



**Henderson County Local Government**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Henderson County Department of Public Health Ordered “Temporary Custodian” of Medical Records of Dr. Felicia B. Brabham**

**HC-2015-5**

**Hendersonville, NC – January 16, 2015**



By order dated December 10, 2014, the North Carolina Medical Board has appointed the Henderson County Department of Public Health and its Director, Steven E. Smith, as the “temporary custodians” of the medical records of the former Hendersonville practice of Dr. Felicia B. Brabham. The Department was ordered to “take custody of and maintain the confidentiality” of Dr. Brabham’s medical and billing records. The Medical Board further ordered the Department to “provide the records, or copies of the records, to the patient or patient’s designee upon request,” upon payment of a “reasonable copying fee.”

The Medical Board further noted that the Department “is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the patient’s medical record. Additionally, the Henderson County Department of Public Health is under no obligation to provide treatment to Dr. Brabham’s patients.” Finally, the Board ordered that the Department “may destroy any medical records not claimed by a patient or patient designee 90 days from the date of this Order.”

The records were recently acquired by the Department and a period of time was also dedicated to organization of the files. Given that delay and the intent of the order, the Department of Public Health will provide access to these records for a period of 90 days starting January 20, 2015 until April 20, 2015.

Former patients of Dr. Felicia B. Brabham must call the Department at (828) 694-6001 to confirm that their medical record is available, to discuss the specific process for acquiring the medical record and to make an appointment to pick up the medical record.

The original medical record can be: (1) picked up by the patient upon showing proper legal identification, (2) shared with a physician representative of the patient, (3) provided to the patient’s attorney-in-fact (who will need to present a certified copy of the patient’s power of attorney), or (4) picked up by the patient’s legal guardian who must present a certified copy of their Letters of Guardianship.

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