STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATIONS

File No. 993-5066

TO: Manmohan (Mo) Singh Biring, M.D. HealthWest, Inc. 9025 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 400 Beverly Hills, California 90211

DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER

(For violations of sections 31110 and 31201 of the Corporations Code)

The California Corporations Commissioner finds that:

- 1. HealthWest, Inc. is a California corporation that was formed on October 15, 2002. Its principal place of business is 9025 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 400, Beverly Hills, California 90211.
- 2. Manmohan (Mo) Singh Biring, M.D. is the founder and chairman of HealthWest, Inc. He is also its majority, if not sole, shareholder.
- 3. On August 13, 2003, HealthWest, Inc. filed an application pursuant to Corporations Code section 31111 for registration of an offer to sell franchises for Inaara Medspa units. Prior to that date, HealthWest, Inc. sold franchises to six non-physician California residents to operate medspas without

having registered the franchise offer as required by Corporations code section 31110. Subsequent to that date, HealthWest, Inc. continued to offer and sell purported "licenses" in California for the operation of medspas to non-physician California residents by means of advertisements stating "Own a Prestigious Business in the Medical Industry Without a Medical Background" and representing that "A medical background is completely unnecessary." In fact, however, the services offered by the medspas, including laser hair removal, Intense Pulse Light treatments, Botox treatments and microdermabrasion, constitute medical services under California law. The owner of a medspa is therefore subject to the Medical Practice Act, Business and Professions Code section 2052, which provides that:

[A]ny person who practices or attempts to practice, or who advertises or holds himself or herself out as practicing...[medicine] without having at the time of so doing a valid, unrevoked, or unsuspended certificate...is guilty of a public offense, punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by imprisonment in the state prison, by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both the fine and either imprisonment.

- 4. Although HealthWest has referred to the business opportunities it has been selling since August 13, 2003 as "licenses" rather than franchises, the license agreements include options for the future purchase of franchises which constitute offers to sell franchises within the meaning of Corporations Code sections 31018(b) and 31110. In addition, in at least one case the purported "license" that was sold was in fact a franchise.
- 5. The offer of franchises by HealthWest, Inc. in California has not been registered under the Franchise Investment Law and is not exempted under Chapter 1, beginning with Corporations Code section 31100, of that law.

Based upon the foregoing findings, the California Corporations Commissioner is of the opinion that Manmohan (Mo) Singh Biring and HealthWest, Inc. have offered and sold franchises in California that were subject to registration under the Franchise Investment Law without the offers first being registered, in violation of Corporations Code section 31110. The California Corporations Commissioner is of the further opinion that Manmohan (Mo) Singh Biring and HealthWest, Inc. have offered and sold franchises in California by means of communications which included untrue statements of material fact and which omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, in violation of Corporations Code section 31201. Pursuant to section 31402 of the Corporations Code, Manmohan (Mo) Singh Biring and HealthWest, Inc. are hereby ordered to desist and refrain from the further offer or sale of medspa franchises unless and until the offers have been duly registered under the Franchise Investment Law.

This Order is necessary, in the public interest, for the protection of investors and consistent with the purposes, policies and provisions of the Franchise Investment Law.

Dated: July 16, 2004

Los Angeles, California

WILLIAM P. WOOD California Corporations Commissioner

ALAN WEINGER
Supervising Counsel
Enforcement and Legal Services Division

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