

**Texas Medical Board
Press Release
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Medical Board Temporarily Restricts License of Jack R. Pruett, M.D., of Sour Lake

A panel of the Texas Medical Board has temporarily restricted the license of Jack R. Pruett, M.D., license #D8389, of Sour Lake, after determining that his continuation in the unrestricted practice of medicine presents a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The action, which took place Monday, September 18, was the third temporary restriction taken by the board since the passage of SB 104 by the 78th Legislature in 2003. Prior to passage of the legislation, the board's only option when it determined a physician's practice presented an imminent threat to the safety of patients or the public was temporary suspension of the license.

The action against Dr. Pruett was based on allegations that he was engaged in a widespread continuing pattern of nontherapeutic prescribing of codeine cough syrup, and that there was a lack of adequate medical records and physical examinations for patients who routinely received codeine cough syrup. According to the order, Dr. Pruett shall not prescribe any Schedule V substances while it remains in effect.

The restriction was effective immediately. The length of a temporary restriction order is indefinite but it remains in effect until the board takes further action.

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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.