

## **Texas Lags Behind Most States in Disciplining Doctors**

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The <u>Texas Medical Board</u> is less likely than those in other states to revoke doctors' licenses or take other serious disciplinary action, according to a <u>report</u> released this month by the consumer organization <u>Public Citizen</u>.

Texas ranked 38th among boards in all 50 states and the District of Columbia in taking serious disciplinary action against doctors last year. The report defined serious discipline as license revocations, surrenders, suspensions, and probation or restrictions.

The Texas Medical Board took 2.44 disciplinary actions per 1,000 doctors last year, lower than the national rate of 3.05 disciplinary actions per 1,000 doctors. The national rate last year was 18% lower than the peak rate in 2004 of 3.72 per 1,000 doctors. Texas has 61,816 doctors, and took action in 145 cases.

Kraft & Associates 2777 Stemmons Freeway Suite 1300 Dallas, Texas 75207 Toll Free: (800) 989-9999 FAX: (214) 637-2118 E-mail: info@kraftlaw.com