

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 Praveen N. Adhyapak, M.D., Adele Wilkeson, M.D., Christo Courban, M.D. and Dr. Joseph Upton, M.D.

The Board revoked the license to practice medicine of Dr. Praveen Adhyapak. Dr. Adhyapak is a 1982 graduate of the Government Medical College, South Gujarat University, India. He has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1984. The Board found that Dr. Adhyapak had fraudulently procured renewal of his license in that he repeatedly failed to report on his license renewal applications that he was charged with serious crimes on several occasions.

In another matter, the Board reprimanded Dr. Adele Wilkeson. Dr. Wilkeson is a 1974 graduate of the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine. She is board-certified in Psychiatry and was first licensed to practice in Massachusetts in 1975. The Board found that in 2004 Dr. Wilkeson struck the head of a co-worker with a patient's medical record file. The co-worker was not injured, and Dr. Wilkeson was terminated by her employer.

Dr. Christo Courban was also reprimanded by the Board. Dr. Courban graduated from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center in 1996. He specializes in Emergency Medicine and has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1999. In May 2004 Dr. Courban engaged in sexual intercourse with a female patient he had previously treated, and subsequently obtained emergency contraception medication for the patient at her request. Dr. Courban was reprimanded by his employer in September 2004.

The Board indefinitely suspended the license of Dr. Joseph Upton, and immediately approved his entry into a Probation Agreement that allows him to continue to practice. Dr. Upton is a 1970 graduate of Baylor College of Medicine and is board certified in plastic surgery and surgery of the hand. He has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1977. In May 2005, the Board accepted an Agreement for Practice Restrictions by Dr. Upton wherein he agreed that surgeries he performed would be monitored by another attending physician, he would not leave the

surgical floor during procedures, would not schedule surgeries at more than one hospital per day, and would follow all hospital policies regarding the supervision of medical residents and fellows. The Probation Agreement accepted by the Board today continues those restrictions for five years, although Dr. Upton may petition to terminate the Agreement in May 2006.

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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