



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jackson, Mississippi

Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure Welcomes New Board Appointments

The Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (MSBML) announced today that two physicians, **Dr. Kirk Kinard** of Pascagoula and **Dr. Allen Gersh** of Hattiesburg, were presented with their official Certificates of Commission during the September Board Meeting.

Governor Tate Reeves previously appointed Dr. Kinard and Dr. Gersh, and both were confirmed by the Mississippi Senate during the 2025 legislative session.

Governor Reeves has also appointed **Dr. Carlos Latorre** of Vicksburg to fill the seat left vacant following the July 2025 passing of longtime board member **Dr. Tom Joiner**. Dr. Latorre's appointment will go before the Senate for confirmation during the 2026 session.

*"These physicians truly represent the best of Mississippi medicine," said **Governor Tate Reeves**.*

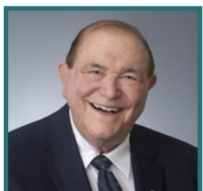
"I am confident their service on the MSBML will uphold the highest standards of medical practice and help ensure the health and well-being of Mississippians."



Dr. Carlos Latorre is a board-certified family physician and Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians. He serves as Associate Chief of Staff for Primary Care at the G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson and practices at Mission Primary Care Clinic in Vicksburg.



Dr. Kirk Kinard is a dual board-certified anesthesiologist and pain medicine specialist practicing at Willow Pain and Wellness in Pascagoula. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Southern Pain Society and is active in national pain medicine organizations.



Dr. Allen Gersh is a nephrologist with Hattiesburg Clinic since 1977, he directs the clinic's Dialysis Units. He is a past chairman of the Mississippi State Board of Health and currently serves as president of the Mississippi State Nephrologic Society.

*"These physicians bring tremendous expertise and a strong commitment to Mississippi," said **Dr. Ken Cleveland**, Executive Director of MSBML. "Their leadership will strengthen the Board's work to uphold the highest standards of medical practice and protect the health and well-being of our citizens."*

The MSBML Board is comprised of nine physicians appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and is charged under state law with setting policies, licensing physicians, and safeguarding the practice of medicine in Mississippi

For Every Patient. For Every Provider. For Every Mississippian.