

**MINUTES**

**TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**July 14, 2009**

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A meeting for the Board of Medical Examiners was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Health Related Boards' Iris Room, Ground Floor, 227 French Landing, Heritage Place Metrocenter, Nashville, TN 37243.

Members in attendance electronically: Drs. Dennis Higdon and Charles White, Sr.

Member in attendance: Dr. Subhi Ali

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

A meeting was held to give Settimio U. Castellani, MD an opportunity to respond to the Board of Medical Examiners' July 8, 2009 action summarily suspending his medical license.

Dr. Castellani was present and represented by legal counsel, Mr. David Rayburn and Mr. Frank Scanlon. Ms. Andrea Huddleston represented the State. Dr. White made a motion to proceed with the hearing electronically and Dr. Higdon seconded the motion. After a roll call vote, the motion was passed and the hearing proceeded electronically. Dr. Higdon made a motion that the matters at issue required timely action, that the physical presence of all parties was not possible and that electronic communication was required. Dr. White seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted with all members voting yes. Further, all parties agreed to waive any appearance requirements and proceed electronically. A motion was made by Dr. White and seconded by Dr. Higdon designating Dr. Ali as chair of the meeting.

Ms. Huddleston gave a brief review of the July 8, 2009 proceedings that led to the panel's decision to summarily suspend the medical license of Dr. Castellani. Mr. Scanlon addressed the panel and Mr. Rayburn followed with a response. Ms. Monica Castellani was called upon to testify. Ms. Castellani is Dr. Castellani's wife and has worked as the office manager for twenty years at his clinic. Mr. Rayburn introduced an excerpt from patient T.S.'s medical record as well as an order from the criminal court for Davidson County dated April 18, 2008 which declared T.S. to be a "habitual traffic offender."

Thereafter, Mr. Rayburn asked the panel to consider its proof and lift the previously issued Order of Summary Suspension.

Ms. Huddleston urged the panel of the Board to uphold its previous decision suspending Dr. Castellani's medical license until a full hearing could be convened.

After further discussion, the panel deliberated. The panel discussed whether they had heard anything that would cause them to reverse the previous decision. Dr. White made a motion to uphold the summary suspension of Dr. Castellani until such time that the case can be heard in a full hearing. Dr. Higdon seconded the motion. After a roll call vote, the motion passed. Dr. White made a motion to adjourn and Dr. Higdon seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Subhi Ali, MD