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Herrera attends license hearing Board has not announced decision.

MONTGOMERY - A Gadsden doctor suspended from practicing medicine five years ago by the Medical Licensure Commission attended his re-licensing hearing on Wednesday.

The commission didn't announce a decision on license reinstatement for Dr. Pascual Herrera Jr.

Board attorney Wayne Turner said he would have to write whatever order the board gave him and give it to Herrera before it could be publicly released.

"I'm anxious to go back to work and treat my patients and get this mess over with," Herrera said before attending a closed-door hearing with the commission.

The commission that governs doctors revoked Herrera's medical license in 2001 after a hearing over his practice that specialized in pain management.

The commission in its revocation order said Herrera performed unnecessary tests, didn't keep legible or adequate documentation and prescribed controlled substances in excessive amounts without medical justification to three patients.

Herrera's expert witness in his 2001 court deposition said Herrera's prescription of narcotic or opiate medication for the three patients was appropriate given their level of pain.

Herrera's lawyer, Al Agricola, said Herrera was the victim of the OxyContin pain killer scare in Etowah County in 2001.

Herrera regained his license in 2004 when a Montgomery judge said the commission erroneously revoked it. The commission appealed to the Court of Civil Appeals and it reversed the Montgomery judge in April 2005.
