MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF MEDICINE TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION

WAKEFIELD: At an emergency meeting on July 26, 2016, the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine took disciplinary action against the medical license of Robert B. Shepherd, D.O. Previously, at its meeting of July 14, 2016, the Board took disciplinary action against the medical licenses of Donna Harkness, M.D. and Hafeez U. Khan, M.D.

On Tuesday night, the Board summarily suspended the medical license of Dr. Robert B. Shepherd after finding that he poses an immediate and serious threat to the public health, safety and welfare. The Board alleges that Dr. Shepherd’s prescribing of medications to two individuals was not for legitimate purposes and not in the usual course of his medical practice. Dr. Shepherd has the right to a hearing at the Division of Administrative Law Appeals within seven days. Dr. Shephard who is board certified in family medicine, has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1990.

On July 14th, the Board accepted the resignation of Dr. Donna B. Harkness’ license to practice medicine. Resignation is a disciplinary action that permanently removes a physician from the practice of medicine. Dr. Harkness, who is board-certified in internal medicine and emergency medicine, was first licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts in 1980. Dr. Harkness was previously licensed to practice medicine in Rhode Island. She had been disciplined by the Board in 1994.

Also, on July 14th, the Board accepted the resignation of Hafeez U. Khan’s right to renew his license to practice medicine. Dr. Khan, a board-certified anesthesiologist, was licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts from 1998 until 2011. Dr. Khan currently resides and practices in Virginia. He was previously licensed in Rhode Island.

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, or you may contact Bridgette Sanders at (781) 876-8202.