

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, February 16, 2006

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STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION

BOSTON: At its meeting yesterday, the State Board of Registration in Medicine took action against the medical licenses of Ernst Schaefer, M.D. and David J. Schopick, M.D.

The Board found that Dr. Ernst Schaefer engaged in inappropriate physical contact with a patient, and indefinitely suspended his license to practice medicine in Massachusetts. The suspension was stayed for 60 days to allow Dr. Schaefer to transfer his practice in an orderly fashion. The Board will consider staying the suspension further upon Dr. Schaefer's entry into a Probation Agreement providing that his practice is limited to a clinical setting and that he use Board approved chaperones while examining female patients. Dr. Schaefer is a 1972 graduate of the Mt. Sinai school of Medicine in New York, and has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1982. He is board certified in internal medicine. He currently has a private practice in Boston.

In another matter, in June 2005 the New Hampshire Board of Medicine found that Dr. David J. Schopick failed to maintain an appropriate physician/patient boundary and failed to maintain appropriate treatment records. The New Hampshire Board reprimanded Dr. Schopick, fined him \$1,000 and required him to obtain 40 hours of continuing medical education (CME) credits relating to establishing and maintaining physician/patient boundaries and diagnosis and treatment of bipolar disorder. He was also required to engage in supervision meetings for one year with a supervising psychiatrist. Yesterday the Massachusetts Board indefinitely suspended Dr. Schopick's license, but stayed the suspension upon Dr. Schopick's entry into a Probation Agreement that requires him to abide by the terms of his discipline in New Hampshire. Violation would be grounds to reinstate the suspension. Dr. Schopick is a 1983 graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1992. He is a board certified psychiatrist, child and adolescent psychiatrist and forensic psychiatrist.

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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