2015 PA Super 132

MICHAEL J. YOCABET, IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF **PENNSYLVANIA** Appellee ٧. UPMC PRESBYTERIAN AND UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH **PHYSICIANS** APPEAL OF: UPMC PRESBYTERIAN SHADYSIDE, Appellant CHRISTINA L. MECANNIC, Appellee ٧. UPMC PRESBYTERIAN AND UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH **PHYSICIANS** APPEAL OF: UPMC PRESBYTERIAN SHADYSIDE,

: No. 569 WDA 2014 Appellant

Appeal from the Order Entered March 11, 2014, in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Civil Division at No(s): G.D. NO. 11-19112, G.D. NO. 11-19113

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MICHAEL J. YOCABET, PENNSYLVANIA

Appellee

٧.

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UPMC PRESBYTERIAN AND UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PHYSICIANS

APPEAL OF: UPMC PRESBYTERIAN SHADYSIDE,

Appellant

CHRISTINA L. MECANNIC,

Appellee

٧.

UPMC PRESBYTERIAN AND UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PHYSICIANS

APPEAL OF: UPMC PRESBYTERIAN SHADYSIDE,

Appellant

No. 1230 WDA 2014

Appeal from the Order Entered June 26, 2014, in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Civil Division at No(s): G.D. NO. 11-19112, G.D. NO. 11-19113

BEFORE: BOWES, OLSON, and STRASSBURGER,* JJ.

CONCURRING AND DISSENTING OPINION BY STRASSBURGER, J.:

FILED: June 5, 2015

For the reasons provided by the Majority, I too would affirm the March 11, 2014 order. I therefore join Part II of the Majority Opinion. However,

^{*} Retired Senior Judge assigned to the Superior Court.

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unlike the Majority, I also would affirm the June 26, 2014 order. Thus, I dissent to Part III of the Majority Opinion.

As to the June 26, 2014 order, I agree with the trial court's assessment of UPMC's attorney-client-privilege argument. UPMC did not claim that Ms. Concordia is a lawyer, and nothing in the record would permit a finding that her presentation to the Board was a discussion with legal counsel. For these reasons, I conclude that the trial court properly determined that the attorney-client privilege does not protect the information the plaintiffs sought in requests 23 and 24.

I further note that the trial court refused to address UPMC's claim that the information in-question was protected by the peer review privilege, essentially because UPMC failed to present the court with a developed argument in support of that claim. Because I agree with the court, I believe the peer review privilege is not grounds for relief concerning the June 26th order.

For these reasons, I would affirm the trial court's orders.