



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Frances Day Pleads No Contest

Dr. Frances Bailey Day, 64, formerly of Eureka, pled no contest today to one felony count of prescribing controlled substances to an addict.

Day is scheduled to go before the Honorable W. Bruce Watson on September 7, 2011 for sentencing.

While Day is eligible for probation, the felony conviction will be used by the Medical Board of California to indefinitely bar her from the practice of medicine. Had she not accepted the negotiated disposition, Day faced a maximum potential sentence of more than three years in state prison.

After a multi-year investigation lead by the Humboldt County District Attorney's Office and assisted by the Attorney General's Office and California Medical Board, Day was arraigned on June 1, 2011 on five felony Health and Safety Code violations as well as misdemeanor charges of self prescribing narcotics and interfering with an emergency technician attempting to administer aid.

"This case has always been about protecting the community from Ms. Day," noted Deputy District Attorney Ben Mainzer. "I'm pleased with this conviction as it takes away her ability to practice medicine and endanger the health, and potentially the lives, of people in our community."

"I am very proud of Deputy District Attorney Ben Mainzer," added District Attorney Paul Gallegos. "Our office initially received this as a misdemeanor case but through diligence and thorough investigation, Mr. Mainzer and Humboldt County District Attorney's Office Investigator Jack Bernstein were able to obtain information that indicated that this was actually felony level activity. Clearly the conviction supported their efforts."