

2004 Press Releases

Friday, February 13, 2004

Medical Board Panel Suspends License of Joyce M. Liegel, M.D.

A panel of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners temporarily suspended the license of Joyce M. Liegel, M.D., License #J9592, of Houston, after a determination that Dr. Liegel's continuation in the practice of medicine presents a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The temporary suspension hearing took place Thursday under the Board's authority to suspend physicians' licenses when it determines there is a threat to the public welfare. The suspension is effective immediately.

The panel, composed of one physician and two public members, determined that Dr. Liegel violated the Medical Practice Act by borrowing money from a patient and inviting another patient and her husband to live with her, showing she lacked an understanding of proper boundaries between physician and patient. She also informed the panel that she had been severely depressed and had been diagnosed with depression and anxiety.

The length of a temporary suspension order is indefinite but it remains in effect until the board takes further action.

The Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, the state agency that regulates physicians, physician assistants, surgical assistants and acupuncturists, provides consumer protection through licensure, investigation and disciplinary action. The Board, under President Lee S. Anderson, M.D., and Executive Director Donald W. Patrick, M.D., J.D., and mandated by Senate Bill 104 of the 78th Legislature, is strengthening and accelerating the disciplinary process for licensees who fail to meet the required standards of professional proficiency and behavior. Information on filing a complaint is on the agency web site at www.tsbme.state.tx.us or by calling (800) 201-9353.

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