

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE**  
**(July 16, 2009)**

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medicine took the following action:

**Israel V. Fernando, M.D.**, a 57 year-old physician who practiced dermatology in multiple locations in eastern, Iowa, had his Iowa medical license reinstated by the Board. On August 25, 2005, the Board charged Dr. Fernando with failing to provide appropriate treatment to numerous dermatology patients. On September 14, 2006, Dr. Fernando entered into a Settlement Agreement and agreed to complete a comprehensive competency evaluation. Dr. Fernando completed the evaluation and the evaluation program concluded that he had serious competency deficiencies and recommended that he complete a remediation program. On June 19, 2007, the Board suspended Dr. Fernando's Iowa medical license. A hearing was held and a Decision was issued by the Board on August 9, 2007. The Board concluded that Dr. Fernando had widespread deficiencies in his medical knowledge, clinical judgment, and communication, which required remediation before returning to the practice of dermatology. The Board directed Dr. Fernando to successfully complete a Board-approved remediation program and re-evaluation before the Board would consider reinstating his license. Recently, Dr. Fernando successfully completed a Board-approved remediation program and re-evaluation. On July 8, 2009, the Board voted to reinstate Dr. Fernando's Iowa medical license and place him on probation for five years subject to Board monitoring. Additionally, Dr. Fernando may only practice dermatology in three or fewer locations in Iowa, the locations must be within sixty miles of each other, and he is prohibited from interpreting skin pathology slides under his Iowa medical license.

**George H. Pfaltzgraff, M.D.**, a 64 year-old physician who practices surgery in Iowa Falls, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against him by the Board. On July 8, 2009, the Board charged Dr. Pfaltzgraff with performing a tubal ligation on a female patient in 2008 without obtaining proper consent. The Board alleges that the patient affirmatively told Dr. Pfaltzgraff that she did not want a tubal ligation, she did not sign a consent form for a tubal ligation and Dr. Pfaltzgraff performed the procedure without proper consent. A hearing has been scheduled on September 9, 2009.