



Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine

Ten West Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

(617) 727-3086

ANDREW G. BODNAR, M.D., J.D.
CHAIRMAN

BARBARA NEUMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

An Agency within the Executive Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation

GUIDELINES FOR FINES

At the Board's May 20, 1987 meeting, it adopted the following guidelines for assessing fines:

1. \$7500 to \$10,000:

Where the Board's findings describe misconduct by a physician which caused death, serious permanent disability, disfigurement or prolonged physical suffering, or serious mental or emotional injury, or which created an unnecessary risk of any of the above mentioned conditions. ("Class 1 complaints" under the Board's regulations)

2. \$5000 to \$7500:

Where the Board's findings describe misconduct by a physician which caused slight or moderate physical injury, temporary disability, or disfigurement, or slight or moderate mental or emotional injury, or which created an unnecessary risk of any of the above mentioned conditions. ("Class 2 complaints" under the Board's regulations)

3. \$2500 to \$5000:

Where the Board's findings describe misconduct by a physician which did not cause physical or documented mental or emotional injury or create an unnecessary risk thereof ("Class 3 complaints" under the Board's regulations), and the physician's conduct was repeated, knowing, or intentionally oblivious to the requirements of law.

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4. \$250 to \$2500:

Where the Board's findings describe minor violations which are not included in any of the other categories.

5. General

These guidelines shall not preclude the Board in its normal exercise of discretion to impose sanctions as warranted by the unique circumstances in each case.