**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Friday, April 8, 2016**

**MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF MEDICINE TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

**WAKEFIELD:** At its meeting on April 7, 2016, the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine took disciplinary action against the medical licenses of Francis P. Coyle, M.D., Natalie Joseph, M.D. and Hiep T. Nguyen, M.D.

In a Consent Order, the Board indefinitely suspended Dr Francis Coyle’s medical license after finding that Dr. Coyle practiced medicine while his ability to do so was impaired. The suspension was immediately stayed upon Dr. Coyle’s entry into a Probation Agreement which includes on-going monitoring of his sobriety. Dr. Coyle, a 1998 graduate of Boston University, was first licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts in 2002. Dr. Coyle, a board-certified anesthesiologist, was a member of the staff of Lowell General Hospital until March, 2013. He entered into a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice Medicine with the Board on April 18, 2013.

The Board also reprimanded Dr. Natalie Joseph after she agreed in a Consent Order that she had breached the confidentiality of a patient of the facility at which Dr. Joseph worked. A fine of $2,500 was also imposed. Dr. Joseph, a board-certified pediatrician, graduated from New York Medical College in 1992. Dr. Joseph, who has been licensed in Massachusetts since 1995, currently practices at Boston Medical Center.

In another Consent Order, the Board admonished Dr. Hiep T. Nguyen after he agreed that he had submitted abstracts for publication containing errors his researchers had made in the documents. These abstracts were never published as Dr. Nguyen withdrew them when he became aware of the errors. Dr. Nguyen, a board-certified urologist, is a 1992 graduate of the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine. He was first licensed in Massachusetts in 2004. Dr. Nguyen has active medical licenses in California and Arizona. He currently practices in Arizona.

The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine licenses more than 40,000 physicians, osteopaths and acupuncturists. The Board was created in 1894 to protect the public health and safety by setting standards for the practice of medicine and ensuring that doctors who practice in the Commonwealth are appropriately qualified and competent. The Board investigates complaints and determines sanctions. More information is available at [www.mass.gov/massmedboard](http://www.mass.gov/massmedboard), or you may contact Bridgette Sanders at (781) 876-8202.

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