

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



Newsletter

Issue 12 Volume 1

Spring 2018

Board Members:

Cyndi Scott, PT, Chair
SuAnn Poole, PTA, Secretary
Deborah McDonald, PT, Treasurer
Shannon Singletary, PT, Member
Douglas Roll, PT, Member
Gene Barrett, MD, Physician Member
Melanie Woodrick, CPA, Consumer Member

Board Staff:

Stephanie Boyette, Executive Director
Natalie Miller, Licensing Investigator
Beth Holmes, License Registration Agent

Board Counsel:

Gloria Green, JD, Special Assistant
Attorney General

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Word from Board Chair

Legislative awareness and action make a difference. Your licensing Board had a course in the importance of this concept during the past legislative session. The Mississippi government is on a move to streamline and deregulate government agencies. This session their activities included proposed legislation that would combine the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy, among some twenty-two other licensing boards into the Department of Finance and Administration's Office of Shared Services. This new agency would have swept the Board into an administrative arrangement with cosmetologists, barbers, certified public accountants, and building contractors, among others. The Board shared with the legislators its concern that this was not in the best interest of our licensees and the public. We went to work to convince our legislative bodies to minimize the potential effects.

Josh Farley, President of the Mississippi Physical Therapy Association, and its lobbyist, Steve Corbitt, worked diligently to convey the message about the potential impact this legislation would have on both physical therapists and consumers.

We objected strongly to SB 2775 and HB 1058 because:

- 1) Many of the other agencies named in the bill are not health care agencies. It included cosmetologists and auctioneers. We need to remain autonomous to protect our patients and the public. The health and safety of the public are at stake.
- 2) Our Board operates very effectively and efficiently. Time to licensure is very short. Disciplinary matters are handled efficiently. The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy awarded a five-star rating to our Board, the highest they offer.
- 3) The Board recently completed a property audit with the Mississippi Auditor's Office, and 100 percent of the inventory was accounted for. We also have robust internal controls in place on our financial and business operations.
- 4) We have state oversight by the Attorney General's Office with a state-appointed attorney to advise our Board on legal and other matters.
- 5) Our offices are located conveniently to the Capitol and are easily accessible to the public and licensees. Located off Fortification Street, the rent is approximately \$10 per square foot and includes custodial service, maintenance, fire extinguishers, paper products, and other amenities. Costs to abide in a state-owned building are considerably higher and would reduce access to our services.

There were some daunting moments, but with the guidance and polished political acumen of Mr. Corbitt, and the "feet on the ground" of our Executive Director, Stephanie Boyette, we prevailed. Both the HB 1058 and SB 2775, which had passed the Senate, died on the House calendar. We also learned something from this exercise in political advocacy. We will be looking to find ways to inform and encourage our licensees to engage more readily in the process. Look for information on our website and in direct communications with you, our licensees. We need to have everyone informed and involved in legislative matters that affect our licensees and the public we serve.

Cyndi K. Scott, PT, PhD, MBA

BOARD NEWS

New Board Appointments

Governor Phil Bryant has announced one new appointment and two reappointments to the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy. The Board is pleased to welcome Gene Barrett, M.D., who is the physician member. Dr. Barrett was appointed on May 19, 2017 to complete a term which ends June 30, 2020. Doug Roll, PT, reappointed to represent the 4th Congressional District, and Melanie Woodrick, CPA, reappointed as the consumer-at-large, will serve second terms that begin July 1, 2018 and end June 30, 2022.

Dr. Gene Barrett, a founding partner of Mississippi Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center, has practiced sports medicine for 28 years. In 2015 he joined the UMMC faculty as an associate professor of orthopaedic surgery. After attending Millsaps College, Dr. Barrett earned his MD at UMC in 1974. He did a general surgery internship and an orthopaedic surgery residency from 1975-1976 at UMMC. He completed his orthopaedic residency at the Greenville, SC Hospital System in 1979. After completing an A-O International Fellowship in Liestal-Basal, Switzerland in 1980, Barrett completed a 14-month sports knee surgery fellowship in 1981 at the Hughston Orthopaedic Clinic in Columbus, GA. Locally, he served as president of the Mississippi Orthopaedic Society in 1989 and has served as an orthopaedic consultant to numerous high schools and colleges throughout the area. In fall 2015 Dr. Barrett transitioned to full-time research faculty in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation. He still enjoys teaching residents through lectures and assisting with the sports injury clinic during football season. He was born in McComb and is married to the former Linda Holiday. They have two sons, Austin and David.

Melanie Woodrick, the consumer-at-large on the Board, is a partner with Grantham Poole CPAs. As someone who has had extensive personal experience with inpatient and outpatient physical therapy, Melanie has been an effective voice for consumers as she represents their needs and concerns. The Board welcomes her reappointment for a second term.

Doug Roll, a physical therapist in private practice on the Gulf Coast since 1989, has contributed great insight and practical approaches to challenging issues facing the physical therapy profession. Not only is he the owner of three clinics, but he is also a clinical faculty member for three university physical therapy programs. The Board has appreciated his expertise in the profession as well as his practical viewpoint and looks forward to serving with him for a second term.

ATTENTION

Look what's available on our website at www.msbpt.ms.gov. Please visit the website frequently for updated information.

You can find:

- Application packet
- Continuing Education – approved courses are available for review
- Consumer Awareness and Protection
- Current Board members
- Dry Needling requirements
- How to file a complaint
- Information on how to get a course approved
- Licensure renewal information
- Links to APTA, MPTA, FSBPT and more
- List of current disciplinary actions
- Name/Address change forms and many more
- Practice Act and Rules and Regulations
- Scheduled Board meetings
- Verification of License – check to see if someone is licensed

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING CCU APPROVAL

As a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant licensee, it is **YOUR** responsibility to verify that the continuing competence (CC) courses you take are courses that meet the requirements of our regulations. To ensure that your courses are approved, please follow the steps listed below:

1. Go to the Continuing Competence page on the website (www.msbpt.ms.gov) and select the list of approved courses for the appropriate year. To be certain that you are taking courses that are acceptable to the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy, it is best to select courses that the Board has reviewed, approved, and placed on this list. **ONLY** courses that have been submitted to the Mississippi Board for review appear on this list. **ALWAYS** check this list before registering and paying for a course.
2. If a course you would like to take does not appear on our list, you may check the regulations that appear at the top of the list and see if the course information provided to you by the sponsor lists any of the general approvals that we accept, courses approved by another state chapter of APTA. However, if there is any doubt in your mind whether the course is acceptable, you should follow the instructions in #3.
3. **CALL THE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION.** Ask if they have submitted the course to Mississippi and received approval. If they respond that the course is approved in Mississippi, ask the sponsor to fax or email a copy of the approval letter to you. At this point, you may discover that they are relying on the statement in our regulations Part 3103 Rule 5.4 (1) (b) that says that the Board will accept “Conferences and continuing competence activities provided by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), Mississippi Physical Therapy Association (MPTA), and other state chapters and sections of APTA.” If that is the case, the sponsor needs to put in writing, either in a letter or an email, a statement indicating approval of the course is “Per Mississippi Regulation Part 3103 Rule 5.4 (1) (b) the course will be accepted by the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy”. They should also provide you with a list of any other state Physical Therapy Associations that have approved the course. **DO NOT ACCEPT THEIR VERBAL STATEMENT THAT THE COURSE IS APPROVED IN MISSISSIPPI!**

Frequently Asked Questions

Screening by a PTA:

A frequently asked question to the Board is whether or not a physical therapist assistant can perform screens. Part 3101, Rule 1.3(8) of the Regulations states that a physical therapist assistant may not perform evaluation/screens. The Board has defined patient/client screens as processes used to determine the potential need for physical therapy. Therefore, a screen is considered an evaluative function. It is the position of the Board that a screening of a patient for physical therapy services is not an activity which can be legally performed by a physical therapist assistant.

Referral for Private Pay:

A physical therapist is seeing a private pay patient and questions whether or not it is a requirement to have a doctor's referral. The Board's response is that regardless of the payor source, the physical therapist must have a doctor's referral in order to perform physical therapy services. Please refer to Part 3103, Rule 3.1.

Scope of Practice Questions

Reminder: All questions from licensees regarding physical therapist or physical therapist assistant scope of practice will be subject to the following process:

1. The question must be submitted in writing, either by mail or email, to the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy. Emailed questions may be sent to sboyette@msbpt.ms.gov and letters may be sent to MSBPT, PO Box 55707, Jackson, MS 39296.
2. The question will be placed on the agenda of the next Board meeting following the date the question is received.
3. A written Board-approved response will be sent to the person who presented the question.

Complaints & Disciplinary Actions in 2017

Complaints received: 16
Physical Therapists – 9
Physical Therapist Assistants – 5
Non-Physical Therapy Practitioners - 2

Disposition of complaints: Closed – no action/violations - 11
Board hearings - 2
Pending investigation - 5
Issued Stipulation and Consent Order - 2
Revocation of license - 1

Renewal Options and Reminders

The Board suggests that you keep the following information in mind when renewing your license:

ONLINE RENEWAL IS MANDATORY!! THE ONLINE APPLICATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED NO EARLIER THAN MAY 1st!!!

Address Changes: **Have you moved or had a change in employment? Did you notify the Board office in writing of the change?** The Board will mail renewal notices approximately sixty (60) days prior to the end of the licensure period. This means the notice will be mailed prior to May 1, 2018 to the last home address on file with the Board. Please notify the Board immediately by logging into your online profile and making address and employment changes yourself; or, you may email, fax, or mail your changes in information. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 1.8 of the regulations.

Completion of renewal application: You should verify that you have answered every question, including updating any changes to your personal and professional addresses and telephone numbers and that you have listed all continuing competence (CC) courses in aPTitude. The entire address (name, address, city, state, zip and telephone number) for both home and employment should be included in completing your renewal application. The information requested is pertinent for Board use, and your renewal will not be completed until you have provided this information.

Photo Required: If you do not have a photo in your profile or if your photo is older than four (4) years, you will be instructed to upload a new photo before the **RED** renewal button will be displayed. The photo must be an approximate size of 2x2 inches, head and shoulder only, full face, front view, **in color** on a plain white background, standard photo stock paper. Scanned or computer-generated photographs must be printed on photo quality paper and must have no visible pixels or dots. Photos can be uploaded to the licensee's profile or the photo (in jpeg format) can be emailed to sboyette@msbpt.ms.gov or mailed into the Board office. As an alternative to scanning an actual photo, you may have someone take a photo of you with your smart phone or make a selfie and upload it from your phone to your profile. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 4.1.3

Photos that will not be accepted include: 1) photo that includes anyone besides you; 2) no sunglasses, hat or cap; 3) copy of a photograph; 4) driver's license photo and/or picture identification.

Renewal Fee: The renewal fee is \$150.00 for physical therapists and \$125.00 for physical therapist assistants. Online renewal requires payment by a credit card or electronic check.

Continuing Competence: List all approved CC courses in aPTitude. Then enter the total number of CC hours from aPTitude into the Education tab in your profile. **If you are selected for CC random audit, you will see a message in red that "you have been randomly selected for CC audit" on the payment screen.** You will also receive an email notification. Since CC documentation is part of the renewal process, you will not receive your new seal and identification card until you meet the requirements of random audits. If your certificates have not been uploaded to **aPTitude** by June 30, 2018, you will be placed on CC probation.. **All physical therapists and physical therapist assistants need to be aware that the Board can review anyone's continuing competence certificates at any time.**

Mandatory CC Compliance: All licensees must record and report compliance of continuing competence activities through the free online aPTitude program of the FSBPT at <https://pt.fsbpt.net/aPTitude>. For assistance with your aPTitude account, email aPTitudeHelp@fsbpt.org or by telephone at (703) 299-3100, option 5. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 5.5.

Currently on CC Probation: Those licensees that are currently on CC probation will be able to renew online, but the renewal process will not be complete until documentation of all CCs under your probationary requirement has been received and reviewed. Please note that your expiration date will not change until this review has occurred. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 5.2(6).

Change of name: If you are requesting a change of name, a copy of a legal document must accompany the name change request. Legal documents consist of a copy of your marriage license or divorce decree.

Be on Time: It is in your best interest to submit the online renewal prior to June 30, 2018 to avoid late and reinstatement fees. Renewals completed in their entirety should have their new identification card and licensure seal before the end of the licensure period. All licensees will be able to review their expiration date in their profile, and the new date is immediately available for verification. The Board staff cannot guarantee that renewals received after June 15, 2018 will be processed in time for licensees to receive confirmation of renewal in the mail prior to June 30, 2018.

Verify receipt of renewal: Upon completion of the online renewal payment process, you will have the opportunity to print a receipt of payment and proof of renewal having been received. If you do not print the receipt at that time, you can go to the payment tab in your profile and print proof of payment.

Failure to renew before the deadline: A licensee who does not file all requirements for renewal before the end of the licensure period will be deemed to have allowed his/her license to lapse. Those individuals whose licenses expire will be required to pay the late fee in addition to the renewal fee. Failure to submit all renewal requirements by September 30 shall result in the necessity of the payment of a reinstatement fee in addition to the late fee and renewal fee. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 4.3 of the regulations. Remember...you may not practice as a physical therapist or as a physical therapist assistant until your license has been reinstated. Practicing with a lapsed license could result in disciplinary action by the Board.

SPECIAL REQUEST: During renewal period, May 1-June 30, the Board office is extremely busy with processing renewals. At the same time we have all of the graduating physical therapists and physical therapist assistants applying for licensure and meeting deadlines for taking the NPTE. We are asking that you **PLEASE REFRAIN FROM CALLING THE BOARD OFFICE TO VERIFY THAT A CONTINUING COMPETENCE COURSE/ACTIVITY IS APPROVED.** If you need to check the approval of a continuing competence course, please go to the Continuing Competence page on the website and follow the INSTRUCTIONS that are posted there concerning CC APPROVAL. The link you need to select is: **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING CCU APPROVAL. The Board staff thanks you for helping us process renewals and graduate applications in a timely manner.**

RANDOM AUDITS

The Board is authorized by state statute to enter and make inspections of any place where physical therapy is practiced. Accordingly, the Board through its agents continues random inspections and audits to determine if licensees are in compliance with the Board regulations. During 2017 no licensees were cited by the Board.

If licensees cannot locate their current licensure certificate and/or licensure identification card, they may want to purchase the documents from the Board office. A second inspection for licensees who are not in compliance may be required in the near future.

The Board is authorized to impose a monetary sanction of not less than \$100.00 or not more than \$500.00 for the first violation.

The Board expresses its thanks for the courteous cooperation received by its inspectors at the majority of the sites visited. The Board is also pleased that all the sites visited were in full compliance with physical therapy laws and regulations. Keep up the good work.

Random Audits:

During 2017 the following practitioners were inspected and audited. The Board is happy to announce their compliance.

Paul A. Kosko, PT	In compliance	Lacey S. Rose, PT	In compliance
Terry M. Conrad, PT	In compliance	Benjamin C. Edwards, PT	In compliance
Shannon E. Skelton, PT	In compliance	Jennifer R. Lepard, PT	In compliance
William T. Langley, PT	In compliance	Kellye P. Reeves, PT	In compliance
Christian D. Kinard, PTA	In compliance	Kimberly E. Griffin, PT	In compliance
Michael T. Doolittle, PTA	In compliance	Kristen M. Shelton, PTA	In compliance
Hilary H. Rendon, PT	In compliance	Kenneth L. Dukes, PTA	In compliance
Paul R. Huddleston, PT	In compliance	Matthew W. Smith, PT	In compliance
Lyndsey O. Sims, PTA	In compliance	Ashley B. Williamson, PT	In compliance
Catherine R. Fandel, PT	In compliance	Caitlin C. Dozier, PT	In compliance
Andrea R. Jones, PT	In compliance	Brandie W. Taylor, PTA	In compliance
Charles E. Hill, II, PT	In compliance	Kelsey H. Robertson, PTA	In compliance
Richard M. Beckham, PT	In compliance	Cynthia D. Coleman, PTA	In compliance

New Licensees

The Board is pleased to welcome 46 new licensees to the physical therapy community in Mississippi. These licenses have been issued since the winter 2017 newsletter. Welcome to the physical therapy practitioner community in Mississippi!!

Physical Therapists:

Childress, Patrick L.
Christiansen, Ryan J.
Cowles, Amelia Faye
Croce, Catherine Ann
Daniel, Brian Joseph
Dankhara, Mitalben N.
Ferrufina, Yvonne M.
Fitzgerald, Erica C.
Frey, Joshua N.
Heumann, David M.
Hindman, Rebecca Kate
Holway, Michael C.
Kurz, Matthew E.
Lane, Melanie B.
Lewis, Oscar Samuel
Lowry, Carina D.
Madsen, Benjamin T.
McIntyre, Amber N.

Mishaw, Lindsay A.
Pilo, Matthew C.
Rice, Andrea
Scott, Jeremy Jayrell
Spors, Jeffrey P.
Tabar, Dillon J.
Waggoner, Mackenzie Ann
Wells, Henry Brion
White, Elise M.
Wright, Hannah
Yerger, Tiffany Chester

Physical Therapist Assistants:

Allen, Kayla Elaine
Clutter, Amanda J.
Crouch, Heather R.
Hawes, Mykel R.
Krotzer, Jessica E.
McCluskey, Mandy M.

Russell, Helen C.
Stephen, Taylor A.
Tindall, Leianne M.
Turner, Anna Grace
Warren, Ashley K.
Williams, Crystal Hope

Physical therapy practitioners who have reinstated their license since the winter 2017 newsletter.

Physical Therapists:

Cronin, Tara M.

Physical Therapist Assistants:

Jenkins, Beau G.
Maddox, Carrvenna M.
McKeithen, William F.
Teague, Travis J.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ❖ There are 2,025 physical therapists and 1,293 physical therapist assistants with active Mississippi licenses as of April 6, 2018.
- ❖ The next scheduled Board meeting is April 19, 2018. This meeting is open to the public.
- ❖ The Board office will be closed April 30, 2018 for a legal state holiday.
- ❖ You can check the status of a request that you have made by logging into your profile and selecting the tracking tab.
- ❖ You can change your residential address and employment address by logging into your profile.
- ❖ When you pay a fee online and get an error message during the process, please contact the Board office to verify that your transaction was completed.
- ❖ You are required to accrue 30 hours of continuing competence (CC) each licensure period, including 3 hours of ethics.
- ❖ Changing your employment address is as important as changing your mailing address.
- ❖ You may now submit the Therapist Prior Approval Form and the Course Sponsor Prior Approval Form and the fee electronically. Go to www.msbpt.ms.gov and select the "forms" tab on the main menu. Select the online option for these forms and follow the prompts.
- ❖ The Board office does not accept cash payments. We accept checks or money orders with mailed in items; we do accept payment by debit/credit cards when paying fees or making a purchase online



Reminder – Licensure Requirement for Mississippi PTs and PTAs

The Mississippi Board of Physical Therapy (Board) **requires all licensees to report compliance with continuing competence by utilizing the free online system aPTitude.** The [aPTitude](#) system was built by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) to help PTs and PTAs comply with licensure renewal requirements, maintain their ongoing competence, and manage their activity records. The Mississippi Board has determined that [aPTitude](#) is the appropriate tool for PTs and PTAs to record their completed continuing competence activities and report that information to the Board for the random compliance audit at the time of renewal.

Create your free account in [aPTitude](#) and begin recording your completed activities and uploading your certificates or other completion documentation as soon as possible. All that is required to create your account is your name, license number, and email address. **If you have not registered by the date of your renewal, this will result in a delay with processing your licensure renewal.**

Here is a list of [aPTitude](#) features:

- Maintain your licensure information and transcript of completed continuing competence courses and other activities
- Securely store completion certificates
- Be reminded of the license renewal and continuing competence completion deadline
- Track completion progress for all licenses held (in addition to Mississippi)
- Find qualifying courses – many approved continuing competence courses for Mississippi are in [aPTitude](#)
- **Ability to create and record a course that is not listed in aPTitude but that is accepted by MS**

For assistance with your [aPTitude](#) account, email aPTitudeHelp@fsbpt.org or by telephone at 703.299.3100, option 5. Contact the [Board](#) for answers to questions on Mississippi's continuing competence requirements.



Mississippi State Board
of Physical Therapy
Post Office Box 55707
Jackson, MS 39296-5707



Change of Home Address, Worksite or Name

It is the responsibility of licensees to provide the Board with written notification of address changes (home and/or work) no later than 30 days after such change is effective according to Part 3103 Rule 1.8. For a name change, a notarized copy of the legal document must accompany the request. Failure to keep your address or name change current will result in a \$25.00 fee for the cost of resending any correspondence or materials.

NAME _____ LICENSE # _____

FORMER NAME _____

FORMER ADDRESS (City, State, Zip) _____ COUNTY _____

NEW ADDRESS (City, State, Zip) _____ COUNTY _____

()
PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FORMER EMPLOYER: _____

PRESENT PRIMARY EMPLOYER _____ ADDRESS (City, State, Zip) _____ ()
PHONE NUMBER _____

Mail this form to the Mississippi Board of Physical Therapy, P.O. Box 55707, Jackson, MS 39296-5707 or fax to (601) 352-2920.