

PRESS RELEASE
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
(Amended November 28, 2005)

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

Rafael Armendariz, D.O., a 43 year-old physician from El Paso, Texas, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges. On April 7, 2005, the Board charged Dr. Armendariz with being disciplined by the State of Texas. On April 12, 2000, the Texas Medical Board disciplined Dr. Armendariz for aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine, failing to adequately supervise staff, and allowing non-licensed staff to issue prescriptions. Dr. Armendariz' Texas medical license was placed on two years probation subject to certain conditions. On December 12, 2002, Dr. Armendariz entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Iowa Board and his Iowa medical license was placed on two-years probation. The Texas Board filed new charges against Dr. Armendariz on February 5, 2003, for failing to adequately supervise staff in his medical office and Dr. Armendariz was ordered to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty. Under the terms of the latest Settlement Agreement in Iowa, Dr. Armendariz was ordered to pay a \$2,000 civil penalty and his Iowa medical license was placed on a new two-year probation subject to certain terms and conditions. Dr. Armendariz has not practiced medicine in Iowa for many years.

Douglas T. Cody, M.D., a 41 year-old otolaryngologist formerly practicing in Keokuk, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against his Iowa medical license. The Board charged Dr. Cody with engaging in a pattern of professional incompetency and practice harmful or detrimental to the public in his treatment of several patients. The charges allege that Dr. Cody failed to perform appropriate testing on patients, failed to provide appropriate post-operative care to patients, and he closed his medical office without providing appropriate notice to patients and without arranging for ongoing care. A hearing is scheduled for January 25, 2006.

Jana L. Marjenhoff, D.O., a 46 year-old physician formerly practicing in Knoxville, Corydon and Seymour, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges. On June 2, 2005, the Board charged Dr. Marjenhoff with engaging in a pattern of professional incompetency, inappropriate prescribing practices, practice harmful and/or detrimental to the public and unprofessional conduct in the treatment of numerous patients. The charges allege that Dr. Marjenhoff: inappropriately directed that an unstable patient be transferred to another medical facility by private vehicle; failed to order appropriate tests for a patient with a neck injury, putting the patient at risk of further injury; prescribed unnecessary controlled substances to a high school athlete; ordered medication for a very ill infant without examining the child; and inappropriately prescribed controlled substances to patients, despite obvious signs of drug seeking behavior. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Marjenhoff was issued a Citation and Warning, ordered to pay a \$2,500 civil penalty and ordered to complete a Board-approved competency evaluation. Additionally, Dr. Marjenhoff's Iowa medical license was placed on probation for a period of five years subject to certain monitoring conditions.

Robert P. Marseille, M.D., a 48 year-old physician formerly practicing in Coralville, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges.

On June 2, 2005, the Board charged Dr. Marseille with violating the terms of a Board Order. On June 5, 2003, the Board charged Dr. Marseille with the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety as a result of a mental condition and with engaging in unethical or unprofessional conduct when he failed to accurately document patient examinations and when he documented examinations that did not occur. On April 20, 2004, after a hearing, the Board issued a Decision and Order placing Dr. Marseille's Iowa medical license on probation subject to certain terms and conditions. The Board dismissed the charge of inaccurate documentation of physical examinations. Dr. Marseille failed to call into the Board's drug testing program on thirteen (13) occasions between March 27, and May 21, 2005, and he failed to provide a urine sample for drug testing on May 4, 2005, as required by his Board Order. Under the terms of the recent Settlement Agreement, Dr. Marseille was issued a Citation and Warning for violating the terms of his Board Order and he was ordered to pay a \$1,000 civil penalty.

Gaylord C. Nordine, M.D., a 61 year-old psychiatrist practicing in West Des Moines, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges.

On September 2, 2004, the Board charged Dr. Nordine with engaging in an inappropriate sexual relationship with a psychiatric patient in violation of physician-patient boundaries, and inappropriately permitting office staff to refill patient medications and failing to ensure that prescription refills were appropriately documented in the medical records. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Nordine was issued a Citation and Warning, he was required to complete a sexual misconduct evaluation and his Iowa medical license was indefinitely suspended. Should the Board choose to reinstate Dr. Nordine's medical license in the future, Dr. Nordine shall be placed on probation for five years and he is prohibited from entering into any inappropriate employment relationships with current or former patients.

Bryon J. Schaeffer, M.D., a 38 year-old physician formerly practicing in Ankeny, Iowa, had his Iowa medical license reinstated by the Board. On May 19, 2004, the Board charged Dr. Schaeffer with engaging in unprofessional conduct when he engaged in an inappropriate sexual relationship with a subordinate female co-worker, whom he had provided medical treatment, in violation of professional boundaries. Dr. Schaeffer was also charged with engaging in a pattern of sexual harassment of several subordinate female co-workers between 1994 and 2003. Dr. Schaeffer had sexual relations with at least four subordinate female co-workers. On February 10, 2005, Dr. Schaeffer entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board and his Iowa medical license was indefinitely suspended and he was issued a Citation and Warning and ordered to pay a \$7,500 civil penalty. Under the terms of the Reinstatement Order issued by the Board, Dr. Schaeffer must have a female chaperone present at all times while treating female patients and his Iowa medical license was placed on probation for a period of five years subject to certain monitoring conditions due to sexual misconduct.

Robert F. Tobin, M.D., a 63 year-old physician practicing ophthalmology in West Des Moines and other areas of Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges. On December 16, 2004, the Board charged Dr. Tobin with professional incompetency and practice harmful or detrimental to the public in his ophthalmologic surgical practice. The Board determined that Dr. Tobin departed from the minimal standard of practice in the state of Iowa in his postoperative co-management of patients with optometrists following cataract and refractive surgery. Dr. Tobin failed to perform and/or document appropriate patient preoperative examinations and failed to obtain and/or document appropriate patient informed consent prior to surgery. Dr. Tobin failed to maintain appropriate patient operative reports and on at least one occasion, he failed to inform a patient of a serious complication. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Tobin was issued a Citation and Warning, ordered to pay a \$2,500 civil penalty and he must conform to the acceptable standard of care in his ophthalmologic surgical practice in the future.

Steven E. Vlach, M.D., a 45 year-old physician practicing medicine in Sioux City, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve a pending disciplinary matter. The Board charged Dr. Vlach with failing to provide appropriate care to a fourteen-month old child who presented in respiratory distress with a history consistent with croup. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Vlach was issued a Citation and Warning and required to complete Board-approved continuing medical education in the identification and treatment of respiratory illness in children, within sixty days.

John A. Weibel, D.O., a 64 year-old physician practicing medicine in Manchester, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve a pending disciplinary matter. The Board charged Dr. Weibel with being disciplined by the State of Wisconsin for failing to perform a thorough cardiac and pulmonary examination on a patient who presented at the emergency room in 2001. The patient subsequently died of a pulmonary embolism. The Wisconsin Medical Board required Dr. Weibel to successfully complete 20 hours of Category 1 continuing medical education in cardiac and pulmonary emergency diagnosis and treatment. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement with the Iowa Board, Dr. Weibel was issued a Citation and Warning for being disciplined by the regulatory authority of another state.