



Office of the Governor of Guam

P.O. Box 2950 Hagåtña, Guam 96932

TEL: (671) 472-8931 • FAX: (671) 477-4826 • EMAIL: governor@mail.gov.gu

Felix P. Camacho
Governor

Michael W. Cruz, M.D.
Lieutenant Governor

13 OCT 2009

Joan H. Gill M.D.,
Acting Chairwoman
Guam Medical Licensing Board
DPHSS Health Professional Licensing Office
Legacy Square Commercial Complex
South Route 10, Suite 9
Mangilao Guam 96913

Dear Dr. Gill,

Hafa Adai! As I am sure you are aware, the temporary departure of Dr. J.S. Friedman and the subsequent lack of a qualified physician to practice in his stead will likely result in the short term closure of the Guam Cancer Center. As the only licensed oncologist on island, Dr. Friedman's clinic treats more than 125 patients and it is my sincere belief that their treatment should go uninterrupted.

In a letter received October 5, 2009, Dr. Friedman requested that I issue an emergency license to Dr. Paul Walde, a Canadian oncologist chosen by Dr. Friedman to practice in his absence. Unfortunately, I informed Dr. Friedman that Guam law does not grant me the authority to issue medical licenses, even in the case of an emergency. After a detailed review of the statutes governing the licensure of physicians on Guam, my office believes that Dr. Paul Walde may be issued a "special license" under section 12207(f) of Title 10 G.C.A.

"The Board is authorized to issue conditional, restricted or otherwise circumscribed licenses as it determines necessary."

Though I fully support the Board's desire to protect the quality of medical care on Guam and given the urgency of this situation, I am asking that the Board expeditiously reconsider Dr. Walde's application for licensure in light of the abovementioned provision, especially since that provision would allow the Board full discretion in this matter. As always, thank you for your hard work and for your time and attention to this urgent matter.

Sinseru yan Magâhet,

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'lâhen Guåhan
Governor of Guam