**MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF MEDICINE TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

**WAKEFIELD:** At its meeting on May 24, 2018, the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine took disciplinary action against the medical licenses of Linda Musetti Kinch, M.D., Shaohua Tang, M.D., and Ira J. Schmelkin, M.D.

The Board indefinitely suspended the license of Dr. Linda Musetti Kinch after she acknowledged in a Consent Order that she had driven a motor vehicle while under the influence of substances. Dr. Kinch practiced addiction medicine in Brookline until she entered a Voluntary Agreement Not to Practice Medicine with the Board on July 1, 2015. She has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1991.

The Board also indefinitely suspended the medical license of Dr. Shaohua Tang after he agreed in a Consent Order that he engaged in substandard care in his treatment of seven patients. Dr. Tang, whose license was indefinitely suspended by the Board on April 27, 2017 for providing substandard care to three patients, has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 2001. Dr. Tang worked as a solo practitioner in North Adams.

The Board reprimanded the license of Dr. Ira J. Schmelkin after he agreed in a Consent Order that he failed to report two criminal charges on his renewal application. Dr. Schmelkin has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts since 1986.

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