

ALERT: BE CAUTIOUS AND AWARE

Scam artists calling reporting to be from the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice

AND

Scam artists posing as DEA agents calling Minnesota physicians

Many Minnesota physicians continue to receive phone calls at their place of work from impersonators reporting to be from the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice **AND** the scam artists have been able to make the Board's phone number appear on the caller ID. These callers often have the physician's license number - - which **IS** public information. The Board **WILL NOT** contact you by telephone to tell you that you are the subject of a complaint and/or an investigation, that your license is suspended **NOR** will it demand money or urgent information from you. If you, or your staff, receive such a call, please hang up and do not share any information. Please contact the Board at Medical.Board@state.mn.us or 612-617-2130 if you have additional questions.

Also, scam artists posing as U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents are calling Minnesota physicians as part of an international extortion scheme.

The scammers identify themselves as DEA or other law enforcement agents, tell their victims that purchasing drugs over the phone or internet is illegal and that enforcement action will be taken against them if they do not pay a fee, often quoted to be many thousands of dollars. The scammers typically threatened to suspend the physicians license immediately if they do not cooperate with the demands.

DEA or other law enforcements agents **WILL NOT** contact a physician by telephone to demand money or any other form of payment. If you receive such a call, refuse the demand for payment and immediately report the threat using to FBI at: <https://www.ic3.gov/>

The Federal Trade Commission also provides recovery steps, shares information with law enforcement agencies and takes reports at: <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/>

More information from the DEA can be found at: <https://www.dea.gov/scam-alert>

If you receive such a call, please report it to the FBI as noted above, the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice at Medical.Board@state.mn.us or by calling 612-617-2130, and your local law enforcement agency.