

Disciplinary actions taken

The following disciplinary actions were taken by the Board of Regents at its February 6, 2009, meeting:

- A retired general surgeon from Geneva, IL, was admonished following a finding that he violated the ACS *Bylaws* and Statement 8, the Statement on the Physician Acting as an Expert Witness, when providing expert witness testimony in a medical malpractice lawsuit.

- William Wilson Hampton, a general surgeon from California, was expelled from the College. Dr. Hampton was convicted of one count of health care fraud, a felony offense, and sentenced to 120 months in federal prison followed by three years of supervised release with terms and conditions. He had been indicted for performing unnecessary surgical procedures and fraudulent billing to insurance companies for those procedures. As a result, his medical license in the State of California was suspended for the duration of his federal trial and has now been revoked, effective April 20, 2009. This action was reported by the College to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).

- Bradford C. Roberg, a plastic surgeon from Crystal Lake, IL, had his Fellowship suspend-

ed with terms and conditions for reinstatement. This action was taken following the temporary suspension of his license to practice medicine in the State of Illinois. Dr. Roberg self-reported the state action and the reasons for it to the College. He was found to have written prescriptions in the names of multiple family members for controlled substances for his personal use. This action was reported to the NPDB by College staff.

Definition of terms

Following are the disciplinary actions that may be imposed for violations of the principles of the College.

Admonition: A written notification, warning, or serious rebuke.

Censure: A written judgment, condemning the Fellow or member's actions as wrong. This is a firm reprimand.

Probation: A punitive action for a stated period of time, during which the member (a) loses the rights to hold office and to participate as a leader in College programs; (b) retains other privileges and obligations of membership; (c) will be reconsidered by the Central Judiciary Committee periodically and at the end of the stated term.

Suspension: A severe punitive

action for a period of time, during which the Fellow or member, according to the membership status, (a) loses the rights to attend and vote at College meetings, to hold office, and to participate as a leader, speaker, or panelist in College programs; (b) is subject to the removal of the member's name from the Yearbook and from the mailing list of the College; (c) surrenders his or her Fellowship certificate to the College, and no longer explicitly or implicitly claims to be a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons; (d) pays the visitor's registration fee when attending College programs; (e) is not subject to the payment of annual dues.

When the suspension is lifted, the Fellow or member is returned to full privileges and obligations of Fellowship.

Expulsion: The certificate of Fellowship and all other indicia of Fellowship or membership previously issued by the College must be forthwith returned to the College. The surgeon thereafter shall not explicitly or implicitly claim to be a Fellow or member of the American College of Surgeons and may not participate as a leader, speaker, or panelist in College programs.