

## **Texas Medical Board Press Release**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **TMB suspends Marble Falls psychiatrist**

On April 3, 2014, a disciplinary panel of the Texas Medical Board temporarily suspended, with notice, the Texas medical license of Marble Falls physician Barlow Smith, M.D., after determining his continuation in the practice of medicine poses a continuing threat to public welfare. The suspension was effective immediately.

On November 6, 2013, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Texas Medical Board staff raided Dr. Smith's office. During the raid, the DEA and Board staff found 13 pre-signed official prescription blanks in his office. Dr. Smith's staff acknowledged that he kept pre-signed official prescription blanks in his office.

As a result of the information obtained during the raid, Dr. Smith was indicted on January 7, 2014, on three felony counts: two related to fraudulent delivery of controlled substances for DEA Schedules III/IV/V drugs and one related to fraudulent delivery of controlled substances for DEA Schedule II drugs.

During the course of the investigation, Board staff obtained charts for 12 patients which were reviewed by an expert who found numerous, serious standard of care violations, including: the prescription of controlled substances and dangerous drugs without adequate medical workups and without justification; prescription of various medications without first obtaining medical history or performing a physical examination; prescription of several drugs that would cause a negative interaction with medications the patient was already taking; and failure to order labs and review lab work even when it was clearly indicated.

The temporary suspension remains in place until the Board takes further action.

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*To view disciplinary orders, visit the TMB website, click on "Look Up A License," accept the usage terms, then type in a doctor's name. Click on the name shown in the search results to view the doctor's full profile. Within that profile is a button that says "View Orders."*

*All releases and bulletins are also available on the TMB website under the "Newsroom" heading.*