

## **Texas Medical Board Press Release**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **TMB suspends Austin psychiatrist**

On February 6, 2014, a disciplinary panel of the Texas Medical Board temporarily suspended, without notice, the Texas medical license of Austin physician Richard Edward Sofinowski, M.D., after determining his continuation in the practice of medicine poses a continuing threat to public welfare. The suspension was effective immediately.

The Board found Dr. Sofinowski was arrested at his residence by agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration and Williamson County Sheriff's Office, after authorities searched his home and discovered 11.5 grams of methamphetamine and several hundred tablets of controlled substances. Dr. Sofinowski was charged with possession of a controlled substance by the Williamson County Sheriff's Office, booked at the Williamson County Jail, and released the next day after posting bail, which was set at \$20,000.

On Jan. 21, 2014, Dr. Sofinowski was indicted by a Federal grand jury on one count of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and other controlled substances outside the scope of professional practice; and two counts of distribution of methamphetamine and other controlled substances outside the scope of professional practice.

A temporary suspension hearing with notice will be held as soon as practicable with 10 days' notice to Dr. Sofinowski, unless the hearing is specifically waived by Dr. Sofinowski.

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.*