

2004 Press Releases

Friday, May 14, 2004

Medical Board Suspends License of Donald D. Hughes, M.D.

A panel of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners took action to temporarily suspend the license of Donald D. Hughes, M.D., License #E8575, without notice after determining that Dr. Hughes' continuation in the practice of medicine presents a continuing threat to the public welfare.

Dr. Hughes, 53, is a child psychiatrist in Arlington. The allegations included sexual misconduct with adolescent patients.

The panel's determination was made after review of written statements from victims and their family members, police reports, hospital reports, and documentation and reports made to various Texas regulatory agencies.

The temporary suspension hearing took place Thursday 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. A temporary suspension hearing with at least 10 days' notice to Dr. Hughes will be held as soon as can be scheduled.

The length of a temporary suspension order is indefinite but it 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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