

News Release

Tuesday, November 4, 2014 For Immediate Release Contact: Cassandra Hockenson

PIO/Medical Board of California

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SACRAMENTO -- On October 31, 2014, the Office of Administrative Hearings issued an order immediately suspending the medical license of Dr. Jeffrey Joel Abrams of San Diego, California, and prohibiting him from practicing medicine in the State of California, pending further order from the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Dr. Abrams, who previously volunteered as a physician at the Volunteers in Medicine medical clinic located in El Cajon, California, stipulated to issuance of the interim order of suspension of his medical license. In doing so, Dr. Abrams admitted, for purposes of the stipulation of the parties and interim suspension order only, "that during the course of his (volunteer)employment at the clinic he conducted medical examinations on female patients and that, during those examinations, he took photographs and/or video of some of these female patients using the camera on his smart phone" and, further, "that some of these female patients have alleged, among other things, that he inappropriately touched their body and/or inappropriately photographed and/or videotaped their body during the course of their examination."

According to the stipulation of the parties, "[a]s a result of his alleged conduct as described and admitted for purposes of [the] stipulation and interim suspension order only...[Dr. Abrams] agrees that complainant [Kimberly Kirchmeyer, Executive Director of the Medical Board of California] could establish a *prima facie* showing that [Dr. Abrams] has committed a violation or violations of a provision or provisions of the Medical Practice Act, and that permitting him to continue to practice medicine would endanger the public health, safety and welfare."

The mission of the Medical Board of California is to protect health care consumers through proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professions and through the vigorous,

objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and, to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its Web site at www.mbc.ca.gov or call (800) 633-2322.

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