

## 2002 Press Releases

**July 8, 2002**

### **Medical Board Suspends Licenses of Two Physicians**

The Texas State Board of Medical Examiners has temporarily suspended the licenses of Ernest Carson Alsop, M.D., of Rockport, and Frank Guajardo, D.O. of Lamesa, formerly of Uvalde.

The actions were taken today (July 8, 2002) under the Board's authority to temporarily suspend a physician's license when it determines the physician's continuation in practice is a threat to the public welfare. The Board actions against both Dr. Alsop and Dr. Guajardo were due to the current impaired status of the physician. The length of a temporary suspension order is indefinite and the order remains in effect until the board takes further action.

Members of the Disciplinary Panel are appointed by the Board President from the full Board composed of 12 practicing physicians and 6 public members appointed by the Governor. Members of the July 8th Disciplinary Panel were Thomas D. Kirksey, M.D., of Austin, Panel Chair; Jose M. Benavides, M.D. of San Antonio; and Nancy M. Seliger, public member from Amarillo.

The Texas State Board of Medical Examiners is the state agency that regulates physicians, providing 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., is strengthening and accelerating the disciplinary process for physicians who fail to meet the required standards of professional competency and behavior. The agency is seeking new legislation to expand current statutory authority to better fulfill its mission to ensure that medical care is delivered by competent physicians.

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