

November 16, 2012

Medical Board of California investigation leads to arrest of Bakersfield woman for the unlicensed practice of medicine

SACRAMENTO — The Medical Board of California announced the arrest of Brenda Capps for allegedly practicing medicine without a license. Capps was booked for violation of Business and Professions Code section 2052 (Unlicensed Practice of Medicine). Investigators with the Medical Board's Operation Safe Medicine conducted an undercover investigation that led to Capp's arrest.

The Medical Board first became aware of Capps during another investigation and successful criminal prosecution of an unlicensed person for practicing midwifery and medicine. During the initial investigation of Capps, Medical Board investigators confirmed that she was unlicensed and warned her not to practice midwifery without being properly licensed.

Investigators with the Medical Board's Operation Safe Medicine conducted an undercover operation with Capps that confirmed she continued to practice medicine. During the investigation, Capps admitted to not having a license. After her arrest, Capps was booked at Kern County Jail in Bakersfield for felony unlicensed practice of medicine.

"This investigation and arrest reflects positively on the Medical Board's ongoing commitment to protect the public," said Linda Whitney, executive director of the Medical Board.

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact the Medical Board at (800) 633-2322.

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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.

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September 20, 2012

Medical Board of California investigation leads to arrest of Southern California area physician

SACRAMENTO — The Medical Board of California announced the arrest of Kevin Pezeshki, M.D., an obstetrician and gynecologist in the Van Nuys and Northridge areas of Southern California. Pezeshki was arrested on two felony counts of Penal Code section 289 (d), unlawful sexual penetration. Investigators with the Medical Board's Operation Safe Medicine, along with the Los Angeles Police Department, conducted an investigation that led to the charges against Dr. Pezeshki. His arraignment is scheduled for October 1, 2012.

"This investigation and arrest reflects the Medical Board's ongoing commitment to fulfill the mission of public protection," said Linda Whitney, Executive Director of the Medical Board.

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact the Medical Board at 1-800-633-2322, or 916-263-2382.

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September 4, 2012

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

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of Rolando Lodevico Atiga, M.D. was fully suspended by an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings at the request of the Medical Board. "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 12, 2012, Dr. Atiga was arrested by the Glendora Police Department and charged with providing prescriptions for scheduled narcotics and medications for a large cash fee, without any medical indication. In an undercover operation, an investigator gave Dr. Atiga an x-ray of her German Shepherd dog to substantiate her pain.

On August 8, 2012, an Ex Parte Petition for Interim Suspension Order was filed by the Medical Board seeking to suspend, pending a full hearing on the matter, the medical license of Dr. Atiga. The Board argued that permitting Dr. Atiga to continue practicing medicine would endanger the public health, safety, and welfare. Neither Dr. Atiga nor his attorney appeared for the hearing. An Interim Suspension Order was issued, effective August 13, 2012, pending a noticed hearing on August 31, 2012.

The full noticed hearing was held on August 31, 2012. Again, Dr. Atiga failed to appear. Accordingly, the Judge ruled to suspend Dr. Atiga's medical license and ordered him to immediately cease practicing medicine "pending further hearing." An Accusation will be issued by the Medical Board within 15 days, and there will be a hearing on this Accusation, which has not yet been scheduled.

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."

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August 29, 2012

Medical Board of California is first to adopt regulations

SACRAMENTO — The Medical Board of California is the first licensing board to adopt regulations for AB 2699, Bass (Chapter 270, Statutes of 2010), which now allows healthcare practitioners, who are licensed in other states, to provide voluntary health care services to uninsured and underinsured Californians on a short-term basis at a sponsored event, without obtaining California licensure. These regulations were needed in order to implement that law.

There are thousands of individuals in California who are lacking basic health care services and preventive care; there is also a shortage of volunteer healthcare professionals in this state. California's restrictions that prohibited volunteer out-of-state licensed medical professionals from providing short-term services at these free health fairs, resulted in residents being turned away.

With the passing of this legislation, physicians (M.D.s) who are licensed in states other than California may now volunteer to provide services at health care events in California. No California medical license is needed; however, physicians (M.D.s) must register with the Medical Board of California and hold a current valid medical license in good standing in another state, and the practitioner must submit fingerprints for a criminal background check. The out-of-state practitioner must provide the services on a voluntary basis, without charge to uninsured and underinsured persons at a sponsored healthcare event lasting 10 days or less.

"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.

Physicians (M.D.s) and free health care event sponsors can download the regulations, registration forms, required signage, and instructions at the Medical Board of California Web site http://www.mbc.ca.gov/licensee/sponsored_free_health_care_events.html

Sponsors of free health care events must register with the Medical Board at least 90 days before the event is held.

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August 24, 2012

Medical Board of California investigation leads to arrest of Santa Monica physician

SACRAMENTO — Detectives from LA IMPACT (Los Angeles Interagency Metropolitan Police Apprehension Crime Task Force) along with the Medical Board of California investigators served an arrest warrant on August 24, 2012, on Ebrahim Sajedi, M.D. in Santa Monica, 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 Los Angeles District Attorney's office filed 12 felony counts of 11153 (a) Health and Safety code (prescribing medications without a legitimate medical purpose) as a result of the joint undercover operation conducted at Dr. Sajedi's medical offices in Santa Monica by the Medical Board's investigators and LA IMPACT detectives.

LA IMPACT received information that Dr. Sajedi was prescribing medications to patients for no legitimate medical purpose without a meaningful evaluation or proof that the patient needed the medications. During this investigation, four undercover Detectives/Investigators met with Dr. Sajedi, and during all four consultations Dr. Sajedi prescribed these undercover Detectives /Investigators medications such as Vicodin, Adderall, Celexa, Klonopin, Clonazepam, Alprazolam, Nuvigil and Restoril without a meaningful evaluation and exam and for no legitimate medical purpose.

Sajeda was taken into custody without incident.

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."

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August 20, 2012

Medical Board Investigation Leads to Criminal Charges Against Long Beach Osteopathic Doctor

SACRAMENTO — Medical Board of California investigators, along with investigators from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Los Angeles Sherriff's Department, served an arrest warrant August 15, 2012 on Kaveh Kashani, D.O in Long Beach, California. The Long Beach City Attorney filed criminal charges against Dr. Kashani for one count PC 470 (A) unlawful signing the name of other person with intent to defraud; and one count Health and Safety Code 11368 forging and altering a prescription for a narcotic drug.

"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 received information that Dr. Kashani forged prescriptions to obtain narcotic drugs for selfuse. A joint investigation by the Medical Board of California and agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration led to the arrest of Dr. Kashani.

More information about Dr Kashiani can be accessed on Osteopathic Medical Board of California Web site at http://www.ombc.ca.gov under the heading "Consumers – License Verification."

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August 20, 2012

Medical Board of California Investigation Leads to Arrest of Encinitas Woman for Practicing Medicine Without A License

SACRAMENTO — Investigators with the Medical Board of California's Operation Safe Medicine, along with agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), arrested Kathleen Ann Helms, age 57, of Encinitas and charged her with practicing medicine without a license and grand theft. "The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment," said Linda Whitney, Executive Director of the Medical Board.

The Medical Board received a complaint that Helms was representing herself as a Doctor of Naturopathy with offices in Encinitas, California, and Oak Park, Illinois. Helms diagnosed a patient with Lyme disease and prescribed a treatment plan that involved, intravenous infusion of Dimethyl Sulfoxide (DMSO), injections of animal cells, and taking vitamins. The patient became critically ill and was admitted to the intensive care unit of a local medical facility.

Helms operated a business called BrightHouse Wellness, located at 317 North El Camino Real, Suite 112, Encinitas, California. Investigators are concerned there may be other victims. Anyone with information about additional victims is encouraged to contact the Medical Board of California at (800) 633-2322 (toll free) or the FBI at (858) 565-1255.

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August 2, 2012

Medical Board of California investigation results in criminal charges against Los Angeles physician

SACRAMENTO — Investigators with the Medical Board of California's Operation Safe Medicine, along with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), served an arrest warrant today on Lance Everett Wyatt, M.D. in Los Angeles, California.

The Los Angeles City Attorney filed criminal charges against Dr. Wyatt for two counts of Penal Code (PC) 647(j)(3)(1), the unlawful filming of another, on two patients; two counts of PC 647 (j) (1), unlawful viewing of another, on two patients; one count of PC section 243.4(c), sexual battery on a patient; and one count of PC 242, unlawful use of force and violence (battery) on another.

"The mission of the Medical Board is public protection, and this action reflects the Board's ongoing commitment," said Linda Whitney, Executive Director of the Medical Board.

The Medical Board received a complaint that Dr. Wyatt videotaped a disrobed patient without her consent or knowledge during an examination. A joint investigation by the Medical Board, LAPD, and Los Angeles City Attorney discovered an additional victim. Investigators are concerned there may be other victims. Anyone with information about additional victims is encouraged to contact Operation Safe Medicine at (909) 421-5830.

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July 19, 2012

Medical Board of California obtains Interim Suspension Order temporarily suspending the medical license of Beverly Hills physician

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of Daniel Shane Davidson, also known as Shane Sheibani, Shahram Shane Sheibani-Rad, Shahram Shahram Shebani-Rad, and Shane Shebanirad 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.

A Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order was adopted by the Medical Board, effective September 10, 2009, for previous misconduct by Dr. Davidson. Among other terms and conditions, Dr. Davidson was placed on five years probation. In May of 2012, Dr. Davidson was ordered to submit to a psychiatric examination. The examination was scheduled for June 27, 2012. During the examination, Dr. Davidson exhibited uncontrollable behavior and had to be escorted out of the physician's office. The medical examiner issued a report, expressing his opinion that Dr. Davidson suffers from a mental disorder, which substantially impairs his ability to practice medicine safely, and he would be a danger to the public if allowed to continue to practice medicine.

The Medical Board filed a Petition for an Ex Parte Interim Suspension Order, and the matter was heard by an Administrative Law Judge. The Judge ruled to suspend Dr. Davidson's medical license and ordered Dr. Davidson to immediately cease practicing medicine until a regularly noticed hearing could take place. This hearing is scheduled for August 6, 2012, in the Office of Administrative Hearings in San Diego.

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."

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July 17, 2012

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

SACRAMENTO — The medical license of Franklyn Seabrooks II, M.D. was fully suspended by an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings at the request of the Medical Board. "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 13, 2012, a Petition for Ex Parte Interim Suspension Order was filed with The Office of Administrative Hearings in Sacramento, requesting the Court to temporarily suspend Dr. Seabrooks medical license, alleging Dr. Seabrooks had violated laws and regulations involving the practice of medicine and, if allowed to continue practicing, posed a threat to the public. The Judge ruled to suspend Dr. Seabrook's medical license and ordered Dr. Seabrooks to immediately cease practicing medicine until a regularly noticed hearing could take place. This hearing is scheduled for July 30, 2012 at the Office of Administrative Hearings in Sacramento.

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."

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June 8, 2012

Medical Board investigation leads to criminal charges against four suspects for practicing medicine without a license

SACRAMENTO — After being charged with the crimes of practicing medicine without a license and conspiring to aid and abet the unlicensed practice of medicine, four suspects have agreed to surrender pursuant to warrants issued for their arrest. The criminal charges against all four suspects stem from an investigation by investigators with the Medical Board of California's Operation Safe 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.

Charged with felonies was Dana Elise Payinda, owner of Laser Solutions in Beverly Hills, CA for practicing medicine without a license. Debra Beth Luftman, M.D. was charged with aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine. Tracy Lynn Poire and Kimberly Benner, R.N. were also charged with practicing medicine.

The Medical Board received a complaint alleging that medical procedures were being conducted at Laser Solutions, and inappropriate medical services were being provided. Undercover operations confirmed that medical treatments were being rendered by non-physicians and prescription medications were being sold without a physician's order or without the patient being seen by a doctor.

Investigators from the Board's Operation Safe Medicine served a search warrant in December and seized evidence of illegal ownership and the illegal practice of medicine.

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."

Consumers are urged to verify the medical license of any practitioner prior to receiving any medical services by contacting the Board, www.mbc.ca.gov or (800) 633-2322.

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