

2001 Press Releases

September 17, 2001

41 Doctors Disciplined

During its September 6-7 Board meeting, the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners disciplined 39 licensed physicians. The actions are as follows: eight surrender/revocations, of which two were stayed and probated under various terms and conditions; nine suspensions, of which four were stayed and probated under various terms and conditions; 12 restrictions; five public reprimands; and nine administrative penalties totaling \$14,500 were assessed. In addition, two physicians' licenses were temporarily suspended on September 14. At its meeting on September 5, the Texas State Board of Physician Assistant Examiners disciplined four physician assistants.

Board Names Executive Director

After a national search, the Board has named Donald W. Patrick, M.D., J.D., as Executive Director. Dr. Patrick, 63, graduated from Baylor College of Medicine in 1962 and trained in neurosurgery at Baylor and at the University of Washington. He has been the Chief of Staff at both Brackenridge Hospital and The Rehabilitation Hospital of Austin (now Health South). He served as an on-call neurosurgeon at the Brackenridge Hospital Emergency Department for 23 years. Dr. Patrick was elected President of the Texas Association of Neurological Surgeons in 1988-89. He graduated from the University of Texas law school in 1996 and received his law license in 1997, practicing with the firm of Chin and Patrick. Prior to accepting his position at the Board, Dr. Patrick was Chief of Surgery at Round Rock Medical Center.

Dr. Patrick began working at the Board on Monday, September 17.

Rule Changes

The Board adopted the following rule changes that were published in the *Texas Register*: Chapter 161, General Provisions, relating to return to active status following retired status and updates to Occupations Code cites. Chapter 163, Licensure, relating to relicensure requirements and updates to Occupations Code cites. Chapter 166, Physician Registration, relating to return to active status following retired status and updates to Occupations Code cites. Chapter 167, Reinstatement, relating to reinstatement and reissuance of licenses and updates to Occupations Code cites.

Proposed Rules

The Board proposed the following rule changes for publication in the *Texas Register* and comment:

Chapter 163, Licensure: proposed amendments to §§163.1-163.5, 163.9, and new §163.13, regarding examinations, definitions, documentation, updates to Occupations Code cites, use of Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS), and expedited licensure process.

Chapter 166, Physician Registration: proposed changes regarding general cleanup, CME temporary licenses, SB 1300 (30-day grace period to practice with an expired permit) and voluntary charity care provided to indigent populations.

Chapter 171, Postgraduate Training Permits (new title): proposed changes relating to requirements of program directors, documentation requirements, and updates to Occupations Code cites.

Chapter 173, Physician Profiles: proposed changes to § 173.1 deleting several items from the Profile requirements.

Chapter 175, Fees, Penalties and Applications: proposed changes to § 175.1 regarding fees charged to Physicians, Physicians in Training, and Non-profit Health Organizations and language changes in §§ 175.2-175.4

Chapter 183, Acupuncture: proposed changes pursuant to SB 643 concerning the definition of acupuncture and acupuncturist and authority of an acupuncturist to treat alcoholism and chronic pain without referral.

Chapter 185, Physician Assistants: proposed changes to Chapter 185 regarding employment guidelines pursuant to SB 1166 and proposed changes concerning temporary licenses, automatic suspension and temporary suspensions pursuant to HB 3421.

Chapter 187, Procedure Rules (new title): proposed repeal and rewrite of the chapter relating to procedures for formal and informal board proceedings.

Chapter 193, Standing Delegation Orders: proposed revision to § 193.6 pursuant to SB 1166, relating to delegation of prescriptive authority at alternate practice sites and procedures for waiver from site and supervision requirements.

For copies of proposed rules, write the Board at MC 901, P.O. Box 2018, Austin, TX 78768-2018, or e-mail jill.wiggins@tmb.state.tx.us