



Fields of Opportunities

STATE OF IOWA

TERRY BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR  
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IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE  
MARK BOWDEN, M.P.A., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE**  
**(April 19, 2017)**

**PUBLIC DOCUMENTS: Please click on the person's name to access a link to a copy of the public documents for these physicians.**

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

**Foad Elahi, M.D.**, a 51-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced pain medicine in Iowa City, Iowa, and currently practices in Manteca, California, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board on April 14, 2017. On October 28, 2016, the Board filed a Statement of Charges against Dr. Elahi alleging that he engaged in sexual harassment and/or unethical or unprofessional conduct in violation of the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa. The Board alleged that Dr. Elahi engaged in unwanted conduct of a sexual nature toward a female co-worker in Iowa City, Iowa, between March and October 2014, including unwanted sexual comments and unwanted hugging; touching; fondling; and kissing. Under the terms of the April 14, 2017, Settlement Agreement, the Board issued Dr. Elahi a Citation and Warning and ordered him to pay a \$2,500 civil penalty. The Board also ordered Dr. Elahi to complete a Board-approved professional boundaries program.

**Robert E. Garrett, M.D.**, a 67-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices general medicine in Iowa City, Iowa, had the terms of his probation terminated by the Board on April 19, 2017. On April 19, 2012, Dr. Garrett entered into a Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board. The Board charged Dr. Garrett with violating the standards of practice for appropriate chronic pain management when he prescribed excessive controlled substances to multiple patients in Iowa City, Iowa, in 2010 and 2011, in violation of the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa. The Board issued Dr. Garrett a Citation and Warning, ordered him to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty and prohibited him from prescribing, administering or dispensing controlled substances for the treatment of chronic pain. The Board also placed Dr. Garrett on probation for a period of five (5) years subject to Board monitoring. On April 19, 2017, Dr. Garrett successfully completed the terms of his probation and the Board terminated his probation. However, Dr. Garrett is prohibited from prescribing, administering or dispensing controlled substances for the treatment of chronic pain.

**Noli R. Mendoza, D.O.**, a 51-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced emergency medicine in Iowa City, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board on April 14, 2017. The Board charged Dr. Mendoza with violating the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa when he knowingly made misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations in the practice of medicine. The Board alleged that Dr. Mendoza submitted a falsified certificate to an employer or prospective employer which indicated he was certified in emergency medicine by the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP) when he was not and that he submitted false information to the Board which indicated he was certified in emergency medicine by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) when he was not. The Board also alleged that Dr. Mendoza failed to pay a qualifying state debt as evidenced by a certificate of noncompliance issued by the department of revenue. Dr. Mendoza agreed to surrender his Iowa medical license to resolve this matter.

**Joseph P. Shader, M.D.**, a 39-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced psychiatry in Iowa City, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against him by the Board on April 14, 2017. The Board alleged that Dr. Shader violated the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa when he failed to comply with the terms of a physician health contract he entered into with the Iowa Physician Health Program (IPHP) and when he failed to comply with a Confidential Evaluation Order issued by the Board. On December 19, 2013, Dr. Shader entered into a physician health contract with the IPHP which included provisions requiring drug screening; quarterly reports; an aftercare program and notification of non-compliance. The Board alleged that Dr. Shader failed to comply with these requirements on multiple occasions. On January 19, 2017, the Board issued a Confidential Evaluation Order requiring Dr. Shader to successfully complete a comprehensive physical, neuropsychological, mental health, unprofessional conduct, professional boundaries and sexual misconduct evaluation within sixty (60) days. The Board alleged that Dr. Shader failed to complete the Board-ordered evaluation. A hearing is scheduled on June 2, 2017.

**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 by clicking [HERE](#), visiting the Board's Website at [www.medicalboard.iowa.gov](http://www.medicalboard.iowa.gov), calling (515) 281-5847, or mail to 400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite C, Des Moines, IA 50309.**