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B/O FORM PTO-1595 (Rev. 6/93)

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. Please record the attached original documents or copies thereof.

1. Name of Conveying Party(ies):
 John D. HODGEMAN
 Stephen C. ROY

Additional names of conveying parties attached.

2. Name and Address of Receiving Party(ies):
 Name: **Encore Medical Corporation**

Internal Address:

Street Address: **9800 Metric Blvd.**

Jc688 U.S. PTO
 09/497530
 02/04/00

3. Nature of Conveyance:

Assignment Merger

Security Agreement Change of Name

Other:

Execution Date: **February 2, 2000**

City, State, Zip: **Austin, Texas 78758**

Additional name(s) and address(es) attached.

4. (A) Patent Application Number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: **February 2, 2000**

Additional Numbers Attached

4. (B) Patent Number(s):

5. Name and Address of Party to whom Correspondence Concerning this Document Should be Mailed:

Name:

Address: **Bacon & Thomas, PLLC
 625 Slaters Lane Fourth Floor
 Alexandria, VA 22314**

Total Number of Applications and Patents Involved: **1**

7. Total Fee: (37 CFR 3.41) **\$40.00**

Enclosed

Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit Account Number: **02-0200**

ATTACH DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS PAGE IF PAYING BY DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

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9. Statement and Signature:
To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Klifton L. Kime, Reg. No. 42,733 *Klifton L. Kime* February 4, 2000

Name of Person Signing Signature Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: **3**

02/15/2000 NGORDON 00000031 09497530

02 FC:581

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PATENT
REEL: 010553 FRAME: 0516

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I (we), John D. Hodgeman and Stephen C. Roy
 whose post office address(es) appear(s) below, hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNOR, is(are) the owner of certain new and useful
 improvements in **INTRAMEDULLARY FRACTURE FIXATION DEVICE**

(hereinafter referred to as the INVENTION) for which an application for United States Letters Patent was

- executed on even date herewith
- executed on: _____
- filed on: _____ Serial No.: _____
- established by PCT International Patent Application No.: _____ filed: _____
 designating the United States of America

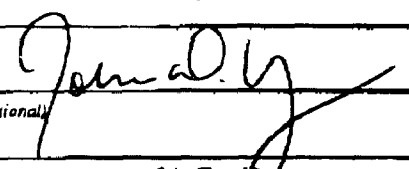
WHEREAS, **Encore Medical Corporation**
 whose post office address is **9800 Metric Blvd., Austin, Texas 78758**
 hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the same in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I (we), ASSIGNOR, by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE, the entire right, title, and interest in and to said INVENTION and application throughout the United States of America, including any and all Letters Patent granted on any division, continuation, continuation-in-part and reissue of said application.

ALSO, ASSIGNOR hereby agrees to execute any documents that legally may be required in connection with the filing, prosecution and maintenance of said application or any other patent application(s) in the United States for said INVENTION, including additional documents that may be required to affirm the rights of ASSIGNEE in and to said INVENTION, all without further consideration. ASSIGNOR also agrees, without further consideration and at ASSIGNEE'S expense, to identify and communicate to ASSIGNEE at ASSIGNEE'S request documents and information concerning the INVENTION that are within ASSIGNOR'S possession or control, and to provide further assurances and testimony on behalf of ASSIGNEE that lawfully may be required of ASSIGNOR in respect of the prosecution, maintenance and defense of any patent application or patent encompassed within the terms of this instrument. ASSIGNOR'S obligations under this instrument shall extend to ASSIGNOR'S heirs, executors, administrators and other legal representatives.

ALSO, ASSIGNOR hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all Letters Patent referred to above to ASSIGNEE, as the ASSIGNEE of the entire right, title and interest in and to the same, for ASSIGNEE'S sole use and behoof; and for the use and behoof of ASSIGNEE'S legal representatives and successors, to the full end of the term for which such Letters Patent may be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by ASSIGNOR had this assignment and sale not been made.

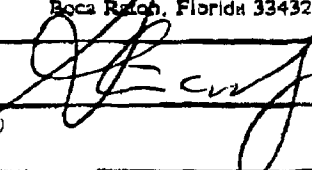
ASSIGNOR authorizes any member of the firm of **Bacon & Thomas** to insert or complete any information in this document needed to effect its recordal in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Assignor Name John D. Hodgeman	Address 858 Hickory Terrace Boca Raton, Florida 33486
Where Signed DEERFIELD BEACH, FL.	Signature 
Date 02/02/00	Witness (optional)
Print/Type Name	Print/Type Name
Signature	Signature

Continued on Next Page

ASSIGNMENT

Page: 2

Assignor Name Stephen C. Roy	Address 800 Lake Drive Boca Raton, Florida 33432
Where Signed Deerfield Beach, FL	Signature 
Date 2-2-00	Witness (optional)
Print/Type Name	Print/Type Name
Signature	Signature

Assignor Name	Address
Where Signed	Signature
Date	Witness (optional)
Print/Type Name	Print/Type Name
Signature	Signature

Assignor Name	Address
Where Signed	Signature
Date	Witness (optional)
Print/Type Name	Print/Type Name
Signature	Signature

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