



## Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

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## OPEN SESSION BOARD MEETING

Held in the Conference Room at the offices of the  
Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners  
1105 Terminal Way, Suite 301, Reno, NV 89502

and videoconferenced to

the conference room of the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners  
6010 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Building A, Suite 1, Las Vegas, Nevada 89118

*FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009 – 8:30 a.m.*

*and*

*SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2009 – 8:30 a.m.*

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009

#### *Board Members Present*

Charles N. Held, M.D., President  
Benjamin J. Rodriguez, M.D., Vice President  
Renee West, Secretary-Treasurer  
Javaid Anwar, M.D.  
Van V. Heffner  
Beverly A. Neyland, M.D.  
Theodore B. Berndt, M.D.  
Michael J. Fischer, M.D.

Agenda Item 6

CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST OF CAROLYN CORNELIUS, M.D. FOR  
MODIFICATION OF RESTRICTION ON HER MEDICAL LICENSE

- Carolyn Cornelius, M.D.

Dr. Cornelius was present in Las Vegas.

Ms. Daniels stated that Dr. Cornelius was appearing before the Board because she is trying to obtain surgical assist privileges at hospitals in Las Vegas so she can get her surgical skills back up to par.

Dr. Cornelius stated she cannot obtain surgical assist privileges with the restriction that is currently on her license. There are several physicians who are willing to let her assist them with their patients once she has obtained hospital privileges.

Discussion ensued concerning how Dr. Cornelius' request could be accomplished.

Dr. Cornelius described her training and her previous practice.

Dr. Rodriguez moved that the Board grant Dr. Cornelius surgical assist privileges as a restriction to her license and that prior to giving her surgical assist privileges the Board receive the names of the physicians with whom she will be working and approve them.

Ms. Daniels suggested the Board review the original motion from the minutes of the meeting where it granted Dr. Cornelius her restricted license.

Dr. Rodriguez read the motion from the minutes of the meeting at which Dr. Cornelius was granted a license.

Discussion ensued concerning hospital privileges.

Dr. Cornelius stated the credentialing committees have said the "only office-based" and "no surgeries could be performed" language gave them problems and Sunrise Hospital said their bylaws won't allow someone with a restricted license into the hospital system.

Dr. Rodriguez moved that the Board grant Dr. Cornelius an active license with the condition that she may have hospital-based surgical assist privileges.

Ms. Daniels asked whether Dr. Rodriguez meant that the condition be that she practice office-based ob/gyn with the ability to have hospital privileges for surgical assist only. Dr. Rodriguez stated that was correct.

Dr. Rodriguez amended his motion to add that the Board approve the supervising preceptors.

Dr. Anwar seconded the motion.

Dr. Cornelius asked whether she would have to come back to the Board to request that the conditions be removed.

Dr. Held stated Dr. Cornelius would have to come back with good documentation from her supervising physicians that her skills were up to par in order for the conditions to be removed.

A vote was taken on the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### Agenda Item 7

#### CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST OF DAVID LINDEN, M.D. FOR MODIFICATION OF TERMS OF PROBATION

- David Linden, M.D.; Andrew Harrison, Esq.

#### OPEN SESSION

Dr. Linden was present in Las Vegas with his attorney, Andrew Harrison, Esq.

Ms. Beggs stated that Dr. Linden had appeared before the Board in May 2009 on an order to show cause regarding his probation. At that time he explained some reasons he had been having difficulty with his probation. The Board continued his probation and extended it for an additional two years, to be in congruence with the terms of his probation in Oklahoma. Dr. Linden was now requesting modification of the terms of his probation.

Mr. Harrison requested that the Board lift the restriction prohibiting Dr. Linden from supervising allied health care professionals, which was included in the Oklahoma probationary terms. When Dr. Linden appeared before the Board in May 2009, they explained to the Board the reason for Dr. Linden's noncompliance with the Oklahoma probationary requirement that he undergo a polygraph. Subsequently, Dr. Linden submitted to polygraph examinations and those concluded that there had been no further acts of malfeasance with regard to underlying issues. Dr. Linden has now complied with all terms of his Oklahoma probation and continues to comply with them, and his previous noncompliance was not an act of defiance; rather, it was a matter of confusion.

Mr. Harrison explained that Dr. Linden's practice continues to grow in Las Vegas. He sees patients in group homes, in nursing homes and in his own private practice, and he is in dire need of a physician extender to assist him with his workload here. None of the underlying acts that got Dr. Linden in trouble in his personal life in 2006 involved allied health care professionals or his supervision of them. Dr. Linden has been on probation in Oklahoma for three years and in Nevada for a few months, and he is now requesting that either this Board consider terminating Dr. Linden's probation in its entirety early, or that it make a modification to the terms of his probation to allow him to supervise a physician extender for his practice in Nevada.

Dr. Rodriguez asked whether Oklahoma had lifted the restriction on supervising allied health professionals, and Mr. Harrison stated they had not made that request in Oklahoma due to Dr. Linden's limited amount of practice time there. He is now spending the majority of his professional time in Nevada so there has been no need to make that request to the Board in Oklahoma.