean section should have been preformed.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of Malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$ 980,000

Total Pages: 1

3) Date Received by the Board: 9/17/1997 Reported by: Nevada Division of Insurance Date of Act/Omission: None reported

Details: None reported

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$50,000

Total Pages: 1

4) Date Received by the Board: 8/3/1994

Reported by: Doctors' Company Date of Act/Omission: 4/12/1989

Details: Alleged that Dr. performed a pap smear on 4/12/1989 and again on

3/20/1990, both smears had been diagnosed as normal. In 8/1990 the patient was diagnosed with stage IIIA adenocarcinoma of the cervix, she underwent extensive pelvic surgery including total pelvic exeteneration and complete reconstruction of bowel and urinary function.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$ 450,000

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Total Pages: 2

5) Date Received by the Board: 12/13/1993

Reported by: The Doctors' Company Date of Act/Omission: 11/25/1985

Details: None reported

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Unable to decide if there is

reasonable probability of Malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$62,500

Total Pages: 1

6) Date Received by the Board: 3/24/1988

Reported by: NAIC Medical Professional Liability Insurance

Date of Act/Omission: 2/28/1984 Details: Alleged death of spouse.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Indemnity Paid: \$50,000

Total Pages: 1

### Reynold Rimoldi:

# PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY CLAIM, SETTLEMENT, OR JUDGMENT OF \$5,000 OR MORE:

1) Date Received by the Board: 1/10/2002

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance

Date of Act/Omission: 3/26/1998

Details: Alleged delay in diagnosis of postop leg circulation problem,

resulting in above the knee amputation.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of Malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$100,000

Total Pages: 4

2) Date Received by the Board: 10/31/2002

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Co.

Date of Act/Omission: 05/07/1996

Details: Patient alleges failed to perform the appropriate procedure.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of Malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$1,400,000.00

Total Pages: 5

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# FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

MARCH 22, 2002

The Investigative Committee of the Board filed a formal complaint alleging that Dr. D'Ambrosio failed to use reasonable care, skill, or

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knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances. The Complaint alleges the respondent committed malpractice in his treatment of several patients, evidences a pattern by Respondent of continual failure in regards to his surgical skills, to excercise the skill or diligence or use the methods ordinarily exercised under the same circumstances by physicians in good standing practicing in the same specialty or field, a violation of the provisions of NRS 630.306(7) and NRS 630.301(4)

Copies / Complaint = 10 pgs.

### **JUNE 3, 2002**

The Board accepted the irrevocable surrender of the license to practice medicine in the state of Nevada, while under investigation, of Francis D'Ambrosio M.D.

Copies/Order=3 pgs.

### Francis D'Ambrosio:

# PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY CLAIM, SETTLEMENT, OR JUDGMENT OF \$5,000 OR MORE:

### 1) Date Received by the Board: 7/26/2002

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 8/4/1999

Details: Allegedly performed a decompression laminectomy at

the wrong level

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$100,000

Total Pages: 4

2) Date Received by the Board: 4/24/2002

Reported by: Nevada Medical Professional Liability

Nevada Division of Insurance Date of Act/Omission: 1/19/1998

Details: Alleged four level surgery was contraindicated and

inherently risky.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Unable to decide if there is

reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$775,000

Total Pages: 2

3) Date Received by the Board: 3/22/2002

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Nevada Division of Insurance Date of Act/Omission: 7/26/1994

Details: Alleged failure to advise patient of possible hepatitis and

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test in a timely fashion.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$150,000

Total Pages: 5

4) Date Received by the Board: 3/18/2002

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 3/25/1997

Details: Alleged failure to properly perform back surgery resulted in

an aggravation of patients condition causing permanent

partial paresis to all extermities.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$2,000,000

Total Pages:4

5) Date Received by the Board: 1/10/2002

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 3/26/1998

Details: Alleged delay in diagnosis of postoperative leg circulation

problem, resulting in above knee amputation.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$500,000

Total Pages: 4

6) Date Received by the Board: 10/1/2001

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 10/28/1998

Details: Alleged negligent performance of cervical spinal surgery

resulted in partial paresis.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$3,500,000

**Total Pages:4** 

7) Date Received by the Board: 7/26/2001

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 1/12/1995

Details: Alleged that the surgery to improve chronic neck pain

was improperly performed leaving her with vocal and

swallowing problems which she alleged were permanent.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Unable to decide if there is

reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$9,000

Total Pages: 4

8) Date Received by the Board: 4/23/2001

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 7/18/1997

Details: Alleged negligently performed a leminectomy resulting

in Cauda Eauina Syndrome.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: No reasonable probability of

malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$0

Total Pages: 1

9) Date Received by the Board: 2/23/2001

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 9/12/1997

Details: Alleged permanent injury, useless right upper arm, and motor

sensory deficit following neck surgery.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of malpractice.

Settlement Amount: \$1,927,000.89

Total Pages: 3

10) Date Received by the Board: 4/7/2000

Reported by: St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 10/2/1996

Details: Allegedly performed an unnecessary surgery. Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$0

Total Pages: 1

11) Date Received by the Board: 9/2/1998 Reported by: Nevada Division of Insurance Date of Act/Omission: None reported

Details: None reported

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount / Indemnity Paid: \$ 17,500

Total Pages: 1

12) Date Received by the Board: 1/17/2003

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Co.

Date of Act/Omission: 12/21/1995

Details: Alleged doctor was negligent in administering

excessive steroid injections resulting in alleged

damage to his health.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: No reasonable

probability of negligence

Settlement Amount/Indemnity Paid: \$85,000.00

Total Pages: 6

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# James Thomas

# PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY CLAIM, SETTLEMENT, OR JUDGMENT OF \$5,000 OR MORE:

1) Date Received by the Board: 11/28/2001

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 12/15/1998

Details: Alleged that foreign body was left in the patient after surgery.

Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: None reported

Settlement Amount: \$8,500

Total Pages: 4

2) Date Received by the Board: 4/17/2001

Reported by: St. Paul Medical Liability Insurance Company

Date of Act/Omission: 11/8/1996

Details: Alleged delay in diagnosis of spinal abscess resulting in quadriparesis. Medical Legal Screening Panel Finding: Reasonable probability of Malpractice.

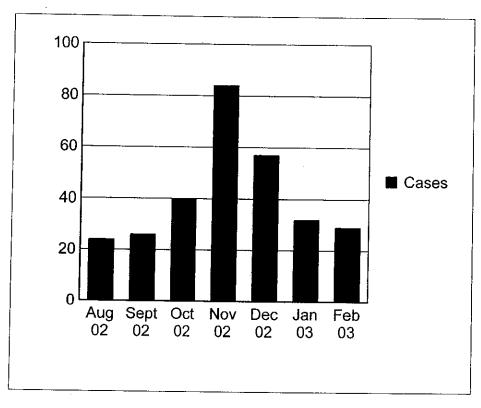
Settlement Amount: \$3,600,000

Total Pages: 4

Review of court filings 1995-2002

|   | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| William<br>Robinson                               |      | 2    |      |      | 1    |      |      |      |
| Richard<br>Wagner                                 |      | 2    |      |      | 2    |      |      |      |
| Reynold<br>Rimoldi                                |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Albert<br>Capanna                                 | 1    | 7    |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Francis<br>D'Ambrosio<br>(Advanced<br>Orthopedic) |      |      |      |      | co.  | 6    | 5    | 12   |
| James<br>Thomas                                   |      |      |      |      | 1    |      | 4    | 4    |

# Cases Filed In Clark County Since August 2002



| Month   | Cases     |
|---------|-----------|
| Aug 02  | 24        |
| Sept 02 | 26        |
| Oct 02  | 40        |
| Nov 02  | 84        |
| Dec 02  | <i>57</i> |
| Jan 03  | 32        |
| Feb 03  | 29        |