

Maryland Board of Physicians

Board Chairman: Robert G. Hennessy, M.D., M.B.A. • Executive Director: C. Irving Pinder, Jr.

Spring 2009



2009 Physician Renewal—100% Online

Physicians whose last names begin with the letters M-Z must renew their medical licenses between July 13, 2009 and September 30, 2009. This year, renewal will be 100% online. The Board will not accept a paper renewal application. Payment options will continue to be the same: payment online with a credit card (VISA or MasterCard, not debit cards), submission of a paper check to the Board after completing the online application, or third party submission of a paper check after you complete the online application. The renewal fee is \$512.

Under Maryland law, the Board of Physicians is not permitted to renew a license unless the Comptroller has verified that you have no outstanding, undisputed tax liability. You will be notified by mail from the Board if you are affected. Renewal reminder letters will be mailed in late June to the last confidential address the physician supplied to the Board. It is your responsibility to renew your license, even if you do not receive a reminder. Application forms **will not** be mailed and will not be available to download from the website.

To renew online, physicians should access the Board's website (www.mbp.state.md.us), click on physician online renewal, complete the form online, and send it to the Board online. If a paper check will be submitted by either you or a third party, please print the invoice at the end of the renewal and submit it with your payment to the post office box address shown on the invoice. You are not renewed until the Board receives payment.

Physicians are encouraged to renew online, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you have used the online renewal system previously, you will be able to update any information which has changed, but you will not have to re-enter information which has not changed. If you do not have access to a computer to complete

the renewal, the Board will have computer stations at its office that you may use.

Online renewal allows the Board to collect and update information more efficiently. In addition, it facilitates collection of additional data on physician practices needed by the Maryland Health Care Commission and other organizations in planning for future health care needs in Maryland. We apologize for the length of the application, but we believe that collecting this data directly from the source (you, the providers) will provide the most accurate information on physician supply. Please take the time to answer as accurately as you can.

As always, physicians must earn 50 category I CME credits for renewal. The dates when your credits were earned must fall within the current licensing cycle. For those renewing this year, credits must have been earned between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2009. Physicians who were licensed since October 1, 2007 must take the New Physician Orientation, available on the Board's website, but do not need to earn 50 CME credits. Licensees whose licenses have been reinstated since October 1, 2007 provided information about CME credits to the Board at that time and do not have to earn additional credits for renewal.

The fastest way to renew is to pay online. Physicians who send a check in payment will not be renewed until the application is processed and the check is deposited. If the check is not postmarked by September 30, 2009, the physician will no longer be licensed to practice medicine in Maryland on October 1, 2009. To avoid this problem, complete the renewal process early or, if you cannot avoid a last minute renewal, use a credit card to pay online. Physicians practicing without a valid license are subject to fines up to \$50,000. Late applications, including checks postmarked after September 30, are subject to an additional \$100 late fee.

Online Renewal for Allied Health Practitioners

Paper renewals bite the dust! This is the first year for online renewals for Allied Health Practitioners. Radiographers, radiation therapists, nuclear medicine technologists and physician assistant licenses are required to renew online. The renewal process for radiographers, radiation therapists, and nuclear medicine technologists began in early March 2009 and ended on April 30, 2009. The renewal process for physician assistants began in early May 2009 and will end on June 30, 2009.

The online application system will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Licensees will have three payment options: paying online by credit card, sending a personal check or having third-party payer send payment. For more information concerning physician assistant online renewals, go to http://www.mbp.state.md.us/forms/2009ah_pa_renewal_info.pdf.

Hybrid PET/CT Scanners—Who Can Operate?

In the last newsletter, there was an attempt to clarify the conditions under which a nuclear medicine technologist could use a hybrid PET/CT machine. We inadvertently caused more confusion by stating that "Radiographers may not operate the hybrid equipment." The article should have indicated that, in addition to a nuclear medicine technologist with the required experience, a radiographer with CT experience can operate the CT part of the hybrid machine working in conjunction with a nuclear medicine technologist who completes the PET portion of the study. Similarly, one person who is licensed as both a radiographer (and has CT experience) and a nuclear medicine technologist could operate a hybrid machine.

PHYSICIANS

David C. Allen, M.D., License #: D25230

Area of Practice: Internal Medicine (Hollywood, MD)

Termination of probationary terms and conditions. The physician has complied with the terms and conditions imposed by the ruling on petition for reinstatement and order of reinstatement dated September 4, 2003. Date of Action: December 4, 2008

Francyne O. Anderson, M.D., License #: D19459

Area of Practice: Family Practice (Cheverly, MD)

Fine of \$25,000; terms and conditions; the physician may not apply for reinstatement until terms and conditions have been met. The physician practiced medicine without a license. Date of Action: February 26, 2009

Steven Scott Brooks, M.D., License #: D60393

Area of Practice: Interventional Cardiology, Cardiovascular Disease, and Internal Medicine (Rockville, MD)

Reprimand; Probation for a minimum of 3 years subject to terms and conditions. The Board found that the physician failed to meet the standards of quality care in his practice of interventional cardiology in regard to a patient on whom he performed an invasive cardiac procedure. Date of Action: November 19, 2008

Nelson A. Burton, M.D., License #: D38816

Area of Practice: Thoracic Surgery (Falls Church, VA)

Reprimand. The Board took reciprocal action on an action by the Virginia Board of Medicine for failure to follow up on a CT scan report that recommended an MRI. Date of Action: March 16, 2009

Michael A. Cadogan, M.D., License #: D51451

Area of Practice: Diagnostic Radiology (Princeton, NJ)

Reprimand; terms and conditions. The Board concluded that the physician failed to meet the standards of quality care in that he failed to correctly identify and diagnose the abnormal mass on a patient's CT scan. Date of Action: February 19, 2009

Brian A. Chigbue, M.D., License #: D50457

Area of Practice: Internal Medicine (Capitol Heights, MD)

Permanent Revocation. The Board found that the physician engaged in sexual improprieties, sexual misconduct, and sexual violations with patients. Date of Action: November 20, 2008

Edward Cornfeld, M.D., License #: D01872

Area of Practice: OB/GYN (Germantown, MD)

Permanent revocation; \$25,000 fine. The physician prescribed medications while his license was suspended in violation of provisions of the medical practice act and in violation of the terms and conditions of the Board's May 23, 2005, Final Opinion and Order. Date of Action: December 4, 2008

Rene de los Santos, M.D., License #: D14036

Area of Practice: Internal Medicine and Hematology (Churchville, MD)

Surrender of License. The physician surrendered his license in lieu of proceeding with the Board's charges in regard to unprofessional conduct and failure to meet the standards of quality care with respect to certain patient records reviewed. Date of Action: November 20, 2008

John Lee Flowers, M.D., License #: D40524

Area of Practice: General Surgery (Baltimore, MD)

Termination of probationary terms and conditions imposed by the Final Order dated November 8, 2005. The physician has complied with the probationary terms and conditions precedent. Date of Action: December 4, 2008

Debra J. Freeman, M.D., License #: D40730

Area of Practice: Pediatrics (Oldsmar, FL)

Revocation. The Board's action is based on the physician's psychiatric conditions, criminal conduct, and care and treatment of a newborn. The February 14, 2008, Order for Summary Suspension is now moot because the physician's license is by this order revoked. Date of Action: February 2, 2009

Jesus A. Gamez, M.D., License #: D28840

Area of Practice: Anatomic Pathology (Wheaton, MD)

Summary Suspension. The Board determined that the matter required emergency action based on pending criminal charges relating to Controlled Dangerous Substances and a peer review of 12 patients in which the reviewers found that physician failed to meet the standards of quality care in regard to all 12 patients. Date of Action: November 7, 2008

Maria C. Gaviria, M.D., License #: D32744

Area of Practice: Internal Medicine (Glen Burnie, MD)

Suspension; suspension stayed and probation for 2 years subject to terms and conditions that includes to cease and desist from internet prescribing. The Board found that the physician violated the standards of quality care, failed to maintain adequate medical records, and engaged in unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine based on her practice of internet prescribing. Date of Action: February 26, 2009

Peter C. Gleason, M.D., License #: D24640

Area of Practice: Psychiatry (Annapolis, MD)

Termination of probationary terms and conditions imposed by the Final Decision and Order dated July 10, 2008. The physician has complied with the terms and conditions precedent. Date of Action: March 5, 2009

Shelly-Ann V. Hope, M.D., License #: D46122

Area of Practice: OB/GYN (Lanham, MD)

Suspension; immediately stayed; Probation subject to terms and conditions. The Board took action based on disciplinary action by the North Carolina Medical Board for the physician prescribing medications to patients without performing a physical examination and in the absence of a prior physician-patient relationship, i.e. via the internet, and assisting the unlicensed practice of medicine. Date of Action: January 20, 2009

Ruth E. Kantor, M.D., License #: D28594

Area of Practice: Psychiatry (Baltimore, MD)

Reprimand; conditions for 3 years. The Board found that the physician failed to provide details of a patient's medical record to another physician and failed to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board. Date of Action: December 17, 2008

Charles Y. Kim, M.D., License #: D21016

Area of Practice: OB/GYN (Frederick, MD)

Termination of probationary terms and conditions imposed by the Final Decision and Order dated July 23, 2008. The physician has complied with the terms and conditions precedent. Date of Action: March 5, 2009

George S.G. Lakner, M.D., License #: D25404

Area of Practice: Psychiatry (Washington, DC)

Suspension for 3 years from date of the original August 29, 2005 order; fine of \$10,000 to be paid in 30 days or in quarterly installments over a 2 year period. After an allocution hearing on the issue of sanction, the Board issued its sanction based on the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the August 29, 2005 order. Date of Action: March 17, 2009

Benigno P. Lazaro, Jr., M.D., License #: D46974

Area of Practice: Family Medicine (Baltimore, MD)

Reinstatement of License; Probation for 3 years subject to terms and conditions. The Board reinstated the physician's license subject to Probation, and terms and conditions, based on its determination that after a significant history of sexual boundary violations, the physician has taken responsibility for his actions, obtained appropriate treatment and counseling and successfully completed the tutorial course in professional ethics. Date of Action: January 30, 2009

Brian M. Levin, M.D., License #: D63144

Area of Practice: Urology (Westminster, MD)

Reprimand; terms and conditions. The physician did not timely disclose to his patient or to the hospital that he had made an error in diagnosis and removed the wrong kidney. Date of Action: March 27, 2009

PHYSICIANS

Mikhail Makhlin, M.D., License #: D65372

Area of Practice: Internal Medicine (Brooklyn, NY)

Revocation. The Board took reciprocal action based on a sanction by the New York Medical Board in regard to the physician's inappropriate diagnosis of HIV and subsequent treatment for 6 patients, and false representations to the New York Medicaid program and on a hospital reappointment application. Date of Action: November 12, 2008

Neil A. Meade, M.D., License #: D19220

Area of Practice: Family Practice (Laurel, MD)

Order staying suspension; Order of Probation subject to terms and conditions. The physician met the terms and conditions precedent to the stay of suspension. Date of Action: December 26, 2008

Lauren Moran, M.D., License #: Applicant

Area of Practice: General Practice (Laurel, MD)

Grant of License; Probation for a minimum of 2 years subject to terms and conditions. The applicant had forged the signature of an official in the Registrar's Office at a school of medicine and failed to inform her residency program that USMLE disciplinary charges were pending. Date of Action: November 20, 2008

Roman Ostrovsky, M.D., License #: D51563

Area of Practice: General Practice (Baltimore, MD)

Petition for Reinstatement is denied. The Board will not consider any further applications for reinstatement before June 12, 2010. Date of Action: March 23, 2009

Duleep J. Pradhan, M.D., License #: D15472

Area of Practice: Thoracic Surgery (Pikesville, MD)

Reprimand; Surrender of license; the physician shall not apply for reinstatement of his Maryland medical license for 5 years; if reinstated, Probation for 3 years subject to terms and conditions. The board concluded that the physician engaged in unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine by failing to provide emergency life saving assistance to a patient of another physician who requested his assistance. Date of Action: February 17, 2009

Jean W. Pribadi, M.D., License #: D30510

Area of Practice: General Practice (Columbia, MD)

Permanent Surrender. The physician surrendered her license to avoid further prosecution of charges for failing to meet the standards of quality care in her care and treatment of cosmetic surgery. Date of Action: February 25, 2009

Helmy Qurtom, M.D., License #: D44724

Area of Practice: Pediatrics (Laurel, MD)

Reprimand; Probation for 1 year subject to terms and conditions. The Board concluded that the physician engaged in unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine based on its investigation of a complaint by a medical office employee that, while on duty, the physician grabbed the employee's breast. Date of Action: February 26, 2009

Robert Jack Reynolds, M.D., License #: D61054

Area of Practice: Internal Medicine (Candler, NC)

Suspension; immediately stayed; Probation subject to terms and conditions. The Board took reciprocal action on disciplinary action by the North Carolina Medical Board based on impairment issues related to alcohol abuse. Date of Action: December 31, 2008

Darshan S. Saluja, M.D., License #: D17537

Area of Practice: General Practice (Baltimore, MD)

Termination of Stayed Suspension of the July 27, 2005, Order of the Board. The physician has met all the terms and conditions of the Board's July 27, 2005, Final Decision and Order. Date of Action: February 5, 2009

David T. Schwartz, M.D.,

License #: D09147 (non-renewed)

Area of Practice: Urological Surgery (Ashburn, VA)

Application for Reinstatement Denied. The applicant failed to demonstrate good moral character because the physician was convicted of tax evasion and, as a result, his license was revoked by the Virginia medical board. Date of Action: February 17, 2009

Raymond M. Shapiro, M.D.,

(Former License #: D45791 (Applicant))

Area of Practice: Psychiatry (Gaithersburg, MD)

Application for reinstatement of license granted subject to completion of an application process; Probation for a minimum of 3 years subject to terms and conditions. The physician was sanctioned by the medical boards of other states, and as a result his practice will undergo peer review in Maryland. Date of Action: February 17, 2009

Bela Shestopalova, M.D., License #: D51477

Area of Practice: Internal Medicine (Silver Spring, MD)

Reprimand; fine of \$5000 to be paid no later than 6 months from the effective date of the order. The Board found that the physician practiced medicine with an unauthorized person or aided an unauthorized person in the practice of medicine. Date of Action: December 17, 2008

Mahmaud Shirazi, M.D., License #: D46962

Area of Practice: Internal Medicine (Salisbury, MD)

Permanent Revocation. The Board found that the physician used his position as a physician to take advantage of four women by unwanted and demeaning sexual touching during medical examinations. Date of Action: March 17, 2009

Jock Simon, M.D., License #: D28257

Area of Practice: Family Practice (Ocean City, MD)

Summary Suspension. The Board took emergency action based on the physician's previous history with the Board, his May 2008 arrest for possession of crack cocaine and drug paraphernalia and subsequent charge for possession of CDS and drug paraphernalia; his September 2008 arrest and charge with possession of CDS and other investigatory information that in 2008 the physician regularly purchased and used crack cocaine. Date of Action: November 5, 2008

Stephen E. Slatkin, M.D., License #: D45021

Area of Practice: Psychiatry (Easton, MD)

Termination of probationary terms and conditions imposed by the Final Decision and Order dated November 9, 2005. The physician has complied with the terms and conditions precedent. Date of Action: December 4, 2008

Rajan Sood, M.D., License #: D29097

Area of Practice: General Practice (Bowie, MD)

Summary Suspension. The Board took emergency action based on its investigative finding, including but not limited to the physician being addicted to CDS, having difficulty working due to a physical ailment, overdosing on narcotics in December 2008, writing multiple prescriptions to family members and office staff without maintaining medical records, and allowing patients to create and keep their own medical records. Date of Action: February 13, 2009

Alvin A. Stambler, M.D., License #: D11204

Area of Practice: Pediatrics (Baltimore, MD)

Reprimand; Probation for a minimum of 2 years subject to terms and conditions; fine of \$20,000. The physician practiced medicine with an unauthorized person or aided an unauthorized person in the practice of medicine. Date of Action: February 17, 2009

Carl W. Strawberry, M.D., License #: D24312

Area of Practice: Otolaryngology (Annapolis, MD)

Reprimand; terms and conditions. The physician violated the standards of quality care with regard to a patient on whom he performed surgery. Date of Action: February 17, 2009

PHYSICIANS

Pearson Sunderland, M.D., License #: D22662

**Area of Practice: Psychiatry
(Chevy Chase, MD)**

Revocation; the Board will not entertain a petition for reinstatement before one year from the date of the order. The Board determined that the physician pled guilty to a crime of moral turpitude, that is, engaged in a conflict of interest in violation of U.S.C. §208 (a), and was thereby subject to statute that mandates revocation of license. Date of Action: March 30, 2009

Ruby M. Tucker, M.D., License #: D55754

**Area of Practice: Internal Medicine
(Chesapeake, VA)**

Reprimand; terms and conditions should the physician apply for and receive reinstatement of license in Maryland. The physician violated the

standard of quality care when she failed to refer her patient for a surgical biopsy despite evidence that the patient's breast lump was growing and that the clinical symptoms called for such a biopsy. Date of Action: January 30, 2009

Norman D. Tzou, M.D., License #: D50880

**Area of Practice: Family Practice
(Frederick, MD)**

Reprimand; fine of \$10,000 to be paid in full no later than 18 months from the date of the order; and terms and conditions. The physician failed to cooperate with a Board investigation by failing to respond to the Board subpoenas and letters requesting responses and information. Date of Action: March 27, 2009

Steven K.S. Yu, M.D., License #: D39776

Area of Practice: OB/GYN (Gaithersburg, MD)

Termination of terms and conditions imposed by the Consent Order dated June 27, 2007. The physician has successfully complied with the terms and conditions imposed by the Order dated June 27, 2007. Date of Action: December 4, 2008

UNLICENSED

Adrienne Feldman,

License #: Unlicensed (Baltimore, MD)

Fine of \$1,000 to be paid in full no later than 30 days from date of order. The individual practiced medicine attempted to practice or offered to practice medicine; and represented or implied she was a physician assistant. Date of Action: February 17, 2009

Juan Rivas, License #: Unlicensed

(Silver Spring, MD)

Civil monetary fine of \$1,000. The individual practiced medicine without a license, in violation of H.O. §14-601. Date of Action: December 17, 2008

ALLIED HEALTH PRACTITIONERS

Shireen R. Collins, R.T., License #: R05854

**Area of Practice: Radiation Therapy
Technology (Sharpsburg, MD)**

Stay of Suspension of the February 27, 2008, Consent Order is lifted; Certificate therefore is suspended. The healthcare practitioner violated the February 27, 2008, Consent Order by testing positive for cocaine and her admission that she ingested cocaine prior to being scheduled for a chemical screening. Date of Action: February 10, 2009

Quwania Jefferson, RCP, License #: L04254

**Area of Practice: Respiratory Care
(Wilmington, DE)**

Revocation. The allied health practitioner practiced respiratory care in Maryland without a license and represented to the public that she was authorized to practice respiratory care. Date of Action: December 18, 2008

Saleem I. Sharar, P.A., License #: C03242

**Area of Practice: Physician Assistant
(Boysds, MD)**

Suspension. The Board took reciprocal action based on disciplinary action by the Florida Medical Board for

the physician's prescribing CDS to patients or undercover detectives without being licensed or authorized to write prescriptions for CDS and on prescription forms that were prescribed. Date of Action: January 20, 2009

Nina S. Sloan, RCP, License #: L03062

**Area of Practice: Respiratory Care
(Timonium, MD)**

Revocation. The allied health professional violated the May 23, 2007, order of the Board by failing to take the ethics course required by the order. Date of Action: March 27, 2009

ADMINISTRATIVE FINES

PHYSICIANS

Stephen C. Hamilton, M.D., License #: D41698

**Area of Practice: Internal Medicine
(Annapolis, MD)**

Administrative Fine of \$550; terms and condition. The healthcare practitioner committed prohibited acts under H.O. §14-404(a)(3)(ii) and (36) with respect to completion of continuing medical education credits as required by H.O. §14-316 and COMAR 10.32.01. Date of Action: March 6, 2009

ALLIED HEALTH PRACTITIONERS

Michael R. Cooper, MRT, Certificate #: R08979

**Area of Practice: Medical Radiation
Technology (Hartford, AL)**

Administrative Fine of \$500. The health care practitioner practiced medical radiation technology without a certificate, in violation of the Medical Practice Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §14-5B-17(a). Date of Action: December 18, 2008

Torrance L. Richardson, MRT,

Certificate #: R04219

**Area of Practice: Medical Radiation
Technology (Clarksburg, MD)**

Administrative Fine of \$500. The health care practitioner practiced medical radiation technology without a certificate, in violation of the Medical Practice Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §14-5B-17(a). Date of Action: December 18, 2008

2009 Legislative Session End of Session Report

Loan Assistance Program for Physicians: SB 627/HB 714, recommended by the Governor's Task Force on Health Care Access and Reimbursement and supported by the Maryland Board of Physicians, passed both houses. The bills establish a new educational loan assistance program for physicians and medical residents who practice primary care in designated shortage areas of Maryland. Half of the 12% special fund income from physician licensure fees which currently funds loan assistance to several different professional groups will go to support physicians under the new law signed by the Governor in May 2009 and effective July 1, 2009.

Formation of Professional Corporations by Physicians: HB 498, MedChi's proposal to remove itself from the approval process for approval of corporate names for professional services corporations of physicians passed with an amendment from the Board, removing the Board's participation as well. The bill was signed by the Governor in May 2009. Effective October 1, 2009, corporate names will no longer need approval from the Board (as the licensing unit) and should be registered with the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation.

Deadline Extension for Licensure of Polysomnographers: HB 597/SB 433 delay the date by which a polysomnographic technologist must be licensed by the Board of Physicians in order to practice in the state until October 1, 2011. It also extends to that date the period during which candidates with national certification by the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists can become licensed in Maryland under a waiver of education requirements. While licensure for polysomnographic technologists is not required until October 1, 2011, the Board is already licensing eligible candidates.

Licensure of Athletic Trainers: HB 173/SB 247, proposals requiring licensure of athletic trainers by the Board on or after October 1, 2011, passed and were signed by the Governor in May 2009, effective October 1, 2009.

Administration of Vaccinations: SB 700, as introduced, broadened the authority of pharmacists to administer vaccinations determined to be in the best interest of the community and granted the Pharmacy Board sole authority to adopt regulations. The bill, as passed, was amended by the Boards of Physicians and Nursing, providing for the continuing

role of the Boards of Physicians and Nursing in determining which vaccines a pharmacist can administer. Vaccinations may only be administered by a pharmacist who has verified successful completion of a certification course and who is certified in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The bill was signed by the Governor in May 2009, effective October 1, 2009.

Drug Therapy Management: SB 791/HB 725 modify the existing provisions for physician/pharmacist drug therapy management contracts within group model HMOs by eliminating the requirement that physician, patient, and pharmacist all sign a single contract and allows for written or electronic consent in place of multiple signatures. In deference to the Board of Physicians' concerns for consumer safety expressed in letters and testimony, an amendment was added in the House that retained the authority of the Boards of Physicians and Pharmacy to disapprove a physician-pharmacist agreement under a group model HMO on specific grounds. The bills were signed by the Governor in May 2009, effective October 1, 2009.

Sleep laboratories

While the Board was happy that the 2009 General Assembly changed the "must be licensed by" date for polysomnographic technologists, please do not use this as a reason to delay efforts to ensure that all polysomnographic technologists in your laboratory meet the requirements and obtain a license. The Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists, the major national agency that administers the polysomnographic technology exam, has strict criteria for the education and experience a technologist must have before taking the exam. In order to obtain a Maryland license, polysomnographic

technologists are required to pass that exam or another national exam approved by the Board of Physicians. Anyone practicing in the area of sleep medicine should be aware the Maryland law requires polysomnographic technologists to become licensed by October 1, 2011. The Maryland Board of Physicians has begun licensing these professionals. We need your help in reaching those who may not be aware that they will soon need a license. Please spread this information to anyone that may be affected. More information can be found on the Board's website.

Maryland Board of Physicians
4201 Patterson Avenue
P.O. Box 2571
Baltimore, MD 21215-0095

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BALTIMORE, MD
PERMIT NO. 4114

BOARD MEMBERS

Robert G. Hennessy, M.D., M.B.A. <i>Chair</i>	Laura E. Henderson, M.D. Samuel K. Himmelrich, Sr.
Paul T. Elder, M.D. <i>Vice Chair</i>	Harry C. Knipp, M.D. Hilary T. O'Herlihy, M.D., FACC
J. Ramsay Farah, M.D. <i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>	Nallan C. Ramakrishna, M.D. Theresa C. Rohrs, P.A.-C.
Evelyn T. Beasley	Harold A. Rose
Habib Bhutta, M.D.	Brenda G. Baker
Richard Bittner, Esq.	Susan T. Strahan, M.D.
Carmen M. Contee	Rosaire Verna, M.D.
Kevin B. Gerold, D.O., J.D.	George M. Williams, M.D.
Suresh K. Gupta, M.D.	Douglas G. Wright, M.D.

410-764-4777

Toll Free: 1-800-492-6836

FAX: 410-358-2252

E-Mail: mbpmail@rcn.com

Web site: www.mbp.state.md.us

Maryland Board of Physicians

Spring 2009

Deactivating my National Provider Identifier

Deactivating your NPI number is a defense against identity theft. By now we all are familiar with the "NPI number" mandated by provisions of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). The National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) collects identifying information on health care providers and assigns each a unique National Provider Identifier (NPI). Now it is time for a friendly reminder that if you retire or are no longer seeing patients, you should deactivate your NPI number. For more information, log on to the Board's website or the federal website <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do>.

Regulatory Review Notice: Maryland law requires state agencies that adopt and enforce regulations to review the regulations on a regular basis. The goal is to have agencies repeal regulations that are no longer needed and to update regulations that are still in use. During the review process, the agency solicits and considers comments from the public.

In addition to the regulations listed in the Fall 2008 Newsletter, the Board is also undertaking a review of the chapter 103202. All of these regulations can be accessed easily on the Board's website: www.mbp.state.md.us; select "Maryland Regulations" and scroll down to find a link to each regulation. Comments may be sent to the Board at mbpmail@rcn.com or mailed to the Board's offices.