

1997 Press Releases

May 30, 1997

25 Doctors Disciplined

During a Board meeting held May 8-10, 1997, the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners disciplined 25 licensed physicians. Of the disciplinary actions taken, there were eight suspensions with three of those suspensions stayed and probated under various terms and conditions; two revocations which were stayed and probated under various terms and conditions; two voluntary and permanent surrenders of license; eight restrictions with various terms and conditions and four public reprimands. In addition, six administrative penalties were assessed totaling \$23,100.

Governor Appoints Six Members to Board

Governor Bush has appointed six people to become Board members for the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners. Each of these members will serve terms until April 13, 2003.

Lee S. Anderson, M.D.

Dr. Anderson is an ophthalmologist in Fort Worth and president of Retina Consultants, P.A. He is currently the president of the Tarrant County Medical Society and is a former trustee of Saint Joseph's Hospital. Dr. Anderson earned his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. He will replace Dr. Catalina E. Garcia of Dallas, whose term expired.

Peter Chang, M.D.

Dr. Chang is president and chairman of the board of Summit Medical Group, P.A. He has served as the chief of cardiology at Twelve Oaks Hospital and is currently a staff cardiologist at Methodist Hospital, St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital and Memorial Southwest Hospital. Dr. Chang earned his doctorate in biochemistry from Rice University and his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical School in Houston. He will replace Dr. John M. Lewis of Houston, whose term expired.

Edward "Ed" S. Hicks, Sr.

Mr. Hicks is owner of Ed Hicks Imports. He has served on the president's council at Corpus Christi A&M University and Del Mar College. Mr. Hicks is also a member of the board of trustees of the Art Museum of South Texas and the Texas State Aquarium. The Board's newest public member, Mr. Hicks, will replace Cindy Jenkins of Stowell, whose term expired.

Larry Price, D.O.

Dr. Price is an assistant professor at the Texas A&M University Health Science Center College of Medicine and senior staff cardiologist at Scott and White Clinic in Temple. Board certified in four areas of medicine, he earned his medical degree from the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth. He will replace Suzanne Peck Low, D.O., of Portland, whose term expired.

Janet Tornelli-Mitchell, M.D.

Dr. Tornelli-Mitchell is a staff physician who specializes in internal medicine at Cooper Clinic in Dallas. Former medical director for PrimaCare Center in Carrollton, she currently serves as vice-chairman of the department of community medicine at Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas. Dr. Tornelli-Mitchell earned her medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. She will replace Dr. Ratna Solomon of Dallas, whose term expired.

Jenat T. Turner, J.D.

Mrs. Turner of Austin was previously employed as an attorney with the environmental protection division of the Attorney General's Office. She is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and earned her law degree from the University of Houston Law Center. Mrs. Turner is being reappointed to the Board.

Board proposes Rule Amendments

During committee meetings, Board members discussed various proposed rule changes. Of the proposed amendments recommended for publication in the *Texas Register*, an amendment to Chapter 183, Acupuncture, will require acupuncturists to obtain at least two hours per year of continuing education in ethics. Other amendments to the chapter included clarification and expansion upon the continuing acupuncture education rules.

Disciplinary Actions

Anderson, Franklin Lee, M.D., Humble, TX, Lic. #G7978

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 revoking his license; however, the revocation was stayed and the physician was placed on probation for 10 years under various terms and conditions. Action due to intemperate use of alcohol or drugs and unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

Biddix, Jerry Wayne, M.D., Winters, TX, Lic. #E3855

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 requiring the physician to take and pass the Special Purpose Examination (SPEX) within six months. Action due to professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare, and disciplinary action taken by his peers.

Cammack, James Thomas, M.D., Kerrville, TX, Lic. #H5696

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 suspending the physician's license, however, the suspension was stayed and he was placed on probation for 10 years under various terms and conditions. Action due to intemperate use of alcohol or drugs and unprofessional or dishonorable conduct that is likely to deceive or defraud the public.

Cohen, Nathaniel M., M.D., Tucson, AZ, Lic. #J5730

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 wherein the physician shall not practice medicine in Texas until such time as he appears before the Board and provides sufficient evidence and information that indicates that he is physically, mentally, and otherwise competent to practice medicine. Action due to disciplinary action taken by another state.

Douglas, Howard T., M.D., Hurst, TX, Lic. #F1511

A proposal for decision was heard concerning Dr. Howard T. Douglas on 5-10-97. The physician's license was suspended until such time as the physician proves that he is physically, mentally and otherwise competent to practice medicine. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$10,000.00 was also assessed. Action due to unprofessional or dishonorable conduct that is likely to deceive or defraud the public and professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare. Action will not be final until all appeals have been exhausted.

Edwardson, Delbert L., M.D., Aransas Pass, TX, Lic. #E2197

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 restricting his license for 5 years under various terms and conditions. Action due to prescribing or dispensing to an habitual user, prescribing or administering a drug or treatment that is nontherapeutic in nature or nontherapeutic in the manner the drug or treatment is administered or prescribed, and professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare.

Farha, Abdul-Masih F., M.D., Houston, TX, Lic. #G0698

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 restricting his license for 3 years under various terms and conditions and assessing an administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00. Action due to professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare.

Fink, John Mark, M.D., Wharton, TX, Lic. #G1896

A proposal for decision was heard concerning Dr. John Mark Fink on 5-10-97. The physician was publicly reprimanded. Action due to unprofessional or dishonorable conduct that is likely to deceive or defraud the public and professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare. Action will not be final until all appeals have been exhausted.

Fischer, Roy Lee, D.O., Heath, TX, Lic. #C4317

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 wherein the physician voluntarily and permanently surrendered his license.

Gonzalez, Alfonso, M.D., Houston, TX, Lic. #C9360

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 suspending the physician's license until such time as he appears before the Board and provides sufficient evidence and information that indicates he is physically, mentally, and otherwise competent to safely practice medicine. Action due to conviction of a crime of the grade of a felony or a crime of a lesser degree that involves moral turpitude, unprofessional or dishonorable conduct that is likely to deceive or defraud the public, and violation of laws connected with his practice of medicine.

Guinn, Edward William, M.D., Fort Worth, TX, Lic. #C5701

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 assessing an administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00. Action due to violation of Board rules.

Jones, James Hollis, M.D., Denton, TX, Lic. #C2516

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 wherein the physician voluntarily and permanently retired his license in order to avoid the expense of litigation.

Johnson, Nancy Jean, M.D., Shreveport, LA, Lic. #G2403

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 wherein the physician shall not practice medicine in Texas until such time as she appears before the Board and provides sufficient evidence and information that she is physically, mentally and otherwise competent to safely practice medicine. Action due to disciplinary action taken by another state and intemperate use of alcohol or drugs.

Ochoa, Miguel Rubio, M.D., Danville, IL, Lic. #D4001

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 restricting his license until further order of the Board. The physician shall not practice medicine in Texas until such time as he appears before the Board and provides sufficient evidence and information that he is physically, mentally, and otherwise competent to safely practice medicine. Action due to disciplinary action taken in another state.

Rojas Walsson, Romeo, M.D., San Antonio, TX, Lic. #J8360

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 suspending the physician's license; however, the suspension was stayed and the physician was placed on probation for 5 years under various terms and conditions. The physician was also assessed an administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00. Action

due to unprofessional or dishonorable conduct that is likely to deceive or defraud the public.

Runke, Lawrence Carl, M.D., Paris, TX, Lic. #J5463

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 suspending the physician's license until such time as he appears before the Board and provides sufficient evidence and information that he is physically, mentally, and otherwise competent to safely practice medicine. Action due to disciplinary action taken by his peers and professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare.

Rush, Avril Brickley, M.D., Fort Worth, TX, Lic. #G8390

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 suspending the physician's license for a minimum time period of 6 months until such time as she appears before the Board and provides sufficient evidence that she is physically, mentally, and otherwise competent to safely practice medicine. Action due to intemperate use of alcohol or drugs.

Samuels, Michael G., D.O., Dallas, TX, Lic. #G3944

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 suspending the physician's license, however, the suspension was stayed and he was placed on probation for 5 years under various terms and conditions. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$10,000.00 was also assessed. Action due to unprofessional or dishonorable conduct that is likely to deceive or defraud the public, prescribing or administering a drug or treatment that is nontherapeutic in nature or nontherapeutic in the manner the drug or treatment is administered or prescribed, persistently or flagrantly overcharging or overtreating patients, advertising professional superiority not readily subject to verification, and professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare.

Sprott, Maxie Courtlandt II, M.D., Beaumont, TX, Lic. #G2230

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 publicly reprimanding the physician. Action due to violation of Board rules.

Tacker, Willis Arnold, M.D., Redmond, WA, Lic. #D7325

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 publicly reprimanding the physician and assessing an administrative penalty in the amount of \$100.00. Action due to violation of Board rules relating to mandatory completion and reporting of continuing medical education.

Teel, Theodore Trevanian Jr., M.D., Dallas, TX, Lic. #C3230

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 restricting the physician's license for 3 years under various terms and conditions. Action due to professional failure to

practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare.

Tovar, T. Jose Antonio, M.D., Bellaire, TX, Lic. #D7339

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 revoking the physician's license; however, the revocation was stayed and he was placed on probation for 10 years under various terms and conditions. Action due to professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare, and disciplinary action taken by his peers.

Walker, Louis Edmond Jr., M.D., Houston, TX, Lic. #E1168

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 indefinitely restricting the physician's license from prescribing any drug and/or treatment for any of his family members, including self-prescribing, and for any member of his office staff. The Board further orders his license restricted for 5 years under various terms and conditions. Action due to prescribing or administering a drug or treatment that is nontherapeutic in nature or nontherapeutic in the manner the drug or treatment is administered or prescribed, and professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare.

Wilcox, James Allen, D.O., El Paso, TX, Lic. #H7253

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 publicly reprimanding the physician. Action due to unprofessional or dishonorable conduct that is likely to deceive or defraud the public.

Wimpee, Marc Warner, M.D., San Angelo, TX, Lic. #G5787

An Agreed Order was entered 5-10-97 suspending the physician's license until such time as he appears before the Board and provides sufficient evidence and information that he is physically, mentally, and otherwise competent to safely practice medicine. Action due to intemperate use of alcohol or drugs and professional failure to practice medicine in a manner consistent with public health and welfare.

For more information, please contact the Public Information Director at (512) 305-7018 or write to:

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