



**PRESS RELEASE  
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE  
(September 8, 2020)**

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

**Susannah P. Friemel, M.D.**, a 45-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices internal medicine in Davenport, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board on August 28, 2020. The Board alleged that Dr. Friemel prescribed controlled substances to her live-in romantic partner between 2015 and 2017, for a non-acute and non-emergent condition, in violation of the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa. Under the terms of the August 28, 2020, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Board issued Dr. Friemel a Citation and Warning and ordered her to pay a \$2,500 civil penalty and complete a Board-approved professional ethics program.

**Alexandar Jovanovich, M.D.**, a 38-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices family medicine in Chicago, Illinois, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board on August 28, 2020. The Board alleged that Dr. Jovanovich violated the standards of practice for telemedicine in Iowa when he: failed to establish a valid physician-patient relationship with patients receiving telemedicine services in Iowa; failed to perform interviews of his patients sufficient for the diagnosis and treatment of patients in Iowa prior to providing medical treatment, including issuing prescriptions; and prescribed medications to patients in Iowa based solely on an internet questionnaire. Dr. Jovanovich denied the Board's allegations of wrongdoing and denies any breach of the Iowa Code or the Board's administrative rules. The Board and Dr. Jovanovich expressly state that the Settlement Agreement is in compromise of the disputed claims and that the allegations have been and are, expressly denied by Dr. Jovanovich. Under the terms of the August 28, 2020, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Board issued Dr. Jovanovich a Citation and Warning and ordered him to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty, and Dr. Jovanovich has agreed to take corrective action to address the deficiencies in his telemedicine practice identified by the Board.

**Vuong A. Nayima, D.O.**, a 36-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices internal medicine in West Des Moines, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board on August 28, 2020. The Board alleged that Dr. Nayima prescribed controlled substances to his romantic partner and staff in his medical offices without establishing physician-patient relationships or properly charting and documenting his care of the staff in violation of the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa. Dr. Nayima self-reported this misconduct to the Board in early 2020.

Under the terms of the August 28, 2020, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Board issued Dr. Nayima a Citation and Warning and ordered him to complete a Board-approved professional ethics program and a mental health medication management course.

**Anthony A. Onuigbo, M.D.**, a 59-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices obstetrics and gynecology in Cedar Falls, Iowa, entered into a Stipulated Order – Voluntary Surrender with the Board on August 28, 2020. The Board received information which indicates Dr. Onuigbo suffers from a health condition which impairs his ability to practice medicine and he informed the Board that he is retiring from the practice of medicine and wishes to surrender his Iowa medical license. Under the terms of the August 28, 2020, Stipulated Order – Voluntary Surrender, Dr. Onuigbo voluntarily surrendered his Iowa medical license.

**Roy W. Overton, III, D.O.**, a 66-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices family medicine in Des Moines, Iowa, had a Statement of Charges filed against him by the Board on August 28, 2020. The Board alleged that Dr. Overton failed to adequately direct and supervise a physician assistant (PA) and failed to comply with the minimum standards of supervision of physician assistant in violation of the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa. A hearing in this matter shall be scheduled in the future.

**Edward A. Steinmann, Jr., D.O.**, a 71-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices family medicine in Des Moines, Iowa, had the terms of his disciplinary Order terminated by the Board on August 28, 2020. On July 29, 2016, Dr. Steinmann entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board. The Board alleged that Dr. Steinmann violated the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa when he failed to provide appropriate pain management to multiple patients in Des Moines, Iowa, between 2010 and 2015. The Board issued Dr. Steinmann a Citation and Warning and ordered him to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty and complete a Board-approved record keeping course. The Board also prohibited Dr. Steinmann from prescribing, administering or dispensing controlled substances for the treatment of chronic pain and placed him on probation for a period of five years subject to Board monitoring. On June 25, 2020, Dr. Steinmann submitted a request to terminate the terms of his disciplinary Order. On August 28, 2020, the Board determined that Dr. Steinmann has fully complied with the terms of the July 29, 2016, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement and voted to terminate the Order and Dr. Steinmann's Iowa medical license was returned to its full privileges, free and clear of all restrictions.

**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 at <https://medicalboard.iowa.gov/consumers/filing-complaint>, by calling (515) 281-5847 or mail to 400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite C, Des Moines, IA 50309.**

**To view these actions, please visit our Find a Physician page at the link below: <https://eservices.iowa.gov/PublicPortal/iowa/IBM/licenseQuery/LicenseQuery.jsp?Profession=Physician>**