

MINUTES

TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

November 10, 2008

A meeting for the Board of Medical Examiners was held at 2:00 p.m. in the Poplar Room, Ground Floor, 227 French Landing, Heritage Place Metrocenter, Nashville, TN 37243.

- Member in attendance electronically: Dr. Neal Beckford
- Members in attendance: Dr. Keith Lovelady and Ms. Regine Webster
- Staff present: Rosemarie Otto, Executive Director;
 Matthew Scanlan, Deputy General Counsel;
 Sandra Powell, Board Administrator
 Marsha Arnold, Unit Manager
 Larry Arnold, MD, Medical Director

A meeting was held to summarily suspend the medical license of Gardner Dixon, MD on November 10, 2008.

After agreeing to proceed electronically, Mr. Scanlan presented proof consisting of:

1. Michael Donaldson, Metro Police Department Detective, Pharmaceutical Diversion. Detective Donaldson testified that a trend had developed that indicated many of Dr. Dixon's patients were abusing their prescribed medications. He authenticated a tape of his interview of Dr. Dixon which indicated that Dr. Dixon was unable to locate a certain patient chart. During his interview of Dr. Dixon, Dr. Dixon could not say definitively whether or not he prescribed for a certain patient. Dr. Dixon explained that just because he did not have a chart, did not mean he did not see the patient. Several other patient records were produced pursuant to a subpoena and were offered to the panel for review.
2. Walter Philpot, Administrator for the Tennessee Controlled Substance Database testified as to the authenticity of the reports he ran at the request of OGC which showed prescriptions filled by certain doctors on certain dates for certain patients. Those reports were offered to the panel for consideration.

3. Angela Warren testified for the state. She is the mother of a patient of Dr. Dixon. She testified that her son is addicted to narcotic pain killers and that despite her asking Dr. Dixon to discontinue prescribing for her son, he continued to do so. She indicated that her son had no underlying health issues that would require the use of narcotics.

After summation, the panel deliberated and voted unanimously to accept the findings of fact and conclusions of law outlined in the state's proposed order for summary judgment. The panel then voted unanimously to summarily suspend the medical license of Gardner Dixon, M.D.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

These minutes were ratified by the Board November 18, 2008.