

**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 disciplinary action against the medical license of Jose Veizaga-Mendez, M.D., Ashok Shah, M.D. and Bruce L. Fariss, M.D.

The Board accepted the resignation of Dr. Veizaga-Mendez's right to renew his license to practice medicine. His license expired in February 2007. Resignation is a disciplinary action that permanently removes a physician from the practice of medicine in Massachusetts. Dr. Veizaga-Mendez's resignation also requires him to resign any other state medical licenses he may hold, as well as to withdraw any pending applications for licensure.

While the Board was investigating Dr. Veizaga-Mendez, he moved to Illinois and began practicing at a Veteran's Administration hospital. Later, the Board issued formal allegations that Dr. Veizaga-Mendez provided substandard care to several patients. The case was slated to be heard by an Administrative Magistrate until Dr. Veizaga-Mendez sought to resign. The matter is now closed.

The Board also accepted the resignation of Dr. Ashok Shah's right to renew his license. His license expired in March 2007. Dr. Shah is a 1969 graduate of the Government Medical College of Baroda University in India. He is a family practitioner, and has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1976.

In another matter, the Board accepted the resignation of Dr. Bruce L. Fariss. He graduated from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in 1987, and is a board certified urologist. Dr. Fariss has been licensed to practice in Massachusetts since 1989, and currently practices in Tennessee.

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 at (617) 654-9867, and in .pdf form on the Board's website at <http://www.massmedboard.org/public/discipline.shtm>.

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