

PRESS RELEASE
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE
(January 15, 2013)

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:

[Steven P. Breaux, M.D.](#), a 55-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices obstetrics and gynecology in Clinton, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against him on January 11, 2013. The Board charged Dr. Breaux with violating the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa when he engaged in professional incompetency, unethical or unprofessional conduct, practice harmful or detrimental to the public, and knowingly making false or misleading statements on his license renewal application. The Board alleged that Dr. Breaux engaged in inappropriate prescribing to patients, failed to provide appropriate care to a patient with an abnormal pap smear, failed to provide appropriate prenatal care to patients, failed to provide appropriate management of preeclampsia and failed to disclose the fact that he lost his hospital privileges on his license renewal application. A hearing is scheduled on April 11-12, 2013.

[Raymond D. Heller, M.D.](#), a 51-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced general medicine in Omaha, Nebraska, voluntarily surrendered his Iowa medical license on January 11, 2013. On September 7, 2000, Dr. Heller was disciplined by the Colorado Board of Medical Examiners for engaging in an inappropriate relationship with a co-worker for whom he had provided treatment. Dr. Heller received a letter of admonition and was required to complete a boundary education program. On October 18, 2011, the Iowa Board issued Dr. Heller a Citation and Warning for being disciplined by the Colorado Board. On January 25, 2012, Dr. Heller was convicted of conspiracy to dispense a controlled substance, a felony, in the United States District Court Northern District of Oklahoma. Dr. Heller was sentenced to sixty (60) months of probation, eight (8) months of home detention with electronic monitoring, one hundred (100) hours of community service and ordered to pay a \$100.00 court fee. On February 16, 2012, Dr. Heller was disciplined by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, based on the criminal conviction. Dr. Heller was placed on probation for a period of five (5) years subject to Board monitoring, prohibited from prescribing, administering, dispensing or possessing any controlled substance at any time and required to complete continuing education for appropriate prescribing. Dr. Heller was also required to have his medical practice supervised by a Board-approved practice monitor. Dr. Heller voluntarily surrendered his Iowa medical license to resolve this matter.

[Michael C. Prescher, M.D.](#), a 49-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practiced anesthesiology and pain medicine in Council Bluffs, Iowa, had his Iowa medical license reinstated by the Board on January 11, 2013. On December 8, 2011, the Board filed a Statement of Charges and Emergency Adjudicative Order suspending Dr. Prescher's Iowa medical license. The Board alleged that Dr. Prescher engaged in sexual misconduct and professional incompetency while performing pain procedures on female patients who were sedated. A hearing was held on January 12, 2012, and on March 29, 2012, the Board issued a Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order. The Board concluded that Dr. Prescher violated the standard of care when he treated female patients who were sedated without other staff present; failed to obtain appropriate written informed consent from patients; failed to monitor and document the patients' vital signs

during the procedures; allowed two patients to drive home following deep sedation; and failed to maintain appropriate medical records. The Board concluded that the State failed to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that Dr. Prescher committed sexual acts during the procedures. The Board suspended Dr. Prescher's Iowa medical license for a minimum of one year from the date of the original suspension. The Board also ordered Dr. Prescher to pay a \$10,000 civil penalty and complete a Board-approved professional boundaries program and medical record keeping course. Recently, Dr. Prescher petitioned the Board to reinstate his Iowa medical license. Dr. Prescher demonstrated that he paid the \$10,000 civil penalty and completed the Board-approved professional boundaries program and medical record keeping course. On January 11, 2013, the Board voted to reinstate Dr. Prescher's Iowa medical license subject to certain terms and conditions. The Board placed Dr. Prescher on probation for a period of five (5) years subject to Board monitoring, including a Board-approved practice monitor. The Board also established certain practice requirements for Dr. Prescher including the following: a Board-approved group practice setting; a Board-approved chaperone for all female patients; treatment only during regular clinic hours; appropriately trained staff; appropriate level of sedation; appropriate monitoring during procedures; appropriate transportation following procedures; appropriate written informed consent; appropriate medical records; and appropriate fees for services.

[Andrzej Szczepanek, M.D.](#), a 40-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practiced pain medicine in Des Moines, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against him on January 11, 2013. The Board charged Dr. Szczepanek with violating the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa when he failed to provide appropriate pain care to numerous patients in Des Moines, Iowa, between 2011 and the present. The Board alleged that Dr. Szczepanek prescribed large quantities of potentially lethal medications to numerous patients; failed to perform and/or document appropriate physical examinations; failed to assess and/or document appropriate assessment of patients' need for opioid therapy; failed to establish and/or document appropriate treatment plans; failed to perform and/or document appropriate monitoring; failed to address and/or document appropriate efforts to address patients who demonstrated evidence of abuse, misuse or diversion; failed to appropriately supervise and/or document his supervision of mid-level providers who provided opioid therapy to patients; failed to appropriately utilize the Iowa Prescription Monitoring Program; and failed to maintain appropriate medical records. A hearing is scheduled on April 11-12, 2013.

[Thomas L. Warren, Jr., M.D.](#), a 45-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices oncology in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against him on January 11, 2013. The Board charged Dr. Warren with violating the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa when he touched the breast of a twelve year-old female houseguest and attempted to remove her tank top while she was attempting to sleep on March 10, 2012. On or about July 15, 2012, Dr. Warren was arrested and charged with Indecent Contact with a Child, an Aggravated Misdemeanor, in Johnson County, Iowa. A hearing is scheduled on April 11-12, 2013.

When appropriate, disciplinary actions are reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank, an electronic repository administered by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration to track adverse license actions.

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.