
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

TO: Children, Families, Health and Human Services Interim Committee
FROM: Ian Marquand, Board of Medical Examiners Exec. Officer
RE: Annual Report on Medical Marijuana Complaints
DATE: 8/9/2016

In compliance with 37-3-203(3) MCA, the Board of Medical Examiners is providing this annual report on the number of complaints and disciplinary actions involving physician practices in providing written certification of individuals for use of marijuana for a debilitating medical condition provided for in Title 50, chapter 46.

From July 1, 2015 until June 30, 2016, the Board has received no new complaints about its licensees regarding the written certification of individuals for use of medical marijuana. No complaints specifically regarding medical marijuana have been adjudicated since July 1, 2015.

A final order was issued against Dr. Clyde Knecht on March 11, 2016. While the initial complaint against Dr. Knecht did not involve medical marijuana, the final order imposed conditions and restrictions on his authority to certify patients for the medical marijuana registry.

The final order included a suspension of Dr. Knecht's license for no less than 90 days, as well as mandatory completion of a medical record keeping seminar. In addition, Dr. Knecht is prohibited from issuing medical marijuana certifications outside of the ordinary course of his clinical practice. He also is prohibited from serving as the consulting physician for third parties or caregivers in mass conference-like settings. Further, he must adhere to all applicable medical standards of care, statutes and regulations governing medical marijuana. He also must thoroughly document each patient encounter that leads to a certification for medical marijuana use. And he must maintain medical records for all patients whom he certifies for medical marijuana use.