

News Release — December 27, 2010



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

December 27, 2010

Medical Board of California obtains restrictions on Encino physician's medical license

SACRAMENTO — On December 21, 2010, the Medical Board of California filed an Ex Parte Petition for an Interim Suspension Order against the license of Ehab Aly Mohamed, M.D., due to the imminent danger he posed to the public. The Medical Board's Petition was based on Dr. Mohamed's grossly negligent care, incompetence, and the lack of medical judgment he displayed in his care and treatment of two patients, resulting in one death. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

The matter was heard on Thursday, December 23, 2010, before an administrative law judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings. There was significant oral argument, and Dr. Mohamed's attorney submitted a voluminous amount of exhibits in opposition to the Petition.

Later that day, an Order was issued by the Court. The judge noted that cause existed in establishing the suspension of Dr. Mohamed's medical license and the suspension order was issued. However, the order of suspension was stayed subject to terms and conditions. Dr. Mohamed was ordered to not perform any cosmetic surgical procedure involving a piercing of the skin, including VASER liposuction, perform any procedure involving the use of lidocaine and shall not otherwise use lidocaine, and to not prescribe or administer any narcotic analgesic, except for existing postoperative patients.

A full hearing will be heard in this matter on January 10, 2011.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading "Enforcement Public Documents."

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

December 15, 2010

Medical Board of California obtains Order to prohibit Tracy physician from practicing medicine

SACRAMENTO — On December 9, 2010, in the case entitled, The People of the State of California vs. Peter Chi, San Joaquin County Superior Court, Peter Lieh-Chuan Chi, M. D. pleaded guilty to 36 counts of violating Penal Code (PC) section 243.4(c) (Sexual Battery). Pursuant to the Medical Board of California's request, the court issued a PC 23, prohibiting Chi from practicing medicine. Chi's sentencing is scheduled for April 4, 2011.

The Medical Board filed an Amended Accusation on March 13, 2009, after the Tracy Police Department received eight complaints of sexual misconduct by Dr. Chi. Following an investigation, Chi was arrested; however, he posted bail and was released. In the Amended Accusation, the Medical Board alleged Chi was guilty of violating Business and Professions (B&P) Code sections 726 (Sexual Misconduct), 2234 (Dishonesty), 2234(b) (Gross Negligence), 2234(c) (Repeated Acts of Negligence), and 2262 (Modification of Records), in his care and treatment of eight female patients.

The Medical Board had already filed an Accusation against Chi on July 14, 2008, alleging he violated B&P Code sections 2234(b) (Gross Negligence) and 2234(c) (Repeated Negligent Acts), when he failed to follow-up on a pathology report he says he did not receive. Subsequently, when he failed to follow up on his patient's biopsy results, relying on the pathologist or primary care physician to notify him, his failure to review the results or share those results with his patient resulted in a delay of treatment for squamous cell carcinoma. It was not until 2005, when being examined by another doctor who found a carcinoma in the base of the patient's tongue, that the patient learned of the results of the 2003 pathology report that Dr. Chi had not reviewed.

"The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

November 15, 2010

Medical Board of California Accusation leads to surrender of San Diego County physician's license

SACRAMENTO — After being served with an Accusation for failing to comply with the terms of probation, San Diego County physician Yousef Kurdy stipulated to surrender his medical license. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and the receipt of this surrender reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

Kurdy was previously disciplined by the Medical Board in 2001 and 2003. In 2001, Kurdy was disciplined for poor record keeping, in that his records were of such poor quality, it was virtually impossible for another physician to read them and understand the rationale for diagnosis, treatment, or prognosis, which potentially posed a risk of harm to his patients. Kurdy was ordered to complete courses in record keeping and prescribing, and ordered to employ a practice monitor eight hours per week. Kurdy successfully completed both courses and employed a practice monitor. In 2003, Kurdy was again disciplined and charged with unprofessional conduct, gross negligence, and repeated negligent acts in his care of several patients. Kurdy's license was revoked; however, the revocation was stayed and his license was placed on probation for five years with certain terms and conditions. The terms and conditions of Kurdy's probation included submitting to a comprehensive assessment, taking and passing either an oral clinical exam or written exam, and (in addition to the required education for re-licensure) taking a minimum of 40 hours of education each year in courses approved by the Board.

In August 2007, while Kurdy was still on probation, the Department of Health Care Services made an announced Medi-Cal provider inspection of Kurdy's two medical offices where they found numerous violations, including improperly stored medications, numerous expired medications, expired blood drawing tubes, unsanitary areas, no sample medication log, and improperly stored sharps containers containing hazardous waste. After the Department of Health Services filed a complaint with the Medical Board, the Board made two separate visits to Kurdy's medical offices. While improvements had been made, there were still several concerns.

On October 17, 2008, the Board filed an Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation. The Board alleged there was cause to revoke probation in that Kurdy failed to comply with a condition of his probation, "Failure to Obey all Laws & Rules Related to the Practice of Medicine." The Medical Board alleged Kurdy violated B&P Code §2234 (General Unprofessional Conduct) in respect to the management of his medical office, including his numerous safety and sanitary deficiencies; and B&P Code §2266 (Failure to Maintain Adequate and Accurate Medical Records) in that he did not have an appropriate system for maintaining patient records, and his medical records were inadequate and incomplete. The Board stated the violations were aggravated by the fact that Kurdy had been required to attend a medical record program in the past; yet, his failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records occurred after he attended the program.

After further investigation and new findings by the Board, a First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation was filed on August 21, 2009, additionally alleging Kurdy violated B&P Code §§2234(b) (Gross Negligence), 2234(c) (Repeated Negligent Acts, and 2234(d) (Incompetence) in his care and treatment of three patients. Kurdy diagnosed one patient with acute bronchitis 14 times, yet Kurdy again did not document his examination and findings, order an X-ray, order appropriate labs or other diagnostic tests, or refer the patient to a respiratory specialist. Another patient was diagnosed with acute gastroenteritis 41 times, of which 20 were in one year. Kurdy again did not document his examination of the patient, order appropriate labs, diagnostic tests, or X-rays. He did not document a treatment plan, nor refer the patient to a specialist. Kurdy diagnosed another patient with acute gastroenteritis on 9 occasions and did not document his examination and findings for which he made the diagnoses. Once again, he did not order appropriate labs, X-rays, diagnostic tests, refer the patient to a specialist, nor document a treatment plan.

While awaiting a hearing in this matter, Kurdy stipulated to the surrender of his medical license, and the Stipulated Surrender was approved by the Medical Board of California, effective November 15, 2010.

The formerly licensed physician maintained two medical offices in San Diego County: "The Broadway Medical Center," at 1160 Broadway, El Cajon, California, and another medical office at 4990 University Avenue, San Diego, California.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading Enforcement Public Documents.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

November 5, 2010

Medical Board of California obtains Interim Suspension Order temporarily suspending the medical license of Rancho Cordova physician

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of Wu-Hsiung Su, M.D. has been temporarily suspended by an administrative law judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings at the request of the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

On July 1, 2010, the Medical Board filed an Accusation against Su after receiving a report from the daughter of one of Su's patients that she had won a civil settlement against him for negligence, which resulted in her mother's death. The Board also received a report from Su's professional liability insurance carrier reporting a settlement made on his behalf. As a physician at We-Care Medical Center in Rancho Cordova, Su was the primary physician for this patient from April 2001 to November 2004. The patient underwent a mammogram in July 2003 and, because of a suspicious area on the film, Su was told his patient should follow-up with another mammogram in six months. Su did not note this information in the patient's chart, nor did he advise his patient of this finding. In May 2004, during an office visit, the patient reported a lump in her left breast. Su performed an in-office ultrasound, of which he was neither trained nor competent to perform nor was he trained or competent to read the images. Su noted in the patient's chart no abnormality except "fibrocystic changes." No treatment or follow-up plan was discussed with the patient or charted in her medical record. Su continued to see the patient five more times, but no mention of the lump in her breast or discussion of a repeat mammogram was documented in the patient's medical record. The Accusation alleges gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, inadequate record keeping, and incompetence, in violation of Business and Professions (B&P) Code §§2234(b), 2234(c), 2266, and 2234(d).

In October 2005, the patient changed to a new primary care physician. A repeat mammogram was ordered by her new physician, and a mass was identified in her left breast. Further medical testing demonstrated the cancer had metastasized, and the patient died from cancer in September 2007.

In May 2010, the Medical Board received two additional complaints about Su's care and treatment of two patients. After investigation, the Medical Board filed a Petition for an Ex Parte Interim Suspension Order on November 2, 2010. The Petition requested issuance of an Interim Suspension Order, based on Su's failure to properly examine, diagnose, and treat three patients.

The two additional patients resided in a care home for the developmentally disabled. The first patient was seen by Su on June 1, 2009, after an unobserved fall at the care home on May 27, 2010. The patient's medical record noted he was being seen for right arm bruising and a swollen left hand. Su's treatment plan, according to the patient notes, was to have a CT scan done of the patient's head. In the chart notes, there was no notation of an examination of the arm or of any bruising on the patient's body.

The following day, the patient was transported to the emergency room when it was discovered he could not move his fingers or lift his right arm. The patient underwent surgery to repair a completely displaced fractured humerus with a severed bicep tendon. As a result of the Board's investigation, expert review, and opinion, the Board accused Su of violating Business and Professions (B&P) Code §2234(b) (Gross Negligence) in that he failed to conduct a proper history and physical for the patient, failed to address and treat the presenting medical issue, failed to order or conduct the necessary medical tests and examinations, and failed to adequately record treatment in the patient's chart.

The second patient suffered an observed fall at the care home on May 31, 2009. He was seen by Su on June 1, 2009, in Su's office. The medical assistant noted that the patient complained of soreness to his side, and that he stated, "fell and right side hurts." Su's chart note states "fell and bruised left leg otherwise status quo," with no indication in the medical record that Su examined the patient's right side. On June 6, 2009, the patient was found unresponsive on the bathroom floor of his care home. Emergency personnel were called and they announced him dead. An autopsy found the cause of death to be right hemothorax due to blunt force thoracic injuries. The Board accused Su of being grossly negligent under §2234(b) of the B&P Code in that he again failed to order or conduct the necessary medical tests and examinations, and he again failed to adequately record treatment in the patient's chart. The Medical Board alleges Su is guilty of violating B&P Code §2234(d) in that his care and treatment of the three patients constitutes incompetence and is grounds for suspension and discipline.

The matter regarding all three patients was heard on November 3, 2010, before the Office of Administrative Hearings, where legal counsel representing Su, and a deputy attorney general representing the Medical Board, argued the matter before an administrative law judge. The judge reviewed all documents presented in this matter and determined that allowing Su to continue practicing medicine would endanger the public's health, safety, and welfare. An Interim Suspension Order was issued, effective November 3, 2010, immediately suspending Su's license. Su is to immediately stop practicing medicine until a full hearing may be held on this matter.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading Enforcement Public Documents.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

October 4, 2010

**Medical Board of California revokes license
of a former Westminster physician**

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of former Westminster physician Vu Le has been revoked by the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

The Medical Board found out on December 6, 2006 that Le was arrested by the federal authorities and his medical practice shut down. Le was arrested for writing prescriptions for controlled substances, in exchange for cash payments, to individuals who had no medical need for the prescribed medications. On December 1, 2006, a federal magistrate judge ordered Le to stop practicing medicine during the pendency of the criminal case. Based on that order, the Medical Board suspended Le's medical license, effective December 1, 2006.

On December 20, 2006, Le was indicted in Federal District Court on 15 counts of violating Title 21 United States Code section 841(a)(1) (unlawful distribution and dispensing of Schedule II and III controlled substances). Le was arraigned on January 8, 2007, and he pled not guilty to all counts. On June 15, 2009, one week before the scheduled jury trial, Le changed his plea to guilty to all counts. He was sentenced on November 16, 2009, to 57 months in federal prison on each of the 15 counts with the sentence to be served concurrently, and ordered to surrender into custody on February 5, 2010. Le is currently serving his sentence.

Even though Le's license was suspended, the Medical Board filed an Accusation against Le on January 14, 2010, seeking to have the license revoked outright. The Accusation alleged that Le violated Business and Professions (B&P) Code sections 490 and 2236 because he was convicted of a crime related to the practice of medicine. The Accusation also alleged Le violated B&P Code sections 2237 for his conviction of a drug-related crime; 238 for violating federal laws regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances; and 2234 for unprofessional conduct, which involved acts of dishonesty or corruption and were substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon. The case was heard by an administrative law judge on June 17, 2010.

On August 4, 2010, an administrative law judge ruled that cause existed to revoke Le's medical license for violating federal laws regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances and engaging in acts involving dishonesty or corruption. The administrative law judge issued a proposed decision to revoke Le's license. The Medical Board of California adopted the judge's Proposed Decision as the Decision and Order to revoke Le's medical license, effective on October 1, 2010.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading Enforcement Public Documents.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

October 4, 2010

Medical Board of California Accusation leads to surrender of former Colton physician's license

SACRAMENTO — After being served with an Accusation of sexual misconduct by the Medical Board of California, former Colton physician Gurmeet Singh Multani surrendered his license to practice medicine. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

The Medical Board filed an Accusation against Multani on December 10, 2009. The Board accused Multani of violating Business and Professions (B&P) Code section 726 (Sexual Abuse, Misconduct, or Relations) in that he committed acts of sexual misconduct with two patients. One patient was receiving psychiatric treatment for depression and sexual trauma when, during an appointment and in front of the patient's son, Multani flirted with the patient; performed a massage that included touching, which the patient described as "very indecent;" hugged and kissed the patient on the lips; and gave the patient his personal phone number to call him for "any reason." On another occasion, Multani took the patient out to dinner and afterward went to Multani's medical office and had sexual intercourse. The patient reported they had sexual intercourse on many other occasions at both Multani's medical office and at the patient's home. Multani paid the patient various amount of money for sex, including \$2,000 on one occasion, and Multani gave the patient automobiles for her use. Another patient reported Multani to the police for inappropriate touching, believing the touching was for Multani's sexual gratification. The Accusation also accused Multani of violating B&P Code section 2234(b) (Gross Negligence) in that he did not maintain proper boundaries and engaged in sexual conduct or sexual relations with the two patients.

Additionally, Multani was alleged to have violated B&P Code section 2266 (Failure to Maintain Adequate and Accurate Records) when he prescribed a drug with no documentation of the amount prescribed; directly dispensed an opiate that was contraindicated, given that the patient had a 10-year history of opiate dependence and the addictive potential of the drug; did not provide informed consent regarding the potential negative side effects of the drug; provided no documentation to support his examination, the results of the examination, or his diagnosis of obesity; nor did he document the number of tablets he directly dispensed to the patient. These alleged acts also violated section 2238 (Violation of Statute Regulating Drugs) and section 4170 (Conditions for Dispensing Dangerous Drugs or Dangerous Devices).

The Medical Board accused Multani of violating section 2234(c) (Repeated Negligent Acts) when in his care and treatment of one of the patients whose blood pressure was elevated during the initial visit, Multani did not retake the patient's blood pressure before dispensing a drug that is known to elevate blood pressure. Multani also was accused of violating section 2234 (Unprofessional Conduct) for engaging in conduct that breaches the rules or ethical code of the medical profession, or conduct that is unbecoming to a member in good standing of the medical profession, and that demonstrates an unfitness to practice medicine.

A First Amended Accusation was filed against Multani on June 9, 2010, which, in addition to the previous alleged violations, accused Multani of further violating section 2234(b) (Gross Negligence) when he provided psychiatric counseling, including marital counseling, to a patient while engaging in a sexual relationship with the patient's wife who was also his patient. Another patient was referred to Multani for treatment of depression, and Multani prescribed a controlled substance to the patient whom he knew was being treated for pain by another physician and being prescribed pain medication by that physician. Multani directly dispensed to the patient a controlled substance without documenting an informed consent, without documenting the current dosage the patient was prescribed, and he dispensed a controlled substance obtained from another patient after he removed the labeling from the package. The First Amended Accusation also accused Multani of violating sections 2227 and 2261 (Knowingly Making or Signing False Documents) and section 2262 (Altering or Modifying Medical Records) when he provided certified medical records of a patient to the Medical Board, which were significantly different than records provided to the patient's new psychologist.

In addition, Multani was accused of violating Health and Safety Code section 11157 (Unlawful to Issue Prescription that is False or Fictitious in any Respect) and section 11174 (Unlawful to Prescribe Controlled Substances under False Name or Address) when he prescribed drugs to another patient who was a drug addict. The patient died in December 2009 due to liver necrosis resulting from acetaminophen toxicity. Among the patient's belongings were found prescriptions handwritten and signed by Multani that were written in either the name of the patient's mother or father, neither of whom had ever been Multani's patients nor had any knowledge of the prescriptions. Multani is accused of violating B&P Code section 2234 (Unprofessional Conduct) for these alleged violations and the fact that, during an interview with the Board, he stated he had a practice of requesting his psychiatric patients to give him their unused medications, which he in turn gave to "a lady" who supposedly gives those medications to unknown individuals in Mexico.

Multani stipulated to the surrender of his medical license, and the Stipulated Surrender was approved by the Medical Board of California, effective October 1, 2010.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading Enforcement Public Documents.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

September 21, 2010

Medical Board of California sting operations result in the filing of criminal charges against eight unlicensed individuals

SACRAMENTO — On September 20, the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office filed criminal charges against eight of nine unlicensed individuals arrested this past summer by the Medical Board's Operation Safe Medicine (OSM) unit and the Los Angeles Police Department. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

Over the summer, the OSM unit executed several undercover buys from unlicensed individuals who were selling contact circle lenses. In one case, after information was received by Board investigators indicating contact lenses were being sold without prescriptions in the Santee Alley of the fashion district in Los Angeles, an undercover operation was initiated. A Board investigator purchased a pair of contact lenses from an outdoor vendor. She was given the vendor's business card and told twice by the vendor that she did not need a prescription to purchase the contact lenses, despite the investigator pointing out that the package was clearly marked with the label, "Rx Only."

The investigator also inquired whether she could buy a large quantity of contact lenses to resell and was given a number to call and assured that the lenses would be shipped directly to her. In the case cited above, and several other undercover operations that were conducted, Board investigators and the Los Angeles Police Department arrested nine unlicensed individuals selling the contact circle lenses and the cases were referred to the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office for prosecution.

The unlicensed individuals illegally obtained and resold contact lenses without a prescription for contact lenses. A patient history was not obtained, an examination was not performed, and the proper care of the contacts and their dangers were not discussed with the purchaser - violations of Business and Professions Code sections 2541, 2556, 2558 and 2559.

Note: The latest rage in contact lenses are contact circle lenses - they are usually colored and make the eyes appear larger because they cover the iris and part of the whites of the eyes. The use of circle lenses has gone mainstream in many Asian countries and has infiltrated the U.S. market this past year. Through online sales, the sellers are thwarting professional health care and risking depriving the eye of oxygen from potentially ill-fitted lenses - a possible cause for serious vision problems.

Operation Safe Medicine was established as part of the Medical Board's efforts to steer consumers away from unlicensed practitioners, whose treatment of patients has resulted in harm and even death in Southern California. The Board encourages the public to confirm they are receiving health care from licensed individuals by calling its Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or visiting its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

August 26, 2010

Medical Board of California obtains Interim Suspension Order temporarily suspending the medical license of Rancho Mirage physician

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of Michael Edward Platt, M.D. has been temporarily suspended by an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings at the request of the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

On May 2, 2008, the Medical Board filed an Accusation against Platt, alleging he had been grossly negligent, repeatedly negligent, incompetent, furnished dangerous drugs without adequate and appropriate examinations, and failed to maintain adequate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients, violating Business and Professions (B&P) Code sections 2234(b),(c),(d), 2242, and 2366.

On October 17, 2008, Platt agreed to a Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, effective March 9, 2009. In lieu of revocation, Platt's license was placed on five years' probation, with certain terms and conditions. One of the conditions of probation required Platt to enroll in and successfully complete a clinical training or educational program equivalent to the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program (PACE) at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine. The PACE program provides a comprehensive assessment of physicians and provides education for detected deficiencies in competency.

Although Platt enrolled in and completed the PACE seven-day physician assessment and clinical education program, Platt failed the PACE Program. The Program's director advised the Medical Board he had grave concerns about Platt's ability to safely practice medicine and concluded that Platt was a danger to the public. Shortly after learning of the PACE failure and with concern for public protection, the Board filed a Petition for Interim Order of Suspension. The materials filed by the Board included Declarations from four PACE physicians (including its Director) who concluded, based on their interactions with Platt, that he posed a danger to his patients and the public: Platt had shown PACE evaluators he does not conduct physical examinations of his patients, does not follow the standard of care or intend to, does not practice evidence-based medicine and acknowledged that his theories cannot be proven by modern medicine. Several PACE evaluators felt his recommendations were potentially dangerous, such as taking a diabetic off all medications.

Platt was given notice of the Board's request to seek an interim suspension order.

The matter was heard on August 6, 2010, before the Office of Administrative Hearings, where legal counsel representing Platt, and a deputy attorney general representing the Medical Board argued the matter before an Administrative Law Judge. Platt opposed the requested interim suspension. He argued that PACE improperly assessed him, that he had practiced medicine for 38 years without patient injury or harm, and that a suspension would create a hardship for his employees and patients.

On August 20, 2010, the Administrative Law Judge determined the Board is likely to prevail in the underlying action and that permitting Platt to continue practicing pending the conclusion of the process would endanger the public. The Administrative Law Judge issued the requested Interim Suspension Order.

Effective immediately, Platt's license to practice medicine has been suspended, pending a full administrative hearing on the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation, filed by the Medical Board on August 19, 2010. The Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation is based in part on Platt's violation of probation by failing PACE and numerous other violations of the Medical Practice Act, including gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, incompetence, prescribing without an appropriate examination and medical indication, and other violations related to his care and treatment of six patients.

Under the Interim Suspension Order, Platt has been ordered to stop practicing medicine, to cease holding himself out as practicing medicine, to stop prescribing, to turn over any certificates enabling him to practice medicine or prescribe drugs, to stop advertising, and not to be in any medical office unless he is a patient or visiting a friend or family member.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading Enforcement Public Documents.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

August 17, 2010

**Medical Board of California revokes license
of former Hesperia physician**

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of former Hesperia physician Enrique J. Friedman has been revoked by the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

The Medical Board filed an Accusation against Friedman, a psychiatrist, on July 3, 2009, alleging Friedman violated Business and Professions Code sections 2234(b) (Gross Negligence), 2234(c) (Repeated Negligent Acts), and 726 (Sexual Misconduct), in his care and treatment of a patient he was seeing for medication monitoring. The Board alleges Friedman extended the patient's medication appointments, discussed the patient's history of sexual abuse without consent, although the patient had a separate therapist for these issues, asked about the patient's current sex life, purchased two vibrators for the patient, took the patient to lunch and drank alcohol, and threatened to use his influence to derail the care of the patient's disabled spouse if his behavior was disclosed. Additionally, the Medical Board alleged Friedman violated Business and Professions Code section 2266 (Failure to Maintain Adequate and Accurate Records), in that he failed to properly maintain adequate and accurate records in his care and treatment of this patient, and he failed to make appropriate arrangements for the safekeeping of his other patients' medical records, when he left patient files in an unsecured area of office space he rented from another physician.

The administrative law judge stated the allegations made against Friedman were established by clear and convincing evidence, noting Friedman did not accept responsibility for his wrongdoing, failed to establish any mitigating or extenuating factors, and offered no evidence of rehabilitation. The judge ruled the public's health, safety, welfare, and interest could not be adequately protected if Friedman remained licensed. Based on these findings, the judge proposed Friedman's license be revoked. The Medical Board of California adopted the Proposed Decision as the Decision and Order, effective August 12, 2010.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading Enforcement Public Documents.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

August 2, 2010

Medical Board of California revokes license of former Glendale physician

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of former Glendale physician Conrado J. R. Miranda IV has been revoked by the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

The Medical Board filed an Accusation against Miranda on July 31, 2009, based on discipline taken against his license in March 2009 by the North Carolina Medical Board (Business & Professions Code section 2305). Mirandas North Carolina medical license was indefinitely suspended after it was found he was prescribing controlled substances to four friends in North Carolina, without a physical examination or documentation, while he was residing in California. Miranda was previously disciplined in 1984 by the North Carolina Medical Board for aiding and abetting the illegal practice of medicine, when he allowed his wife to practice medicine in his medical office shortly after she completed her residency, although she was not yet licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina.

The Medical Board filed an Amended Accusation on November 29, 2009, additionally alleging Miranda violated Business and Professions Code section 2234 (Conviction of a Crime; Failure to Report Indictment/Conviction), when he failed to report to the Board his guilty plea and felony conviction of health care fraud on March 3, 2008, by the United States District Court, Central District of California, and his subsequent sentence of 18 months in prison.

Although Miranda argued his license should not be revoked because of his feelings of remorse, his rehabilitative efforts, and his community service, the administrative law judge hearing his case found that Mirandas violations of the Medical Practice Act, and in particular his extensive history of transgressions directly related to the practice of medicine, demonstrated an inability and/or unwillingness to practice medicine within the confines of the laws governing the profession. Based on this finding, the administrative law judge recommended revocation of the license. The Medical Board adopted the Proposed Decision revoking Mirandas license, effective July 30, 2010.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading Enforcement Public Documents.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

July 30, 2010

Medical Board of California disciplines license of Yuba City/Marysville physician

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of Ifeanyi Igwegbe, M.D. has been disciplined by the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

On May 25, 2010, Igwegbe was arrested and charged with two felonies: driving under the influence and causing bodily injury, a violation of Vehicle Code section 23153(a), and driving with a blood alcohol content of .08 or more, a violation of Vehicle Code section 23153(b). Witnesses observed Igwegbe's vehicle weaving and traveling at speeds up to 80 miles per hour, when the vehicle began to spin, sliding through the center median and hitting a car traveling in the opposite direction, injuring that driver. Igwegbe told the arresting officer he was a physician and on his way to work. He stated he had patients waiting for him and procedures scheduled. The arresting officer administered a series of field sobriety tests, which Igwegbe failed. Igwegbe was taken to Rideout Memorial Hospital where he provided a blood sample. On June 7, 2010, the blood sample was found to be positive for alcohol at a level of 0.13 percent.

On July 16, 2010, an Interim Suspension Order was issued, immediately suspending Igwegbe's license to practice medicine. A full hearing was held on July 21, 2010. Igwegbe maintained his innocence and pointed out he has cooperated with three psychological evaluations, and voluntarily reported his arrest and pending criminal action to the Medical Board. He stated he has been cooperative, and his employer has safeguards in place, which include requiring him to submit to a daily breathalyzer test and random urine tests. After consideration, the court determined the procedures and protocols in place would ensure patient safety and the Interim Suspension Order was upheld, but with limited restrictions, stating Igwegbe should not be on call at any time, and he could not practice at any facility other than his current employer, Sutter Medical Foundation North, the Endoscopy Center, and Fremont-Rideout Hospital. Each location has policies and protocols in place to ensure Igwegbe is not intoxicated or otherwise impaired to practice medicine, and Igwegbe stated he was willing to abide by any additional practice or license restrictions imposed in this case.

Igwegbe filed a motion to seek modification of the Interim Suspension Order, which was heard on July 29, 2010. Igwegbe stated he was dissatisfied with his current employer because of their treatment of him in this matter. He stated he wanted to resign from his current position and seek employment at Oroville Hospital. He stated Oroville Hospital was aware of his pending criminal matter, had presented a job offer to him, and would implement the same safety procedures in place at his current employment; however, Igwegbe presented no documentation to the court from Oroville Hospital to support his claim. Subsequently, the judge ordered the Interim Suspension Order remain in effect, and the Medical Board adopted this order.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading "Enforcement Public Documents."

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

June 17, 2010

Medical Board of California revokes medical license of former Rowland Heights physician

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of former Rowland Heights physician Robert Le Maile-Williams has been revoked by the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

On June 25, 2009, a jury of the Los Angeles County Superior Court found Le Maile-Williams guilty of sexual battery, a violation of Penal Code section 243.4(a). On July 24, 2009, Le Maile-Williams was sentenced, which included as a term of probation that he serve 150 days in jail and register as a sex offender. Pursuant to Business and Professions (B&P) Code section 2232, the Board is required to promptly revoke the license of any person required to register as a sex offender.

After his conviction, Le Maile-Williams filed a Notice of Appeal. The imposition of his jail sentence was suspended, and he was released from jail. However, he was placed on three years of summary probation, ordered to complete 26 weeks of therapy or counseling, and still required to register as a sex offender. Accordingly, the Board filed an Ex Parte Petition for an Interim Order of Suspension. The hearing was heard by an administrative law judge and, since the case was on appeal, and there was no other evidence of misconduct or wrongdoing, the judge ordered an interim license restriction, as opposed to an outright suspension. The restriction prohibited Le Maile-Williams from treating or having any contact with female patients.

The Medical Board filed an Accusation against Le Maile-Williams on September 11, 2009, and filed an Amended Accusation on September 24, 2009. The Board alleged Le Maile-Williams violated B&P Code section 2236 in that he was convicted of a crime and, because he was required to register as a sex offender, under section 2232, his license should be revoked.

On October 26, 2009, the Petition for Interim Suspension was heard. Le Maile-Williams argued that his case was on appeal, he had been licensed since 1976 with no prior disciplinary actions, and he was the sole income provider for his family. However, according to the administrative law judge, even though Le Maile Williams case was on appeal, the Los Angeles Superior Court judge had still ordered him to register as a sex offender. On November 3, 2009, an Order of Interim Suspension was granted by the judge, prohibiting Le Maile-Williams from practicing medicine until a full administrative hearing and a determination could be made.

On March 24, 2010, the Accusation against Le Maile-Williams was heard by an administrative law judge. He again argued his license should not be revoked because he is appealing his criminal conviction. However, since the Los Angeles Superior Court, while not imposing the jail sentence, ordered criminal probation and for Le Maile-Williams to register as a sex offender, the administrative law judge determined revocation was appropriate and ordered Le Maile-Williams license be revoked, effective June 16, 2010.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading Enforcement Public Documents.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

May 6, 2010

Medical Board of California hires new executive director

SACRAMENTO — The Medical Board of California has hired its interim executive director to serve as its executive director. Linda Whitney, of Sacramento, had formerly served as the board's chief of legislation. She was appointed as the board's interim executive director last January.

"The Medical Board has been impressed with Ms. Whitney's performance as interim executive director and is confident in her ability to continue to promote the board's public-protection mandate in her day-to-day decisions as executive director," said Board President Barbara Yaroslavsky.

Ms. Whitney has worked for several of the Department of Consumer Affairs' boards and bureaus since 1975. She has worked for the Medical Board since 1994 in a variety of capacities, including administrative management and as chief of legislation, promoting the Board's public-protection mandate as its liaison at the State Capitol.



The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

April 29, 2010

**Medical Board of California revokes license
of former Yorba Linda physician**

SACRAMENTO — After being served with an Accusation for misconduct by the Medical Board of California, former Yorba Linda physician Adela P. Pena stipulated to the revocation of her medical license. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, interim executive director of the Medical Board.

An Accusation was originally filed against Pena on November 4, 2004, alleging that Pena was grossly negligent in her care, treatment, and management of five patients. The Accusation alleged that Pena demonstrated a lack of knowledge in caring for those patients, failed to maintain adequate and accurate records, and ordered laboratory tests without medical indication. Pena agreed her license was subject to discipline. Effective December 9, 2009, Pena agreed to a Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, in which her license was placed on probation for two years and eleven months with certain terms and conditions. The terms and conditions included enrolling in and successfully completing a medical record keeping course within the first six months of her probation, enrolling in a clinical training or educational program equivalent to the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program (PACE) offered at the University of San Diego, School of Medicine within 90 days and successfully completing that program within nine months of enrolling, and submitting to the Board for prior approval a practice monitor. Pena failed to successfully complete the PACE Program, and a Suspension Order became effective on December 15, 2006. Pena's license was to remain suspended until she successfully completed the program.

On October 31, 2008, the Board filed an Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation for violation of Business and Professions Code section 2234 (Unprofessional Conduct: Violation of Probation). Pena violated conditions of her probation when she failed to pass either Phase I or Phase II of the PACE Program, failed to pay her probation monitoring costs, and failed to pay a \$500 citation issued for failing to obtain a practice monitor. Pena's license has been suspended since December 15, 2006, and the Decision and Order for the Stipulated Surrender of License was adopted by the Board, effective April 28, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading "Enforcement Public Documents."

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

April 23, 2010

**Medical Board of California revokes license
of former Glendale physician**

SACRAMENTO — After being served with an Accusation for misconduct by the Medical Board of California, former Glendale physician Hieu Nguyen stipulated to the revocation of his medical license. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, interim executive director of the Medical Board.

Nguyen practiced interventional cardiology at the Cardiac Institute Medical Group in Glendale. On October 29, 2009, the Medical Board of California filed an Accusation against Nguyen, alleging that he violated Business and Professions (B&P) Code sections 2234(b) (Gross Negligence), 2234(c) (Repeated Negligent Acts), and 725(b) (Repeated Acts of Clearly Excessive Treatment) in his care and treatment of three cardiac patients. In the first case, the Accusation alleged that Nguyen performed an angioplasty that carried a very high risk of complications for this particular patient and would not have reduced the patient's cardiac risk, resulting in the patient's death. The Accusation also alleged that with another patient who was at an extremely high risk for complications, Nguyen performed a complex angioplasty that was not medically indicated and that resulted in the patient developing a retroperitoneal hematoma requiring blood transfusions. Nguyen performed an angioplasty on a third patient, with no resulting complications; however, it was alleged that the procedure was not medically indicated and put the patient at potential risk.

The Medical Board filed a First Amended Accusation on December 1, 2009, additionally alleging that Nguyen had also violated (B&P) Code section 2236 (Conviction of a Substantially Related Crime). On June 23, 2009, Nguyen pleaded nolo contendere to a violation of Penal Code section 288.2(b) (Attempting to distribute harmful material to a minor with the intent or for the purpose of seducing the minor). The Los Angeles Superior Court required Nguyen to register as a sex offender. B&P Code section 2232 requires the Medical Board to revoke the medical license of any physician who is ordered to register as a sex offender.

Nguyen stipulated to the revocation of his medical license, and it was accepted and ordered by the Medical Board effective March 22, 2010.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading "Enforcement Public Documents."

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

April 8, 2010

Medical Board of California investigators make two arrests in National City

SACRAMENTO — Sacramento-The Medical Board of California investigators served a search warrant and arrest warrant today in National City. Omar Abisaid Sarabia Esparza and Ezequiel Sanchez Solorzano were arrested for practicing medicine without a license, aiding and abetting, and selling misbranded drugs. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, interim executive director of the Medical Board.

Medical Board investigators, along with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, conducted an investigation for several months. Esparza and Solorzano were treating patients at a residence where they were selling and dispensing misbranded drugs. An undercover investigation was conducted by a Medical Board investigator who was treated and given medication. The activity was brought to the attention of ICE and the Medical Board by the husband of a patient who was given an injection and suffered side effects.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

April 5 , 2010

California physicians soon to be required to notify their patients that they are licensed by the Medical Board of California

SACRAMENTO — Effective June 27, 2010, physicians practicing in California must inform their patients that they are licensed by the Medical Board of California, and include the Board's contact information. The information must read as follows.

NOTICE TO CONSUMERS

Medical doctors are licensed and regulated by the Medical Board of California
(800) 633-2322
www.mbc.ca.gov

This requirement is the result of a regulation (Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 1355.4) approved by the Medical Board, as mandated by Business and Professions Code section 138. The purpose of this new regulation is to inform consumers where to go for information or with a complaint about California medical doctors.

"The Medical Board's mandate is public protection, and this new requirement will assist patients by directing them to our Web site and our call center, where they can access very basic yet important information about our public services," said Medical Board President Barbara Yaroslavsky. "And it will take very little effort for physicians to comply."

Physicians may provide this notice by one of three methods:

- Prominently posting a sign in an area of their offices conspicuous to patients, in specified type.
- Including the notice in a written statement, signed and dated by the patient or patient's representative, and kept in that patient's file.
- Including the notice in a statement on letterhead, discharge instructions, or other document given to a patient or the patient's representative, where the notice is placed immediately above the signature line for the patient in specified type.

The three options are designed to serve a multitude of practice settings, including emergency departments, skilled nursing facilities, and surgical settings.

The Medical Board is an agency within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). At least nine of DCA's other agencies have similar disclosure requirements, including the Pharmacy Board, the Contractors State License Board, the Bureau of Automotive Repair, and the Board of Optometry.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

March 18, 2010

**Medical Board of California Accusation leads to surrender
of former Glendale physician's license**

SACRAMENTO — After being served with an Accusation of misconduct by the Medical Board of California, former Glendale physician Levon Tebelekian surrendered his license to practice medicine. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, interim executive director of the Medical Board.

Tebelekian was a Designated Civil Surgeon under United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) laws and regulations and was authorized to prepare a Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record (Form I-693) for alien applicants applying for an adjustment of status to become legal, permanent residents of the United States. After completion, the Form I-693 is placed in a sealed envelope, and the applicant is required to take the sealed envelope to the USCIS District Office, where it is then opened by a USCIS officer or other authorized person.

The Medical Board filed an Accusation against Tebelekian on December 30, 2009, accusing him of violating Business and Professions Code section 2261 (False Representation), in that he prepared and signed, under penalty of perjury, several I-693 forms that falsely represented he had examined, conducted medical tests of, and administered vaccinations to applicants for adjustment of status. The Board also accused Tebelekian of violating B&P Code sections 2262 (Creation of False Records), in that he created false medical documents with fraudulent intent, and 2234(e) (Unprofessional Conduct - Dishonest Acts), in that he committed acts involving dishonesty or corruption substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.

Tebelekian, representing himself, stipulated to the surrender of his medical license, and it was ordered and accepted by the Medical Board of California on March 10, 2010, effective March 17, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading "Enforcement Public Documents."

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

March 16, 2010

**Medical Board of California revokes license
of former Monterey Park physician**

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of former Monterey Park physician D. Anthony Jackson has been revoked by the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, interim executive director of the Medical Board.

The Medical Board filed a prior Accusation for misconduct against Jackson in 2003. In 2005, Jackson stipulated to seven years probation, with terms and conditions, for the alleged misconduct. While Jackson was still on probation, the Medical Board filed an Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation against him on December 22, 2009. The Board accused Jackson of violating Business and Professions (B&P) Code sections 2236 (a)(d) and 490 (Conviction of Crimes) and California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, section 1360, in that he was convicted of two counts of violating Vehicle Code section 23152(a) (Driving Under the Influence) and section 23152(b) (Blood Alcohol Content over .08%). A few months later, Jackson was convicted of violating Vehicle Code section 14610(A)(1) (Unlawful Use of a Driver's License), when he attempted to pass airport security and board an airplane at Los Angeles International Airport by presenting airport personnel with fraudulent identification. The Board also accused Jackson of violating B&P Code section 2234 (Dishonesty or Corruption). Cause existed to revoke Jackson's license because of his failure to "obey all laws," a condition of his previous probation.

Jackson did not file a Notice of Defense to the Board's Accusation, thereby waiving his right to a hearing. On February 11, 2010, a Default Decision and Order was filed by the Medical Board, revoking Jackson's medical license, effective March 15, 2010.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading "Enforcement Public Documents."

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

March 9, 2010

Medical Board of California revokes medical license of former San Diego physician

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of former San Diego physician Shagufta Parvin Khan has been revoked by the Medical Board of California. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment to that mission," said Linda Whitney, interim executive director of the Medical Board.

The Medical Board originally filed an Accusation against Khan in December 2000 and a First Amended Accusation in July 2001. The Board alleged that Khan violated Business and Professions (B&P) Code section 2264 (Aiding and Abetting the Unlicensed Practice of Medicine), when her employees represented to patients that her husband, Sajjad Khan, was a doctor. Sajjad Kahn was licensed to practice medicine in Pakistan, but not in California, and with Khan's express or implied consent he performed hair transplant procedures or otherwise practiced medicine in her office. Kahn was also accused of violating sections 22349(e) (Dishonesty and Corruption) and 2261, 2262, and 2266 (False, Altered and Inadequate Medical Records) when she lied to investigators about her husband performing surgeries and provided the investigators with altered and incomplete copies of medical records; 2234(b)(c)(d) (Gross Negligence and Repeated Negligent Acts) for allowing unlicensed persons in her office to practice medicine; and 2234 (Unprofessional Conduct), when her husband was using business cards that identified him as a plastic surgeon. Khan agreed to a Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, in which she admitted she aided and abetted the unlicensed practice of medicine. The Stipulated Settlement was adopted by the Board. Terms and conditions prohibited Kahn's husband from coming into her medical office, unless he held a valid California medical certificate, included a six-month actual suspension, and Khan's license was placed on probation for seven years.

On August 17, 2005, the Medical Board filed a new Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation, alleging Khan had violated B&P Code section 2234(e) (Dishonesty and Corruption) when she allowed her husband, Sajjad Khan, to routinely be in her office when patients were being treated and/or when patients or potential patients were consulting or meeting with her, in violation of Condition 6 of her probation. Additionally, when Kahn was questioned by her probation investigator regarding a complaint that her husband, an unlicensed person, had performed surgery on a patient prior to the effective date of her probation, Kahn lied when she stated her husband had not performed surgery or ever assisted her in the performance of surgery in her office, and that she never told the patient that, if asked by the Medical Board, he should state that she performed his surgeries and not her husband. Khan's medical license was placed on an *additional* seven years of probation with additional terms and conditions.

The Medical Board again filed an Accusation and a First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation against Khan on July 30, 2009. The Board accused Khan of violating B&P Code section 2236 (Convictions of Crimes Substantially Related to the Qualifications, Functions, or Duties of a Physician or Surgeon) when the San Diego Superior Court convicted Khan's business, Renew Hair and Cosmetic Center, with violating Labor Code section 3700.5 (Failure to Secure Payment of Compensation), a misdemeanor, when

her business failed to maintain proper workers' compensation insurance coverage for her employees and convicted Khan of violating Labor Code section 226(c) (Failure to Comply with Inspection Request).

The Accusation also accused Kahn of violating B&P Code sections 2271 and 17500 (False and Misleading Advertising), when she advertised on her Web site that she was board certified in general surgery, that she was a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons; that she was board certified in microvascular hand surgery; and that she was board certified in cosmetic surgery. Since at least June 2005, Khan has not been board certified by any recognized board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). Since at least November 2007, Khan continuously placed paid advertisements in publications referring potential patients to her Web site when she knew the site contained false and misleading advertising. Khan repeatedly placed print advertisements in publications falsely stating she is "San Diego's only board-certified surgeon with 25 years' experience, world-renowned for her artistic touch, unmatched hairline and density." Khan was also accused of violating B&P Code section 651(b)(5)(B), in that she advertised herself as being board certified when, in fact, she was not. Khan was further accused of violating section 2234(e) (Acts of Dishonesty and/or Corruption), when she falsely stated to a Medical Board investigator that she had never been questioned, detained, arrested, charged, or convicted of any crime, despite that she had, in fact, been personally charged with failing to ensure workers' compensation insurance, a misdemeanor pursuant to Labor Code section 3700.5, and that she had pled guilty to the same offense on behalf of her medical practice, of which she was the sole owner. Additionally, the Medical Board accused Khan of violating sections 2227 and 2234 (Unprofessional Conduct) in that she engaged in conduct that breaches the rules or ethical code of the medical profession or conduct unbecoming to a member in good standing of the medical profession.

The Proposed Decision to revoke Kahn's medical license was accepted and adopted as the Decision and Order by the Medical Board of California, effective March 8, 2010.

The public record documents in this case can be accessed on our Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov under the heading "Enforcement Public Documents."

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###

News Release — February 10, 2010



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

February 10, 2010

The Medical Board of California launches its new Web Applicant Access System!

SACRAMENTO — The Medical Board of California is pleased to announce its new Web Applicant Access System or WAAS. Initiated on February 10, 2010, this online system provides applicants the ability to check the status of their application for a Physician and Surgeon License or Postgraduate Training Authorization Letter. The system will display information regarding each required application document; specifically, when a document is received and whether that document is approved or deficient. This system ensures that applicants are able to access their application information at their own convenience.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###

News Release — February 1, 2010



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

February 1, 2010

Medical Board of California appoints new interim executive director

SACRAMENTO — The Medical Board of California has appointed a new interim executive director, Linda Whitney, the Board's chief of legislation. Ms. Whitney succeeds Barb Johnston, who resigned as the Board's executive director to accept a position in the private sector in her field of expertise, telemedicine.

"We look forward to a long-term relationship with Ms. Whitney, and know that in her we have found a person who will be attentive to the details necessary to continue to build a stronger as well as a more responsive Board, squarely ensuring that our primary, public-protection responsibilities of both licensing and enforcement are our highest priorities," said Board President Barbara Yaroslavsky.

Ms. Whitney has worked for several of the Department of Consumer Affairs' boards and bureaus since 1975. She has worked for the Medical Board since 1994 in a variety of capacities, including administrative management and, most recently, as chief of legislation, promoting the Board's public-protection mandate as its liaison at the State Capitol.

Ms. Whitney received her bachelor of arts at U.C. Davis and her master's degree at Golden Gate University.

The mission of the Medical Board is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Line at (916) 263-2382 or (800) 633-2322.

For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/subscribers.html.

###