

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Wednesday, September 15, 2004

CONTACT FOR COMMENTS:
Russell Aims, Special Assistant
(617) 654-9867

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION

BOSTON: At its meeting today, the State Board of Registration in Medicine took disciplinary action against the medical licenses of four physicians: Stacey Mikesell, M.D., Judith Rojcewicz, M.D., H. Scott Breen, M.D. and Laurel Porter, M.D.

In all four cases the physician entered into a Consent Order with the Board, thereby accepting the sanction or sanctions imposed, while waiving the right to future administrative or judicial appeals.

The Board indefinitely suspended the license of Dr. Stacey Mikesell of Newton. Dr. Mikesell is a 1989 graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, and was first licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts in August 1998. Until August 2003 Dr. Mikesell was a resident in anesthesiology at Caritas St. Elizabeth's Hospital. At that time, she entered into a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice Medicine that was accepted by the Board in September 2003.

In today's action suspending her license, the Board found that Dr. Mikesell had practiced medicine while her ability to do so was impaired by drugs. Dr. Mikesell may petition for the suspension to be lifted if she can document 2 ½ years of sobriety. Any such petition must include a letter from the Director of Physician Health Services that she has been compliant with her Chemical Dependency Monitoring Contract during that period. The Board is not required to grant such petitions.

In the second case, the Board indefinitely suspended the license of Dr. Judith Rojcewicz of Westminister. Dr. Rojcewicz graduated from UMass Medical School in 1981, and has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since September 1984. She specialized in emergency medicine and was working at Saints Memorial Medical Center in Lowell until March 2004, when she agreed to voluntarily withdraw her privileges there.

The Board today found that Dr. Rojcewicz had practiced medicine while her ability to do so was impaired by alcohol. She entered into a Consent Order forfeiting her rights to appeal the suspension, and agreeing to chemical dependency monitoring and other restrictions the Board might impose if Dr. Rojcewicz should file a petition to lift the

suspension of her license. She may not petition the Board for at least one year, and any such petition must document at least one year of sobriety.

Dr. H. Scott Breen is board certified in emergency medicine. He is a 1973 graduate of Albany Medical College of Union University, and was first licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts in July 1978. Dr. Breen has been an emergency room physician at Saints Memorial Hospital in Lowell since 1979, and also has privileges at Lawrence General Hospital.

Finding that Dr. Breen had struck a patient, the Board Consent Order reprimanded him and ordered him to complete 10 hours of Board-approved Continuing Medical Education credits regarding the treatment of disruptive patients. The credits must be earned within six months.

In the final case the Board admonished Dr. Laurel Porter. Dr. Porter is a board certified anesthesiologist licensed to practice medicine in several states. She has been licensed in Massachusetts since October 1992. The Board found that Dr. Porter was disciplined by the state of Georgia for failing to complete her physician profile. In that case she agreed to complete her profile and pay a \$500 fine. A physician who has been disciplined by another state for reasons substantially similar to those existing under Massachusetts law, has automatically violated Massachusetts law and regulation and is subject to discipline here.

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 about the Board 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.