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Federation of State Medical Boards
Elects New Officers and Board Members

Donald Polk, DO, assumes leadership of organization as Chair;
Daniel Gifford, MD, elected Chair-elect

Euless, Texas (May 1, 2014) – The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) House of Delegates elected new officers during its Annual Meeting on April 26 in Denver. The following individuals were elected to the FSMB Board of Directors:

Donald Polk, DO, assumed the position of Chair of the FSMB Board of Directors. Elected to the FSMB Board in 2010, Dr. Polk has served on the Board’s Executive, Governance and Finance committees, as well as on the FSMB’s Emergency Preparedness Workgroup and Bylaws Committee. A member of the Tennessee Board of Osteopathic Examination since 1996, he has held the positions of Secretary and Vice President and currently serves as President. While serving on the Tennessee Controlled Substance Database Advisory Committee, Dr. Polk assisted with the development of the state’s Controlled Substance Monitoring and Tracking System. He has served 28 years in the Tennessee Army National Guard. Following graduation from the U.S. Army War College, he was promoted to Brigadier General and was appointed Deputy STARC Commander, during which time he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

Daniel Gifford, MD, was elected FSMB Chair-elect. As a member of the FSMB Board of Directors, Dr. Gifford has served on the Executive, Finance, Compensation, Investment committees and he chaired the Governance Committee. He has been a member of the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners since 2006, serving on the Credentials, Malpractice, and Physician Assistance subcommittees. He also serves as a Board Member of the Alabama Board of Public Health and Medical Association of State of Alabama. Board certified in Internal Medicine and Nephrology, Dr. Gifford is a practicing physician.
Arthur Hengerer, MD, was re-elected to a three-year term as a Director. As a member of the FSMB Board of Directors since 2011, he has served on the Executive Committee. He also was recently elected to the FSMB Foundation Board of Directors and he serves as an FSMB representative to the National Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Hengerer is the Chair of the New York State Office of Professional Medical Conduct, which he has served as a member since 2002. Dr. Hengerer has more than 30 years of clinical practice experience in private and academic settings. He has a tenured appointment for more than 20 years as Department Chair of Otolaryngology and four years as Acting Chair of General Surgery at the University of Rochester.

Patricia King, MD, PhD, was elected to a three-year term as a Director. A member of the Vermont Board of Medical Practice for 11 years and Chair since 2010, Dr. King serves on the FSMB’s Editorial Committee, Interstate Compact Taskforce, and Workgroup for Innovations in State-based Licensure. She also serves on the USMLE State Board Advisory panel and the USMLE Ambulatory Care Test Material Development Committee. A practicing physician in Primary Care Internal Medicine at University of Vermont (UVM) Medical Group, Dr. King is an Associate Professor at the UVM College of Medicine, and director for problem-based learning and for the medical regulation and professionalism curriculum.

Jean Rexford was elected to a three-year term as a Director. A public member of the Connecticut Medical Examining Board, she is the Founder and Executive Director of the Connecticut Center for Patient Safety, which works to promote patient safety, improve the quality of health care and to protect the rights of patients. Ms. Rexford also has served on numerous national committees, including the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality of AHRQ, the Consumer Council of the National Quality Forum, the FDA Consumer Representative on Medical Imagine Drugs Advisory Committee, the National Board of Medical Examiners (member at large and Public Stakeholder Committee), and the Safe Patient Project for Consumers Union.

Additionally, the following individuals were elected to two-year terms on the FSMB Nominating Committee:

Greg Collins, of the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board;

Jeffrey Carter, MD, of the Missouri Board of Registration for the Healing Arts; and

Barbara Walker, DO, of the North Carolina Medical Board.

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About the FSMB
The FSMB is a national non-profit organization representing all medical boards within the United States and its territories that license and discipline allopathic and osteopathic physicians and, in some jurisdictions, other health care professionals. It assists these state and territorial medical boards as they go about their mandate of protecting the public’s health, safety and welfare. The FSMB leads by promoting excellence in medical practice, licensure, and regulation. For more information, please visit www.fsmb.org.