

IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS PRESS RELEASE

For release, March 29, 2004

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

Richard R. Conte, M.D., a 54 year-old physician formerly from Carson City, Nevada, had Charges filed against his Iowa medical license. The Iowa Board charged Dr. Conte for being convicted of a felony and for being disciplined by the Nevada Board of Medical Examiners. On December 17, 2002, Dr. Conte pleaded guilty in Nevada to two felonies, second degree kidnapping and unlawful administration of a controlled substance. On May 31, 2003, Dr. Conte surrendered his Nevada medical license to resolve charges for being convicted of a felony in violation of the laws governing the practice of medicine in Nevada. A hearing is scheduled in the Iowa matter for May 11, 2004.

Robert N. Edwards, Jr., M.D., a 59 year-old physician from Klamath Falls, Oregon, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Iowa Board. Dr. Edwards was charged for being disciplined by the Oregon Medical Board for quality of care concerns. On August 19, 1999, Dr. Edwards entered into a Stipulated Order with the Oregon Board, which prohibited him from reviewing pap smears pending completion of an investigation of his Oregon medical practice. On September 21, 2000, Dr. Edwards and the Iowa Board entered into a Settlement Agreement which prohibited Dr. Edwards from reading pap smears under his Iowa medical license. On August 7, 2003, the Oregon Medical Board issued a Final Order which prohibits Dr. Edwards from performing autopsy and reviewing pap smears under his Oregon medical license while he is on probation for a period of five years. Under the terms of the most recent Iowa Order, Dr. Edwards is permanently prohibited from performing autopsies and from reading pap smears under his Iowa medical license.