

Appendix 3: Sworn Testimony from some of my physician peers

I am humbled and honored that my peers did not allow the California Medical Board to impugn my reputation. I appreciate their courage.

Dr. BW :

15 Q Okay. And while you were working with Dr. Gold
16 in the ER, did she ever do anything that you thought was
17 unethical in any way?

18 A Never.

19 Q Did you ever witness anything that Dr. Gold did
20 in the course of treating a patient that caused you any
21 concern?

22 A Never.

23 Q And are you able to describe what kind of a
24 bedside manner Dr. Gold had?

25 A It was actually pretty refreshing. She would

talk to the patients like she really cared about them. Which it seemed like she did. She explained very thoroughly what was going on, and why she was making the decisions that she was making, and everyone seemed extremely happy with her. As far as the patients went and the staff.

Q Did you ever witness her do anything that you thought was unprofessional while she was working in the ER?

A Never.

Q Did you ever witness anything that Dr. Gold did in the course of working as an ER physician that made you believe she was a really good ER doctor for any reason?

A Yeah. I mean it was everything. It was all of the above as far as you know. Making quick decisions, and you know. From a STEMI or stroke or in any type of emergency that you would encounter in the ER she would make the right decisions. And coming -- you know she was new to the ER and we always kind of -- we would sort of judge the doctors off of like whether or not you would consult with them. Based off the decision making they were making with these really complicated cases and I was certain that I would go to her first. That was basically the overall consensus between all of us physician's assistants. That we would consult with Dr. Gold before

1 we'd consult with anyone else.

2 Q So how many physician's assistants were there?

3 A Every day? Six. So we would -- there would be
4 six a day.

5 Q What were the particular attributes that Dr. Gold
6 had that you believed made her the go-to physician for all
7 six of you or however many of you were on a shift?

8 A She was just -- had sound decision making and it
9 was always correct and the right thing to do and it was
10 nice. Nice. She was very confident. You know, gave
11 sound advice and would teach us, too. A lot of things.
12 She taught us a lot of things about medicine and also
13 legal stuff. That was great. Good decisions, I mean good
14 advice.

Dr. WD:

3 Q Is there anything that you ever noticed about
4 Dr. Gold in terms of how she did her job as an emergency
5 room doctor that made her different in any way than other
6 emergency doctors?

7 A Oh, most assuredly. She provided patient with
8 what they needed rather than what they wanted. And that's
9 a huge difference. Most of the times patients come in
0 after a quick Google search, gulping down their 24-ounce
1 coke and French fries and wanting to know why they're
2 having chest pain and they just want a quick pill to make
3 themselves feel better.

4 When Simone would work them up and find out
5 exactly what was wrong and try to get them to be more
6 responsible for their own health, rather than try to
7 pacify them with either a pain medication, which wasn't
8 necessary or some other pill or antibiotic which wasn't
9 going to work any ways. So she gave them what she needed
0 and I would say most of the time, at least when I noticed,
1 the patients realized that afterwards and they were most
2 grateful to Simone.

 Q As far as you know was there ever any complaint
made by a patient or by anyone else against Dr. Gold when
she was working with you in the ER?

 A Not to my knowledge. I don't know of any. I
probably would have heard about it because people do
gossip and we do here about complaints that patients make
against physicians, but I haven't heard anything about
Simone at all, no.

 Q At any point in time have you ever witnessed
Dr. Gold do anything unprofessional? In your opinion.

 A No. Not at all. She's a consummate,
professional physician, compassionate, and highly
knowledgeable. In my opinion.

1 Q Did you ever witness anything that Dr. Gold did
2 in the course of working at the hospital, and this is
3 Centinela, that made you believe she was a good ER
4 physician?

5 A Yeah. She put her patients first and didn't
6 hesitate to call in specialists that were available to the
7 ER docs when cases became out of our scope of practice or
8 beyond our level of training. She wouldn't hesitate for a
9 second to do whatever she had at her disposal for the
10 patients benefit. I can give enough you examples if you'd
11 like.

12 Q Yeah, I was just going to ask, I mean, is there
13 any example that Dr. Gold has done in particular that made
14 her stand out in your mind from other physicians at
15 Centinela?

16 A Yeah. I hope you don't mind me sharing this,
17 Simone, and I won't make any names, obviously, as HIPAA
18 privacy is enforced here. But there was this one case of
19 refractory priapism, which Simone was assigned to this
20 case. And for whatever reason the standard treatment that
21 ER doctors was trained to do was not working. So she did
22 not hesitate to consult one of our top urologists, who
23 came in within, I don't know, 10, 15 minutes and gave his
24 treatment which worked and the patient was very happy.
25 And Simone and I were very happy. I happened to be there

that day. I also learned some new techniques from that
urologist, and it was a win-win for all involved.

Q And you know if Dr. Gold were to for any reason
lose her license to practice medicine, do you think that
the community in California would be -- how do you think
it would be affected by that?

A I think they'd be deprived of one of the top ER
physicians that I know. I am not just saying that. I
wouldn't be testifying nor would I have taken the oath
that the judge swore me to if it wasn't one hundred
percent true.

I would say Simone is one of the best ER docs
I've ever met. That's another reason why I was so
thrilled when we happened to have the same shift together
at that hospital, which is extremely challenging with
sometimes exacerbating patients and very complex medical
care. I was always happy to see Simone on duty when I was
coming in for a shift. It would be a severe detriment if
the -- Simone could not practice emergency medicine in
California. I state that for the record wholeheartedly.

Q You mention Centinela could be difficult. Can
you describe the community that it served?

A It's a community that I think is
underprivileged. It's an inner-city hospital couple of
miles from LAX. It's in gang land territory, Inglewood,

9 So in that eight hours where Simone would have
10 her shift, she would typically see somewhere between 16
11 and 18 patients average, which is quite a lot. That's two
12 patients an hour. Often times critically ill patients
13 that she would snatch from death. Fix them up. So it was
14 remarkable.

15 Q That was my other question is, you know, do you
16 believe that doctor Simone Gold was effective in your
17 presence at saving the lives of the patients at Centinela?

18 A She was. And the patients most of the times
19 realized how lucky they were to have her. They didn't
20 know it right away, unless they knew Simone from a prior
21 visit, but patients aren't stupid. They know when they're
22 getting good care and they also know when to stop reading
23 Google and the listen to the doctor. Simone cared for her
24 patients and they felt that and I saw that and that's one
25 of the main reasons why my respect for her is through the