

**Department of Health  
Florida Board of Medicine  
Expert Witness Committee  
Agenda**

**Marriott Orlando Airport  
7449 Augusta National Drive  
Orlando, FL 32822  
(407) 851-9000**

**December 1, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

Roll Call.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robert Nuss, M.D., Chairman  
Trina Espinola, M.D.  
Merle Stringer, M.D.  
James Orr, M.D.

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Ed Tellechea, Board Counsel  
Joy A. Tootle, Executive Director  
Donna McNulty, Board Counsel  
Nancy Murphy, Paralegal  
Whitney Bowen, Board Staff

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Jason Rosenberg, M.D.  
Elisabeth Tucker, M.D.

**OTHER PRESENT:**

Irene Lake, Prosecution Services Unit  
Diane Kiesling, Esq, Asst. General Counsel

**Expert Witness Applications:**

Dr. Nuss Introduced Tab 1-8 and asked the Committee if they wanted to discuss any of the applications submitted. Dr. Espinola requested to hear tabs 2 & 4. Dr. Nuss also stated requested to hear tab 4 and recused himself from tab 8.

A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve application tabs 1, 3, 6 and 7 to become Department Expert Witnesses.

Tab 1 – Roy M. Ambinder, M.D. (Internal Medicine)

Tab 3 – Bruce Bridewell (Family Medicine)

Tab 5 – Kenneth K. Hines (Radiology)

Tab 6 – Jairo Nunez (Psychiatry)

Tab 7 – Nizam Razack (Neurosurgery)

**Action taken:** the Committee voted to approve application tabs 1, 3, 6 and 7 to become Department Expert Witnesses

Tab 2 – Ankush Kumar Bansal (Internal Medicine)

Dr. Espinola raised concerns with the applicant practicing telemedicine. She also stated concerns with the applicant potentially not having practiced medicine in recent years.

A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to reject the application to become a Department expert witness.

**Updated: 11-17-11 WB**

**Department of Health  
Florida Board of Medicine  
Expert Witness Committee  
Agenda**

**Marriott Orlando Airport  
7449 Augusta National Drive  
Orlando, FL 32822  
(407) 851-9000**

**December 1, 2011**

Action taken: the Committee voted to reject the application to become a Department expert witness

**Tab 4 – Nestor De La Cruz-Munez (Pathology)**

Dr. Espinola raised concerns with the number of medical malpractice lawsuits brought against the applicant.

A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to reject the application to become a Department expert witness.

**Action taken:** the Committee voted to reject the application to become a Department expert witness

**Tab 8 – Bruce Villas (Pathology)**

This matter was not heard due to lack of a quorum.

**Committee Discussion:**

**Tab 9 – PSU Presentation on Expert Witness Process/Statistics**

The Chair recognized Ms. Kiesling and Ms. Lake of DOH Prosecution Services Unit. Ms. Lake presented the report she provided to the Committee. Ms. Lake also introduced Ms. Kim Mulligan of Abbason and Associates, Inc. a state contract provider for expert witnesses. Ms. Lake explained the expert witness approval process and the criteria for approval.

Ms. Kiesling shared accomplishments in the expert witness process, such as, online applications, revision of contract language, and implementation of state-side trainings for Department experts.

Ms. Kiesling made requests regarding temporary approvals of experts. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to delegate to the Chair the authority to temporarily approve Department expert witness applications for ratification at the Committees next meeting.

Ms. Kiesling also requested that Certificates of Appreciation, signed by the Committee Chair, be given to experts who provided their services. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to create a Certificate of Appreciation for Department expert witnesses to be signed by the Committee Chair.

**Action taken:** the Committee voted to delegate Chair the authority to temporarily approve Department expert witness applications for ratification at the Committees next meeting; and to create a Certificate of Appreciation for Department expert witnesses to be signed by the Committee Chair

Updated: 11-17-11 WB