

Texas Medical Board

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Medical Board Suspends License of Carlos D. Cunado, M.D., of Jasper

A panel of the Texas Medical Board temporarily suspended the license of Carlos D. Cunado, M.D., license #K6556, of Jasper, after determining that Dr. Cunado's continuation in the practice of medicine presents a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The action was based on evidence connected with Dr. Cunado's operation of a private pain management clinic. A review of randomly selected medical charts revealed that all of the patients reviewed were chronic pain patients who were receiving virtually the same narcotics, muscle relaxants and benzodiazepines. All received a "pain cocktail" and all were prescribed the same combination no matter what their complaint, clinical examination or findings on imaging studies. Dr. Cunado was working on a cash basis with these patients.

Currently, Dr. Cunado is required to comply with the terms and conditions of an Agreed Order entered into on October 10, 2003, and a Modification to Agreed Order entered into on December 9, 2005. The terms require that Dr. Cunado's charts be monitored and that Dr. Cunado keep the board informed of all practice addresses. Dr. Cunado failed to notify the board of changes of his work address and has not provided charts from the private pain management clinic in Beaumont to the board for review.

Based on these findings, the panel determined that Dr. Cunado is a real danger to his patients and to the public because of lack of competence, impaired status or failure to care adequately for his patients.

The temporary suspension hearing took place Monday, and the suspension was effective immediately. The length of a temporary suspension 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.