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INDEX NO. 805081/2023

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 03/09/2023

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

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DIRK BUDD,

Index No.:

Plaintiff,

Date Purchased: Plaintiff designates New York County as the place of venue, based on defendants' address.

DOUGLAS S. STEINBRECH, M.D, and GOTHAM PLASTIC SURGERY, PLLC,

**SUMMONS** 

Defendants.

## To the above-named Defendants:

You are hereby summoned to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorney within 20 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for relief demanded in the complaint.

Dated: Chappaqua, New York March 9, 2023

LAW OFFICE OF TODD J. KROUNER, P.C.

By:

TODD J. KROUNER
Attorneys for Plaintiff
93 North Greeley Avenue
Chappaqua, New York 10514

(914) 238-5800

Defendants' Address:

DOUGLAS STEINBRECH, M.D 630 Park Avenue New York, New York 10065

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GOTHAM PLASTIC SURGERY, PLLC 60 East 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 302 New York, New York 10022

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Plaintiff, DIRK BUDD, by his attorney, LAW OFFICE OF TODD J. KROUNER, P.C., for his Verified Complaint alleges upon information and belief that:

## AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FOR MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

- 1. Plaintiff DIRK BUDD ("Plaintiff") is a resident of the State of New York.
- 2. Defendant DOUGLAS S. STEINBRECH, M.D. ("Defendant DR. STEINBRECH") is a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of New York, and represented himself to the public as a skilled and trained physician duly qualified to render medical services.
- 3. According to his webpage, Defendant DR. STEINBRECH represents himself to be a physician specializing in "Minimally Invasive Aesthetics."
- 4. Defendant DR. STEINBRECH held himself out to the public, and more particularly to the Plaintiff herein, as possessing the proper degree of learning and skill, and he undertook to use reasonable care and diligence in the treatment of Plaintiff.
- 4. At all times relevant to this action, Defendant DR. STEINBRECH maintained an office for the practice of medicine at 60 East 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 302, New York, New York 10022.

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5. At all times relevant to this action, defendant Gotham Plastic Surgery, PLLC ("Defendant GOTHAM"), is a domestic professional service limited liability company, incorporated and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business at 60 East 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 302, New York, New York 10022.

- 6. At all times relevant to this action, Defendant DR. STEINBRECH was an officer of Defendant GOTHAM.
- 7. At all times relevant to this action, Defendant DR. STEINBRECH was a director of Defendant GOTHAM.
- 8. At all times relevant to this action, Defendant DR. STEINBRECH was a shareholder of Defendant GOTHAM.
- 9. At all times hereinafter mentioned, Plaintiff was a patient at, and under the care and treatment of defendants DR. STEINBRECH and GOTHAM, on a continuous basis, from in or around December 20, 2017, through and including December 22, 2020.
- 10. On February 1, 2018, Defendant DR. STEINBRECH performed bilateral liposuction of upper and lower abdominal areas, flanks and lower chest, with fat grafting to the upper chest and bilateral pectoral augmentation with implants on Plaintiff.
- 11. Defendant DR. STEINBRECH departed from the standard of care when he performed bilateral pectoral augmentation on Plaintiff, and mismanaged Plaintiff's post-operative care.
- 12. As a consequence of these departures from the standard of care, Plaintiff was physically deformed and impaired, developed a large infected seroma and significant scar tissue under the right implant, underwent painful implant removal surgery, and requires further surgery

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for fat grafting, scar revision and muscle reattachment in attempt to repair the damages caused by Defendant DR. STEINBRECH.

13. Defendants DR. STEINBRECH, and GOTHAM, their agents, servants and/or employees were negligent, careless and reckless in departing from accepted medical and surgical practices and procedures in the medical and surgical care, treatment and services rendered to Plaintiff; in medically and surgically treating Plaintiff in a manner that was contrary to the standards of accepted medical and surgical practices; in devising an ill-conceived surgical plan and performing bilateral pectoral augmentation on Plaintiff; in using the wrong size pectoral implants during the bilateral pectoral augmentation on Plaintiff; in mismanaging Plaintiff's postoperative care, and making Plaintiff worse instead of making him better; in negligently, carelessly and recklessly failing to provide Plaintiff with medical and surgical care; failing and neglecting to provide adequate and prompt medical and surgical care; in failing to follow good practices in that the medical treatment, therapy services and surgical treatment rendered by the defendants was done in a negligent, careless and reckless manner and was contrary to the standard accepted practices and procedures; negligently, carelessly and recklessly failing and neglecting to observe and heed Plaintiff's condition and render adequate and prompt medical and surgical treatment; negligently, carelessly and recklessly departing from accepted medical and surgical practices and services rendered to, for and on behalf of Plaintiff; failing to use and employ the skilled care and diligence commonly and ordinarily possessed by and required of physicians, surgeons and medical facilities; negligently hiring, training, retaining and supervising of defendants DR. STEINBRECH and GOTHAM; that said Defendants were further negligent, careless and reckless by failing, neglecting and omitting to take, use and employ reasonable and

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proper steps and procedures and practices for the health, safety and welfare of Plaintiff thereby causing and contributing to the condition suffered by Plaintiff; failing to aggressively manage Plaintiff; failing to timely treat Plaintiff thereby causing serious and irreversible injury; failing to prevent the medical conditions which ultimately occurred; negligently, carelessly and recklessly causing the medical conditions which ultimately occurred; negligently and prematurely disregarding Plaintiff's complaints and conditions; failing to fully advise Plaintiff of the postsurgical conditions from which he was suffering and the progressive nature associated thereto; failing to supervise the activities of agents, servants, and/or employees; failing to employ agents, servants and/or employees who possess the requisite knowledge and experience to treat and care for conditions demonstrated by Plaintiff and in otherwise being negligent, careless and reckless in the care, treatment and medical services rendered to Plaintiff. Plaintiff relies upon the theories of vicarious liability and respondeat superior.

- 14. The Defendants, their agents, servants and/or employees, either jointly or severally, failed to follow good, known and accepted custom and practice in the medical profession, and were otherwise negligent and careless in committing acts of malpractice which were the contributing cause of the injuries suffered by Plaintiff.
- 15. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing, Plaintiff sustained severe, serious and permanent personal injuries including without limitation permanent disfigurement, discomfort, emotional pain and embarrassment, and was and still is caused to suffer pain, discomfort, permanent disabilities, and mental and emotional shock, and was and still is permanently damaged thereby.
  - 16. The said occurrence and resulting injuries and disabilities to Plaintiff were caused

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wholly and solely by reason of the carelessness, negligence and malpractice of the Defendants,

their agents, servants and/or employees as set forth above with no fault or lack of care on the part

of Plaintiff herein contributing thereto.

17. The limited liability provisions of the C.P.L.R. § 1601 do not apply pursuant to

one or more of the exceptions of the C.P.L.R. § 1602.

18. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff sustained and is entitled to economic and

non-economic damages which are determined to be valued in amounts in excess of the

jurisdictional limits of all lower Courts.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff DIRK BUDD demands judgment against Defendants

DOUGLAS STEINBRECH, M.D, and GOTHAM PLASTIC SURGERY, PLLC, in such amount

as a jury may find fair and reasonable, together with interest, costs, and disbursements of this

action.

Dated: Chappaqua, New York

March 9, 2023

Yours, etc.

LAW OFFICE OF TODD J. KROUNER, P.C.

Todd J. Krouner

Attorney for Plaintiff

93 North Greeley Avenue

Chappaqua, New York 10514

(914) 238-5800

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ATTORNEY VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK

) ss.:

COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

TODD J. KROUNER, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That he is the principal of the Law Office of Todd J. Krouner, P.C., with an office at 93 North Greeley Avenue, Chappaqua, New York 10514, attorney for plaintiff in the within action; that deponent has read and knows the contents of the foregoing Verified Complaint and the same is true to the knowledge of the deponent, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters, he believes it to be true. Deponent further says that the reason this verification is made by deponent and not by plaintiff is that the said plaintiff is not within the county wherein deponent maintains his offices.

The undersigned affirms that the foregoing statements are true, under the penalties of perjury.

TODD J. KROUNER

worn to before me this day of March, 2023

> JULIA MONTGOMERY NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK

No. 01MO6320147

Qualified in Westchester County

My Commission Expires 03-02-2

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

DIRK BUDD,

Index No.:

Plaintiff,

-against-

**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** 

DOUGLAS S. STEINBRECH, M.D, and GOTHAM PLASTIC SURGERY, PLLC,

Defendants.

The undersigned, an attorney admitted to practice in the courts of New York State, shows:

Affirmant is the attorney of record of plaintiff in the above-captioned action and states:

- 1. I have reviewed the facts of this case.
- 2. I have consulted with at least one physician, duly licensed to practice, whom I reasonably believe is knowledgeable in the relevant issues involved in this particular action.
- 3. I have concluded on the basis of said review consultation that there is a reasonable basis for the commencement of this action.

Dated: Chappaqua, New York March 9, 2023

Todd J. Krouner