

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
PUBLIC INFORMATION/PROFILE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 1, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m. by the chair, Ms. Paulette Southard. Committee members present were Ms. Julie Attebury, Ms. Patricia Blackwell, David Garza, D.O., and Mr. Eddie Miles Jr. Also present were staff members Jill Wiggins and Michele Shackelford, J.D., as well as various other board members and staff.

Agenda item #2, Report of media activity since last board meeting. Ms. Wiggins updated the committee on media activities since the last board meeting.

Agenda item #3, Presentation by Ms. Angie Meza regarding Sorry Works, a program that encourages physicians to apologize when medical errors occur: Ms. Wiggins introduced Ms. Meza, who told the board about the circumstances surrounding her daughter's death and her desire for physicians to apologize and accept responsibility when medical errors occur. Speaking by phone for the Sorry Works Coalition was Doug Wojcieszak, who presented information about the program, which recommends the following: a root cause analysis of an adverse medical event to determine if the standard of care has been violated, and if it has, then apologize, disclose and compensate.³ He cited statistics that show a reduction in litigation for entities that have implemented the system and directed the board to www.sorryworks.net for additional information.

Agenda item #4, Appearance by Heinz Aeschbach, M.D., regarding complaints about the investigation process, lack of a system to expunge records and the need for patient safeguards when voluntary treatment rights of patients are not in effect. Dr. Aeschbach presented his concerns about the board's investigative and disciplinary processes and his concern regarding non-physicians referring patients to enter treatment.

Agenda item #5, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.