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**Press Release** 

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, May 3, 2007

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## Medical Board Suspends License of Stephen C. White, M.D., of Longview

A panel of the Texas Medical Board suspended the license of Stephen C. White, M.D., license number L3183, after determining that Dr. White's continuation in the practice of medicine presents a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The temporary suspension hearing took place Thursday, April 26, under the Board's authority, granted by S.B. 104 of the 78th Legislature, to suspend or restrict a physician's license without notice when it determines the physician's continuation in practice would constitute a continuing threat to the public welfare. The suspension was effective immediately.

The action was based on the following: Dr. White's inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety due to substance abuse (cocaine); disciplinary action by his peers (suspension of his privileges at East Texas Medical Center); intemperate use of drugs; and unprofessional conduct.

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

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 or by calling (800) 201-9353.