Abortionist's license pulled in Delaware

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State pulls abortion doctor's license

Arturo Apolinario, a second Delaware doctor linked to Dr. Kermit Gosnell, was medical director at Atlantic Women's Medical Services' Wilmington clinic

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A second Delaware doctor linked to Dr. Kermit Gosnell, the Philadelphia abortion doctor charged with murdering a patient and seven babies, had his medical license suspended on today by Delaware's State Department and the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline.

Attorney General Beau Biden filed an amended complaint with the Department of State on Friday requesting the emergency suspension of **Arturo Apolinario's** license.

Apolinario will not be allowed to practice medicine, pending a hearing.

According to the complaint, Apolinario has worked as the medical director of Delaware abortion provider **Atlantic Women's Medical Services**' clinic in Wilmington. Echoing charges from a Philadelphia grand jury report, the complaint said Gosnell would routinely begin illegal late-term abortions at Atlantic, then transfer the patients a day, or days, later to his West Philadelphia office.

As medical director at Atlantic's Wilmington clinic, Apolinario participated in the transfers and should have known the dangers that were posed to patients, the complaint said.

Efforts to reach Apolinario for comment were unsuccessful.

Secretary of State Jeffrey Bullock said in a statement that Apolinario failed in his duties as medical director and put patients at "grave risk."

"This new complaint clearly demonstrates that there is a significant link between Dr. Apolinario and Dr. Kermit Gosnell," Bullock said.

An earlier request by Biden to have Apolinario's license suspended was denied, but his ability to write prescriptions was suspended last Tuesday.

At that time, the medical board said the state's case against Apolinario did not meet the standard of "clear and immediate danger."

"The information provided in this subsequent complaint was sufficient in their minds to issue this [order]," said Christopher Portante, a spokesman for the Department of State. "He had oversight of the facility and was responsible for protection of the patients at that facility."

Portante said the fact that Apolinario was medical director at Atlantic's Wilmington clinic played a "major part" in the decision to suspend his license. His position as medical director was not mentioned in the state's earlier complaint.

The board did last week suspend the license for Albert Dworkin, who Biden charged was the obstetrician of record for Gosnell's Women's Medical Society clinic in West Philadelphia and failed to report Gosnell's unprofessional conduct.

Gosnell and nine staff members at his West Philadelphia clinic are facing a list of charges, including first-degree murder, in the deaths of seven infants, and a third-degree murder charge in the death of a woman who was allegedly oversedated.

Prosecutors charge that Gosnell and his staff routinely killed infants by cutting their throats with scissors. The infants were born alive through late-term abortions, according to court records.

Delaware's most recent complaint against Apolinario detailed the case of a 17-year-old girl, whose aunt paid Atlantic \$2,500 for an abortion in July 2008. An ultrasound showed the girl's pregnancy was 29 weeks along.

According to the complaint, Gosnell began the abortion process at Atlantic in Wilmington, then instructed the girl to report to his Philadelphia facility the next day to complete the procedure. After 13 hours of labor, the girl gave birth to a baby boy who was 18 to 19 inches long, according to sworn testimony by an eyewitness.

According to testimony, Gosnell slit the baby's neck with scissors and "put him in a box where he continued to move for some time until he died."

The 17-year-old girl was released after giving birth but was later treated at Crozer-Chester Medical Center in Upland, Pa., for severe infection and blood clots, according to the complaint. As her condition was deteriorating in the days following the procedure, Gosnell was contacted but did not respond to provide the girl with medical treatment or a referral to another doctor, the complaint said.

Delaware prosecutors are also seeking a cease-and-desist order against **Panzy Myrie**, Atlantic's owner, **for improperly advertising herself as a doctor**. They're also seeking fines against Atlantic. While the state's complaints could result in fines and suspensions, they are civil, so they will not result in any jail time.