

Texas Medical Board

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Medical Board Continues License Suspension of Merrimon W. Baker, M.D., of Cleveland, TX

A panel of the Texas Medical Board on Tuesday continued the suspension of the license of Merrimon W. Baker, M.D., license number G4807, after determining that Dr. Baker's continuation in the practice of medicine would present a continuing threat to the public welfare.

A temporary suspension hearing had been held without notice on Tuesday, November 7, 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. That panel suspended Dr. Baker's license. On Tuesday, November 28, the Board held a hearing with notice to Dr. Baker, who attended the hearing, along with his attorney.

The action was based on the fact that Dr. Baker performed spine surgery, Kyphoplasty, on October 10, in violation of an agreed order approved by the board on October 6 restricting him from performing any spine surgery. Dr. Baker's attorney attended the October 6 board meeting, and Dr. Baker had notice of entry of the order.

The length of a temporary suspension is indefinite and 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.