POLICY STATEMENTS
TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

POLICY: PRACTICING MEDICINE ON PATIENTS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF TENNESSEE BY PHYSICIANS IN OTHER STATES
T.C.A. § 63-6-201

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 63-6-201 in pertinent part provides as follows:

> ***No person shall practice medicine within this state unless and until such person has obtained a license from the board created by § 63-1-101.***

The Board has interpreted that provision of its practice act to mean that any individual who directly or through any employer or other entity offers medical services by any means to patients located in Tennessee at the time the services are provided or to their physicians or to institutional providers on their behalf must be licensed by the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners.

Adopted by the Board of Medical Examiners on this the 18th day of October , 1994.

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Oscar M. McCallum, M.D., President
Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners

POLICY: ENFORCEMENT OF THE MILITARY HOSPITAL SERVICE EXEMPTION PROVIDED BY
T.C.A. § 63-6-204

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 63-6-204 (a)(3) which in pertinent part provides as follows:

> ***This chapter shall not apply to surgeons of the United States army, navy, air force or marine hospital service....***

The Board has interpreted that provision of its practice act to provide an exemption from the licensure requirements to only those who are commissioned as surgeons, as that term is defined under military law, to serve in the United States army, navy, air force or marine hospital service and those surgeons who although not commissioned are employees of the military hospital service. The exemption applies only when the practice is confined to the military hospital service. Anytime any health care provider exempted from licensure under this statute practices a medical profession in Tennessee outside the confines of the military hospital setting, that person must be licensed by the appropriate state professional licensure board. Failure to obtain such licensure prior to civilian practice subjects the person to the civil and criminal penalties.

Any physician, or other allied health professional providing professional services to the military hospital service under contract must have a license to practice medicine in Tennessee to provide professional services outside the scope of the contract and anytime practice is commenced in a setting other than a military hospital service facility.

Adopted by the Board of Medical Examiners on this the 3rd day of May, 1994.

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W. W. Cloud, M.D., President
Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners