

Texas Medical Board

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, March 19, 2008

Media contact Public Information Officer Jill Wiggins at jill.wiggins@tmb.state.tx.us or (512) 305-7018 Non-media contact: (512) 305-7030 or (800) 248-4062

Medical Board Suspends License of Dennis Donald Roberts, M.D., of Houston

A panel of the Texas Medical Board suspended the license of Dennis Donald Roberts, M.D., license number M6362, after determining that Dr. Roberts' continuation in the practice of medicine would present a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The temporary suspension hearing took place yesterday (Tuesday) 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 Dr. Roberts' abuse of anesthesia drugs. After Dr. Roberts withdrew from a residency program in May, 2007, the Texas Medical Board received a report that he had admitted a history of drug abuse. Dr. Robert's use of an anesthesia drug while he was on duty as an emergency room physician on January 17, 2008, resulted in drug intoxication.

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

-30-

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/consumers/complain/complain.php or by calling (800) 201-9353. See the home page at www.tmb.state.tx.us