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Story last updated at 9:47 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2003

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Doctor suspected of performing illegal abortion

Valdosta obstetrician investigated

Associated Press

VALDOSTA - An obstetrician under investigation for attempting an illegal abortion has had his medical license revoked.

Dr. Charles Rossmann is accused of giving a pregnant woman some type of medication and then leaving her alone in his office.

The 23-year-old woman was more than 30 weeks pregnant, meaning an abortion would be illegal if her life was not in danger.

Rossmann has not been charged with a crime, but police are investigating.

Valdosta police got a 911 call from the woman on May 9, the day of the procedure, and found her alone in Rossmann's office after delivering a baby boy.

The mother and child both required hospitalization.

According to the Georgia Medical Board, investigators later searched Rossmann's office and found prescription drug bottles with patients' names on them, which Rossmann should not have had.

The board revoked Rossmann's license on May 15.

The Valdosta Daily Times reported that paramedics had to force their way into the building to help the woman and that the child was in critical condition.

The newspaper also cited a Valdosta police officer who said the woman requested an abortion and that she paid Rossmann

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After starting a procedure - presumably to induce labor - Rossmann allegedly provided the woman with contact information and left her alone in his office.

Rossmann's office was not licensed by the state for child births.

Third trimester abortions are heavily regulated in Georgia and are illegal unless there are health risks for the mother.

State law requires that abortions after the first trimester be performed in a hospital or in a health facility listed as an abortion facility by the Department of Human Resources.

Police said the mother is not likely to face any charges in the incident.

Rossmann had practiced medicine in Georgia since 1990, according to Georgia Medical Board director Karen Mason.

Published in the Athens Banner-Herald on Wednesday, May 21, 2003.

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