

UNITED STATES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 6  
DALLAS, TEXAS

FILED  
2018 JUN 20 AM 10:30  
REGIONAL HEARING CLERK  
EPA REGION VI

IN THE MATTER OF:

UROLOGY SAN ANTONIO, P.A.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

RESPONDENT

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CONSENT AGREEMENT AND  
FINAL ORDER

USEPA DOCKET NO. RCRA-06-2018-0924

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CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. This Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO") is entered into by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 ("EPA" or "Complainant") and Respondent, Urology San Antonio ("Respondent" or "USA") and concerns the facility located at 7909 Fredericksburg Road, San Antonio, Texas 78229 ("the Fredericksburg Facility").
2. Notice of this action has been given to the State of Texas, under Section 3008(a)(2) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a)(2).
3. For the purpose of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations herein; however, Respondent neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations and conclusions of law contained in this CAFO. This CAFO states a claim upon which relief may be granted.
4. The Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the proposed final order contained in this CAFO, and waives all defenses which have been raised or could have been raised to the claims in the CAFO.

5. The CAFO resolves only those violations which are alleged herein.
6. Respondent consents to the issuance of this CAFO as the most appropriate means of settling EPA's allegations without any adjudication of issues of law or fact, consents to the assessment and payment of the civil penalty in the amount and by the method set out in this CAFO, and consents to the compliance order in this CAFO.

## **II. JURISDICTION**

7. This CAFO is issued by EPA pursuant to Section 3008(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928, as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 and is simultaneously commenced and concluded through the issuance of this CAFO under 40 Code of Federal Regulations ("C.F.R.") §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3).
8. Respondent agrees to undertake and complete all actions required by the terms and conditions of this CAFO. In any action by EPA or the United States to enforce the terms of this CAFO, Respondent agrees not to contest the authority or jurisdiction of EPA to issue or enforce this CAFO, and agrees not to contest the validity of this CAFO or its terms or conditions.

## **III. FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

9. Respondent is a professional association authorized to do business in the State of Texas.
10. Respondent is a "person" within the meaning of Section 1004(15) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(15), and 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 3.2(25), [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].
11. Respondent owns or operates the Fredericksburg Facility.
12. The Fredericksburg Facility is a medical facility specializing in urology services.

13. During the period from 2017 - 2018, EPA conducted a RCRA record review of the Fredericksburg Facility's activities as a generator of hazardous waste including a review of the information voluntarily provided to EPA by Respondent (the "Investigation").
14. During the Investigation, EPA discovered that Respondent, at a minimum, generated and offered for transport and treatment, the following waste materials:
  - a. solvent waste, characteristic of ignitability (D001) and
  - b. solvent waste, listed hazardous waste (F003).
15. The Fredericksburg Facility is a "facility" within the meaning of 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.1(60), [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].
16. The waste streams identified in Paragraph 14 are "hazardous waste" as defined in 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.1 (70), [40 C.F.R. §§ 261.21, 261.22, 261.24, and 261.33].
17. From the Investigation, EPA determined that Respondent generated the hazardous waste streams identified in Paragraph 14 in quantities that exceeded the threshold amount of 100 kilograms per month under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE, Chapter 335, Subchapter C, [40 C.F.R. Part 262], for the periods that such wastes remained onsite.
18. Respondent is a "generator" of "hazardous waste" as those terms are defined in 30 TEX ADMIN.CODE §§ 335.1(66) & (70), [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].
19. As a generator of hazardous waste, Respondent is subject to Sections 3002 and 3010 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6922 and 6930, and the regulations set forth in 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE Chapter 335, Subchapter C, [40 C.F.R Part 262].

**Claim 1: Failure to File Initial or Subsequent 3010 Notification**

20. The allegations in Paragraphs 1-19 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.

21. Pursuant to Section 3010(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930(a), any person generating a characteristic or listed hazardous waste shall file with EPA or the authorized state a notification stating the location and general description of such activity and the identified characteristic or listed hazardous waste handled by such person. No identified characteristic or listed hazardous waste subject to this subchapter may be transported, treated, stored, or disposed of unless notification has been given as required by Section 3010(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930(a).
22. Respondent did not file with EPA or the authorized state, Texas, an adequate and timely notification of its hazardous waste activities at the Fredericksburg facility during the period from 2014 - 2016 in violation of Section 3010(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930(a).

**Claim 2: Failure to Operate Within Declared Generator Status**

23. The allegations in Paragraphs 1-19 are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
24. During the Investigation, EPA determined that the Fredericksburg Facility declared its generator status as a conditionally exempt small quantity generator ("CESQG").
25. Pursuant to 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.78(b), [40 C.F.R. § 261.5(b)], as long as a CESQG complies with the applicable requirement under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE §§ 335.78(e), (f), (g) and (j) and 40 C.F.R. §§ 261.5 (e), (f), (g) and (j), the generator's hazardous waste is not subject to regulation under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE, Chapter 335, Subchapters C-H and O; 40 C.F.R. Parts 262 through 268; 40 C.F.R. Parts 270 and 124; and the requirements of Section 3010 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930.

26. During portions of 2014 - 2016, the Fredericksburg Facility exceeded its declared CESQG status and operated in some instances as a small quantity generator in violation of one or more of the requirements for small quantity generators under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE, Chapter 335, Subchapter C, [40 C.F.R. § 262.34].

#### IV. COMPLIANCE ORDER

27. Pursuant to RCRA § 3008(a), 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), Respondent is hereby ordered to take the following actions, and within 90 calendar days of the effective date of this CAFO, Respondent shall provide in writing the following:

- a. Respondent shall certify that it has assessed all of its solid waste streams at the Fredericksburg Facility to determine the accurate waste codes and has developed and implemented standard operating procedures ("SOPs") to ensure that Respondent is operating the Fredericksburg Facility in compliance with RCRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder, including, but not limited to, procedures for: (a) making hazardous waste determinations; (b) managing hazardous wastes; (c) reporting, transporting, and disposing of hazardous waste; (d) preparing its manifests; and (e) meeting the requirements of the land disposal restrictions.
- b. Respondent shall certify that it has accurately and adequately complied with the RCRA Section 3010 notification requirements for the Fredericksburg Facility.
- c. Respondent shall provide, with its certification, a copy of Respondent's SOPs as described in subparagraph "a" above.
- d. Respondent shall provide the cost of implementing the requirements under paragraph 26.a. above.

- e. Respondent shall provide the average amount (pounds) of hazardous waste that is properly managed per year at the Fredericksburg Facility.

28. In all instances in which this CAFO requires written submission to EPA, the submittal made by Respondent shall be signed by an owner or officer of the Respondent and shall include the following certification:

"I certify under the penalty of law that this document and all its attachments were prepared by me or under my direct supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

Copies of all documents required by this CAFO shall be sent to the following:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division  
Waste Enforcement Branch  
Compliance Enforcement Section (6EN-H3)  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733  
Attn: Enforcement Officer Ashley Pederson

## V. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

### A. Penalty Provisions

29. Pursuant to the authority granted in Section 3008 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928, and upon consideration of the entire record herein, including the above referenced Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, which are hereby adopted and made a part hereof, upon the seriousness of the alleged violations, and Respondent's good faith efforts to comply with the applicable regulations, it is ordered that Respondent be assessed a civil penalty of **fifty-seven thousand, one hundred and thirty-two dollars (\$57,132)**.

30. The penalty shall be paid within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of this CAFO and made payable to Treasurer, United States of America.

31. The following are Respondent's options for transmitting the penalties:

Checks sent via U.S. Postal Mail (including certified mail) or U.S. Postal Service Express Mail should be remitted to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Fines and Penalties  
Cincinnati Finance Center  
P.O. Box 979077  
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

Checks sent via Overnight Mail (non-U.S. Postal Service) should be remitted to:

U.S. Bank  
Government Lockbox 979077  
US EPA Fines and Penalties  
1005 Convention Plaza  
SL-MO-C2-GL  
St. Louis, MO 63101  
314-418-1028

Wire Transfers should be remitted to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
ABA: 021030004  
Account No. 68010727  
SWIFT address = FRNYUS33  
33 Liberty Street  
New York, NY 10045

The case name and docket number (In the Matter of Urology San Antonio, Docket No. RCRA-06-2018-0924) shall be clearly documented on or within the chosen method of payment to ensure proper credit.

32. The Respondent shall send a simultaneous notice of such payment to the following:

Lorena S. Vaughn  
Regional Hearing Clerk (6RC-D)  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Mark Potts, Chief  
Waste Enforcement Branch (6EN-H)  
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733  
Attention: Enforcement Officer Ashley Pederson

Respondent's adherence to this request will ensure proper credit is given when penalties are received by EPA.

33. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, unless otherwise prohibited by law, EPA will assess interest and late payment penalties on outstanding debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest on the civil penalty assessed in this CAFO will begin to accrue on the effective date of the CAFO and will be recovered by EPA on any amount of the civil penalty that is not paid within thirty (30) calendar days of the civil penalty's due date and will be assessed at the rate of the United States Treasury tax and loan rate in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a). Moreover, the costs of the Agency's administrative handling overdue debts will be charged and assessed monthly throughout the period the debt is overdue. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b). EPA will also assess a \$15.00 administrative handling charge for administrative costs on unpaid penalties for the thirty (30) day period after the payment is due and an additional \$15.00 for each subsequent thirty (30) day period the penalty remains unpaid. In addition, a penalty charge of up to six percent per year will be assessed monthly on any portion of the debt



which remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b). Should a penalty charge on the debt be required, it shall accrue from the first day payment is delinquent. 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(d). Other penalties for failure to make a payment may also apply.

**B. Costs**

34. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees. Furthermore, Respondent specifically waives its right to seek reimbursement of its costs and attorney's fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act (5 U.S.C. § 504), as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (P.L. 04-121), and any regulations promulgated pursuant to those Acts.

**C. Termination and Satisfaction**

35. When Respondent believes that it has complied with all the requirements of this CAFO, including compliance with the Compliance Order and payment of the civil penalty, Respondent shall also certify this in writing and in accordance with the certification language set forth in Section IV (Compliance Order), Paragraph 38. Unless the EPA, Region 6 objects in writing within sixty (60) days of EPA's receipt of Respondent's certification, then this CAFO is terminated on the basis of Respondent's certification.

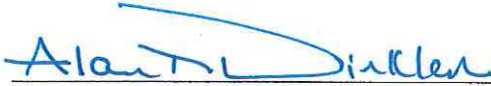
**D. Effective Date of Settlement**

36. This CAFO shall become effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

**THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES CONSENT TO THE ENTRY OF THIS CONSENT  
AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER:**


FOR THE RESPONDENT:

Date: 6/7/2018

  
Alan D. Winkler  
Executive Director  
Urology San Antonio, P.A.

FOR THE COMPLAINANT:

Date: 6/18/2018

  
Cheryl T. Seager  
Director  
Compliance Assurance and  
Enforcement Division

**FINAL ORDER**

Pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, 40 C.F.R. Part 22, the foregoing CAFO is hereby ratified. This Final Order shall not in any case affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. This Final Order shall resolve only those causes of action alleged herein. Nothing in this Final Order shall be construed to waive, extinguish or otherwise affect Respondent's (or its officers, agents, servants, employees, successors, or assigns) obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations, including the regulations that were the subject of this action. Respondent is ordered to comply with the terms of settlement and the civil penalty payment instructions as set forth in the CAFO. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b) this Final Order shall become effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/20/18



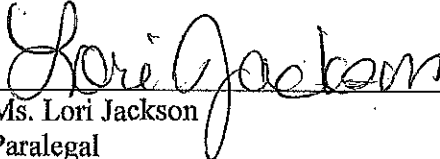
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Thomas Rucki  
Regional Judicial Officer

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018, the original of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order was hand delivered to the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. EPA, Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733, and that a true and correct copy of the CAFO was sent to the following by the method below:

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED** 7015152D0003399D8951

Alan Winkler  
Executive Director  
Urology San Antonio  
7909 Fredericksburg Road, Suite 110  
San Antonio, Texas 78229

  
Ms. Lori Jackson  
Paralegal