

2002 Press Releases

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Medical Board Suspends Licenses of Two Physicians

The Texas State Board of Medical Examiners has temporarily suspended the licenses of Jorge A. Martinez, M.D., of Edinburg, (license #H1801) and Andrew Blinkov, M.D., (license #K1368) of Houston.

The actions were taken yesterday (July 16) under the Board's authority to temporarily suspend a physician's license when it determines the physician's continuation in practice is a threat to the public welfare. The action against Dr. Martinez was taken due to his inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients because of violation of an order requiring abstinence from alcohol.

The panel determined that Dr. Blinkov represented a continuing threat to the public health and welfare due to his failure to comply with terms and conditions of a previous order and failure of a drug screen.

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

Members of the Disciplinary Panel are appointed by the Board President from the full Board composed of 12 practicing physicians and six public members appointed by the Governor. Members of the July 16 Disciplinary Panel were José M. Benavides, M.D., of San Antonio, Panel Chair; Roberta Kalafut, D.O., of Abilene; and Paulette Southard, a public member from Alice.

The Texas State Board of Medical Examiners is the state agency that regulates physicians, providing 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., is strengthening and accelerating the disciplinary process for physicians who fail to meet the required standards of professional competency and behavior. The agency is seeking new legislation to expand current statutory authority to better fulfill its mission to ensure that medical care is delivered by competent physicians.

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