

## 2004 Press Releases

**Monday, December 6 , 2004**

### **Medical Board Suspends License of James Everett Elder Jr., M.D., of Plano**

A panel of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners suspended the license of James Everett Elder Jr., M.D., license number K5289, after determining that Dr. Elder's continuation in the practice of medicine presents a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The temporary suspension hearing took place Friday 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. The suspension is effective immediately.

The action was based on the following: Dr. Elder diverted an associate's triplicate prescription pad to prescribe medications to himself and family members; he wrote false and fictitious prescriptions; and his hospital staff privileges were summarily suspended. Based on these findings, the panel found that Dr. Elder is a real danger to the health of his patients or to the public through his lack of competence, impaired status, or failure to adequately care for his patients.

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

*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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