COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

POLICY 92-001[[1]](#footnote-1)\*

(Amended February 27, 2025)

ISSUANCE OF PRESS RELEASES

The Board of Registration in Medicine's mission is to serve the public by ensuring that only qualified physicians are licensed to practice medicine and to support an environment which maximizes the high quality of health care in the Commonwealth. The Board considers the responsibility of informing the public when it takes certain actions against a physician to be a critical part of its mission. At the same time, the Board is cognizant of the need to not unnecessarily harm a physician’s reputation.  In seeking a balance, the Board has adopted the following policy of informing the press about its actions:

1. Routine: The Board routinely issues a press release when it imposes final disciplinary action; and at the time of the initial Board vote to issue a Temporary Order of Summary Suspension. Press releases will be in a simple format that identifies the action taken by the Board, summarizes the factual basis for the action, identifies the city or town where the physician’s practice is located and includes the physician’s specialty.
2. Exceptions: The Board will not include in its press release any information which may not be disclosed pursuant to laws governing the confidentiality and disclosure of information maintained by the Board. In instances where the factual basis is substantially restricted from disclosure, the Board will not publish a press release.
3. The Executive Director, or designee, will review all press releases prior to release.
4. Press releases issued pursuant to this policy will be posted on the board’s website in the News section.
1. \* Policy 92-01 was initially adopted on 7/22/1992. It was amended on 12/2/1992; 11/20/1996, 6/20/2012 and 5/8/2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)