

PRESS RELEASE
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE
(March 30, 2012)

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS: Please click on the physician's name to access a link to a copy of the public documents for each physician.

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

[Michael F.E. Jones, M.D.](#), a 66-year-old physician who practices otolaryngology in multiple locations, including Sioux City and Waterloo, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board on March 29, 2012. On November 18, 2011, the Board charged Dr. Jones with violating appropriate professional boundaries and inappropriate prescribing when he prescribed controlled substances to two female acquaintances outside of an appropriate physician-patient relationship without performing appropriate examinations and without maintaining appropriate medical records. The Board also charged Dr. Jones for failing to respond to the Board's investigation in a timely manner. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the Board issued Dr. Jones a public reprimand and ordered him to pay a \$7,500 fine. The Board also prohibited Dr. Jones from prescribing, administering and dispensing any controlled substance under his Iowa medical license and ordered him to complete a Board-approved professional boundaries evaluation, professional ethics program and record keeping course. Finally, the Board placed Dr. Jones on probation for a period of five years subject to Board monitoring.

[Michael C. Prescher, M.D.](#), a 48-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices anesthesiology and pain medicine in Council Bluffs, Iowa, had a Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order issued by the Board on March 29, 2012. On December 8, 2011, the Board filed a Statement of Charges and an Emergency Adjudicative Order alleging that Dr. Prescher engaged in sexual misconduct and professional incompetency while performing injection procedures for pain treatment on female patients who were under sedation. Under the terms of the Emergency Adjudicative Order, the Board suspended Dr. Prescher's Iowa medical license until the charges are resolved. A hearing was held on January 12, 2012. Under the terms of the March 29, 2012, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order, the Board concluded that Dr. Prescher violated the standard of care by seeing patients who were under sedation without any staff member present. The Board also concluded that Dr. Prescher violated the standard of care when he failed to obtain proper written consent from the patients, failed to monitor and document the patients' vital signs during the procedures and allowed two patients to drive home following deep sedation. The Board concluded that the State failed to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that Dr. Prescher committed sexual acts on the female patients. However, the Board expressed serious concerns that Dr. Prescher created a climate in which his patients had no way to know what occurred during their treatment because there was no third person to verify what occurred. Each of the four patients testified to being sedated to the point of unconsciousness. Three of the four women were treated in Dr. Prescher's office at a time it was closed and no one else was present. The Board suspended Dr. Prescher's Iowa medical license for a period of one year from the date of the original suspension, December 8, 2011. The Board also ordered Dr. Prescher to pay a \$10,000 fine and complete a Board-approved professional boundaries program and medical record keeping program. The Order also permits the Board to impose probation or other terms and conditions at the time it considers reinstatement of Dr. Prescher's Iowa medical license.

[Andrew J. Stefani, D.O.](#), a 29-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who currently practices medicine in a residency training program in Des Moines, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against him by the Board on March 29, 2012. The Board charged Dr. Stefani with fraud in procuring an Iowa medical license when he repeatedly failed to provide complete, accurate and truthful information on the application for an Iowa resident physician license submitted to the Board on April 13, 2010. The Board alleged that Dr. Stefani failed to disclose his illicit drug use and substance abuse treatment and a mental health condition and mental health treatment. A hearing is scheduled on June 21, 2012.

[Robert F. Tobin, M.D.](#), a 69-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced ophthalmology in Council Bluffs and Des Moines, Iowa, had a Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order issued by the Board on March 29, 2012. On December 16, 2004, the Board charged Dr. Tobin for failing to perform or document preoperative examinations, failing to obtain or document patient consent, failing to maintain operative reports, failing to inform a patient about a serious complication and failing to provide appropriate postoperative management. On November 15, 2005, Dr. Tobin entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board. Dr. Tobin agreed to conform to the minimal standard of acceptable practice of ophthalmology, was issued a public reprimand and ordered to pay a \$2,500 fine. On November 8, 2007, the Board filed new charges against Dr. Tobin alleging that he violated the terms of his Board order when he failed to conform to the minimal standard of acceptable practice of ophthalmology. On May 6, 2010, Dr. Tobin entered into a Settlement Agreement and Dr. Tobin was required to complete a comprehensive clinical competency evaluation and he agreed to complete a supervised educational program, including an educational preceptor, procedural training, continuing medical education, self-study and a documentation program with follow-up. Dr. Tobin was also ordered to complete Board-approved neurological testing and a professional ethics program and record keeping program. The Board also issued Dr. Tobin a public reprimand and ordered him to pay a \$10,000 fine. The Board also placed Dr. Tobin on probation subject to Board monitoring for a period of five years. On September 23, 2011, the Board charged Dr. Tobin with violating the terms of probation. A hearing was held on February 17, 2012. On March 29, 2012, the Board issued a Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order. The Board concluded that Dr. Tobin repeatedly violated the terms of his Board Order. The Board suspended Dr. Tobin's Iowa medical license for a minimum of six months, issued him a public reprimand and ordered him to pay \$10,000 fine. The Board also ordered Dr. Tobin to fully comply with the provisions of the CPEP Educational Intervention Plan during the period of suspension. The Board also ordered Dr. Tobin to obtain a Board-approved Worksite Monitor and Practice Monitor, and enter into a Board-approved Practice Monitoring Plan prior to seeking reinstatement of his license. The Order also requires Dr. Tobin to fully comply with the terms and conditions of probation established in the May 6, 2010, Settlement Agreement, if his Iowa medical license is reinstated.

CONSUMER COMPLAINTS: Consumers can submit complaints against physicians through the Board's Website at www.medicalboard.iowa.gov, by calling (515) 281-5847, or by mail at 400 SW 8th Street, Suite C, Des Moines, IA 50309-4686.