

**Texas Medical Board
Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Medical Board Temporarily Restricts License of Joseph J. Patrick, M.D., of Houston

On June 2, 2010, a disciplinary panel of the Texas Medical Board temporarily restricted the license of Joseph J. Patrick, M.D., Lic. No. G7864, of Houston, after determining that Dr. Patrick poses a continuing threat to the public welfare and a real danger to patients. The restriction was effective immediately.

The restriction limits Dr. Patrick's practice to hospital emergency room settings and prohibits him from prescribing any Schedule II drugs, and all other prescribing is limited to one-time prescriptions for 72 hours with no refills.

The temporary restriction was based on the determination that Dr. Patrick engaged in a pattern of nontherapeutic prescribing, including 21,000 prescriptions over a 19-month period, including more than 200 prescriptions while he was out of the country. Another 400 prescriptions were issued through an ambulance service for which he served as medical director, and he failed to properly supervise delegates. Dr. Patrick took responsibility for not being diligent in his role as medical director of several clinics.

An Informal Show Compliance Proceeding will be held shortly. At this hearing, Board representatives will consider whether to lift the restrictions or take other action on Dr. Patrick's license. The restriction is in force until superseded by a subsequent order of the Board.