

2005 Press Releases

Thursday, March 10, 2005

Medical Board Temporarily Suspends Licenses of Two Physicians

A panel of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners suspended the licenses of Annette M. Howard, M.D., license number J5161, of Houston, and David Burrell Collins, D.O., license number F6538, of Granbury, after determining that their continuation in the practice of medicine presents a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The temporary suspension hearings took place yesterday (Wednesday) under the Board's authority to suspend or restrict a physician's license when it determines the physician's continuation in practice would constitute a continuing threat to the public welfare. The suspensions are effective immediately.

Dr. Howard's temporary suspension was based on her failure to comply with a February 6, 2004, Agreed Board Order in which she was publicly reprimanded and ordered to complete various requirements. Among the requirements were payment of a \$5,000 administrative penalty within 90 days; the penalty was paid more than two months late. She had not timely submitted a plan for completion of her Board-ordered community service; she was required to obtain 10 hours of continuing medical education in ethics and has not submitted proof of having done so. She has failed to cooperate with board staff and she failed to appear at a Show Compliance Hearing.

Dr. Collins' license was placed under temporary suspension without notice on February 18, and yesterday's hearing was held with notice. Dr. Collins was suspended because, following an investigation of his alcohol abuse, he failed to respond to an offer of an Agreed Order to voluntarily surrender his license or to otherwise respond to Board communications.

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

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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.

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