**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Friday, June 17, 2016**

**MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF MEDICINE TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

**WAKEFIELD:** At its meeting on June 16, 2016, the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine took disciplinary action against the medical license of Fred J. Thaler, M.D.

The Board accepted the resignation of the license to practice medicine of Dr. Fred Thaler. The resignation signed by Dr. Thaler is a disciplinary action that permanently removes a physician from the practice of medicine in the United States.

In a Statement of Allegations which is pending at the Division of Administrative Law Appeals, the Board alleges that Dr. Thaler improperly prescribed opioids and other medications to two patients, one of whom died of a suspected drug overdose. Dr. Thaler, has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1987. Dr. Thaler is associated with Steward Good Samaritan Hospital.

Dr. Thaler’s license to practice medicine had been summarily suspended by the Board on May 26, 2016 after the Board found him to be an immediate and serious threat to the public health, safety and welfare.

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.