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# DRAFT

## STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS, AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING STATE MEDICAL BOARD

October 25 - 26, 2007

#### MINUTES OF MEETING

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, a scheduled meeting of the Alaska State Medical Board was held on Thursday and Friday, October 25 - 26, 2007, in the Matanuska Room, Mat-Su Regional Medical Center, Palmer, Alaska.

## Thursday, October 25, 2007

# Roll Call

Present were:

David M. Head, MD. Chair

Robert A Breffeilh, MD

John T. Duddy, MD

Edward A Hall, PA-C

Nancy Puckett

Michael J. Tauriainen

Jean M. Tsigonis, MD

The board's newest member, Dr. William Resinger was not present.

Staff Members present were Colleen Wilson, licensing examiner, and Leslie Gallant, the board's executive administrator.

# **AGENDA ITEM 1**

# In the Matter of Mark Joseph Beirne, MD

- Dr. Head noted that according to the administrative law judge's proposed decision, the board really
- has no choice but to adopt the ALJ's decision and deny Dr. Beirne's application for a license. 35
  - Mr. Tauriainen questioned if the board should forever ban him from medicine because of a goof up.
- 39 Dr. Breffeilh stated that Dr. Beirne subverted the concept of what the board stands for.
  - Mr. Tauriainen did not agree with the administrative law judge's interpretation of the law regarding the board's inability to re-license Dr. Beirne.

Dr. Head indicated that he would need a lot more from Dr. Beirne before he would consider returning a license to him. He was guilty of a lot of significant misconduct that would disqualify him from licensure. Dr. Duddy agreed with Dr. Breffeilh and felt that the board needed to adopt the ALJ's decision. Mr. Tauriainen read 12 AAC 40.965. His concern was that the board would be forever banning a doctor because he did something that the board could sanction for. He was not specifically arguing the Beirne case but was arguing for future cases as well. He felt that was too harsh. Ms. Gallant pointed out to the board that the board already denied Dr. Beirne's application for a license. About a year and a half ago, the board interviewed Dr. Beirne and denied his application at that time. He appealed that decision and went to hearing and pled his case before the judge. What the board has before them at this meeting is the judge's decision from that hearing. Mr. Tauriainen's concern was that this could be overturned by a judge in an appeal and that it might be unconstitutional. He thought the foundation for the decision is weak. Ms. Gallant pointed out that this is the same board, with one exception, who voted to deny Beirne a license a year ago. Mr. Tauriainen stated that he was not arguing the question of relicensing Dr. Beirne but that he was arguing with the reasoning behind the judge's decision which seems to him to be grossly unreasonable. MOTION BREFFEILH moved to adopt the decision of the administrative law judge in the matter of Mark J. Beirne, MD. 2nd HALL **VOTE** 6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tsigonis) 1 No vote (Tauriainen) 0 Abstentions Dr. Head requested that Ms. Gallant ask the judge if this prohibition in regulation 12 AAC 40.965 is too harsh. **AGENDA ITEM 2** In the Matter of Samuel H. Schurig, DO

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Dr. Head summarized for the board members that they already moved to return Dr. Schurig's license to him under the terms of a memorandum of agreement.

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Ms. Gallant clarified that the MOA has not yet been signed by the board. Dr. Schurig submitted the name of a supervising physician at the April meeting; that physician declined to serve in that capacity. Dr. Schurig had not provided the name of a replacement supervising physician. She did receive a fax document from Dr. Schurig's attorney only a day or two previous to the board meeting in which he requested approval for two new physicians. In addition, if Dr. Schurig goes to a remote location such as Delta Junction or to another city like Soldotna, the board needs to know how he intends to comply with all the provisions of the MOA. She advised that the staff has information to offer to the board regarding the proposed physicians that should be considered before it decides whether to approve them. Additional information on this matter was distributed to the board members at the beginning of the day's meeting.

TAURIAINEN moved that in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c) (2), the board go into
executive session for the purpose of discussing the matter of Dr. Samuel H.
Schurig.
BREFFEILH
7 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
0 Nay votes

Off the record at 9:53 am; on the record at 10:17 am.

0 Abstentions

- Dr. Head advised the board there are three issues to be decided:
  - 1) consider the MOA:
  - 2) consider Dr. Andreassson to be a supervising physician;
  - 3) consider Dr. Davidhizar to be a supervising physician.

Dr. Breffeilh moved to approve Dr. Laverne Davidhizar as a supervising physician for Dr. Schurig. The motion was seconded by Dr. Duddy. The motion failed by a vote of 0 Yea votes to seven Nay votes.

TAURIAINEN moved to approve Dr. Andreassen to be a supervising physician for
Dr. Schurig and to request that Investigator Lee Strout interview Dr. Andreassen
and insure he is fully aware of the conditions of the MOA with Dr. Schurig and to
insure he understands the requirements of the supervising physician.
BREFFEILH
7 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)

0 Nay votes

**0** Abstentions

Dr. Head clarified that the board wishes written confirmation from Dr. Andreassen that he fully understands the requirements of a supervising physician and that he agrees to comply with those requirements.

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Dr. Schurig advised the board that he would be commuting to Delta Junction from his home in Eagle River and that he would continue with all his appointments with his treatment providers in Anchorage (Wolf and Schultz).

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Dr. Head again requested that Mr. Strout obtain Dr. Andreassen's written assurance that he understands the requirements being placed on him as Dr. Schurig's supervisor and with the other provisions of the MOA. It is the board's desire that Dr. Schurig succeed in this endeavor. He cautioned Dr. Schurig to be careful to remain in compliance with all provisions of the MOA.

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Dr. Schurig confirmed his understanding of the importance of the MOA and his careful adherence to its provisions.

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Ms. Gallant is to notify Dr. Andreassen of the need for his written understanding of the MOA.

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The board members thanked Dr. Schurig for meeting with them.

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## AGENDA ITEM 3

#### In the Matter of William M. Palmer, MD

232425

Dr. Head was concerned about the amount of the civil fine of this agreement. He would favor suspending the \$2,500 and leaving the fine at \$1,000.

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Ms. Gallant explained to the board that the agreement is exactly in compliance with the board's policy for handling such cases as Dr. Palmer's.

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Dr. Tsigonis asked if there is information in the renewal that addresses how many hours are needed and what to do if you don't have them.

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Ms. Gallant responded that the entire regulations regarding CME are printed in the renewal document and instructions as to what the applicant should do if they do not have the minimum hours.

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Dr. Breffeilh advised that Dr. Palmer is a friend of his and he believes the MOA is appropriate.

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• 1	MOTION	BREFFEILH moved to approve the MOA.
2	2 <sup>nd</sup>	DUDDY
3	VOTE	7 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
		0 Nay votes
5		0 Abstentions
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8	NEW AGENDA ITEM	In the Matter of Lawrence Stanley Jackson, MD
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10	Ms. Gallant distribute	ed to the board members the memorandum of agreement with Dr. Jackman which
11	also concerns CME	matters. Dr. Jackson could only identify 45.75 hours and was 4.25 hours short of the
12	minimum.	
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14	MOTION	HALL moved to approve the memorandum of agreement with Dr. Lawrence S.
15		Jackman.
16	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH
17	VOTE	7 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
18		0 Nay votes
19		0 Abstentions
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2.	AGENDA ITEM 4	In the Matter of Frederick T. Waller, MD
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23	Ms. Gallant explaine	ed that Dr. Waller has had to restrict his practice due to personal health issues. Since
24	the board does not	enter into verbal agreements, a non-disciplinary memorandum of agreement was
25	prepared and Dr. W	/aller has signed off on it. His record is clean with no actions.
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27	MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved to approve the memorandum of agreement with Dr. Frederick
28		T. Waller.
29	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH
30	VOTE	7 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
31		0 Nay votes
32		0 Abstentions
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AGENDA ITEM 5 Definition of "Surgery"

The board had previously adopted a position on the use of lasers. Dr. John Troxel gave the board a presentation on lasers and it was at that time the board adopted its position. A letter which was

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received from the American College of Surgeons issued an expanded version of this position. The director of the ACS advised that numerous states and the AMA have adopted this expanded position on the performance of surgery and use of lasers. Ms. Gallant emphasized that this is a board guideline and not a law.

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Mr. Tauriainen felt that the board has gone far enough with its current position. People get hurt every day by many professionals. It is simply a risk that is taken.

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Dr. Tsigonis was in favor of including the additional language offered by the ACS and liked the idea of making a broader distribution of the board's position.

101112

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MOTION	BREFFEILH moved to accept the ACS Statement into the board's existing policy
	language on the use of lasers.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	HALL
VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tsigonis)
	1 No vote (Tauriainen)
	0 Abstentions

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Following discussion, the board asked that this new position be distributed to the Alaska State Medical Association, to the boards of nursing, chiropractors, and barbers and hairdressers.

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# AGENDA ITEM 9

#### **MICP Scope of Practice Questions**

232425

As the board prepared to discuss the letter from Dr. David Vastola, Nancy Sanders of the Board of Nursing was connected to the board meeting via telephone.

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Dr. Head noted that the board has addressed this issue in the past on a case by case basis. In those cases, the board requested detailed protocols of what would comprise the arrangement where the paramedics would practice outside the usual scope of practice. He also noted that paramedics do not have the proper training to provide routine care. In his opinion, the occasions where the board has approved paramedics to functions outside their usual scope of practice are situations that required close supervision by sponsoring physicians. He further felt that Dr. Vastola's letter indicates that they are seeking to utilize paramedics as nurses.

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Ms. Sanders felt that as described in Dr. Vastola's letter, the use of the paramedics was actually a nurse's job. She represented from the nursing community that they would not encourage this practice

[using paramedics rather than nurses] but they understand there are some situations that would require it.
Board members discussed if a medical technician or health aid could provide the services described in Dr. Vastola's letter. One suggestion was that the paramedic under question obtains the health aid training.
The board requested that Ms. Gallant send a letter to Dr. Vastola describing what has been done in the past [in permitting paramedics to practice outside their normal scope] and to request he provide additional details about the specific situation he references in his letter, perhaps to be present by telephone at the next meeting. The board asked this be returned to at the next meeting for further discussion.
AGENDA ITEM 6 Full Board Interview – Barbour, Youssef Khaled, MD
Dr. Barbour was scheduled to be present for a full board interview but he did not appear. He was contacted by telephone and would appear later in the meeting. He advised he did not get the letter scheduling him for the meeting.
Off the record at 11:23 am; on the record at 1:09 pm.
AGENDA ITEM 7 Full Board Interview – Zaremba, Claudette Ann, MD
Dr. Zaremba was present to discuss her application for an Alaska license with the board. Dr. Head offered to her the opportunity to go into executive session for her interview. She declined the offer.
Dr. Zaremba advised that she holds three licenses (Colorado, Wyoming and California) and there are no issues with any of them.
Ms. Gallant reviewed with the board the summary of Dr. Zaremba's application and the processes involved in obtaining additional information for the board's consideration.
The board discussed with Dr. Zaremba her responses in the application to questions regarding her postgraduate training, her criminal background, her malpractice history, her license history in the state of Colorado including an application withdrawal, and her personal health history. They also discussed

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Dr. Duddy stated that Dr. Zaremba has been "less than straightforward" in her dealings with the board.

He was concerned about her failure to disclose important information in her application and to the

Colorado board.

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Dr. Head summarized the case with the opinion that Dr. Zaremba should definitely have responded 'yes' to questions 22, 28a, 30a, and 37.

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One point of some discussion was that after advising Dr. Zaremba to withdraw her application, the Colorado board subsequently licensed her and back dated her license to the earlier date. The back

dating of the issued license sent a confusing message regarding Colorado's perspective on the

application.

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Dr. Breffeilh asked that whatever action the board elected to take, that it not make the action so onerous that SEARHC would find her unemployable. He wanted to avoid using the word "probationary." Dr. Head agreed and suggested that a proposed motion include disciplinary sanctions

19 consistent with past actions.

21	MOTION	HALL moved to grant a license to Dr. Zaremba with a memorandum of agreement
22		to include a \$4,000 civil fine, a reprimand, and a requirement to meet with the
23		board at the Juneau meeting [April board meeting].
24	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH
25	VOTE	7 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
26		0 Nay votes
27		0 Abstentions

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The board wishes Dr. Zaremba to meet with them at the April meeting [in Juneau] to see how she is doing in Sitka.

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Dr. Head authorized an Anchorage board member to sign off on the MOA on his behalf. Ms. Gallant will have a draft of the MOA sent to Dr. Head before it is executed.

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Ms. Gallant advised Dr. Zaremba to notify the states where she is licensed of the Alaska action immediately. She also noted that this is a formal board action and will be reported to all appropriate authorities and copies will be provided to her states of licensure.

Dr. Barbour appeared to discuss his application with the board.

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Dr. Duddy was consulted to review Dr. Barbour's application. He wanted to clarify Dr. Barbour's examination history where he failed Step 3 of the USMLE two times before passing it on the third attempt.

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Dr. Barbour advised that he sat for Step 3 before starting his residency program. He also had personal family issues during the times that he was sitting for the examination. He did experience a little confusion with the examination questions. He ultimately scored the highest in his class.

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Ms. Gallant confirmed with Dr. Barbour that he was licensed in both Syria and Ohio. He failed to list these licenses in his application. She reminded him to include all his licenses in such applications.

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MOTION	HALL moved to grant a license to Dr. Youssel Khaled Barbour, MD.
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**TAURIAINEN** 

19 **VOTE** 

7 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)

0 Nay votes

0 Abstentions

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## **AGENDA ITEM 8**

**New Regulations Project** 

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The board reviewed the proposed regulations changes in the meeting book.

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With regard to regulation 1, changes to 12 AAC 40.405, this was a part of the larger project that changed the physician assistant regulations. This part was redacted out from the larger project and rewritten by the regulations attorney, Steve Weaver.

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Regarding proposed regulation No. 2, this change to the paramedics' continuing education language was voted on by the board at the July 2006 meeting.

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Proposed regulation No. 3 is a new paragraph that is being requested by the staff. This exact regulation appears in the laws of some of the other boards. The additional of this language would give greater weight to the board's decisions on failure to disclose cases. Mr. Tauriainen pointed out that there should

be a phrase inserted regarding "the denial or an application for licensure." That proposed language was inserted in the proposed draft.
Changes to regulation 12 AAC 40.025, No. 4, are housekeeping changes that will add greater clarity to the existing regulation.
Proposed regulation No. 5 is also a housekeeping change that will make this regulation consistent with other regulations regarding continuing medical education requirements.
Proposed regulation No. 6 is the regulation that was drafted by the board and ophthalmology representatives to resolve the problem of doctors leaving their post-surgical patients in the care of others who are not physicians.
Number 7 is a proposal to add a clear statement to the regulations that the performance of independent medical evaluations is the practice of medicine and requires a license. There is another version of this proposed regulation being offered by Dr. Larry Kropp, a pain management specialist, which includes more language to this proposed regulation.
Dr. Duddy wished to include language that makes IME doctors accountable as this is a true problem for both the patients and their physicians.
Dr. Breffeilh felt it would be advantageous to include language regarding expert witnesses.
Dr. Head suggested adopting the shorter version of the proposal and working separately on the expert witness issue.
Regulation No. 8 in the package is the restoration of a regulation from the physician assistant project that the staff believes was inadvertently dropped. The staff is requesting the board restore this regulation.
Mr. Hall asked if physician assistants or other midlevels could be added to the proposal No. 6. He wanted to make sure that the regulation did not exclude physician assistants. Drs. Head and Duddy did not believe the regulation would exclude PAs from performing such tasks as designated by their collaborative physicians.
Dr. Head felt that physician assistants are still covered by the proposed language and that is not

1	MOTION	BREFFEILH moved to approve the proposed regulations for public comment	
2		including reinstating proposed regulation No. 8.	
3	<b>2</b> nd	DUDDY	
	VOTE	7 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Puckett, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)	
5		0 Nay votes	
6		0 Abstentions	
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8	Off the record at 2:44	pm; on the record at 2:57 pm.	
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11 12	REPORT TO THE BOARD	Physician Health Committee	
13	Dr. Mary Ann Foland	was present to update the board on the activities of the Physician Health	
14		e the board an overview of the work of the committee over the years.	
15	committee. one gav	e the bodie an overview of the work of the committee over the years.	
16	In discussion of the sto	atus of clients in the committee, Dr. Foland agreed that five years of probation and	
17	monitoring are a good idea and ten years of monitoring for repeat offenders.		
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19	She also advised the I	board that the committee is currently working on including physician assistants in	
	its program.		
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23	REPORT TO THE BOARD	Alaska Family Practice Residency Program	
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25		net with the board to update the board members on the activities of the program.	
26	He was also present to	o correct some misinformation that was given to the board at the April meeting.	
27	The common to the the tree		
28		enth year and has graduated 65 physicians, with 32 of those practicing in rural	
29 30		. Twenty percent of the graduates are practicing in community health centers racticing in Native health care.	
31	and 33 percent are p	racticing in Native health care.	
32	The board appreciate	ed Dr. Johnston's taking the time to meet with them to inform them of the work of	
33	the program.	54 51. Semislen's raking the lime to meet with mem to morn the work of	
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36	AGENDA ITEM 10	Probation Monitoring	

38 Mason, Bret L., DO

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34 AGENDA ITEM 10

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**Probation Monitoring** 

Winczura, John, PA-C

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Dr. Head offered Mr. Winczura the opportunity to go into executive session; Mr. Winczura declined.

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- Dr. Head noted for Mr. Winczura issues of concern; an Etg report returned back positive for Mr.
- Winczura. Mr. Winczura absolutely denied the possibility that he failed an Etg test. He has read about
- 8 false positives for such tests.

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Dr. Head advised that it was disturbing to the board to find out about the positive test result and to find out about it so long after it occurred.

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Ms. Gallant advised that the scientist at the testing lab stated that it was a negligible amount of alcohol that was detected. She stated that the matter that caused the most concern to the staff in the office was the inability of the probation monitor to connect with Mr. Winczura by telephone to have him report for the test in September. When they could not reach him on his cell phone, she gave them his home telephone. They advised they left a message on the home phone but did not get a return call.

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Mr. Winczura was very concerned and very annoyed. He stated that he did not get any call on his cell phone. He told the board that Jasmine [Bautista] has been told over and over again that if she does not reach him on his cell phone, to call all his other numbers. She has admitted at times that she did not call him on his cell phone. He was going to obtain his ACS telephone records for his cell phone.

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Dr. Head stated that he wants to verify [from Jasmine Bautista] what numbers are being called for Mr. Winczura's monitoring. It was even more upsetting to him that it was reported that the probation monitor could not reach Mr. Winczura by telephone. The failed test could not be verified. The bigger concern was the inability to reach Mr. Winczura to have him re-test.

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Ms. Gallant confirmed that Martha Mendez, a staff person in the Investigations Unit, was tasked with calling Mr. Winczura and she reported she could not reach Mr. Winczura. She advised she tried his cell phone repeatedly. She [Mendez] was given the home phone and she stated that she left a message on that telephone when no one answered, but she did not receive a call back from that message either.

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Dr. Head stated that a log should be kept by the probation monitors of all testing notifications that can be produced.

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Attempts were made to reach the chief investigator to connect him to the meeting.

Ms. Gallant stated that it was her understanding that it was Mr. Winczura's preference that his cell phone be used as the primary contact.

Mr. Winczura stated, "Absolutely not," that it was his preference that the monitor starts by calling his home phone first and then to keep calling all other telephones and leave messages at each one. He also stated that there was one occasion, with the nursing board, that he received the message three or four days after the call had been made.

Mr. Hall commented that while he understood Mr. Winczura's anger over this situation, it is Mr. Winczura who is under the memorandum of agreement with requirements. If he had not received a call to test, he should have called in to advise the probation monitor that he had not been notified. He felt it was Mr. Winczura's responsibility to maintain his compliance with the MOA. He should have taken some responsibility in this process.

Mr. Winczura disagreed with that assessment. He acknowledged that while he perhaps should have called in when he hadn't heard from them, they are supposed to be professionals who are supposed to be performing a professional job. They did not call all his phone numbers as he has asked them over and over again to do.

Mr. Hall felt that Winczura should take responsibility for his compliance and his denials are of concern. He questioned why Mr. Winczura would not take the responsibility to follow up with the probation monitor proactively when he had not received a call to report for a test.

At this time, Mr. Winczura stepped away from the meeting and advised he would call his telephone company for their records.

[The record reflects that Mr. Winczura left the room at 9:37 am.]

Dr. Duddy advised that he believes Mr. Winczura regarding the positive test, but that he is still concerned about the anger issue.

Dr. Tsigonis felt that there is a system failure here but that Mr. Winczura should have called in on his own.

Mr. Tauriainen asked if the labs don't call when they have a positive. Ms. Gallant agreed that that would have made sense. She was disturbed that she received a written report of a positive test three weeks after the test occurred.			
	Dr. Head stated that the investigators need to keep logs of when they call probationers and the results of the calls and the logs need to be in the board's meeting books.		
Mr. Tauriainen also f him.	elt that Mr. Winczura's work place should have been called in the effort to reach		
	Dr. Tsigonis agreed that the investigators need to keep logs of all attempts to contact the probationers. She also asked that the investigators write down the numbers from which they are calling.		
Dr. Head felt that th	e board has no choice but to go to a 14 tests per year for Mr. Winczura.		
MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved to go to 14 random drugs tests each year [once each month with two additional randomly selected tests at any time during the year].		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH		
VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)		
	0 Nay votes		
	0 Abstentions		
Dr. Head requested that Mr. Winczura return to meet with the board at the January meeting.			
<u>Donaldson, Brian R.,</u>	Donaldson, Brian R., MD		
Dr. Donaldson met v	Dr. Donaldson met with the board for his annual probation meeting.		
MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved that in accordance with Alaska Statute 44.62.310 (c)(2) the board go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the matter of Brian		
	R. Donaldson, MD.		
<b>2</b> <sup>nd</sup>	R. Donaldson, MD.  BREFFEILH		
2 <sup>nd</sup> VOTE			

Off the record at 9:56 am; [no time stated].

Abstentions

Dr. Head commented that Dr. Donaldson could appear before the board at any time he wishes, that he should just let Ms. Gallant know when he wishes to be on the agenda.

5	MOTION	TSIGONIS moved to leave Dr. Donaldson's memorandum of agreement as it is
6		currently in effect at this time.
7	2 <sup>nd</sup>	HALL
8	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
9		0 Nay votes
10		0 Abstentions

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## Killebrew David S., MD

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Dr. Head offered executive session to Dr. Killebrew but he declined.

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- Dr. Killebrew joined the board to discuss his current status in probation. He advised that he enjoys work,
- 17 has collegial relationships, and feels good about what he is doing. He continues to be monitored by the
- 18 PHC and is tested weekly with Etg testing. He stated that there have been times when he has not been
- 19 called. When that happens, he just goes in for the test.

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The board appreciates that he goes in proactively when he has not been called by the Division.

23 Dr. Head asked Dr. Killebrew if he would have any objection to being tested 14 times each year rather 24 than weekly. Dr. Killebrew said it would be good for him as the tests are \$70 each, but he is willing to be 25 monitored as the board directs.

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Board members agreed that Dr. Killebrew could go to being tested 14 times a year, once each month with two random tests added.

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The board thanked Dr. Killebrew for appearing.

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32	MOTION	BREFFEILH moved to go to 14 tests a year for Dr. Killebrew.
33	2 <sup>nd</sup>	DUDDY
34	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
35		0 Nay votes
36		0 Abstentions

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Off the record at 10:28 am; on the record at 10:37 am.

0 Nay votes0 Abstentions

Alaska State Medical Board – Meeting Minutes DRAFT – Not Approved by Board

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The board thanked Ms. Perino for appearing.

The board recessed at 11:57 am; returned on the record at 12:36 pm.

# Winczura, John, PA-C

Mr. Winczura rejoined the meeting.

Dr. Head advised Mr. Winczura that after he left the meeting earlier, the board discussed his current drug testing schedule and the process involved. He advised that the board is going to a program of fourteen tests a year, one each month with two additional tests, all to be done randomly.

Mr. Winczura first apologized to the board for leaving the meeting earlier. He also advised that he could do a tickler in his calendar for testing; in the past, it has been as many as 50 days between tests.

Mr. Tauriainen emphasized that Mr. Winczura's appearances before the board are because of things he has done. He added that he is glad Mr. Winczura returned to the meeting.

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Dr. Head stated that there is a shared responsibility between the probation monitors and the individuals under probation. He does not know how the positive test result happened, but he really wants Mr. Winczura to succeed in recovery. He believes the positive test was positive for erroneous reasons. He cautioned Mr. Winczura to be very careful what he eats and drinks and take every precaution to be successful in this program.

Dr. Breffeilh agreed and added that Mr. Winczura should not be using ethanol based hand cleaners.

Mr. Winczura assured the board that he would not drink but he stated that he is an alcoholic; he has been sober for seven years. He wants to satisfy the board's concerns. He actually had another reason for appearing before the board at this meeting: he wished to petition the board to vacate his MOA. Under the circumstances of the meeting today, he does not expect that to happen. But, he will be back at the next meeting to request the MOA be lifted. He is having difficulty getting a full-time job because of the MOA. He is sober and he has demonstrated his resolve. He asked the board not penalize him for saying what he thinks. He believes he has complied with the all the board's requests. He wishes to go into private practice and start his own business. His current collaborative physician has agreed to be his collaborative physician in this endeavor. The problem is that his collaborative physician is in Delta Junction; his office would be in Eagle River or Anchorage. That would violate the

<b>2</b> nd	with a revision to 14 EtG random tests annually, one each month with two additional tests during the year.  TAURIAINEN
MOTION	BREFFEILH moved to keep Mr. Winczura's memorandum of agreement as it stands
some of Mr. Winczuro	e reason behind the prohibition against remote practice. It was explained that a's problems occurred at a remote practice. The restriction against remote Winczura greater supervision by his collaborating physician.
	r the definition of remote practice. Ms. Gallant responded that the physician define remote practice as the practice being 30 miles or more away from the ian by road.
this situation is becau	that he is not blaming the board but telling them what the situation is. He knows use of things he has done. He created the situation and he has presented to the thing him to be successful. He is blaming the Investigation Unit because they did ing him for testing].
himself to the board. that are his alone. It	his opinion is his but the board will judge him on his actions and how he presents  They have no other choice. Mr. Winczura continues to blame others for problems is not the board's fault that he cannot get a job in Anchorage; it is not the board's a memorandum of agreement.
Mr. Winczura felt tha	t his anger was justifiable.
the board sees him f	d that before he would consider modifying the MOA, there should be a time when or probation monitoring where the board does not have issues or difficulties nes when he does not get angry or upset with the board. That has been his history is that Dr. Head has known him.
him from his agreem	ested that over the next couple of meetings, rather than asking the board to release ent, Mr. Winczura should look for modifications to make his employability easier board comfortable with him. The board wants him to be able to pursue his
restriction against ref	mote practice. He would ask the board to consider allowing him to work remote ng physician.

I	VOIE	6 TEC VOTES (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
2		0 Nay votes
3		0 Abstentions
5	Mr. Winczura asked	d if it would be acceptable for his alternate collaborating physician to be in
6		s primary in Delta Junction.
7		
8	Dr. Head concurre	d that the question of remote practice was a big concern from the beginning, the
9	concern of Mr. Win	nczura practicing unsupervised. He noted that at Mr. Winczura's request, the board
0	lifted the requireme	ent that there be constant on-site supervision. Now, he wants to go even further and
. 1	allow that the phys	sician can be remote from Mr. Winczura's practice.
.2		
.3		ed his concerns that this is another request to chip away at the requirements of the
.4	MOA.	
.5		
6		om the regulation that defines remote practice and her interpretation that the
.7	regulation reference	ces the primary physician.
.8		
9	Mr. Hall suggested	that if he could find an alternate in Anchorage, could he switch that alternate to the
	primary position.	
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23	AGENDA ITEM 13	Special Application Review – Okuley, Sylvia
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.5	Dr. Head offered to	Ms. Okuley the opportunity to go into executive session.
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7	MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved that in accordance with Alaska Statute 44.62.310 (c)(2) the
8		board go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the matter of Sylvia
9	Ond	Okuley, PA-C
0	2 <sup>nd</sup>	HALL
1	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
2		0 Nay votes
3		0 Abstentions
4	Off the area and the	
5	Oir the record at 1:	04 pm; on the record at 1:28 pm.
6	40701	
	MOTION	BREFFEILH moved to grant an unrestricted license to Sylvia Okuley, PA-C.

Accusation that was filed against her on May 11, 2007.

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36 MOTION TSIGONIS moved to approve the Judgment by Default in the matter of Elisabeth-Anne Douce Cole, MD requested by the Division. 2nd

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HALL

#### **0** Abstentions

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## William M. Sykes, MD

Ms. Gallant summarized Dr. Sykes application situation. Dr. Sykes failed to list seven states of licensure.

Except for the California license, six of the missing states were discovered on the AMA profile. He was

offered a memorandum of agreement that would include sanctions for failing to disclose these states of

licensure. He has declined to agree to the MOA. She explained to the board the process that the staff

follows in such cases in which the staff explains all the options to the applicant that are available to the

board in making their decision on the application. In this case, Dr. Sykes wanted to take his case

directly to the board and explain why he did not list the seven states of licensure.

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Dr. Head pointed out that Dr. Sykes' attorney wrote a lengthy explanation for why Dr. Sykes did not list the seven licenses.

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Dr. Duddy pointed out that the question in the application is very clear; it is plainly worded and printed in bold and underlined in the application.

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The board delayed a decision while it went into public comment.

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## AGENDA ITEM

#### Public Comment Forum

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Dr. Michael Bernzott called in to the meeting during public comment in order to make remarks to the board regarding his license and memorandum of agreement. Dr. Head advised Dr. Bernzott that he would be allowed three minutes to comment to the board.

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Dr. Bernzott advised the board that the entries in the NPDB regarding his licensing action are incorrect. He believes that the entry in the NPDB that references that he obtained a license through deceit, fraud, and intentional misrepresentation are untrue and asked that the board review his case and the data bank entries and compare them. Dr. Head thanked him for his comments to the board. Dr. Bernzott disconnected from the call.

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Ms. Gallant explained that the reference to obtaining a license through deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation referenced Dr. Bernzott's failure to disclose to the Arizona board that he was under active investigation in Alaska when he applied for the Arizona license. All these references were included in the accusation that was filed against him. He lost his job with the VA because he also failed to disclose the Alaska investigation in the VA's employment application.

She also noted that there was a change made in the NPDB where the response to a question was changed from 'yes' to 'no.' The question asked if there was patient harm in the action.

Ms. Gallant stated that Dr. Bernzott was unhappy with the events that have transpired in his case. The Division made numerous attempts to contact Dr. Bernzott regarding his investigation. He ignored those attempts and failed to respond. Finally, the Division came to the board with a request for default revocation which the board granted. When he received that document in the mail, Dr. Bernzott contacted the Division and under the terms of a memorandum of agreement that he signed, his license was restored to him. Since that time, he has challenged the NPDB report language. Bob Auth, assistant attorney general, wrote to him and told him that there are channels provided by the federal government that you must follow in order to challenge an NPDB report; Dr. Bernzott did not pursue those channels.

Dr. Head asked why Dr. Bernzott was told that his issues were not under the purview of the board but were the responsibility of the Division.

Ms. Gallant replied that it has been explained to Dr. Bernzott how to submit his comments to the NPDB. When Dr. Bernzott challenged her about what would be sent to another board, she prepared a verification of license that included all the action documents and provided that to Dr. Bernzott so he could see exactly what would be sent to another board. He questions the validity of the NPDB report; copies of that report were provided to him as well.

Dr. Head was concerned that the deceit, fraud or intentional misrepresentation that occurred in another state should be held against him. He asked that a legal opinion be obtained about that question.

Dr. Tsigonis asked about Bernzott's license status. Ms. Gallant responded that the Alaska license is the only license he has. He does hold an active Alaska license and could return to work here. He can also apply for other state licenses wherever he wishes.

Ms. Gallant will query Mr. Auth about the changes in the accusation and get back to the board about that.

AGENDA ITEM 13

Special Application Review (Continued)

The board reviewed Dr. Phyllis Gresham's application.

Dr. Head noted that the board's usual stance in cases similar to Dr. Gresham's is to tell the applicant that they must clean up their licenses in other states before applying for a license in Alaska.

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Ms. Gallant pointed out that the board really has no choice but to deny Dr. Gresham's application by statute.

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10	MOTION	HALL moved to deny the application of Dr. Phyllis Gresham due to the licensing
11		actions taken by other boards, and cited AS 08.64.240, the enabling statute, and
12		AS 08.64.326 (a)(13).
13	2 <sup>nd</sup>	TAURIAINEN
14	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
15		0 Nay votes
16		0 Abstentions

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# Jay J. Schindler, MD

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Dr. Schindler initially applied for a license a couple of years ago. The application was incomplete because Marshfield Clinic/St. Joseph's hospital in Wisconsin would not send a verification of privileges. There was some conflict between Dr. Schindler and the hospital. He was told to resolve the situation with the hospital before he tried to pursue the license in Alaska. We have now received the missing verification from the hospital and his application is complete.

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The board reviewed the file including the very large malpractice settlements.

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Dr. Head suggested that the board do a full board interview to discuss Dr. Schindler's application and to discuss the malpractices cases and the events that occurred at St. Joseph's Hospital. The board members decided to request a full board interview and not to approve the temporary permit until after the full board interview.

33	MOTION	DUDDY moved to request Dr. Jay Schindler appear for a full board interview.
34	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH
35	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)
36		0 Nay votes
		0 Abstentions

Dr. Sykes and his attorney, Tony Sholty, joined the meeting via telephone.

Dr. Head summarized for the board the issue with Dr. Sykes application that he failed to list seven states of licensure in the application for a physician license.

Dr. Tsigonis asked Dr. Sykes why he did not list all the states in which he was licensed. Dr. Sykes stated that he did not realize that the board wished him to include states that he never had practiced in. In completing applications for Washington and Idaho, when they discovered he had not listed all states in which he had been licensed, they just sent him a letter telling him they wanted him to list all states. Both of those states granted him licenses and did not discipline him. He advised that he had submitted the three applications at about the same time.

Dr. Tsigonis thought that since he received notification from Washington and Idaho that perhaps he would have thought to correct the situation with the Alaska application. Ms. Gallant confirmed that the Alaska board never received a correction from Dr. Sykes.

Mr. Sholty asked if the board received the submission he provided on Dr. Sykes behalf. The board members confirmed that they did receive the document.

Dr. Head explained that the Alaska board cannot go out and query other states to see if someone is licensed there or not, that is not a burden for the board but is a burden that is the responsibility of the applicant. In order for the board to protect the public, the board needs to know in what states an applicant has been licensed. The board does not know in what states a physician is licensed, if they have had an adverse action by another state, or how to check up on someone unless the board uncovers that information themselves.

Dr. Sykes asked if the fact that he did not practice in those states mattered to the board.

Dr. Tsigonis stated that he was not complete in his response to the question that asks where you are licensed, not where you practiced.

Dr. Sykes commented that he has trouble understanding why the board would punish him and why, after 37 years of a perfect record practicing medicine, he would have to explain why he was punished in Alaska.

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needs to follow.

Mr. Tauriainen stated that he would vote to give Dr. Sykes a clear and unrestricted license. It was an honest mistake after apparently 37 years of flawless practice.

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Mr. Tauriainen moved to grant an unrestricted license to Dr. Sykes. Dr. Duddy seconded the motion. With a vote of five Nay votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, and Tsigonis) to one Yea vote (Tauriainen), the motion failed.

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16	MOTION	DUDDY moved to grant a restricted license to Dr. Sykes with a memorandum of
17		agreement as previously described [with disciplinary sanctions for failure to
18		disclose seven states of licensure].
19	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH
20	VOTE	5 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tsigonis)
21		1 Nay vote (Tauriainen)
22		0 Abstentions

2324

Dr. Head asked what happens if Dr. Sykes refuses to sign the memorandum of agreement.

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Ms. Gallant clarified for the board that if Dr. Sykes does not sign the agreement, the action becomes a denial of license. The board has voted to grant a license under the terms of a memorandum of agreement that includes sanctions for failure to disclose seven states of licensure. If Dr. Sykes chooses not to sign the MOA, the file will be returned to the board and the board will be asked to make a formal motion of denial.

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Dr. Head explained to Dr. Sykes what would happen if he did not sign the MOA. The file would be returned to the board and they would have no choice but to deny the license.

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Dr. Sykes stated that if he signs the agreement, he is sanctioned and if he doesn't sign, he is sanctioned. He asked if he could appeal that decision.

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Dr. Sykes and Mr. Sholty disconnected from the meeting.

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Ms. Gallant explained all the options available to applicants in Dr. Sykes' situation. He could have withdrawn his application. Mr. Hall asked if he could re-submit a new application. Ms. Gallant explained that any subsequent application would be returned to the board for consideration. She stated that if you selectively apply the law, what about the next fellow who is perhaps not quite as good or different board members are sitting in the chair.

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Dr. Duddy agreed that the application is very clear in what it asks for. It is difficult to understand how anyone could interpret the question differently from what is being asked.

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# **AGENDA ITEM 14**

#### **License Application Review**

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#### MOTION

## TAURIAINEN moved to approve the following physicians for licensure in Alaska:

Albertson, Tina Marie
Ambasht, Saket Kumar
Anderson, John David
Baldwin, Sharolyn Hoover
Benally Thompson, Bret Robert

Brainard, Laura
Brettell, Patti Jo
Brooks, Janice White
Caldemeyer, Karen Stark
Corn, Gerald Robert
Dahlstrom, Ralph Richard
d'Avis Monique Marie

DeLavallade, Dawn Nichelle

Dillon, Susanne Ruth
Dosik, Michael Henry
Elrod, Darryl Glen
Embury, Stuart Paul
Fellows, Roger Dittman
Foral, Jonathan Michael
Galer, Chad Edward
Gall, Jeffery Allan
Greenfeld, Andrea Hana
Greer, Steven Orlan
Harker, Melani

Hellbusch, Amy Rochelle

Kelly, Richard Brawly Kielhorn, Alden Franz

Kim, Woojin

Kirsch, Timothy Edward LeBoit, Philip Emmanuel Lindberg, Guy Matthew Lowy, Jonathan Lubisich, John Peter

Mann, Amit

McCalmont, Timothy Hugh McWilliams, Ryan Thomas Morris, John Leonard

Naar, Erick Marcel

Patterson, Ann Duvigneaud

Pearson, Richard Lee

Pereira-Matsumoto, Sharon E. Pettinger, Thomas William

Price, Richard John

Ramanathan, Janaki Neela Ricketts, Dean Stratton Schneider, Fred Vincent Silkey, Jacqueline Sue - FBI

Singh, Narinderpal Speicher, Monica Lee Sturgeon, John Matt

• 1		Hendricks, Peter Lee	Toothman Bishard Loo	
2		Jay, Steven John	Toothman, Richard Lee Wardzala, Alexandra Maria	
3		Keliddar, Farhad	Whittington, Horace Greeley	
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	HALL		
5	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Ha	all Tauriainen Tsigonis)	
6		0 Nay votes	in, radicalien, isigonis,	
7		0 Abstentions		
8		C / LDS.C.I.IIC / LDS.C.I.IIC / LDS.C.IIIC / LDS.C.IIIIC / LDS.C.IIIC / LDS.C.IIIIC / LDS.C.IIIIC / LDS.C.IIIIC / LDS.C.IIIC / LDS.C.IIIIC / LDS.C.IIIC / LDS.C.IIIIC / LDS.C.IIIC / LDS.C.IIIIC		
9				
10	MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved to approve th	e following physicians for licensure in Alaska	
11		pending completion of their application files:		
		•		
		Brown, Phillip Benton Ellenson, Franklin Edward	Kriegsman, William Edwin Meduna, Donald Mark	
		Erlacher Jr., Graham Henry	Montorello, John Vincent	
12		Kohan, James Michael		
13	2nd	DUDDY		
14	VOTE	DUDDY		
15	VOIE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)		
16		0 Nay votes		
10		0 Abstentions		
		•		
19	MOTION	TAUDIAINEN mayad ta amprova th		
20	MOHOR	in Alaska:	e following doctors of osteopathy for licensure	
21		Keitz, John David	Patel, Parag Jhaver	
22	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH	raici, raidy silavei	
23	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)		
24		0 Nay votes		
25		0 Abstentions		
26				
27				
28	MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved to approve the	e following doctors of osteopathy for licensure	
29		in Alaska pending completion of t		
30		Green, Todd Richard	Grobner, Carol J.	
31	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH		
32	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Ha	II, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)	
33		0 Nay votes		
3.4		0 Abstentions		

• 1				
2	MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved to approv	e the following doctors of podiatric medicine for	
3		licensure in Alaska:		
		Christenson, Brent		
5	2nd	BREFFEILH		
6	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)		
7		0 Nay votes		
8		0 Abstentions		
9				
10				
11	MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved to approv	e the following mobile intensive care paramedics	
12		for licensure in Alaska:		
13				
14		Albright, Jared L.	McGuire, Micah L.	
15		Branum, Michael R Collins, Michael C	Merritt, Tyler Paul	
16		Crites III, Rusby Clinton	Miller, Rodger D. Smith, Andrew William	
		Daggett, Roger Lynn	Vinton, Wilma L.	
17		Eckart, Matthew D	Walters, Steven Warren	
18		Keogh, Ryan J.	Woldstad, Fredrick Thomas	
19		Lange, Tanya B	Wong, Gregory Tim	
20	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH		
	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy	y, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)	
22	,	0 Nay votes		
23		0 Abstentions		
24				
25				
26	MOTION	TAURIAINEN moved to approve the following physician assistants for licensure in		
27		Alaska:		
28		Bassity, Bruce Andrew	McDermott, John Edward	
29		Brannigan, Deborah	Miller, Natalie Jean	
30		Decker, David Mark	Pherson, Bryan Lee	
31		Fittro, Kenneth Paul	Yamamoto, Cheryl Ann	
32		Hunt, Scott		
33	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BREFFEILH		
34	VOTE	6 Yea votes (Head, Breffeilh, Duddy	y, Hall, Tauriainen, Tsigonis)	
35		0 Nay votes	- ,	
36		0 Abstentions		
37		-		

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