

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION

BOSTON: At its meeting today, the State Board of Registration in Medicine took action against the medical licenses of John Athas, M.D. and Charles J. Olney, M.D.

The Board found that Dr. John Athas committed negligence on repeated occasions while treating a patient at Tewksbury State Hospital, who later died. The Board reprimanded Dr. Athas and, pursuant to a Consent Order, imposed a limit on his practice such that he may perform only disability reviews and independent medical examinations. Dr. Athas is a 1979 Graduate of the Autonomous University of Guadalajara, Mexico. He has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1982.

In another matter, the Board accepted the resignation of Dr. Charles J. Olney's license to practice medicine. Resignation is a disciplinary action that permanently removes a physician from practice. Dr. Olney is a 1970 graduate of the Hahnemann University School of Medicine, now part of Drexel University in Philadelphia. He is a board-certified surgeon and has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1971.

The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine licenses more than 30,000 physicians, osteopaths and acupuncturists. The Board was created in 1894 to protect the public health and safety by setting standards for the practice of medicine and ensuring that doctors who practice in the Commonwealth are appropriately qualified and competent. The Board investigates complaints, holds hearings and determines sanctions. More information is available at www.massmedboard.org.

NOTE TO EDITORS: Copies of orders issued by the Board are available by calling the Public Information Coordinator at (617) 654-9831.

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