

IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS PRESS RELEASE

For release, December 22, 1999

At its regular meeting held in Des Moines on December 16, 1999, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took disciplinary action against the following Iowa licensed physicians:

Douglas E. Dawson, M.D., a physician practicing in Coralville, Iowa, was charged with professional incompetency and engaging in unethical conduct. Dr. Dawson was charged with failing to meet the prevailing standard of care in his treatment of at least fourteen patients and engaging in a sexual relationship with a patient. The Board issued an Emergency Adjudicative Order immediately suspending Dr. Dawson's Iowa medical license. A hearing is scheduled for January 13, 2000.

Lance Yeoman, D.O., a general surgeon practicing in Osage, Iowa, was charged with professional incompetency. Dr. Yeoman was charged with failing to meet the prevailing standard of care in his treatment of at least five patients. The Board issued an Emergency Adjudicative Order immediately restricting Dr. Yeoman's surgical practice. A hearing is scheduled for January 18, 2000.

Jose V. Lopez, M.D., a physician formerly practicing in Mason City, Iowa, was charged with professional incompetency and engaging in unethical conduct, when on at least two occasions, Dr. Lopez fell asleep while providing anesthesia services during surgical procedures and later falsified operative notes. A hearing on the charges is scheduled for March 2, 2000.

Glenn D. Cunningham, M.D., a physician practicing in Palm Springs, California, was charged with being disciplined by the Medical Board of California for failure to diagnose and treat a post-operative infection. Dr. Cunningham's California license was placed on three years probation under certain terms and conditions. A hearing on the Iowa charges is scheduled for March 2, 2000.

Thomas E. Bergstrom, M.D., a physician practicing in Winterset, Iowa, was charged with the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety due to the excessive use of drugs and inappropriately prescribing to family members. A hearing is scheduled for January 18, 2000.

In other action, the Board entered into Settlement Agreements with the following Iowa licensed physicians:

Thomas R. Gilman, M.D., a physician formerly practicing in Mason City, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. The Board charged Dr. Gilman with professional incompetency and willful or gross negligence. Dr. Gilman is no longer practicing medicine in Iowa. Prior to providing direct patient care in Iowa, Dr. Gilman must submit to a comprehensive evaluation, successfully complete a Board approved retraining program in obstetrics and gynecology and submit a practice monitoring plan. Upon successful completion of these requirements Dr. Gilman's Iowa medical license will be placed on five years probation under certain terms and conditions.

Ruchi Gupta, M.D., a physician practicing in Knoxville, Tennessee, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. The Board charged Dr. Gupta with being disciplined by the licensing authority of another state. On September 15, 1998, the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners disciplined Dr. Gupta for engaging in unprofessional conduct when she struck a patient. The Iowa Board issued a Citation and Warning and ordered Dr. Gupta to pay a \$500 civil penalty. Dr. Gupta has not practiced in Iowa for some time.

Kenneth L. Pollack, M.D., a physician practicing in Des Moines, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. The Board charged Dr. Pollack with leaving the operating room briefly while providing anesthesia services during an outpatient dental procedure, without providing appropriate anesthesia coverage. Dr. Pollack was issued a Citation and Warning and ordered to pay a \$1,000 civil penalty.

John C. Barker, M.D., a physician formerly practicing in Davenport, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Barker was charged with violating the terms of an impaired physician recovery contract entered into with the Board's Impaired Physician Review Committee. Dr. Barker agreed to voluntarily surrender his Iowa medical license.

In other action, the Board referred a matter to the Office of the Attorney General to issue a Cease and Desist letter to **Hungpo Kuo** of Davenport, Iowa. The Board determined that Ms. Kuo, on numerous occasions, practiced acupuncture without obtaining the required registration. The letter requires that Ms. Kuo immediately cease and desist the practice of acupuncture.