

MINUTES

**Department of Health
Florida Board of Medicine
Expert Witness Committee
Agenda
Embassy Suites
1100 S.E. 17th Street
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316
(954) 527-2700
June 2, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 5:46 p.m.

Roll Call.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert Nuss, M.D., Chairman
Trina Espinola, M.D.
Jason Rosenberg, M.D.
Elisabeth Tucker, M.D.

STAFF PRESENT:

Ed Tellechea, Board Counsel
Donna McNulty, Board Counsel
Nancy Murphy, Paralegal
Whitney Bowen, Board Staff

Expert Witness Applications:

Dr. Nuss introduced tabs 1-3 and asked the Committee if anyone had issues with any of the applications. The committee answered in the negative.

A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to accept the following applications to become Department expert witnesses:

- Tab 1 – Babu Verrendra Chithriki, M.D. (OB-GYN)
- Tab 2 – Mutaz Habal, M.D. (Plastic Surgery)
- Tab 3 – Albert Wilkinson, M.D. (Otolaryngology & Plastic Surgery)

Action taken: the Committee voted to approve tabs 1-3

Referral from Full Board: Review of Experts

Tab 4 – Dr. Jack Kareff – Expert for Case No. 2009-19134 presented at April 2011 Full Board

Dr. Espinola introduced concerns with the expert in question. She felt as though the opinion given for case no. 2009-19134 was overly critical in the review of the case and as a result, the Board chose to dismiss the case.

After further discussion a motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to remove Dr. Kareff from the Department expert witness list

Action taken: the Committee voted to remove Dr. Kareff from the Department expert witness list

Tab 5 – Dr. Ignacio A. Sotolongo – Expert for Case No. 2009-24838 presented at April 2011 Full Board

The Committee voted to table the discussion until the next Expert Witness Committee meeting

Staff Questions/Discussion:

Tab 6 - How to Review Experts

The Committee approved Ms. Bowen’s outline of material to be provided to the Expert Witness Committee when a referral is made from the full board. The Committee will request that the Full Board state on the record why the expert is being referred to the Expert Witness Committee.

Action taken: no action taken

New Business

Dr. Espinola asked Mr. Tellechea about the new Expert Witness Registration program. Mr. Tellechea advised the Committee that credentialing will not come through the Committee, but that the Board will discipline the expert if a case is brought before the full board.

Action taken: no action taken

The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.