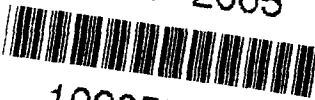


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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

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

1. Name of conveying party(ies): 7-2084 Greg C. Marik Craig M. Squires Courtney S. Williams Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) Name: BDGI Holdings, Inc. Internal Address:

3. Nature of conveyance: [X] Assignment [] Merger [] Security Agreement [] Change of Name [] Other

Street Address: 300 Delaware Avenue, Suite 508 City: Wilmington State: DE Zip: 19801

Execution Date: April 20, 2004

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: 04/20/2004 A. Patent Application No.(s) B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: Julie M. Nickols Internal Address: Haynes and Boone, LLP Street Address: 901 Main Street, Suite 3100 City: Dallas State: TX Zip: 75202-3789

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00 [X] Enclosed [] Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: 08-1394

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Signature. Julie M. Nickols / Reg. No. 50,826 Name of Person Signing

Signature

July 20, 2004 Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 5

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to: Mail Stop Assignment, Commissioner of Patent, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

67/28/2004 METRICH 0000032 1009435A 01 FC:8021 R-80374.1 46.00 DP

Cust. No. 27583

Attorney Docket No. PC974.00 / 31132.208
Customer No. 27683

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We,

- (1) Greg C. Marik of Germantown
State of Tennessee, USA
- (2) Craig M. Squires of Cordova
State of Tennessee, USA
- (3) Courtney S. Williams of Memphis
State of Tennessee, USA

have invented certain improvements in

**ARTIFICIAL SPINAL DISCS AND ASSOCIATED
IMPLANTATION INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS**

for which we have executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America, of even date herewith; and

WHEREAS, SDGI Holdings, Inc. (Assignee), a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, having its principal office and place of business in the City of Wilmington, State of Delaware, is desirous of obtaining the entire right, title, and interest in, to and under the said invention and the said application in the United States of America and in any and all countries foreign thereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, for One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and other good and valuable consideration, we have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto the said Assignee, its successors, legal representatives, and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest in, to and under the said invention, and the said application, and all divisional, renewal, substitutional, and continuing applications thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States of America which may be granted thereon and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all applications for Letters Patent which may be filed for said invention in any country or countries foreign to the United States of America, and all extensions, renewals, and reissues thereof, and all prior patents and patent applications from which a filing priority of the above-described patent application may be obtained, including the right to collect past damages; and we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States of America, and any official of any country or countries foreign to the United States of America, whose duty it is to issue patents on applications as aforesaid, to issue all Letters Patent for said invention to the said Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.


AND WE HEREBY covenant that we have full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that we have not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

AND WE HEREBY further covenant and agree that we will communicate to said Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, any facts known to us respecting said invention, and testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, renewal, substitutional, continuing, and reissue applications, make all rightful declarations and/or oaths and generally do everything possible to aid the said Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said invention in all countries.

Attorney Docket No. PC974.00 / 31132.208
Customer No. 27683

First Inventor Name and Residence Address:
Greg C. Marik, 1993 Brandon Hall, Germantown, TN 38138

Dated: 4/20/04



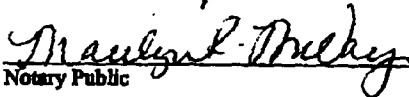
Greg C. Marik (Inventor Signature)

STATE OF Tennessee

COUNTY OF Shelby

On this the 21st day of April, 2004, before me personally appeared Greg C. Marik, to me known (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same as his free act and deed.

WITNESS MY HAND and Seal at office this the 21st day of April, 2004.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 3/5/06

Second Inventor Name and Residence Address:
Craig M. Squires, 335 Walnut Trace Drive, Cordova, TN 38018

Dated: 04-20-04



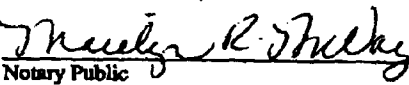
Craig M. Squires (Inventor Signature)

STATE OF TN

COUNTY OF SHELBY

On this the 21st day of April, 2004, before me personally appeared Craig M. Squires, to me known (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same as his free act and deed.

WITNESS MY HAND and Seal at office this the 21st day of April, 2004.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 3/5/06

Attorney Docket No. PC974.00 / 31132.208
Customer No. 27683

Second Inventor Name and Residence Address:
Courtney S. Williams, 1670 Colonial, Memphis, TN 38117

Dated: 4/20/04

Courtney S. Williams
Courtney S. Williams (Inventor Signature)

STATE OF Tennessee
COUNTY OF Shelby

On this the 21st day of April, 2004, before me personally appeared Courtney S. Williams, to me known (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same as his free act and deed.

WITNESS MY HAND and Seal at office this the 21st day of April, 2004.

Travis R. Thibault
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 3/5/06