

PRESS RELEASE
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
(March 28, 2006)

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

Majd M. Arnaout, M.D., a 42 year-old physician from Bartlett, Illinois, was denied a permanent Iowa medical license. On May 16, 2005, Dr. Arnaout submitted an application for an Iowa medical license. On January 18, 2006, the Board issued a Preliminary Notice of Denial of Licensure after it concluded that Dr. Arnaout made numerous false representations on his license application. Dr. Arnaout appealed the Preliminary Notice and a hearing was held before a quorum of the Board on March 1, 2006. On March 21, 2006, the Board issued a Final Order denying Dr. Arnaout's application for licensure, concluding that Dr. Arnaout falsely answered two questions on his license application. The Board determined that Dr. Arnaout failed to disclose the fact that he had been required to participate in a remediation program and had been terminated from a residency-training program at University Hospitals of Cleveland, Ohio. In addition, he failed to disclose the fact that he had attended the Cleveland, Ohio residency training program on his list of post-graduate training programs and in his chronology of post-graduate activities and he also failed to disclose that he had an Ohio resident-training license.

Roy M. Hutchinson, M.D., a 76 year-old physician who practices in hospital emergency rooms in Albia and Bloomfield, Iowa, had a Final Order issued by the Board indefinitely suspending his Iowa medical license. In 2002, the state of Ohio denied Dr. Hutchinson's application for a medical license after concluding that he provided false answers on his license application when he failed to disclose an extensive investigative history in Iowa between 1980 and 1987. In 2003, the New York Board revoked Dr. Hutchinson's medical license based on the action taken in Ohio. In 2004, Dr. Hutchinson reapplied for an Ohio medical license and the Ohio Board permanently denied his application. On April 7, 2005, the Iowa Board filed disciplinary against Dr. Hutchinson based on the actions taken in Ohio and New York. A disciplinary hearing was held before a panel of three members of the Iowa Board and the panel's proposed decision suspended Dr. Hutchinson's Iowa medical license for thirty days and required him to attend a Board-approved ethics program for being disciplined in Ohio and New York. Both, Dr. Hutchinson and the State of Iowa, appealed the panel's decision. An appeal hearing was held before the full Board on March 1, 2006. On March 16, 2006, the Board issued a Final Order to resolve this matter. The full Board concluded that Dr. Hutchinson violated the laws governing the practice of medicine in Iowa when he was disciplined in Ohio and New York and the Board indefinitely suspended Dr. Hutchinson's Iowa medical license.

Jess M. Zarate, M.D., a 58 year-old physician from West Des Moines, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against his Iowa medical license. On May 3, 2001, the Board charged Dr. Zarate with engaging in healthcare fraud in violation of Iowa law. Dr. Zarate's medical license was suspended for thirty days and he was placed on probation for five years. On February 19, 2002, the Board charged Dr. Zarate with inappropriately practicing medicine with his wife after she had agreed not to practice medicine due to health problems. Dr. Zarate was also charged with interfering with the service of a Board subpoena when he attempted to conceal and/or destroy records subpoenaed by the Board. Dr. Zarate's medical license was suspended for one year, he was placed on a new probation for five years and he was required to obtain a Board-approved practice monitor prior to practicing medicine. On March 16, 2006, the Board charged Dr. Zarate with violating a lawful order of the Board. A hearing on the recent charges is scheduled for May 10, 2006.