



KATHLEEN SEBELIUS
GOVERNOR

STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS

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ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release
October 15, 2008

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Board of Healing Arts Meeting

At a Board Meeting held Friday and Saturday, the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts revoked a medical license and suspended the license of a Respiratory Therapist.

The Board voted unanimously to suspend the license of Jeffrey Sroufe, a Respiratory Therapist from Wichita. In accordance with K.S.A. 45-221a, the reasons for the suspension are not available for public disclosure.

The Board voted unanimously to revoke the medical license of Amir Friedman, M.D., who worked in the Southeastern Kansas area until 2006 when his license lapsed. Friedman has the opportunity to file an appeal with the Shawnee County District Court. Friedman was an obstetrician/gynecologist licensed in Kansas beginning in 1999 until he let his license lapse in 2006. Licensees are afforded a 30-day window following their licenses expiration date in which they can renew their license with no further steps they need to take. During that 30-day grace period following Friedman's license lapse, the Board filed a petition for revocation of Dr. Friedman's license after an investigation into several violations of standards of care, which included the death of a patient and a stillborn child.

After letting his license lapse and while the revocation process was underway, Friedman moved and became licensed in New Jersey, where he currently practices. The Board has been in contact with New Jersey officials reference this case. Despite Friedman's Kansas license not being active, the Board felt it was appropriate for the health and safety of patients throughout the U.S. that the revocation process continue.

In February 2008, Friedman filed an injunction in the Shawnee County District Court seeking to enjoin the board from hearing this revocation. The District Court ruled the Board had jurisdiction over Dr. Friedman's medical license. Dr. Friedman appealed the district court decision to the Kansas Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court then removed the appeal from the Court of Appeals on its own motion on September 29. It has not made a ruling as of this release.

Additional matters discussed by the Board included several consent agreements. With consent agreements, both the licensee and the Board agree to the conditions and the licensee waives his/her right to a hearing.

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Agreements entered into include:

Dr. Francis Abraham, DPM, Wichita, entered into a consent agreement with the Board following a complaint regarding improprieties related to prescriptions provided to several patients and a relative. The Consent Order requires the licensee to attend a prescribing course approved by the Board, adherence to record keeping requirements and the prohibition of providing prescription medications to any relative or individual with whom a physician-patient relationship is not maintained.

Dr. Jeffrey Huston, M.D., Colorado, entered into a consent agreement with the Board for a probationary period of three years. The reasons for the probation fall under K.S.A. 45-221a and are not permitted for public release.

Dr. Robert Neu, D.C., Lawrence, entered into a consent agreement with the Board for a probationary period of five years. The reasons for the probation fall under K.S.A. 45-221a and are not permitted for public release.

Stephen Hoch, Physician's Assistant, Independence, entered into a consent agreement after complaints were made regarding inappropriate physical contact in the work place. The Consent Order requires completion of a continuing education course for boundary violations.

Dr. Jerald Leisy, M.D., Wichita, entered into a consent agreement with the Board after four counts of ordinary negligence were brought forth, which include prescribing, administering or distributing a prescription drug or controlled substance and failure to maintain adequate patient medical records. The Consent Order places the licensee on probation and includes completion of a course on controlled substance management and adherence to guidelines set forth by the board on the use of controlled substances for the treatment of pain.

In other action, the Board denied request for a postgraduate permit to Nitin Dhiman, M.D., Overland Park, KS, based upon his failure to disclose information.

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