



TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD
Alan T. Moore, M.D., Medical Director

July 22, 2009

Shari Noonan, CAE, CMP
American College of Cardiology, Texas Chapter
401 W 15th St
Austin, TX 78701-1670

Dear Ms. Noonan:

The Texas Medical Board (TMB) is soliciting names of board certified physicians to serve as expert panelists. Our panelists play an integral role in our investigation process by reviewing cases dealing with potential violations of the standard of care (SOC). Senate Bill 104, which became law in 2003, requires that every complaint involving SOC issues be reviewed by a minimum of two expert panelists. Physicians serving as expert panelists must fulfill several criteria. Examples of some of the criteria are:

- Be licensed to practice medicine in the state of Texas;
- Be in active practice in the state of Texas as defined by Board Rule §163.11 (Actively diagnosing or treating persons for at least 20 hours per week for 40 weeks a year; or on the active teaching faculty of an acceptable approved medical school for at least 20 hours per week for 40 weeks a year);
- Be certified by a board recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties, Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists, or American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery;
- Have no history of licensure restriction;
- Have no history of peer discipline;
- Have acceptable malpractice claims history.

The identity of the each panelist reviewing a case is kept strictly confidential. Additionally, when working under a TMB contract, the panelist is considered an agent of the State and as such is protected from liability. Most panelists are never asked to testify. When a panelist is asked to testify, he/she is under no obligation to do so. If an expert prefers not to testify, the TMB will ask someone else to testify.

Location Address:
333 Guadalupe, Tower 3, Suite 610
Austin, Texas 78701

Mailing Address
MC-251, P.O. Box 2018
Austin, Texas 78768-2018

Phone 512.305.7019
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www.tmb.state.tx.us

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Before a physician begins serving as a panelist, the physician is required to watch a CD that TMB has produced. The CD contains a tutorial that provides every panelist with a thorough explanation of the Expert Panelist system as well as what the Board expects of our panelists. The CD also contains an examination following the tutorial covering the tutorial's content. Each prospective panelist must pass the examination in order to serve as a panelist.

The Board recognizes the effort required to watch the tutorial and take the exam. Therefore, upon successful completion of the exam the panelist will receive credit for one hour of Category 1 Ethics CME.

The Board also recognizes the time and effort required to serve as an Expert Panelist. Consequently, the Board recently adopted a rule change that entitles all panelists to receive a maximum of six (6) hours of Category 1 CME credit per year for the time spent reviewing cases and writing reports. In addition to the CME credit, panelists are reimbursed \$100 per hour for their time.

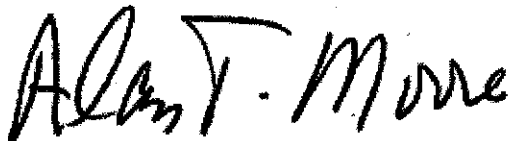
Please circulate this information among your members and ask those interested in serving as a panelist to contact the TMB. Interested members should contact either me or Ms. Kimberly Ferron.

Alan T. Moore, M.D.
(512) 305-7019
alan.moore@tmb.state.tx.us

Kimberly Ferron
(512) 305-7178
kimberly.ferron@tmb.state.tx.us

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan T. Moore". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Alan T. Moore, M.D.
Medical Director
Texas Medical Board