

**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 Paul M. Dimond, M.D., Luis Molmenti, M.D., William Callahan, M.D., Ashok N. Bhargava, M.D., Sunil Prasad, M.D., David A. Peak, M.D. John Clapp, M.D. and John R. Romano, M.D.

In the matter of Dr. Paul M. Dimond, the Board found that Dr. Dimond left both the surgical suite and the hospital prior to the full completion of a surgical procedure on a patient, leaving a Physician Assistant to suture the patient's skin. Further, Dr. Dimond refused a subsequent request to return to the hospital. The Board indefinitely suspended Dr. Dimond's license to practice medicine. The suspension was stayed upon his entry into a Probation Agreement requiring Dr. Dimond to submit to monitoring of his practice until December 2010. Surgeries he is to perform must be approved in writing in advance, a monitor must ensure Dr. Dimond's presence during surgeries and Dr. Dimond agrees not to leave the surgical suite for the duration of any procedure in which he is involved. Dr. Dimond is a 1992 graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, and has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1998. He is a board certified orthopedic surgeon.

The Board revoked the license of Dr. Luis Molmenti. In August 2004 Dr. Molmenti entered into a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice. Today the Board found that Dr. Molmenti wrote prescriptions for other individuals, but received the drugs himself. In April 2005 he pled guilty to one count of Health Care Fraud. In February 2005 he admitted to sufficient facts regarding one count of Filing a False Health Care Claim and one count of Obtaining Drugs by Fraud. Dr. Molmenti may petition for reinstatement of his medical license after three years of documented compliance with a chemical dependency monitoring contract and demonstrated competence to resume medical practice. Dr. Molmenti is a 1991 graduate of Facultad de Medicina, University del Salvador in Buenos Aires, and has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 2000. He practiced medicine as a psychopharmacologist.

In another matter, the Board found that Dr. William Callahan practiced medicine while his ability to do so was impaired. In July 2005 after completing a surgical procedure, he was asked to submit a blood sample, which tested positive for ethanol. In August 2005 he entered into a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice. Today the Board indefinitely suspended Dr. Callahan's license to practice medicine. He may petition to stay the suspension after documenting one year of continuous sobriety. Dr. Callahan is a 1962 graduate of the Tufts University School of Medicine, and has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1965. He specializes in OB/GYN.

Dr. Ashok N. Bhargava was found to have written progress notes on hospital inpatients at a time when he was not physically in the hospital, implying that he had seen and examined patients on two specific dates when he had not seen them within the prior 12 hours. In February 2006 Dr. Bhargava entered into a

Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice. In today's action the Board indefinitely suspended Dr. Bhargava's license. The suspension was immediately stayed upon his entry into a Probation Agreement providing for monitoring of his practice until 2011. Dr. Bhargava is 1970 graduate of the All-India Institute for Medical Sciences, and has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1978. He specializes in internal medicine.

The Board found that Dr. Sunil Prasad falsified and altered a patient's medical record after mistakenly administering the wrong medication. Today the Board reprimanded Dr. Prasad and fined him \$5,000. Dr. Prasad, an anesthesiologist, is a 1984 graduate of Gandhi Medical College of Osmania University in Hyderabad, India. He has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 2002. Currently he is in a fellowship program in New York.

Dr. David A. Peak was reprimanded and required to complete 10 additional continuing medical education credits, beyond those required for license renewal, in the area of vascular injuries to the extremities. The Board found that Dr. Peak engaged in conduct that calls into question his competence to practice medicine, and that he failed to maintain a patient medical record adequate to provide proper diagnosis or treatment. A medication was administered improperly and Dr. Peak failed to recognize or research the adverse effects, and a patient suffered vascular injury. Dr. Peak is a 1995 graduate of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1996. He is board certified in emergency medicine.

The Board reprimanded Dr. John Clapp for engaging in conduct that calls into question his competence to practice medicine, including negligence on more than one occasion in a patient's care. Dr. Clapp, over a period of years, failed to advise a patient of elevated prostate specific antigen levels. Dr. Clapp is a 1969 graduate of Albany Medical College of Union University, and has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1972. He is board certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease.

The Board suspended the license of Dr. John R. Romano. In 2005 Dr. Romano was found guilty of selling drug samples. He was sentenced to two years of probation, community service, a \$20,000 fine and restitution. Dr. Romano's suspension was immediately stayed and will be terminated when he submits proof that he has fully complied with his criminal sentence and probation. He was also ordered to complete 10 continuing medical education credits in the area of billing practices. Dr. Romano is a 1979 graduate of Autonomous University of Guadalajara, Mexico. He has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1983. He is a urologist.

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](http://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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