

## **Texas Medical Board**

### **Press Release**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Tuesday, May 8, 2007**

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### **Medical Board Suspends License of Horace B. Halbert Jr., M.D., of Pasadena**

A panel of the Texas Medical Board temporarily suspended the license of Horace B. Halbert Jr., M.D., license #C6965, of Pasadena, after determining that Dr. Halbert's continuation in the practice of medicine presents a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The action was based on Dr. Halbert's prescribing controlled substances to a family member on an on-going basis without thorough physical examination and without maintaining adequate medical records; self-prescribing of controlled substances; prescribing to a known drug abuser; nontherapeutic prescribing; and failure to comply with an interim agreement in which Dr. Halbert agreed to participate in drug-testing and abstain from consumption of alcohol and prescription drugs unless prescribed by a physician. The panel found Dr. Halbert a danger to the health of his patients or to the public through his lack of competence, impaired status or failure to care adequately for his patients.

The temporary suspension hearing took place Monday, and the suspension was effective immediately. The length of a temporary suspension order is indefinite but it remains in effect until the board takes further action.

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The Texas Medical Board, 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 Roberta M. Kalafut, D.O., and Executive Director Donald

W. Patrick, M.D., J.D., and mandated by Senate Bill 104 of the 78th Legislature and S.B. 419 of the 79th 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.tmb.state.tx.us](http://www.tmb.state.tx.us) or by calling (800) 201-9353.