**MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF MEDICINE TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

**WAKEFIELD:** At its meeting on June 28, 2018, the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine took disciplinary action against the medical licenses of Shannon M. Byler, M.D., Nancey T. Russo, D.O. and Mark S. Harris, M.D.

In a Consent Order, the Board revoked Dr Shannon M. Byler’s medical license after she agreed that she had practiced medicine while her ability to do so was impaired. The revocation is retroactive to July 1, 2016, the date on which Dr. Byler’s limited license was renewed. Dr. Byler entered into a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice with the Board on September 26, 2016. Dr. Byler, who was in a residency program in Boston, was first licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts in May 2015.

Dr. Nancey T. Russo’s right to renew her medical license was suspended by the Board after she agreed, in a Consent Order, that she had failed to maintain adequate medical records for patients and had prescribed controlled substances outside the course of her usual medical practice. Dr. Russo also admitted that she failed to timely file state tax returns from 2006 to 2014; failed to timely pay her 2012 state income tax; and had incorrectly certified on her medical license renewal application for various years that she had complied with all the laws of the commonwealth relating to taxes. The suspension was immediately stayed as Dr. Russo entered into a Probation Agreement which will monitor her practice of medicine upon her renewal of her medical license. Dr. Russo was first licensed in the Commonwealth in 1996. She entered into a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice on April 23, 2014.

The Board also accepted the resignation of Dr. Mark S. Harris’ right to renew his license to practice medicine. Resignation is a disciplinary action that permanently removes a physician from the practice of medicine. This was based on reciprocal discipline. Dr. Harris, a pediatrician, was first licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts in February, 2001. His license lapsed in Massachusetts in 2007. He currently resides and practices in Vermont.

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 the Board at borimmedia@massmail.state.ma.us