

**MINUTES**

**TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**July 8, 2009**

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A meeting for the Board of Medical Examiners was held 4:00 p.m. in the Iris Room, Ground Floor, at 227 French Landing, Heritage Place Metrocenter, Nashville, TN 37243.

Members in attendance electronically: Dr. Dennis Higdon

Members in attendance: Drs. Subhi Ali and Charles White, Sr.

Staff present: Rosemarie Otto, Executive Director; Dr. Larry Arnold, Medical Director; Sandra Powell, Board Administrator; Marsha Arnold, Unit Manager; and Andrea Huddleston, Deputy General Counsel.

A meeting was held to summarily suspend the medical license of Settimio U. Castellani, MD on July 8, 2009.

Ms. Huddleston made opening remarks to the panel and stated that in order to take summary action against a license, they must find that in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare, emergency action is required. Dr. Higdon made a motion to proceed with the meeting electronically and Dr. Ali seconded the motion. The motion passed and a roll call vote was conducted. Everyone present was identified for the record. Ms. Huddleston turned the meeting over to the panel, chaired by Dr. White. Mr. Edmond Strickling, Detective with Metro Sex Crimes appeared in person as a witness. Ms. "CC", a former patient of Dr. Castellani appeared also as a witness by telephone. The Notice of Charges was handed to the panel for review. The Notice of Charges alleged that Dr. Castellani engaged in unprofessional conduct by making inappropriate sexual advances towards a patient in return for prescriptions.

In support of the allegations, Ms. Huddleston presented her witnesses, Mr. Strickling and Ms. "CC". The panel asked several questions regarding Dr. Castellani. At the conclusion of the testimonies, Ms. Huddleston asked the panel to summarily suspend Dr. Castellani's medical license. Ms. Huddleston informed the panel that Dr. Castellani would have the opportunity to appear within seven (7) days to present evidence to the panel to dispute the allegations.

A Proposed Order of Summary Suspension was handed to the panel for review. Dr. Ali made a motion to accept the Proposed Order of Summary Suspension in the matter of

Settimio U. Castellani, MD effective July 8, 2009 and Dr. Higdon seconded the motion.  
A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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