



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

# NEWS

*Protecting consumers by advancing high quality, safe, medical care.*

VOLUME 161  
SECOND QUARTER 2022

## UPDATED GUIDELINES: PRESCRIBING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

By Carlos Villatoro - p. 5

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### COMBATING PHYSICIAN BURNOUT

Dr. John Chuck - p. 10

### PRINT YOUR OWN WALLET LICENSE

MBC's Wallet License Generator - p. 23

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# EDITOR'S SPOTLIGHT

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**Emmalee Ross**  
*Designer & Editor in Chief*

Summer is in full swing and so are revisions to the Guidelines for Prescribing Controlled Substances for Pain. The Medical Board of California's (Board) Public Information Manager, Carlos Villatoro, shares details of the revisions along with input from Board members Dr. Richard Thorp and Ryan Brooks. Find out more on [page 5](#).

What is a Fictitious Name Permit and who needs to obtain one? Central Complaint Unit Analyst Julie Brown, breaks down these questions and explains the common errors that cause delays when applying for one on [page 14](#).

In this edition, Dr. John Chuck shares his thoughts and extensive research on the drivers behind physician burnout and his top five recommendations for combating it after years of study and experience on [page 10](#).

Lastly, the Board no longer mails plastic Wallet Licenses. Any licensee/registrant with a Current license status may generate a Wallet License at their convenience by accessing the Wallet License Generator. Learn more on [page 23](#).

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

# NEWS

*A Publication of the Medical Board of California*

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[www.mbc.ca.gov](http://www.mbc.ca.gov)

Newsletter submissions are welcome, but all submissions become property of the Board and are subject to editing.

### **The Board's Mission**

The mission of the Medical Board of California is to protect healthcare consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied healthcare professionals; 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.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Second Quarter 2022*



**A**nother busy season at the Medical Board of California (Board), and as we advance our goal of consumer protection there's a lot to talk about.

After over two years since my colleagues and I gathered in person at a Board meeting, May 2022, we held our first in-person quarterly Board meeting since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was refreshing to see long-time Board members and meet our recently appointed members in person.

While this small slice of pre-pandemic life is returning, other critical issues related to the pandemic continue to require our attention. The spread of COVID-19 misinformation among the physician community continues to be a concern for my fellow Board members and me, and we continue to work with stakeholders on this critical issue. The solution won't be easy, but with the help of our stakeholders and the state Legislature, we hope to minimize the harm that physicians who promote unproven, unsafe treatments, and choose intimidation and harassment in place of science, are causing California's healthcare consumers.

On May 6, I addressed the Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development regarding some of the enforcement legislative proposals the ***Board sent to the Legislature*** early this year. During that hearing, we made the case for how our proposals will enhance our mission of consumer protection. I encourage you to watch the ***recording of the hearing***.

No decisions were made during the hearing, but I hope that it serves as the beginning of consideration of our requests and that we can continue the dialogue next year when the Board goes through its next Sunset Review.

In closing, I would like to highlight some changes to our Board. I would like to give a warm welcome to three new Board members, one of whom is returning. Our new members are Veling Tsai, M.D., and Nicole Jeong, J.D., and our returning member is Michelle Bholat, M.D. I look forward to our future time together collaborating on our mission.

Finally, I wish to say a fond farewell and thank you to two longtime Board members whose terms recently ended: Doctors Dev Gnanadev and Felix Yip have spent the last several years on the Board working tirelessly to serve the people of California. Their wisdom and passion for consumer protection will be missed.

*Kristina D. Lawson*



# MBC DRAFTS GUIDELINES FOR PRESCRIPTION OF OPIOID MEDICATION FOR PAIN

**By Carlos Villatoro**  
**Public Information Manager**

The Medical Board of California (Board) recently took a significant step in updating its Guidelines for Prescribing Controlled Substances, last updated November 2014. The Board released a draft of its updated guidelines on its website and solicited input from stakeholders at a July 14, 2022 ***Interested Parties Meeting***.

After considering all of the feedback and incorporating proposed changes from stakeholders where appropriate, the task force and Board staff plan to present the revised guidelines to the Board at a future Board meeting.

“When you are going through this process, it has to be well thought out and well-reasoned and I believe we have followed those guidelines and process,” said Ryan Brooks, who along

with Dr. Richard Thorp was deeply involved in the drafting of the new guidelines as a member of the Board’s Prescribing Guidelines for Controlled Substances Task Force.

“It is important that we make sure the issue of opioids and excessive prescribing is kept in view and not abandoned. I believe once the guidelines are released, the public will find they give much more flexibility in dealing with subsets of pain – specifically chronic pain and intractable pain,” Thorp said. “In that particular area, I think there’s significant change in language to allow the physician with the appropriate documentation and with the appropriate processes in place to prescribe in a way that is going to be effective for the patients. I think that’s what we are really trying

to do here, is to provide a document that will really keep patients safe and yet also have enough flexibility to deal with pain patients that don't fall into the normal guidelines.”

Aside from granting physicians more control in prescribing opioids to their patients, in accordance with the patient's standard of care, the revised guidelines are designed to incorporate legislation enacted since 2014.

The Board began the process of updating its guidelines by identifying physicians who practice medicine in various specialties including but not limited to pain management specialists, family practice physicians, members of academia and others, to serve as subject matter experts and help the Board revise its guidelines.

Board staff worked with six physician subject matter experts and assigned each expert a section of the guidelines to revise and update. Once the initial draft was approved by the task force, the Board published the draft, scheduled an interested parties meeting, and solicited feedback from stakeholders, including intractable pain patients, patient advocates, physicians, pharmacists, and others.

### **What's New?**

The Board's revised guidelines now place the decision of what to prescribe to patients solely on the physician and the needs of the patient. The guidelines highly encourage physicians to document their prescription decisions in the patient's medical record and keep the records up to date.

The guidelines also incorporate legislation such as the mandatory consultation of CURES before prescribing schedule II-IV controlled substances, and the requirement to prescribe all controlled substances, with certain exemptions, electronically.

To view the draft guidelines and written comments received from **public stakeholders**, please visit the **[Board's website](#)**.



Connect With

# THE MEDICAL BOARD

## 1 LINKS TO OUR WEBSITE

1. *Update your address of record or email address*
2. *Update your physician survey*
3. Contact us:  
[webmaster@mbc.ca.gov](mailto:webmaster@mbc.ca.gov)

## 2 NEED A SPEAKER?

If you would like a speaker from the Medical Board of California, please contact Public Affairs Manager Carlos Villatoro at:  
[Carlos.Villatoro@mbc.ca.gov](mailto:Carlos.Villatoro@mbc.ca.gov)

## 3 SUBSCRIBER ALERTS

The Medical Board of California uses a subscriber service to notify individuals about items relating to the activities of the Medical Board via email. To subscribe or unsubscribe, please visit:  
[www.mbc.ca.gov/Subscribers](http://www.mbc.ca.gov/Subscribers)

## 4 NEWSLETTER SURVEY

Please take a moment to share your thoughts about the Board's newsletter. Do you have a particular section that you like, or an idea on how to improve our publication?

**Take the Survey**

# PHYSICIAN EXTORTION SCAM: NOW POSING AS LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Medical Board of California (Board) is aware that scam artists have begun posing as **law enforcement officers**, as well as U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents and Board staff calling California physicians as part of an extortion scheme.

Scammers posing as law enforcement may tell victims they have missed a court date as an expert witness and have a warrant for their arrest. Scammers posing as DEA agents may tell victims their license is suspended for illegal drug trafficking and the suspension means they will not be able to practice. The scammers may provide an "Agreement for the Bond and Protocols" that includes statements that licensees are not to share or disclose the investigation to any third party and agree to a bond fee payment of \$25,000.00.

The scammers' phone number may show up as the Board's toll-free number (800) 633-2322, or, if posing as law enforcement, they may impersonate actual law enforcement officers using their real names.

Please note, law enforcement officers, DEA agents, and Board staff will never contact physicians by telephone to demand money or any other form of payment. If you receive one of these calls, refuse the demand for payment. Please also consider the following:

If the caller is stating they are from the DEA, immediately report the threat using the **DEA's Extortion Scam Online Reporting form**.

If the caller insists that they speak with you right away, tell them that you'll call them back directly. At this point, some scammers will offer you a phone number as a way to verify they are who they say they are. Don't call the number the scammers provided; instead call the Board' toll-free number at (800) 633-2322.

If the phone number of the caller appears to be the Board's toll-free number, it is recommended that you submit an online complaint with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) using the **FCC's Consumer Complaint form**.

# TOP 7 QUESTIONS: MEDICAL RECORDS

By *Emmalee Ross*  
Public Information Officer

“How do I access my medical records?”

This is one of the main questions the Medical Board of California (Board) receives from healthcare consumers. The Board offers a lot of information on its [Resources webpage](#) regarding medical records, and below, we answered the top seven questions we receive.

### Does the Board retain my medical records?

**A:** No. The Board can offer guidance and assistance retrieving medical records, but a patient must contact their physician or physician’s office to obtain a copy.

### Do my medical records belong to me?

**A:** No, medical records belong to the medical provider or facility that prepares them. However, patients legally have the right to view the originals and obtain copies.

### Can my doctor charge me for my medical records?

**A:** Yes, your doctor may charge 25 cents per page, plus a reasonable clerical fee. Additionally, if you’re requesting diagnostic films (x-ray or MRI), your doctor can charge the actual cost of copying the films.

There are **exceptions in the law**, however, stating copies of a medical records must be provided free of charge when a written request is submitted to support a claim or appeal regarding eligibility for certain public benefit programs.

### Can the Board transfer my medical records from one provider to another?

**A:** No, the Board does not have this authority. Further, there is no law requiring a physician to transfer records to a new provider as it’s considered a professional courtesy.

If your previous provider is unwilling to transfer your records, you may want to request your records from your previous provider and send them to your new provider yourself. Your previous provider is legally obligated to provide the records within 15 days of receipt of your request. If the physician does not provide the medical records, the Board encourages you to file a complaint by visiting the [Board’s website](#).

### I need my medical records from when I was a kid, where do I get them?

**A:** There is no central repository for medical records and physicians are not legally obligated to retain medical records for a specific period of time. If you cannot locate your childhood physician, you may consider contacting your **local county medical society** as they may have information about the physician's practice. You can also contact the Board's Consumer Information Unit at 1-800-633-2322 or find the physician's address of record on their **public profile** to send a written request.

### If my doctor retired or died, where do I find my medical records?

**A:** Similar to the answer above, if your doctor passed away or retired and you were not contacted, you may want to check with your local county medical society, as their practice may have been bought out by a new practice.

Additionally, if your doctor has died and their practice was not transferred to another physician, you may check with your local Probate Court to see if your physician had an executor for their estate. The executor may know whether and where patient records are being maintained or whether they have been destroyed.

### Legally, how long must a doctor keep my medical records?

**A:** Physicians are generally not legally obligated to maintain medical records for a minimum length of time. There are, however, some exceptions listed below:

- Three-year retention period for services reimbursed by Emergency Medical Services Fund, or when a physician prescribes, dispenses, or administers a Schedule II controlled substance according to **Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 1797.98e(b)** and **HSC section 11191**.
- Ten-year retention period relating to Medi-Cal patients according to **Welfare and Institutions Code section 14124.1**.
- Minimum two-year retention period for HMO medical records under Title 28 of the **California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1300.67.8(b)**.
- Five-year retention period for medical legal reports in Workers' Compensation Cases under **Title 8 CCR section 39.5(a)**.
- Seven-year retention period according to **HSC section 123145**, for providers of certain health services listed under sections **1205, 1253, 1575, or 1726**.

If you have additional questions regarding medical records, please visit our **Resources webpage**, **FAQ**, or email us at **webmaster@mbc.ca.gov**.

*External Chaos, Inner Peace*

# PERSONAL HABITS THAT CAN SAVE OUR CAREERS REGARDLESS OF CIRCUMSTANCES

*Guest Editorial By Doctor John Chuck*

**B**urnout is defined by UC Berkeley researcher Christina Maslach as having one or more of the following three traits: emotional exhaustion; depersonalization; and feelings of low personal accomplishment.

Over the past 10 years, physician burnout rates have fluctuated from 38.2 percent to 54.4 percent. When coupled with the 300-400 physician suicides per year in the United States, these high rates of burnout paint a bleak picture of unwellness for physicians as well as our patients, families, and the communities we serve.

The drivers of burnout have been steadily increasing over the entirety of my career which is now entering its fourth decade. These have included changes in methods of reimbursement

leading to increased paperwork and reduced income; government and insurance regulations interfering with physician autonomy in decision making; deterioration in the physician-patient relationship marked by decreased patient respect for physicians, an increase in the number of malpractice lawsuits, and workplace violence against healthcare professionals; and the introduction and rapid widespread adoption of the electronic medical record with its associated unintended consequences of lengthening the physician work day and spending more time with the computer than with patients.

Early initiatives to address physician burnout focused on improving physician wellness by training individuals in personal resilience habits. Think kale, yoga, and one-minute meditation.



*Doctor John Chuck*

“

# WAKE UP WITH AN ORIENTATION GRATITUDE.



Stanford's WellMD Center offered a more comprehensive and rigorous framework for addressing burnout that described three reciprocal domains of wellness: a psychologically safe and supportive work culture; operational efficiency characterized by fully engaged members of teams, open communication, continuous process improvement, and the optimization of technology; and a robust menu of personal wellness programs. There is clearly much work to be done in all three realms.

I am a strong advocate of changes in culture and operations being key elements of a healthier workforce. However, changes in those two realms occur at a glacial pace, especially in larger and non-integrated care delivery systems. Additionally, many of the factors that drive favorable changes in culture and operations, such as the allocation of resources, are often beyond the control of individual physicians. Based on my 15 years of leadership work in physician health and wellness, I strongly

believe that the most powerful drivers of immediate and sustainable improvements in physician wellness sit squarely in the realm of personal wellness habits. To be specific, the most effective action plan for an individual physician is to adopt daily habits that improve wellness as well as job and life satisfaction.

These are five habits that I have found to be helpful for myself and many of my physician colleagues in numerous practice settings:

## **#1: WAKE UP EVERY DAY WITH AN ORIENTATION OF GRATITUDE.**

My late father was a minister who became familiar with the brevity of human health and life through his frequent visits to the elderly and infirmed. When I was in junior high, he advised me to be grateful every morning I wake up. Think about it. To wake up is a gift. Many people die in their sleep from cardiac arrhythmias, strokes, and seizures. To wake up and enjoy one more day is a gift that should never be taken for granted.



## #2: BE MINDFUL.

Mindfulness is the practice of living fully in the moment, without judgment, free from regrets about the past or anxiety about the future. The person and situation before us deserve our full attention and effort. The opposite of living mindfully is multitasking, a rabbit hole that can lead to catastrophic outcomes in our personal and professional lives. We can't safely drive while texting. Likewise, we can't safely care for a patient while worrying about a peer-review inquiry questioning our quality of care.

## #3: INVEST IN THE RELATIONSHIPS THAT LEAD TO HAPPINESS, JOY, AND MEANING.

Our relationships with others include our professional, social, and family lives. The time we spend getting to know our patients as people, supporting our colleagues when they are struggling, and giving our families the quality time they deserve pays off for years to come. Our relationship with ourselves is called our emotional life. Based on personal experience, I highly recommend cultivating a healthy emotional life with the help of a professional counselor. They are excellent listeners and can help us develop values-based personal mission statements that serve as our north star when we navigate the multiple simultaneous conflicting imperatives of our lives. Our relationship with nature is called our Grizzly Adams life. Going outside and immersing ourselves in the awe-inspiring sights, sounds, and smells of Multnomah Falls, the Grand Prismatic Spring, and the Florida Everglades deeply connects us with the planet that spawned and sustains our lives.

## #4: SEE EVERY DAY AS ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO EVOLVE YOURSELF FROM "ME" TO "WE."

The premedical, medical school, and training years are appropriately self-centered as we work hard to acquire the knowledge and skills we need to be physicians. But as we make the pivot shift from learner and job applicant to clinician, we must let go of the individual "armor up and be perfect" modus operandi and adopt a new approach focused on teams working together for big causes greater than ourselves.

We must also tell the truth about the experience, rather than being the proverbial ducks on the pond, graceful and without a care on the surface, but frantically paddling underwater to just to stay afloat. This change in focus from self to others, and invincibility to vulnerability, creates a culture of shared humanity and purpose, psychological safety, and mutual support that sustains us during the ups and downs inherent to a medical career.

## #5: END EACH DAY WITH A HEALTHY DOSE OF SELF-AFFIRMATION AND SELF-COMPASSION.

Try borrowing this phrase from sociologist Brene Brown: “Yes, I am imperfect and vulnerable, and sometimes afraid, but that doesn’t change the fact that I am also brave and worthy of love and belonging.” Know that you are seen, heard, and appreciated for what you do. Settle gently into a well-deserved night of restorative sleep. Then wake up refreshed the next morning, and repeat these words that I vividly remember my father saying out loud to start his days: “I’m grateful for meaningful work, and the strength to do it.”

In summary, times are bad for American physicians. It is easy to get discouraged and lose hope. As a society, we must continue to work on the complex issues that play a major role in a physician’s ability to sustain and enjoy a career in medicine. At the same time, we have a responsibility as physicians to adapt to the drivers of burnout by adopting daily habits that will help us maintain our emotional health, connection to patients as human beings, and self-image as effective healers. Working together, with a sense of urgency and a shared commitment to encourage and support one another during these dark times, we can save the soul of our profession for ourselves and future generations.

*John Chuck, M.D., is a graduate of UC Berkeley, the UCLA School of Medicine, and the Family & Community Medicine residency program at the UC Davis Medical Center. He maintained a clinical practice in Davis, CA and served as the Chief of Health Promotion and the Chief of Physician Health & Wellness for Kaiser Permanente in the Sacramento/Roseville area. He was the Chairperson of the Regional Physician Health & Wellness Leaders Group for The Permanente Medical Group (TPMG), the nation’s largest multi-specialty group practice comprised of 10,000 physicians serving over 4 million patients in Northern California. He retired from TPMG in 2020. In addition to his work as a wellness consultant for health care professionals, he serves as Professor of Family Medicine at the California Northstate University College of Medicine and chairs the Joy of Medicine Advisory Board for the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society.*

*He is the Founder and CEO of Serotonin Surge Charities, a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum, and a UC Davis Foundation Trustee Emeritus. His work has been recognized with the Sidney Garfield Exceptional Contribution Award from The Permanente Medical Group (2004), the David Lawrence Community Service Award from Kaiser Permanente (for Serotonin Surge Charities, 2009), the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the UC Davis Alumni Association (2014), and the Charles J. Soderquist Award from the U.C. Davis Foundation (with his wife, Lesli, 2018).*



Contact Dr. Chuck at [John.chuck@cnsu.edu](mailto:John.chuck@cnsu.edu)

# FICTITIOUS NAME PERMITS EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

By *Julie Brown*  
*Central Complaint Unit Analyst*

The Medical Board of California's (Board) Central Complaint Unit often receives complaints regarding medical clinics operating without a valid **Fictitious Name Permit** (FNP). The purpose of an FNP is to allow a licensed physician to practice under a name other than their own. Additionally, if you have a partnership or group practice, or are using a name other than the name on your license, you are required to obtain an FNP.

Please note that a city or county fictitious business name or a professional medical corporation (PMC) registered with the state is not the same as an FNP issued by the Board.

If you are a licensed physician wanting to open a clinic with a name other than your own, you would need to complete the FNP application and submit it to the Board with the \$70 processing fee.

The Board receives thousands of FNP applications per year and it is important to read and follow all instructions on the application. You should carefully review and complete the application to ensure there are no errors which could cause your application to be delayed or rejected.

Here are examples of the most common errors which can cause rejection and/or delay of the FNP:

- The signature block on the application is not complete. Every portion of the signature block must be completed and include **original** signature and date.
- The desired name or similar FNP name is already taken.

- The fictitious name is not in compliance with **Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 2415(b)(3)** or similar to a name previously issued (**16 CCR section 1350.3**).
- The application is missing a Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number.
- The complete **name** and original **number** of California Corporation are not listed when applying as a PMC.
- Copies of Articles of Incorporation are not submitted with the application when applying as a PMC.
- The application fails to list all shareholders when applying as a PMC.
- The \$70 application fee is not submitted.

You may use the FNP once it is issued, however, please note the FNP must be renewed every two years along with a \$50 renewal fee.

If the FNP becomes delinquent, there is a delinquent fee of \$20 which will be added if the payment is not received within the 30 days following the expiration date of the permit. It is a violation of the Medical Practice Act to practice under an FNP with an expired or canceled permit.

Please note that insurance companies may contest paying you for services if you do not have a valid FNP when required under **BPC Section 2285** and **BPC Section 2415**.

## Consumer Benefit

In the event there is a problem or question regarding an FNP, consumers can search the Board's website under the **FNP license type** to determine if the license is registered and valid. If the consumer cannot locate the FNP license, they should report it to the Board by **filing a complaint** and providing evidence (advertising, business card, documents, etc.) with the name of the practice. The Board's Enforcement Unit will instruct the owner of the FNP about the need for an application or renewal, and administrative action may be taken against the physician.

Should you have further questions regarding FNP's, you can contact the Board's Licensing Program at 916-263-2382 or 800-633-2322. You may also visit the Board's **FNP Website** for further information.

# MBC NEEDS YOU!

If you live in CA and have a full-time active practice in CA, apply to be an expert reviewer for the Board.

## HISTORY

The Medical Board of California (Board) established its Expert Reviewer Program in July 1994, as an impartial and professional means to support its investigation and enforcement functions. Expert Reviewers assist the Board by providing reviews and opinions on Board cases, and conducting medical and psychiatric evaluations.

## REQUIREMENTS

Actively practicing physicians from all other specialties not listed here are welcome to apply and participate in the program. Physicians must be board certified, have been practicing their specialty for a minimum of three years after board certification, have no current complaints, no prior discipline, and must be willing and available to testify in court.

## MIDWIVES

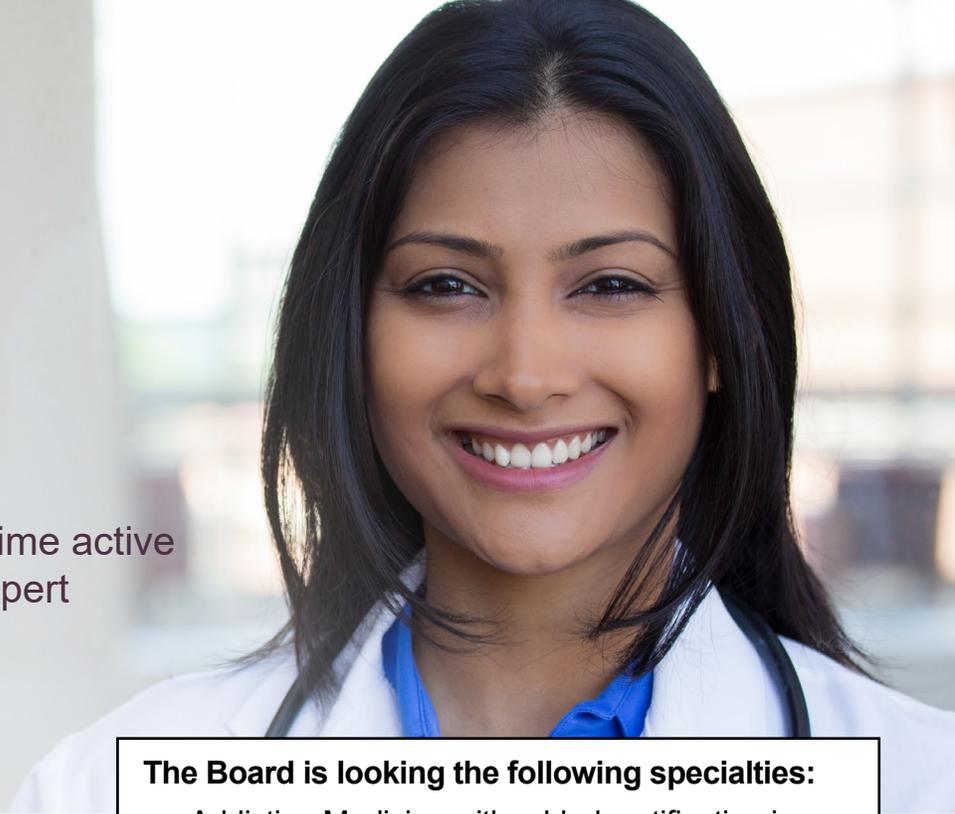
The Board also needs midwife expert reviewers throughout the state of California. Licensed midwives must have an active midwifery practice for the past two years, have no current complaints, no prior discipline, and must be willing and available to testify in court.

## CONTACT

For more information regarding compensation and how to apply, please visit our [website](#) or e-mail the Board's expert program at [MBCMedicalExpertProgram@mbc.ca.gov](mailto:MBCMedicalExpertProgram@mbc.ca.gov).

## The Board is looking the following specialties:

- Addiction Medicine with added certification in Family or Internal or Psychiatry
- Cardiology
- Clinical Genetics
- Colon/Rectal Surgery
- Dermatology
- Family Medicine
- Gastroenterology
- Hematology
- Interventional Cardiology
- Midwife Reviewer
- Neurological Surgery
- Neurology
- Obstetrics and Gynecology (with added expertise in Gynecologic Oncology)
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Pathology (preferred: Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, and Ventura Counties)
- Pediatric Endocrinology
- Pain Medicine
- Pediatric Gastroenterology
- Pediatric Surgery
- Pediatric Cardiac Surgery
- Pediatric Critical Care
- Pediatric Pulmonology
- Plastic Surgery
- Psychiatry (Forensic and Addiction)
- Radiation Oncology
- Surgery (General and Endocrine Surgery)
- Thoracic and Cardiac Surgery
- Urology (General and Gender Reassignment)
- Vascular Surgery



# FSMB MERIT AWARD

FSMB Bestows  
Merit Award to MBC  
President Kristina  
Lawson, JD



*Medical Board of California Secretary Laurie Lubiano, JD, (center) accepts the FSMB Award of Merit on behalf of Board President Kristina D. Lawson, JD, who was unable to attend the meeting held in New Orleans, April 28-30, 2022. Also pictured is Dr. Kenneth Simons (left), FSMB's Immediate Past Chair, and Dr. Humayun Chaudhry (right), FMSB President and CEO. Courtesy photo.*

**By Carlos Villatoro**  
**Public Information Manager**

The Federation of State Medical Boards recently recognized Medical Board of California (Board) President Kristina D. Lawson, JD, for her contributions to consumer protection efforts in California.

The FSMB bestowed President Lawson an Award of Merit during its 110th Annual Meeting held in New Orleans in late April. The award is given to individuals in recognition of an activity or contribution that has positively impacted and strengthened the profession of medical licensure and discipline and helped

enhance public protection according to the FSMB website.

“As the United States faced massive upheaval from COVID-19 in 2021, a new threat emerged – the rapid rise of misinformation and disinformation by physicians and other health professionals. Kristina Lawson, JD, President of the Medical Board of California, was recognized for her steadfast leadership in upholding the mission of the Board while facing harassment, threats, and unwanted political pressure,” FSMB said in a statement.

“As the Medical Board pursued investigations against physicians allegedly spreading COVID disinformation, Ms. Lawson valiantly withstood personal confrontations and slanderous cyber-attacks from fringe physician groups – adamantly refusing to back down from the Board’s mission of patient safety despite ongoing harassment.”

For Lawson, who has served the Board since 2015 and began her term as Board President in November 2020, the award is an extraordinary honor.

“Serving as a public member of the Medical Board of California is a labor of love for me,” she said. “My late father was a physician who loved practicing medicine. After his unexpected passing, I wanted to serve on the Medical Board as a way of honoring his legacy and protecting the integrity of the profession he loved.”

Lawson said the Merit Award also serves as a great show of support during a particularly challenging era highlighted by the spread of COVID-19 misinformation.

“I never could have imagined that six years after my appointment to the Board, I would be targeted at home and at work by a fringe group of licensed physicians,” Lawson said. “These licensed physicians have intentionally spread false and misleading claims about COVID-19 and vaccinations, advocated for the use of unproven and potentially dangerous therapies, and stoked fear in communities across the country.”



*President Kristina D. Lawson*

Lawson said she decided to share her experience and publicly stand up to doctors who spread misinformation to combat misinformation and disinformation head on.

“Medical misinformation and disinformation have been weaponized and is literally killing those we are all entrusted to protect,” she said. “My sincere thanks to FSMB for recognizing the dangers of misinformation and speaking publicly last summer about the risks and potential consequences – your public statement has given boards across the country the courage and confidence to speak up and take action.”

# NEW! ADDRESS CHANGE UPDATE

Due to security concerns, the Medical Board of California is no longer accepting paper change of address/e-mail forms.

You may change your address online through the **BreEze system**. Initial license applicants may contact their assigned reviewer to request an address or e-mail change.

If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to [webmaster@mbc.ca.gov](mailto:webmaster@mbc.ca.gov) or call (800) 633-2322.

# BECOME AN MBC MEDICAL CONSULTANT WE NEED YOUR SPECIALTY!

The Medical Board of California's (Board) Central Complaint Unit is accepting applications for the Medical Consultant Program.

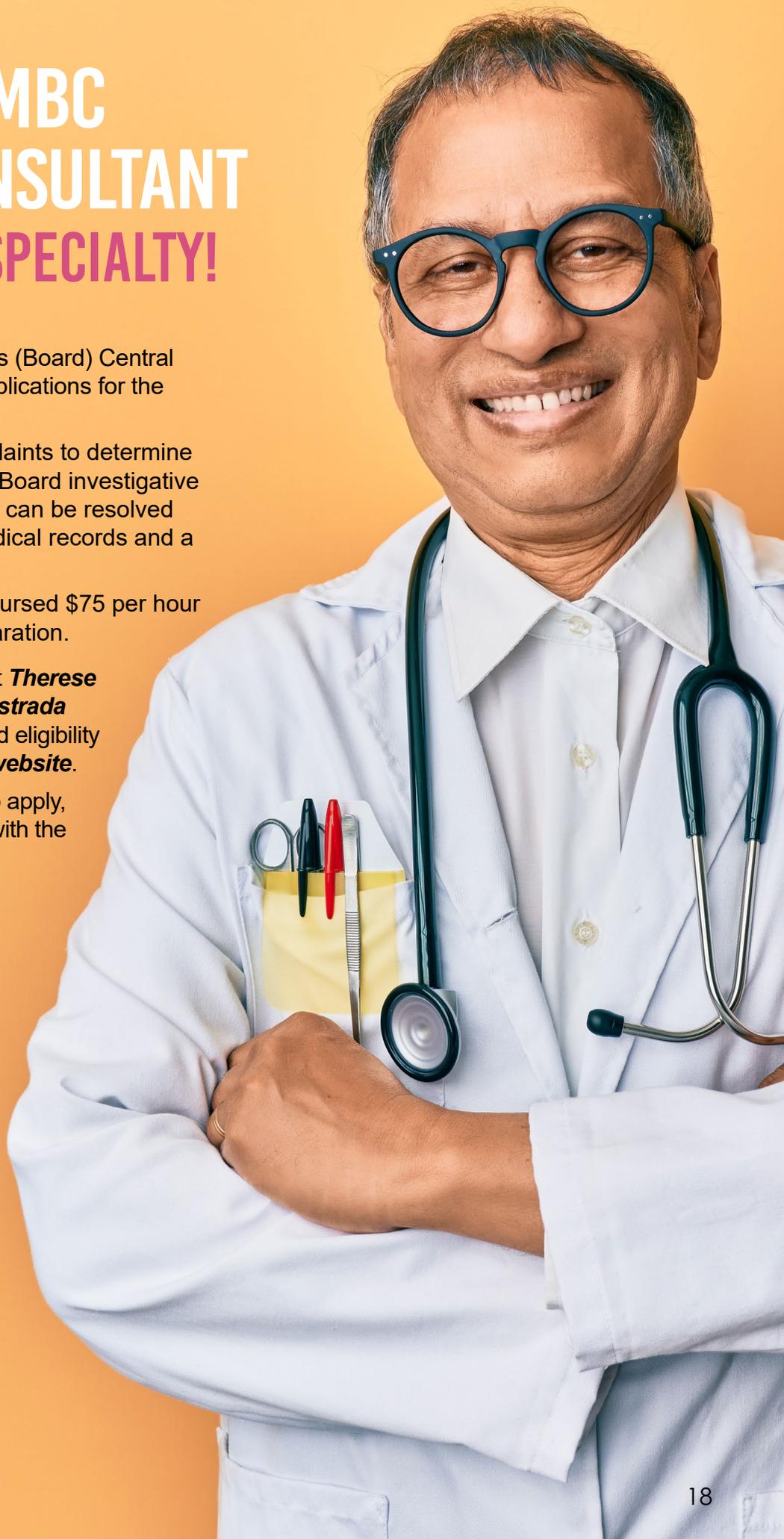
Medical Consultants review complaints to determine whether a formal investigation by Board investigative staff is needed, or if the complaint can be resolved by a preliminary review of the medical records and a physician narrative statement.

Participating physicians are reimbursed \$75 per hour for record review and report preparation.

If you are interested, please contact **Therese Kelly** at (916) 263-2434 or **Hugo Estrada** (916) 263-2463. The application and eligibility requirements are available on our **website**.

While all specialties are welcome to apply, the Board is in need of physicians with the specialties below:

- Cardiac Surgery
- Colon and Rectal Surgery
- Dermatology
- Gynecology
- Interventional Cardiology
- Interventional Radiology
- Neonatal/Perinatal
- Neurological Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Pain Medicine
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Plastic Surgery
- Radiation Oncology
- Thoracic Surgery
- Vascular Surgery



# MAY 2022 HEARING ON BOARD LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

*By Emmalee Ross*  
*Public Information Officer*

**O**n May 6, 2022, the Medical Board of California (Board), Attorney General's Office, and Health Quality Investigation Unit within the Department of Consumer Affairs' Division of Investigation participated in a Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development (BP&ED) Committee **oversight hearing** to review some of the Board's 2022 enforcement legislative proposals.

"The Medical Board of California remains the focus of numerous discussions as this committee continues to evaluate the importance of efficient government agencies through our sunset review process," said Senator Richard D. Roth, Senate BP&ED Committee chair. "Today's hearing will provide an opportunity for a public discussion about reforms to the Medical Practice Act and Board operations, and **reforms proposed by the Medical Board** as we continue to gather information and input to guide our ongoing oversight of this very, very important program."

Board President Kristina Lawson spoke on behalf of the Board detailing necessary proposals for enhancing the Board's Enforcement Program.

"Under California law, we believe the Board is at a significant disadvantage compared to most other boards across the country," said Lawson, referring to the Board's proposal to reduce the amount of evidence required to prove unprofessional conduct. "This is a disadvantage when attempting to investigate and prosecute a licensee suspected of failing to properly care for patients or acting in an unprofessional manner."

Currently, the Board is required to prove a case by clear and convincing evidence to a reasonable certainty prior to taking disciplinary action. According to Lawson, this is a higher burden of proof than 41 other jurisdictions throughout the US and its territories, which generally apply a preponderance of evidence standard for their cases.

Changing the burden of proof to preponderance of the evidence will help the Board complete investigations more efficiently and reduce the number of cases that are closed due to insufficient evidence.

The next proposal Lawson discussed was the Board's concern that the current requirements for peer review bodies and health facilities to report unprofessional conduct are not sufficient to protect the public.

**CHANGING THE BURDEN OF  
PROOF TO PREPONDERANCE  
OF THE EVIDENCE WILL  
HELP THE BOARD COMPLETE  
INVESTIGATIONS MORE  
EFFICIENTLY**

# LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Lawson explained the Board’s goal is to be made aware whenever an organization that employs a physician or contracts for the services of a physician, terminates or changes the terms of their employment or services due to a medical disciplinary cause or reason.

If an organization takes adverse action against a physician in these instances, it is appropriate for the Board to be made aware to determine if there is also a violation of the Medical Practice Act and if disciplinary action is warranted.

“By increasing reports that come from physicians, peers, and employers, this proposal may help avoid patient harm and it will reduce the burden on consumers to file a complaint as well,” said Lawson.

“Increasing the number of required reports would allow the Board to step in earlier in the process.”

The third proposal discussed was whether the requirements should change for disciplined licensees seeking a modification to their probation terms or licensure reinstatement.

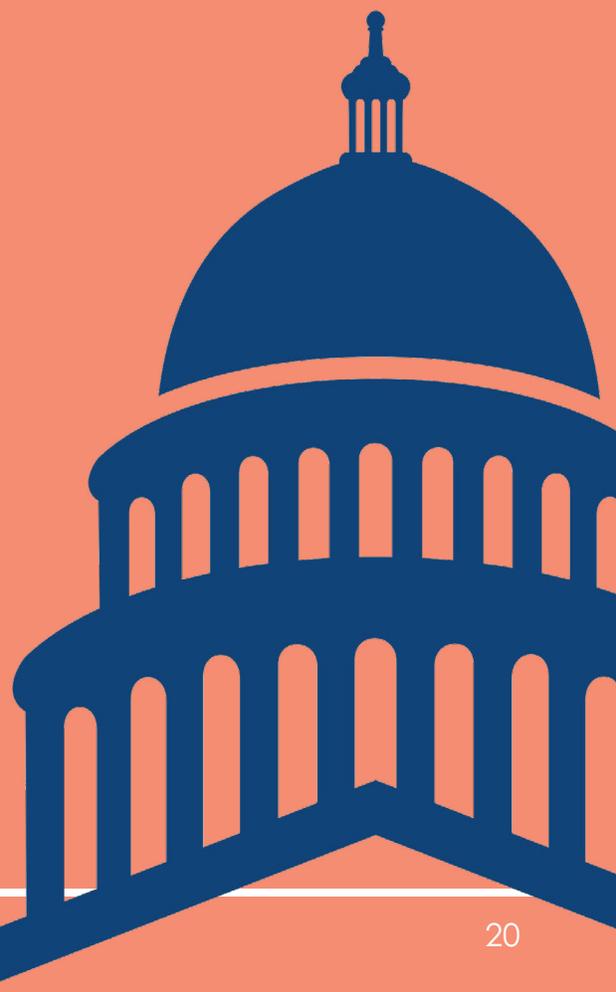
Currently, pursuant to ***Business and Professions Code Section 2307***, a disciplined licensee may petition the Board to seek reinstatement of a revoked or surrendered license, or have their probation modified or terminated early. The process to review and consider these petitions creates substantial costs for the Board.

The Board proposed two options – extending the amount of time someone must wait before

submitting a petition, expecting to increase the likelihood that a person has been rehabilitated; or requiring individuals seeking reinstatement or penalty relief to pay a fee to offset the Board’s costs associated with processing these petitions.

Lawson also discussed the Board’s consideration of a proposal to develop a Complainant Liaison Unit at the Board, that would guide complainants through the disciplinary process, providing support and communication, and the benefit of adding an additional public member to the Board creating a public member majority.

The Board looks forward to continued conversations with the Legislature regarding its proposals. The Committee thanked the Board for its participation in the hearing and committed to continuing the dialogue regarding ways to improve the Board.



# INFANT FORMULA SHORTAGE

*By the California Department of Public Health*



Families across the nation are feeling the impact of the infant formula shortage – this includes our families here in California. The Maternal, Child and Adolescent Division and the Women, Infants, and Children’s Program teamed up to develop an [Infant Formula webpage](#). This webpage provides the latest information about the shortage and connects California families in need of formula to helpful resources.

## EDD’S ID.ME TO PROTECT MEDICAL PROVIDER IDENTITIES

*By the Employment Development Department*

In January 2022, the Employment Development Department (EDD) began requiring medical providers to verify their identity through ID.me before certifying State Disability Insurance (SDI) claims to continue blocking disability insurance fraud attempts.

ID.me is a technology provider for the State of California that specializes in digital identity protection and helps EDD make sure you are you—and not someone pretending to be you.

If you certified an SDI claim in 2021, you may be contacted by EDD through email with details on how to verify through ID.me. Please note, this

email will come from an email address ending in @edd.ca.gov. If any additional characters are included in the email domain, the email is not coming from EDD.

As scammers attempt to get personal information in many sophisticated and creative ways, EDD continues to enhance and update information on the [Help Fight Fraud webpage](#).

EDD recognizes that this information is high level, and that you may have additional questions. Please refer to [edd.ca.gov/disability/](https://edd.ca.gov/disability/) for additional information.

# CALIFORNIA PRENATAL SCREENING PROGRAM CHANGES

*By the California  
Department of Public Health*

California is one of few states offering prenatal screening as part of a statewide public health program, and we are making improvements! The California Department of Public Health's California Prenatal Screening (PNS) Program will begin offering cell-free DNA (cfDNA) screening to all pregnant Californians in September 2022. cfDNA screening will be a primary screen, along with maternal serum alpha-fetoprotein test (MSAFP) screening in the second trimester.

Moving to cfDNA screening will raise the quality of prenatal screening for the entire California population for three common trisomies at an affordable price. To stay abreast of PNS Program changes, sign up for the [\*PNS Program e-newsletter\*](#) or visit the [\*PNS Program website\*](#).

**SAVE THE DATES:** The final PNS Program changes webinar on August 24, 2022, 12:00pm-1:30pm, will share new training and educational materials. Please register on our [\*PNS Program Webinars webpage\*](#). Previously recorded webinars are also posted there. CME credits are available for all webinars on request.

**REGISTER NOW**



# MEDICAL BOARD CHAT PODCAST

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Medical Board of California (Board) has its very own podcast where we chat all things from new and changing legislation, to one-on-one interviews with Board management and Board members.

You can check out the [episodes](#) we currently have published on our website, and sign up for the [Subscriber Alerts "News"](#) topic to be updated when a new podcast episode is released.

## PRINT YOUR WALLET LICENSE

The Medical Board of California (Board) has developed a "Print Your Own" **Wallet License Generator** that allows individuals, with licenses in Current status, to generate their own Wallet License and print it wherever they have access to a printer.

Benefits:

- License Specific QR Code allowing interested parties to instantly view DCA Search License Profile page with real-time status information from any QR Code capable device.
- Available immediately, versus the 4-6 weeks previously required to receive plastic cards.
- Wallet License is generated as an electronic PDF file that can be sent to employers or others as needed.
- Saves the Board resources related to the generating, printing, and mailing of plastic cards.

The plastic cards are being phased out in the first half of 2022. To generate your own Wallet License, please use the link below to access the generator from our website: [Medical Board of California Wallet Card Generator](#)

# ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

## NOVEMBER 1, 2021 – JANUARY 31, 2022

### Explanation of Disciplinary Language and Actions

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“Effective date of decision” — Example: “March 14, 2020” at the bottom of the summary means the date the disciplinary decision goes into operation.

“Gross negligence” — An extreme deviation or departure from the standard of care.

“Incompetence” — Lack of knowledge or skills in discharging professional obligations.

“Judicial review pending” — The disciplinary decision is being challenged through the court system, i.e., Superior Court, Court of Appeal, or State Supreme Court. The discipline is currently in effect.

“Probationary License” — A conditional license issued to an applicant with probationary terms and conditions. This is done when cause exists to deny the license application, but limitations can be put in place to protect the public.

“Public Letter of Reprimand” — A lesser form of discipline that can be negotiated after or in lieu of the filing of formal charges. The reprimand may include educational and clinical training requirements.

“Revoked” — The right to practice is ended due to disciplinary action. The license is invalidated, voided, annulled, or rescinded.

“Revoked, stayed, 5 years' probation with terms and conditions, including 60 days suspension” — “Stayed” means the revocation is postponed. Professional practice may continue so long as the licensee complies with specified probationary terms and conditions which, in this example, includes 60 days of actual suspension from practice. Violation of any term of probation may result in the revocation that was postponed.

“Stipulated Decision or Settlement” — A form of plea bargaining. The case is formally negotiated and settled prior to hearing.

“Surrender” — To resolve a disciplinary action, the licensee has given up his or her license — subject to acceptance by the Board.

“Suspension from practice” — The licensee is prohibited from practicing for a specific period of time.

## PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

### **ABELES, DOUGLAS JOEL, M.D. (G 79953), CASTRO VALLEY, CA**

No admissions but was charged with unprofessional conduct and the LLC company Dr. Abeles owned, operated, and controlled was convicted of one count of insurance fraud, a felony. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must provide 40 hours of medical or non-medical community service within the first two years of probation; must complete an ethics course; must obtain a billing monitor; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 18, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

### **AFRIDI, NADEEM ALEEM (C 175653), NEWTON HIGHLANDS, MA**

Applicant engaged in irregular behavior in connection with the submission of a fraudulent medical diploma and fraudulent final medical school transcript to the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates. Probationary license issued, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, completion of an ethics course; and paying costs associated with probation monitoring. December 7, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

### **AKBER, BUSHRA ALI, M.D. (A 96502), NAPERVILLE, IL**

No admissions but was charged with having a mental or physical condition affecting her ability to safely practice medicine. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course and an ethics course; must complete a professional boundaries program; must submit to a psychiatric evaluation, and shall not engage in the practice of medicine until notified by the Board or its designee that she is mentally fit to practice medicine safely; must attend psychotherapy; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician

assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

### **ALI, MUMTAZ AHMED. M.D. (A 43472), BUENA PARK, CA**

No admissions but was charged with repeated negligent acts; failure to attend and participate in a Board interview; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of 3 patients. Public Reprimand. Must complete a prescribing practices course. November 12, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

### **AMAYA, CELESTE LIM (A 68073), PALM DESERT, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; dishonest or corrupt acts; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of a single patient. License Surrendered. November 11, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

### **APAYDIN, AYTAC HILMI, M.D. (A 46632), SALINAS, CA**

Respondent charged with failing to obey state law; unprofessional conduct; and use of alcohol in a dangerous manner in connection to his arrest and no contest plea for driving under the influence of alcohol. Previously imposed probation revoked. Revocation stayed and placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must submit to clinical diagnostic evaluation and reports must be provided to Board; must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from the use of alcohol; must submit to biological fluid testing; must attend substance abuse support group meetings; must obtain a worksite monitor; must obtain a practice monitor; must complete an education course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 28, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ARASTU, HYDER HUSAIN, M.D. (A 42456),  
GREENVILLE, NC**

Admitted to being disciplined by North Carolina for prescribing controlled substances to a colleague and the colleague's spouse without a documented medical reason. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 16, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ARORA, VIJAY, M.D. (A 41663),  
APPLE VALLEY, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of a single patient. November 18, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**BESHAY, ISAAC NAGEEB, M.D. (A 89039),  
COSTA MESA, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of a single patient. Must complete a medical record keeping course. December 23, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**BHANDARI, BHUPINDER NATH (A 50058),  
FREMONT, CA**

Charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient; repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 14, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**BRETZ, PHILLIP DE EVANS (A 32596),  
LA QUINTA, CA**

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation. License Surrendered. December 7, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**BUCHNER, WILLIAM HOWARD, JR., M.D.  
(A 109750), SAN DIEGO, CA**

No admissions but was charge with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients; and failure to comply with terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing to obey all laws. License revoked, stayed, placed on one (1) year additional probation that will run consecutive to the Disciplinary Order in Case No. 800-2016-020267, with the same terms and conditions. January 14, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**CHAFFOO, RICHARD ALBERT, M.D.  
(G 54363), LA JOLLA, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts; failure to maintain adequate and accurate records; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of 2 patients. Public Reprimand. Must complete medical record keeping course. November 12, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**CIANCIO, STEVE RICHARD, M.D. (A 99698),  
REDONDO BEACH, CA**

Admitted to repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of a single patient. Public Reprimand. Must complete an education course. November 12, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**CLARK, PETER MORTON, M.D. (A 68635),  
MAMMOTH LAKES, CA**

No admissions but was charged with sexual exploitation and sexual misconduct with one patient; dishonest or corrupt acts; unprofessional conduct; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of one patient. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must provide 80 hours of medical

community service; must complete an ethics course; must complete a professional boundaries program; must attend psychotherapy; required to have a third party chaperone present while consulting, examining or treating female patients; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 24, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**COSTELLO, LLOYD ALAN, M.D. (G 53195),  
HIGHLAND, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for gross negligence in the care and treatment of a single patient. November 10, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**DARSEY, REBECCA LYNNE, M.D. (A 88782),  
VACAVILLE, CA**

No admissions but charged with having a mental or physical illness affecting competency to practice medicine. License revoked, stayed, and placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete prescribing practices program; must attend psychotherapy; must continue treatment with primary care physician; prohibited from self-prescribing prescription drugs/medications; must obtain a practice monitor; solo practice prohibition; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 14, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**DOSHI, TUSHAR RAMNIK (A 53572),  
NEWPORT BEACH, CA**

Charged with having been convicted of crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon—specifically, plead guilty to 4 counts of insurance fraud; dishonest or corrupt acts; and violation of the Medical Practice Act. License revoked for 10 years from the effective date of the Order. December 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**DROST, SHARON SOOKDEO, M.D.  
(A 85903), LOS ALTOS, CA**

Admitted to conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, duties, and functions of a physician and surgeon in connection to her

arrest and subsequent plea of nolo contendere for reckless driving. No admissions related to charges of excessive use of drugs/alcohol. Public Reprimand. January 7, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**EISENKOP, SCOTT, M.D. (G 41053),  
BUELLTON, CA**

No admissions but charged with dishonest or corrupt acts; gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate or accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients; excessively prescribing controlled substances to one patient; and failure to comply with terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing to obey all laws, by failing to abide by the conditions regarding the limitation of work-related hours, and by failing to comply with the Board's probation program. License revoked, stayed, placed on seven (7) years' additional probation, which is to run consecutive to the current probationary term. In addition to the terms and conditions of probation ordered in the Board's Decision and Order in Case No. 17-2012-224090, other terms and conditions are added and shall take effect immediately, including, but are not limited to, successfully completing a clinical competence assessment program. January 13, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ELIAS, RAMIZ NAIM, M.D. (A 99956),  
SAN DIEGO, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of multiple patients; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, prohibited from prescribing any controlled substances for treatment of pain unless providing medical care at hospitals, emergency rooms, skilled nursing facilities, or assisted living facilities; prohibited from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendations or approvals to possess or cultivate marijuana; must complete

an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; must successfully complete a clinical competence assessment program; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ELLIOTT, ROBERT MICHAEL (G 29258),  
PALM SPRINGS, CA**

Admitted to having a physical and/or mental illness and/or condition that affects his competency and ability to practice medicine safely. License Surrendered. December 22, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**EPSTEIN, LARRY A, M.D. (C 24787),  
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; prescribing without appropriate medical examination/medical indication; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of a single patient. Must complete a prescribing practices course and submit to the Board a written protocol for responding to any and all requests for medical records. Public Reprimand. January 12, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**FAM, DANIELLE MARIE, M.D. (C 175478),  
SAN DIEGO, CA**

Applicant was convicted of possession of a controlled substance, used drugs and/or alcohol excessively, suffered an out-of-state disciplinary action (Virginia), engaged in dishonest/corrupt acts; and committed an act which violates California's laws regulating controlled substances. Probationary License issued. Placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from alcohol; must submit to a clinical diagnostic evaluation and submit reports to Board; must submit to biological fluid testing; must obtain worksite monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice

nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 12, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**FERRER, CARLOS BUSUEGO (A37236),  
MURRIETA, CA**

Charged with self-prescribing controlled substances; unlawful impersonation of another licensed practitioner; gross negligence; dishonesty or corruption; failing to maintain adequate and accurate medical records; prescribing without prior examination and medical need; and knowingly making and signing false documents related to the practice of medicine in the care and treatment of one patient. License revoked. November 4, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**FILGAS, FRANCES DEE, M.D. (G 42185),  
WINDSOR, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; incompetence; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of multiple patients; excessively prescribing controlled substances to three patients; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; must successfully complete a clinical competence assessment program; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 16, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**FISCHL, PETER, M.D. (A 33580),  
VICTORVILLE, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for failing to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of a single patient. January 25, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**GILBERT, RANDALL CURTIS (G 55905),  
LOS ANGELES, CA**

Admitted to gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; failure to maintain adequate and accurate records; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of 4 patients. License Surrendered. January 14, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**GILMARTIN, MATTHEW AUGUST, M.D.  
(A 93851), SAN FRANCISCO, CA**

Charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete a medical record keeping course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**GLAZER, ROBERT AARON (A 35818),  
LOS ANGELES, CA**

Charged with conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon; making false statements and dishonesty; and unprofessional conduct. License Revoked. December 17, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**GORSKI, GREGORY L (G 15977),  
SOUTH PASADENA, CA**

No admissions but charged with failure to apply for access to and monitoring of CURES; repeated negligent acts; incompetence; failure to maintain adequate and accurate records; prescribing without appropriate examination and excessive prescribing; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of four patients. License surrendered. December 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**GOSHTASBY, PARVIZ HIROSHI, M.D.  
(A 110114), NEWPORT BEACH, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; incompetence; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment

of one patient; created false or misleading advertisements; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on four (4) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 15, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HARLEY, JIM RAYBURN (G 55907),  
SAN DIEGO, CA**

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation. License Surrendered. December 1, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HEFAZI TORGHABEH, MEHYAR, M.D.  
(A 175505), SAN BRUNO, CA**

Applicant was suspended and placed on probation several times during training for issues relating to professionalism. Applicant also failed to disclose suspension and probation on the license application. Probationary license issued and placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete a professionalism program (ethics course); must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 16, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HEINER, RICHARD ALAN (C 51617),  
MONTEREY, CA**

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation. License Surrendered. November 8, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HELLAND, PAUL ERIC, M.D. (A 160282),  
LOS ANGELES, CA**

No admissions but was charged with having a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation until the anticipated end date of 01/12/2027. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from the use of alcohol; must complete an education course and an ethics course; must attending psychotherapy; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; must submit to biological fluid testing; must attend substance abuse support group meetings; must obtaining a worksite monitor; must notify patients of probation status; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 13, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HEMMING, ALAN WILLIAM (C 53758),  
IOWA CITY, IA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of a single patient; and with using a controlled substance in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to the extent that such use impairs his ability to safely practice medicine. License Surrendered. November 12, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HERSH, NEIL K, M.D. (G 58484),  
LAGUNA HILLS, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of three patients. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must provide 40 hours of medical or non-medical community service; must complete an education course and an ethics course; must take and pass the Special Purpose Examination (SPEX) or an equivalent examination as determined by the Board or its designee; must obtaining a practice monitor; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HERSKOWITZ, AHVIE, M.D. (C 50117),  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA**

Charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient; and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must completing a medical record keeping course; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 23, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HICKS, DAVID LAWRENCE, M.D. (A 78818),  
WALNUT CREEK, CA**

Dr. Hicks' previously surrendered license was reinstated, revoked, stayed, placed on four (4) years' probation until. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, shall not practice medicine until successfully completing a clinical competence assessment program; must complete an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 24, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HOFFMAN, JILL ADRIENNE, M.D. (G 68269)**

No admissions but was charged with dishonest or corrupt acts; violating statutes regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances; using drugs and/or alcohol in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to herself, another person, or to the public; prescribing controlled substances without a legitimate medical purpose; creating false/fictitious prescription for controlled substances; obtaining/procuring prescription for controlled substances by fraud/deceit; knowingly making or signing a document directly related to the practice of medicine that falsely represented an existence of a statement of facts; forging prescriptions for self-use; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on seven (7) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but

are not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances except for those drugs listed in Schedule V and from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; must maintain a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendations or approvals to possess or cultivate marijuana; abstaining from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from the use of alcohol; must complete an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; must attend psychotherapy; must submit to biological fluid testing; must attend substance abuse support group meetings; must obtain a worksite monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 16, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HOLT, CHRIS (A 96213), SAN DIEGO, CA**  
Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation. License Surrendered. November 16, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HOUSE, DAVID DUNCAN (G 58877), LAKEPORT, CA**  
Required to register as a sex offender after conviction for sexual battery and sexual exploitation. Automatic revocation of License. December 31, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**HULL, STACY SACHIKO, M.D. (G 83123), SACRAMENTO, CA**  
No admissions but was charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course and a

medical record keeping course; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**IBRAHIM, RAGAA REZK, M.D. (C 52906), WOODLAND HILLS, CA**  
No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records. License revoked, stayed, and placed on four (4) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course; must complete a medical record keeping course; must complete a professionalism program (ethics course); prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 6, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**JAFFER, ADRIAN MICHAEL (A 25563), LA JOLLA, CA**  
No admissions but charged with sexual misconduct; gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of a single patient. License Surrendered. December 22, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**JODHANI, MADHU, M.D. (A 50459), YUBA CITY, CA**  
Committed repeated negligent acts and failed to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete a medical record keeping course and an ethics course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 12, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**JOHNSON, ALFRED BERNARD, M.D.  
(G 88950), MERCED, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient; repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of three patients; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of one patient. License revoked, stayed, placed on four (4) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete a medical record keeping; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 24, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**KAMALI, AZIZULAH, M.D. (A 40135),  
STOCKTON, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of 2 patients. Public Reprimand. Must complete a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course. November 19, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**KANEN, NANI (A 77565), BURLINGAME, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of 3 patients. Public Reprimand. Must complete a medical record keeping course. November 19, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**KELLY-DOKUBO, IDUAMA B (G 51025),  
PASADENA, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; incompetence; failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records; and unprofessional conduct. Public Reprimand. Must complete a medical record keeping course. January 20, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**KHAN, SHER ALI (A171134),  
ALBUQUERUQUE, NM**

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation. License Surrendered. January 27, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**KIM, STEPHEN KYO-SUNG (G 76433),  
LOS ANGELES, CA**

Admitted to having been convicted of involuntary manslaughter; practicing medicine while impaired; gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and using controlled substances in a manner that is dangerous to himself and the public during the care and treatment of a single patient. License Surrendered. January 14, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**KIRIAKOS, LINDSAY RAMZI, M.D. (A 79342),  
ENCINO, CA**

No admissions but charged with sexual misconduct with one patient; gross negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on seven (7) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course; must complete a medical record keeping course; must complete an ethics course; must complete a professional boundaries program; must submit to a psychiatric evaluation; must attend psychotherapy; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from accepting any new female patients for care and treatment; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 21, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**KOCH, JOHANNA SHOOP, M.D. (G 55964),  
INCLINE VILLAGE, NV**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 based on action taken by the Nevada State Board for violating the standards of practice when a single-use auto disabling fingerstick device was used on multiple patients. January 25, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**LEE, JOHN STANLEY, M.D. (A 33764),  
BEVERLY HILLS, CA**

No admissions but was charged with having a mental or physical condition affecting his ability to safely practice medicine. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from the use of alcohol; must submit to biological fluid testing; must submit to a psychiatric evaluation; must attend psychotherapy; must attend substance abuse support group meetings; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 28, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**LEE, KATHERINE BO, M.D. (G 72934),  
CINCINNATI, OH**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of 20 patients. License revoked, stayed, and placed on four (4) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course; must complete a communication course; must complete a medical record keeping course; must complete a professionalism program (ethics course); must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**LEEDS, HOLLY MARLENE (G 79232),  
GRASS VALLEY, CA**

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation. License Surrendered. January 31, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**LI, QUINN, M.D. (A 87986),  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA**

Committed acts of gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failed to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of a patient. License revoked, stayed, placed on

three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 6, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**LIN, JAY (A 116175), HOUSTON, TX**

Required to register as a sex offender after being convicted of online solicitation of a minor. Automatic revocation of License. January 6, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**LIPSHITZ, DARREN, M.D. (A 65353),  
SANTA BARBARA, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records. License revoked, stayed, and placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete education course; must complete prescribing practices course; must complete medical record keeping course; must complete professional boundaries program; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 6, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**LYNN, JOSHUA MICHAEL, M.D. (A 175652),  
FAIR OAKS, CA**

Applicant reported to the Board that he has participated in a substance abuse recovery program. Probationary license issued, placed on two (2) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must submit to biological fluid testing; must attend substance abuse support group meetings; must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from the use of alcohol; must attend psychotherapy; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 7, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**MACLAREN, JAMES CLYDE, JR., M.D.  
(G 48964), TURLOCK, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of two patients; repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient; and failed to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 18, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**MARTIN, ALEXIS, M.D. (G 24871),  
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of four patients. Must complete a medical record keeping course. November 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**MARUPUDI, NEELIMA KRISHNAPRIYA,  
M.D. (A 142324), CHICAGO, IL**

Charged with unprofessional conduct, dangerous use of alcohol, and having a physical or mental impairment that limits her ability to safely practice medicine. Public Reprimand. December 20, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**MILLS, STEVEN CHRISTOPHER, M.D.  
(C 54714), SUTTER CREEK, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for negligence in the care and treatment of three patients. Must complete a prescribing practices course. January 7, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**MINKOFF, DAVID IRA (G 30196),  
CLEARWATER, FL**

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation. License Surrendered. December 9, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**MONACO, RENATO P (C 18379), NEWPORT  
BEACH, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of three patients. License Surrendered. December 14, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**MOUKARZEL, ELIAS N (C 50303),  
EL CENTRO, CA**

Charged with repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of two patients and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. License revoked, stayed, placed on one (1) year probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 14, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**MULTANI, KANWAR BIR VARINDER JEET  
SINGH, M.D. (A 143529), YUBA CITY, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of one patient, and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, and placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; must obtain a practice monitor; must complete a communication course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 23, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**NATION, MARTIN CHARLES (G 44036),  
ORANGE, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; failure to maintain a current fictitious name permit; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of two patients. License Surrendered. November 19, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**NGUYEN, MICHAEL VAN, M.D. (A 148744),  
OAKLAND, CA**

Admitted to unprofessional conduct; conviction of a felony, one count of driving with a blood alcohol content of .08% or more; and using drugs and/or alcohol in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must abstain from the use of alcohol; must submit to biological fluid testing; must provide 40 hours of medical or non-medical community service; must complete an ethics course; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 12, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**NIELSEN, MICHAEL WARREN, M.D.  
(A 79412), LA JOLLA, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care of and treatment of three patients. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; must successfully complete a clinical competence assessment program; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 7, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**O'DORISIO, JAMES EDWARD, M.D.  
(A 44147), SANTA ROSA, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, incompetence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient; repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of two patients; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course and an ethics course; must successfully complete a clinical competence assessment program; must obtaining a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from performing any vascular procedure that involves the use of contrast dye on a patient with a history of renal failure or renal insufficiency without a prior consultation with a nephrology specialist; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**PARK, ARTHUR M. (A 44597),  
BAKERSFIELD, CA**

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation. License Surrendered. December 30, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**PARK, LEEANNE, M.D. (A 146290),  
SARATOGA, CA**

No admissions but was charged with having a condition affecting her ability to practice medicine safely; using drugs and/or alcohol in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to herself, another person, or to the public; and dishonest or corrupt acts. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, shall not prescribe controlled substances in any setting other than a hospital without prior approval by the Board or its designee; must maintain a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendations or approvals to possess or cultivate marijuana; must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from the use of alcohol; must complete

a prescribing practices course and an ethics course; must attending psychotherapy; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from practicing medicine in any setting other than a hospital without prior Board approval; must submit to biological fluid testing; must submit to a psychiatric evaluation; must attend substance abuse support group meetings; must obtain a worksite monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 4, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**PARK, MI RAN, M.D. (A 103558),  
SAN JOSE, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of one patient. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course; must successfully complete a clinical competence assessment program; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 17, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**PEREZ, YANIRA, M.D. (A 119819),  
LA PUENTE, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for repeated negligent acts; failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of a single patient. Must complete a medical record keeping course and an education course. December 17, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**POLIAKIN, RAYMOND ISRAEL, M.D.  
(G 42576), THOUSAND OAKS, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records. Public Reprimand. Must

complete medical record keeping course. November 10, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**RANDHAWA, PRITPAL SINGH, M.D.  
(A 83324), PLACERVILLE, CA**

After successfully completing a medical record keeping course in connection with the June 16, 2021 Decision, Public Letter of Reprimand was issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for repeated negligent acts; failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of a single patient. November 5, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**RAZI, TOUFAN, M.D. (A 82682),  
SAN LEANDRO, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of 2 patients. Public Reprimand. Must complete a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course. December 2, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**REECE, TYRON CLEON (A 31509),  
RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA**

Charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; incompetence; dishonest or corrupt acts; knowingly making or signing false medical documents; creation of a false medical record; failing to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of 6 patients. License Revoked. December 24, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**REGAN, JOHN JOSEPH, M.D. (G 85966),  
SANTA MONICA, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for gross negligence in the care and treatment of a single patient. November 2, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**RENSINK, MICHAEL JOHN (G 20200),  
CHULA VISTA, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of a single patient. License Surrendered. January 13, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ROBB, LEON G (A 28599), LOS ANGELES, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; furnishing dangerous drugs without a medical examination; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of four patients. License Surrendered. November 24, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ROBLES, DAVID THOMAS, M.D. (A 105427),  
RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA**

Committed gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, sexual misconduct, failed to participate in a Board interview, and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete a professional boundaries program; must attend psychotherapy; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 17, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**RODRIGUEZ, LEONEL LAMON, M.D.  
(A 54600), BLYTHE, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of a single patient. January 19, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ROODNESHIN, HAMID REZA (A 131399),  
KENT, WA**

Disciplined by the state of Washington for failing to respond to a Statement of Charges for allegations of unprofessional conduct. License Revoked. December 23, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SCHAFFER, JOHN RAY, M.D. (G 6244),  
SONOMA, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of three patients; incompetence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients; repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient; excessively prescribing controlled substances to two patients; sexual misconduct and sexual exploitation with two patients; prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication; prescribing to an addict; violation of statutes regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances; prescribing, administering, or dispensing controlled substances to an addict; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, shall not prescribe any medications and may only practice medicine as follows: Dr. Schaffer may continue to conduct Aviation Medical Examiner physicals as long as there is a chaperone present if the examinee is a female and/or a minor; and he may administer COVID-19 and Influenza vaccines through the Sonoma County Medical Reserve Corps as long as there is a chaperone present if the person receiving a vaccine is female and/or a minor; prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances, and from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; prohibited from practicing medicine until Dr. Schaffer provides documentary proof to the Board or its designee that his DEA permit has been surrendered to the Drug Enforcement Administration for cancellation, together with any state prescription forms and all controlled substances order forms; must complete an education course; must complete a medical record keeping course and an ethics course; must complete a professional boundaries program; shall not practice medicine other than physicals and immunizations until successfully completing a clinical competence assessment program; must submit to a psychiatric evaluation; must obtain a practice monitor; required to have a third party chaperone present while consulting, examining or treating female and/or minor

patients; prohibited from any practice of medicine including prescribing except may continue to conduct Aviation Medical Examiner physicals as long as there is a chaperone present if the examinee is a female and/or a minor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 10, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SCOTT, TERRY WESLEY, M.D. (G 54536),  
DIAMOND BAR, CA**

Committed repeated negligent acts and failed to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients. License revoked, stayed, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, 20 days actual suspension from the practice of medicine beginning the sixteenth (16th) day after the effective date of the Decision; must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course; must obtain a practice monitor; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 24, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SEGAL, PERRY ROY, M.D. (C 39242),  
LOS GATOS, CA**

Charged with unprofessional conduct, gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failing to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of two patients. License revoked, stayed, and placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must maintain records and access to records and inventories of controlled substances; must complete education course; must complete prescribing practices course; must complete professionalism program (ethics course); must successfully complete a clinical competence assessment program; must obtain a practice monitor; solo practice prohibition; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 14, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SERRAHN, ROBIN DAVID, M.D. (G 54947),  
FORT BRAGG, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and incompetence in the care and treatment of a single patient. Public Reprimand. Must submit an individualized education program and must complete a medical record keeping course. January 3, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SHWACHMAN, BENJAMIN, M.D. (G 11026),  
COVINA, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of three patients. Must complete a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. January 7, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SINGH, BALDEV DAVID (C 40540),  
FRESNO, CA**

Committed acts of gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; and failed to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of five patients. License Revoked. January 28, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SINGH, KULWINDER, M.D. (A 70440),  
DUBLIN, CA**

Charged with unprofessional conduct and conviction of a crime substantially related to qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon. Public Reprimand. December 23, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SLISKOVICH, PETER DAN (G 42414)  
SAN PEDRO, CA**

No admissions but was charged with prescribing controlled substances without proper indication; failing to maintain adequate and accurate records; repeated negligent acts; employing, aiding, or abetting an uncertified x-ray technician; improper supervision of an uncertified x-ray technician; and inappropriate prescribing of controlled substances resulting in harm to patients. License Surrendered. January 3, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SMITH, BRADLEY DAVIS (G 66535),  
REDONDO BEACH, CA**

No admissions but charged with having suffered a criminal conviction; commission of acts of sexual abuse and/or misconduct; creating of a false medical record; corrupt acts of sexual exploitation of patients; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of 2 patients. License Surrendered. January 1, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SMITH, BRADLEY MARION, M.D. (G 50489),  
CHICO, CA**

Admitted to using drugs and/or alcohol in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public; convicted of a misdemeanor, one count of driving under the influence of alcohol; failure to report conviction to the Board; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from the use of alcohol; must complete an ethics course; shall not engage in the practice of medicine until completion of a clinical diagnostic evaluation and notified by the Board or its designee that Dr. Smith is fit to practice medicine safely; must submit to biological fluid testing; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 10, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SMITH, DAVID JAMES, M.D. (G 66777),  
SAN DIEGO, CA**

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of three patients; repeated negligent acts, excessively prescribing controlled substances, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on probation for the duration of Dr. Smith's probation in case No. 800-2015-013651, until the anticipated end date of 10/14/2027, with the following additional term: prohibited from performing any

care or treatment with patients involving the use, management, or any surgical procedure related to intrathecal pumps, or advising any medical provider on the care or treatment of patients involving the use, management, or any surgical procedure related to intrathecal pumps. January 21, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SOFTA, ARUN KUMAR, M.D. (A 53661),  
BAKERSFIELD, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of four patients. Public Reprimand. Must complete a medical record keeping course and a prescribing practices course. January 10, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SUMARTO, ANDREW, M.D. (A 136147),  
PLACENTIA, CA**

No admissions but charged with self-use and self-administration of drugs and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, and placed on thirty-five (35) months' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must submit to a psychiatric evaluation; must submit to medical evaluation and treatment; must submit to biological fluid testing; must attend substance abuse support group meetings; must obtain a worksite monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and pay the costs associated with probation monitoring. January 6, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**SURYADEVARA, SAMPATH KUMAR (C  
50601), CERRITOS, CA**

Failed to comply with the terms and conditions of his probation by failing to successfully complete the clinical competence assessment program. License Revoked. January 28, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**TOCCHET, PAULINO EVO (G 16156),  
CARMEL VALLEY, CA**

No admissions but charged with excessive prescribing of controlled substances; prescribing controlled substances to an addict; prescribing controlled substances without proper medical indication; failure to maintain adequate and accurate records; repeated negligent acts; incompetence; and inappropriate prescribing of controlled substances resulting in harm to patients. License Surrendered. December 14, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**VASAVDA, KULENDU GHANSHYAM, M.D.  
(A 49048), STOCKTON, CA**

No admissions but was charged gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of multiple patients; failure to properly supervise a physician assistant; failure to have a delegation of services agreement between the physician assistant and supervising physician; failure to comply with requirements for visitation to a skilled nursing facility; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on four (4) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete a prescribing practices course; prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, or furnishing any Schedule II controlled substances, except to patients who have been admitted to hospice care; must completing a medical record keeping course and an ethics course; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 4, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**VU, DUC MINH, M.D. (A 135611), ORANGE, CA**

No admissions but was convicted of a misdemeanor related to counts of invasion of privacy, dishonest or corrupt acts, and unprofessional conduct. his stipulated settlement is not an admission of guilt. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an ethics course; must complete a professional boundaries program; must submit to a

psychiatric evaluation; must attend psychotherapy; required to have a third party chaperone present while consulting, examining or treating patients; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. November 25, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**WALLACE, CHRISTOPHER WADE, M.D.  
(A 72335), BENICIA, CA**

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for unprofessional conduct and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records. November 1, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**WEINTROUB, ISSAC (A 25287),  
SAN MARINO, CA**

Admitted to being disciplined by the state of New York for conviction of healthcare fraud and failing to report said conviction to the Board. License Surrendered. January 31, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**WEISSMAN, MARK LEE, M.D. (G 55308),  
WOODLAND HILLS, CA**

No admissions but charged with sexual misconduct; sexual exploitation; gross negligence; and unprofessional conduct in the care and treatment of two patients. License Surrendered. December 16, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**WIJEKON, CHRISTOPHER DEEPTHA  
(A 140858), SAN FRANCISCO, CA**

No admissions but charged with having a mental or physical condition that affects his ability to safely practice medicine; and dangerous use of alcohol. License Surrendered. January 31, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**WILKINSON, GEORGE LAWRENCE  
(G 21294), REDWOOD CITY, CA**

No admissions but was charged with violating the terms and conditions of Board-ordered probation by failing to abstain from the use of alcohol. License Surrendered. December 31, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**WILLIAMS, VALERIE RENEE, M.D.  
(A 175769), LOS ANGELES**

Applicant did not complete 36 months of required postgraduate training; scores on Step 1 and Step 2 of the United State Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) have expired and are no longer valid; and she has not engaged in any clinical duties or patient care since May 2003 and has not passed the USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 Clinical Knowledge exam within the past 10 years. Probationary license issued, placed on three (3) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, shall not practice medicine until Dr. Williams has passed the required written examination and has been notified by the Board or its designee in writing; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from practicing medicine outside of an ACGME-approved postgraduate residency or fellowship program during the first year of probation; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**WONG, DAVID, M.D. (G 85258),  
LA QUINTA, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; incompetence; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of one patient; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on four (4) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; must successfully complete a clinical competence assessment program; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 29, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**WOODHALL, KATRINA ELAINE (A 89622),  
TEMECULA, CA**

Charged with conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon; use of alcoholic beverages to the extent, or in a manner, as to be dangerous to Respondent, another person, or the public; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, and placed on five (5) years' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, submitting to a clinical diagnostic evaluation; must abstain from the use of controlled substances; must abstain from the use of alcohol; must submit to biological fluid testing; must complete a professionalism program (ethics course); must attending psychotherapy; must attend substance abuse support group meetings; must obtain a worksite monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. December 23, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**YEH, WEILEE EDDIE (A 67923), HEMET, CA**

No admissions but was charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of two patients; and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. License revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five (35) months' probation. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, must complete an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 14, 2022. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ZAKHIREH, MOHAMMED, M.D. (A 61113),  
PALM DESERT, CA**

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of a single patient. Public Reprimand. Must complete a medical record keeping course. November 13, 2021. [View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

**ZANDVLIET, TARA ALAINA, M.D. (A 71646), SAN DIEGO, CA**

Admitted to gross negligence; repeated negligent acts; incompetence; and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of multiple patients; and unprofessional conduct. License revoked, stayed, placed on five (5) years' probation. This Order supersedes the probationary order in Case No. 800-2017-032412. Terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances except for those drugs listed in Schedules III, IV and V, and prohibited from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; must maintain a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendations or approvals to possess or cultivate marijuana; must complete a prescribing practices course; must successfully complete a clinical competence assessment program; must obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from making or issuing any written exemption from immunization, or any other written statements providing that any child is exempt from the requirements; prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; and must pay costs associated with probation monitoring. January 21, 2022.

*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*

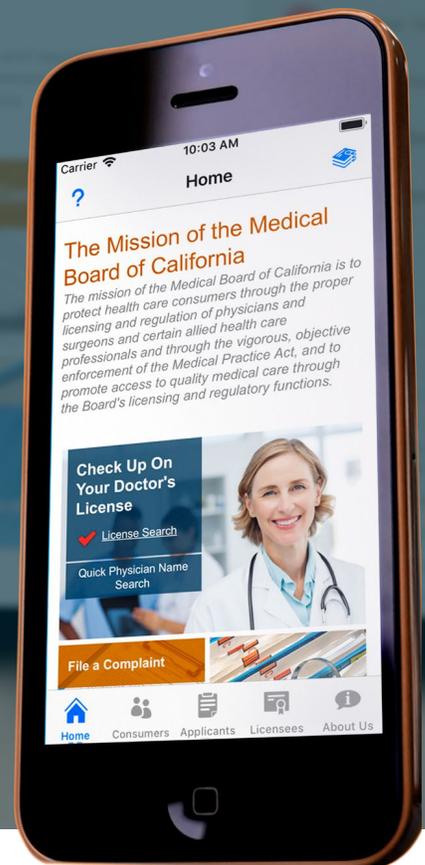
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## MBC BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

August 25-26, 2022

December 1-2, 2022

Please visit the Board's [2022 Board and Committee Meetings webpage](#) for updates.

Until further notice, the Board Members will conduct all public meetings pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's [Executive Order N-29-20](#) and in compliance with the Bagley Keene Open Meeting Act, via online meeting applications or telephone conferences.

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**Medical Board of California, Executive Director — Bill Prasifka**  
Medical Board of California News — Second Quarter 2022 Edition

Contact us by email: [webmaster@mbc.ca.gov](mailto:webmaster@mbc.ca.gov)