

Jeffrey R. LaVoy, M.D.

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July 31, 2002

Arizona State Board of Medical Examiners
C/o Sarah Baaden
Board Operations Coordinator
9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

To whom it may concern:

Having first received your letter via my attorney on July 11, 2002, I am writing in regard to case #MD-99-0477. During the course of the June 5th 2002 public meeting the Arizona State Board reviewed all pertinent evidence and information gathered during the investigation. The Board then voted to issue me an advisory letter for poor follow-up of laboratory results, poor management of hypertension, and poor record keeping, but they acknowledged that there was insufficient evidence to support discipline.

The Board reviewed a chart which was largely incomplete and missing a large section due to poor record keeping on the part of the Medical Arts Group in Louisiana who had custody over it. Because of these missing sections, there were a limited number of progress notes available for the Board to review. One, standard Department of Transportation driver's exam form, in which I filled in the blanks, and one progress note, five years later, were all the Board had to judge me. The other notes in the chart, which the Board considered inadequate, were not my notes. This was pointed out to them. Unfortunately, some Board members judged me by someone else's notes anyhow. The Board even acknowledged that there was not sufficient evidence to support discipline; indeed, there was insufficient evidence to make much of any judgment in this case. I believe the Board felt pressured to do something in this case and the advisory letter was it. I do not believe that one progress note is adequate to judge someone's long term care for any problem. However, the Board has spoken and so it stands.

Please attach this written response letter to the advisory letter as advised in your letter.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey R. LaVoy, M.D.