



**Pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

**STATE HEALTH LICENSING BOARDS
DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS
January 2007**

Secretary of the Commonwealth Pedro A. Cortés and Basil L. Merenda, Acting Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs and Commissioner of the Department's of Professional and Occupational Affairs, announced 38 disciplinary actions taken by the following State Health Licensing Boards: Chiropractic; Dentistry; Medicine; Nursing Home Administrators; Occupational Therapy; Optometry; Osteopathic Medicine; Pharmacy; Physical Therapy; Podiatry; Psychology; Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors; Examiners in Speech-Language and Hearing; and Veterinary Medicine.

Actions were taken against individuals or firms in the following counties: Allegheny (2 actions); Bucks (1 action); Clearfield (1 action); Cumberland (3 actions); Lackawanna (1 action); Lancaster (1 action); Lehigh (1 action); Luzerne (1 action); Lycoming (1 action); Montgomery (3 actions); Philadelphia (4 actions); Snyder (1 action); Venango (1 action); Warren (1 action); Westmoreland (1 action); and York (2 actions). A total of 13 actions involved Pennsylvania licenses with out-of-state addresses.

BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

Philadelphia County

Christopher J. Boucher, license number DC006930L, of Philadelphia County, was revoked based upon his conviction in federal court for health care fraud and for making fraudulent statements in the practice of chiropractic, submitting to third-party payors claims for service or treatment not actually provided, committing immoral or unprofessional conduct and failing to report this conviction to the board. (12-04-06)

BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Allegheny County

Lacey S. Thielemann, a/k/a Lacey S. Brown, of Munhall, Allegheny County, was denied a license to practice dental hygiene by criteria approval because she failed to demonstrate that she met equivalent licensure standards by passing all components of a comparable regionally administered clinical examination. (12-12-06)

Lackawanna County

Simone Y. Daniel, license no. DH006099L of Scranton, Lackawanna County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty for practicing as a dental hygienist while her license was lapsed. (12-07-06)

Lycoming County

Susan G.S. Anderson, of Williamsport, Lycoming County, was denied a license to practice dentistry by criteria approval because she failed to demonstrate that she has met the requirements of the Dental Law and regulations of the Board with regard to licensure by criteria approval. (10-30-06)

Montgomery County

Patrick Francis Degnan, license no. DS023850L, of Norristown, Montgomery County, was revoked because he filed false and deceptive renewal applications in 2001, 2003 and 2005, and is unable to practice he dentistry with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of drunkenness or excessive use of alcohol. (10-20-06)

Philadelphia County

Helen E. Ford, license no. DS027483L, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was reprimanded and indefinitely suspended until she complies with regulations of the board requiring dentists to provide dental records to a patient within 30 days of receiving a written request. (12-01-06)

Venango County

April Ridenbaugh, of Emlenton, Venango County, was denied certification as an expanded function dental assistant because she failed to demonstrate the good moral character required for certification. (11-30-06)

Out of State

James M. Hancock, of Sierra Vista, AZ, was denied a license to practice dentistry by criteria approval because he failed to demonstrate that he has met the requirements of the Dental Law and regulations of the board with regard to licensure by criteria approval in that he did not successfully pass all components of a regionally administered clinical examination. (11-30-06)

Paul John Marcucci, license no. DS0020270L of Williamstown, NJ, had his license reinstated to restricted status retroactive to Sept. 22, 2006. Marcucci may not prescribe, house, purchase, receive or administer any controlled substances in connection with his profession for a period of no less than three years. (12-5-06)

George J. O'Donnell, Jr., license no. DS024471L, of Westbrook, ME, was revoked because O'Donnell's license to practice dentistry was revoked by the proper licensing authority of the State of Maine. (12-01-06)

Latoya M. Yancey, of Vicksburg, MS, was denied a license to practice dental hygiene by criteria approval because she failed to demonstrate that she has met the requirements of the Dental Law and regulations of the Board with regard to licensure by criteria approval in that she did not successfully pass all components of a comparable regionally administered clinical examination. (11-30-06)

BOARD OF MEDICINE

Out of State

Scott Kenneth Cunningham, license no. MD042493E, of Denver, CO, had his license to practice medicine indefinitely suspended until such time as his license is reinstated without restriction in Colorado, and he affirmatively demonstrates his fitness to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, based on his license to practice medicine being disciplined by the proper licensing authority of Colorado. (11-30-06)

Gerald John Scallion, license no. MD052200L, of New York, NY was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine by the proper licensing authority of California. (11-30-06)

Bradley Alan Schwartz, of Tuscon, AZ, license no. MD055329L, had his license to practice medicine revoked for having been convicted of a felony. (12-11-06)

India Love VanBebber, license no. MD040439L, of Wartburg, TN, had her license revoked based on disciplinary action taken against her license by the proper licensing authority of another state and failure to report such action to the board within 60 days. (11-30-06)

BOARD OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

No disciplinary actions taken.

BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

No disciplinary actions taken.

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

Montgomery County

Sol Kadish, license no. OS002409L of Wynnewood, Montgomery County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Kadish did not maintain medical records in compliance with state or federal health care laws. (12-13-06)

BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Lancaster County

Christopher T. Laseter, license no. OS008714L of Lancaster, Lancaster County, had his license suspended for a minimum period of one year, immediately stayed in favor of one year of probation, subject to terms and conditions. Laseter engaged in unprofessional conduct with respect to the care and treatment of a female client. (12-13-06)

Snyder County

Douglas S. Buffington, license no. OS011983, of Middleburg, Snyder County, was assessed a \$10,000 civil penalty and Buffington's license was suspended for two years, immediately stayed in favor of probation, subject to terms and conditions. Buffington is guilty of immoral and unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine by having a sexual relationship with a patient concurrent with his care and treatment of said patient. (12-13-06)

Out of State

James Daniel Carpenter, license no. OS009728L of Henderson, NV, was subject to probation until all terms, conditions and limitations placed on his license to practice osteopathic medicine in Nevada have been removed, and will be subject to terms and conditions set forth in his order while on probation. Carpenter had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (12-13-06)

BOARD OF PHARMACY

Allegheny County

Edwin J. Gosnell, license no. RP044318L, of Bethel Park, Allegheny County, was automatically suspended retroactive to Nov. 13, 2006, based on findings that he pled guilty to a felony under the Pennsylvania Drug Act for knowingly and intentionally distributing Oxycontin, a Schedule II controlled substance, without a legitimate prescription. (11-20-06)

Cumberland County

Timothy J. Noonan, license no. RP026538L, of Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, had his pharmacy license suspended for at least two years; after one year the suspension will be stayed in favor of probation for the remaining time, and assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty, based on findings he pled guilty to a felony in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. (11-29-06)

Montgomery County

Brian Young, license no. RP041643L, of Gilbertsville, Montgomery County, was automatically suspended retroactive to Nov. 13, 2006, based on findings that he pled guilty to a felony under the Pennsylvania Drug Act for the acquisition or obtaining of possession of Oxycontin, a Schedule II controlled substance, by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception or subterfuge. (11-20-06)

Warren County

Glenn Allen Myer, license no. RP032740L, of Warren, Warren County, was revoked based on disciplinary action taken by the Vermont Board of Pharmacy. (11-29-06)

Westmoreland County

George Michael Loughran, license no. RP039073L, of Greensburg, Westmoreland County, was suspended for no less than 60 days and until the outstanding \$2,000 civil penalty is paid in full, based on findings that he practiced for an extended period without a current license and failed to pay a \$2,000 civil penalty. (11-29-06)

Out of State

John Howard Markus, license no. RP027610L of Phoenix, AZ, has permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license, because Markus had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (12-19-06)

Frederick P. McLeish, license no. RP034780L of Ventnor, NJ, was suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years probation, with terms and conditions, including his successful participation in the Disciplinary Monitoring Unit of the Professional Health Monitoring Programs.

McLeish had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice pharmacy by the proper licensing authority of another state and is unfit to practice pharmacy because of intemperance in the use of alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances. (12-19-06)

BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

No disciplinary actions taken.

BOARD OF PODIATRY

Luzerne County

Thomas Allen Olaviany, license no. SC003640L, of Forty Fort, Luzerne County, had his license suspended for a minimum of three years for violating the probationary terms of a prior disciplinary order that required him to abstain from the use of alcohol and other drugs of abuse. Reinstatement of Dr. Olaviany's license after three years is conditioned on his documenting three years of sustained recovery from substance abuse. (12/22/06)

Philadelphia County

Michael J. Avato, license no. SC005694, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was suspended by the Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas on Dec. 11, 2006. The court issued the suspension, which was effective immediately, under section 4355 of the Domestic Relations Code. (12-21-06)

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

Lehigh County

Philip J. Kinney, license no. PS006139L, of Coopersburg, Lehigh County, was reprimanded, assessed a \$2,500 civil penalty, and required to complete an in-class graduate course in ethics from an accredited or designated psychology program and an in-class three hour continuing education course on child custody. Kinney's forensic assessments, recommendations and reports were not based on information and techniques sufficient to provide appropriate substantiation for their findings, and he made statements about the mother and her ability to parent without having conducted any examination of her, failed to clarify the impact of his failure to examine mother on the reliability and validity of his report and testimony and failed to appropriately limit the nature and extent of his conclusions and recommendations, failed to maintain an objective and impartial stance in his evaluation of the child, failed to obtain informed consent from all adult participants prior to performing a custody evaluation on the child,

failed to use multiple methods of data gathering, and over interpreted or inappropriately interpreted clinical or assessment data. (11-27-06)

Philadelphia County

Debra Taras, license no. PS009288L, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was immediately suspended for 15 days and must complete the lacking 15 continuing education credits must be completed within 90 days of the effective date of the board order. (12-18-06)

York County

Frank J. DiPrima, license no. PS005364L of Dillsburg, York County, was suspended for two years, immediately stayed, and was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty, and must complete 12 contact hours of remedial education in topics related to professional ethics. DiPrima was convicted of a misdemeanor in the practice of psychology. (12-18-06)

Out of State

Lois McLatchie, license no. PS004459L, of Euclid, OH, was reprimanded based on findings that she was reprimanded and placed under supervision by the proper licensing authority of another state. (11-27-06)

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

Bucks County

Karen A. Jesionowski, license no. SW010688L, of Fairless Hills, Buck County, was assessed a \$400 civil penalty and, within six months of the effective date of her order, must complete 8 hours of continuing education credits necessary to meet the requirements for the 3/1/01 to 2/28/03 biennial reporting period. Jesionowski failed to complete 30 clock hours of continuing education in acceptable courses and programs in social work offered by approved providers and provide information to document certification of compliance with continuing education requirements. (12-12-06)

Clearfield County

Alan L. Moore, license no. PC003616 of Woodland, Clearfield County, had his license indefinitely suspended until Moore can show to the satisfaction of the board that he can safely and competently practice social work. Moore is addicted to drugs and/or alcohol. (12-12-06)

BOARD OF SPEECH, LANGUAGE AND HEARING

No disciplinary actions taken.

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Cumberland County

Renee D. Richards, license no. BV008217L of Camp Hill, Cumberland County, was assessed a \$250 civil penalty because Richards placed, or caused to be placed, advertising for emergency veterinary services that is untrue, fraudulent, misleading or deceptive by failing to state whether a veterinary is on the premises or on call, specifying the hours during which emergency services are available and disclosing specific limitations when advertising emergency services. (12-07-06)

Linda T. Stern, license no. BV006388E of Camp Hill, Cumberland County, was assessed a \$250 civil penalty because Stern placed or caused to be placed advertising for emergency veterinary services that is untrue, fraudulent, misleading or deceptive by failing to state whether a veterinarian is on the premises or on call when advertising emergency services. (11-01-07)

York County

Thomas W. Munkittrick, license no. BV008213L of Dillsburg, York County, was assessed a \$250 civil penalty. Munkittrick placed advertising for emergency veterinary services that is untrue, fraudulent, misleading or deceptive by failing to state whether a veterinarian is on the premises or on call, specifying the hours during which emergency services are available and disclosing specific limitations when advertising emergency services. (12-07-06)

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A complete list of sanctions is available online at

www.state.pa.us

Keyword: licensing disciplinary actions.

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