

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



Newsletter

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Board Members:

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Phil Rasberry, PT, Member
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Rahul Vohra, MD, Physician Member
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Administrator
Natalie Miller, Licensing Investigator
Licensing Registration Agent, Vacant

Board Counsel:

Gloria Green, JD, Special Assistant
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A Word from the Chair

As I complete my service on the Board, it is time to reflect upon the last ten years, the professional journey which brought me to Mississippi and the tremendous honor it has been to be a part of this conscientious, caring and thoughtful group whose focus is public protection. It is indeed a distinction to have been one of the few able to serve on a licensure board. I am taking this opportunity to say thank you for the honor and privilege of being on the Board as well as reminisce about the journey from a physical therapy student to the present.

When I began my career in physical therapy more than 50 years ago, I never imagined the wonderful opportunities and experiences which awaited me as physical therapist. Initially, the providing patient care in a variety of practice settings which took me from my education at the Ohio State University to North Carolina, Missouri and Mississippi. While still in Ohio, I had the first opportunity to not only provide patient care but to serve as a clinical faculty member and participate in APTA activities at the district level. In North Carolina at Duke University, I was given my first exposure to specialty practice, an opportunity to teach physical therapy students in a class room setting and to undertake some administrative activities. The opportunity to become an Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education and full time faculty member occurred during my tenure at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Since moving to Mississippi, I have had the opportunity not only to provide patient care and teach but also to participate in scholarly/service pursuits that enabled me to be a part of professional activities nationally and internationally and last but not least to serve on governmental boards. All of the employment and volunteer experiences have offered me the opportunity to learn from and interact with many wonderful people from all over the world.

All of the rewards of being a physical therapist have been made possible by patients, clients, students, professional peers, fellow faculty members, staff members, mentors, friends, and family members without whom this journey would have not been possible. It is not possible to list all of the fantastic people who have provided opportunities and encouragement along the way. Likewise, it is not possible to quantify how all of these people individually and collectively have enriched and changed my life.

However, I must identify the Board and staff members during my tenure and must specifically

thank those individuals and groups who have been a part of my life as a Board member. First, I learned about serving on a professional licensure group after unexpectedly being appointed to the new Mississippi Occupational Therapy Council. Later my Physical Therapy Board service began with an appointment to the newly independent Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy Board by Governor Musgrove. Initial Board members were Quoinsetta Franklin, PT Susan Pearson, PT, Joe Tufts PTA, Edwin Searcy, MD and Michael Patterson DC, I and our attorney was Jackie Tatum, JD. It was continued with a reappointment for additional terms by Governor Barbour. During this time the individuals who served with me have been Marcia Kidder, PT, SuAnn Poole, PTA, Phil Rasberry, PT, Shannon Singletary, Rahul Vohra, MD and Kathy Henry and our attorney is Gloria Green, JD. These individuals have given many hours working to ensure that the public gets safe physical therapy services and that the physical therapy practitioners are able to utilize their skills to provide contemporary care for clients and patients.

Our Board is a member of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy and I have been privileged to serve as a delegate to their educational and business meetings. At these meetings, I learned more about the responsibilities of Board members and had the opportunity to make new friends while seeing again old friends.

Our Board would not be able to function without the wonderful staff members who have served over the years including investigators, Shirley Givens and Natalie Miller, licensing registration agent Lajuan Sims and last but most certainly not least Stephanie Boyette, a wonderful friend of physical therapy. A special thank you to Stephanie, a very dedicated and knowledgeable administrator, without her leadership our agency would not be as proactive and responsive to the public and our licensed practitioners. Since the beginning, when the Physical Therapy Board had no funds and Mrs. Boyette was lent to our Board by the State Board of Health she has managed magnificently the office responsibilities.

In closing, I have had the distinct privilege to be a physical therapist practitioner. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to try and give something back to the profession through service on the State Board of Physical Therapy. Thank you to all of those who have made this possible.

Neva F. Greenwald, PT

Important Reminders

- ❖ All licensees must take two-hours of board-approved programs in ethics/professional responsibility as part of their total CE requirement each licensure period.
- ❖ Address changes must be submitted on the change of address form located on the Board's website no later than thirty (30) days after such change is effective. The Board may assess a licensee a fee of \$25.00 for failure to notify the Board of address change.
- ❖ You should always verify that a course is approved on the Board's website if you plan to submit it for continuing education credit.
- ❖ Failing to report to the Board any unprofessional, incompetent or illegal acts that appear to be in violation of this law or any rules established by the Board is a violation for which a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant may be disciplined.
- ❖ Requests to change names must be accompanied by a certified legal document which attests the change (marriage license, etc.)
- ❖ The Board and its staff cannot answer questions about Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement requirements or codes. You will need to contact the Medicare/Medicaid office.

Did you know?

- ❖ There are 1657 physical therapists and 897 physical therapist assistants with active Mississippi licenses.
- ❖ The next scheduled Board meeting is June 21, 2012. This meeting is open to the public.
- ❖ Every physical therapy practitioner should download the current Regulations Governing Licensure for Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistants. Changes to the current regulations were implemented on April 1, 2012.
- ❖ There are a total of 47 physical therapist students graduating from the University Mississippi Medical Center in 2012.
- ❖ There are a total of 60 physical therapist assistant students graduating from Hinds Community College, Pearl River Community College, Meridian Community College and Itawamba Community College in 2012.
- ❖ The Board considers telehealth/telemedicine an appropriate mode of service delivery when it is provided in a manner consistent with the standards of practice, ethical principles, rules and regulations for Mississippi physical therapy practitioners.
- ❖ The Board issued or reinstated 210 licenses in 2011.
- ❖ Effective July 1, 2012, the Board will no longer accept continuing education courses that are approved by any other physical therapy licensure jurisdictions.
- ❖ Effective July 1, 2012, physical therapists and physical therapist assistants can take no more than 12 contact hours or 1.2 CEUs of required continuing education online.
- ❖ The Board office performs many licensing tasks everyday so if you submit a question by email or fax, it will be answered in priority and may take up to three (3) business days for a response.
- ❖ In order to stay apprised of Board regulations, it is your responsibility to review the Board website at least monthly for any updates.

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 has begun random inspections and audits to determine if licensees are in compliance with Board regulations related to display of license, physical therapy practitioner ID card and supervision.

Licensees must have on display a current licensee certificate at any facility that they provide services. The license ID card must be carried on the person of the licensee or be readily available to be presented if asked to do so.

One situation that the Board's inspectors have encountered frequently is that numerous licensees are under the impression that the ID card is the license. The license certificate that displays the current license expiration year seal is the license. Regulations require that the certificate with the current license expiration year seal affixed, or a copy thereof, be prominently displayed in a place that is accessible to the public at all sites at which a licensee practices.

During the fourth quarter of 2011, the following licensee was cited by the Board:

- Christy Paine Winton, PT:
Failure to have the license identification card on hand when requested.

If licensees cannot locate their current licensure certificate and/or licensure identification card, they may want to purchase the documents from the Board's 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 several sites seemed to be in full compliance with physical therapy laws and regulations. Keep up the good work.

Re-check of Random Audits previously done

James Garner, PT	In compliance
Bae Waller, PT	In compliance
Shelley Tuttle, PTA	In compliance
Wayne Jiminez, PT	In compliance
Kathryn Bonner, PT	In compliance
Michael Hedrick, PTA	In compliance
David Freeman, PT	In compliance
Tammy Davenport, PT	In compliance
Amanda Harrell, PTA	In compliance
Theresa Holman, PTA	In compliance
Saranya Williams, PTA	In compliance

Random Audits

During the fourth quarter of 2011, the following practitioners were inspected and audited. The Board is happy to announce their compliance.

Todd Smith, PT	In compliance
Chris Barrett, PTA	In compliance
Tonya McLendon, PT	In compliance
Tamelia Feazell, PT	In compliance
Charles Bankester, PT	In compliance
Paul Foster, PTA	In compliance
Mindy Granger, PTA	In compliance
Benjamin Pollard, PTA	In compliance
Taaka Williams, PT	In compliance
Avery Harps, PT	In compliance
Charles Benford, PT	In compliance
Kathy McColum, PT	In compliance
Jasmine Smith, PT	In compliance
Richard Rowe, PTA	In compliance
Jessica Martin, PT	In compliance
Natasha Hayford, PTA	In compliance
Autumn Stegall, PTA	In compliance
Gregory Trussell, PT	In compliance

Online Renewals

The Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy is in the process of implementing additional options for license renewals. Beginning in May, renewals may be performed online and payment can be made by either credit card or electronic check. Please note that if you use the online renewal process there will be a nominal additional fee; however, you will not be required to mail in your application or submit paper verification of CEUs unless you are audited and it will take less time. Please plan to have completed the process by mid- June.

If you do not wish to use the online renewal system, you may mail a renewal application with a check of \$150.00 for physical therapist and \$125.00 for physical therapist assistants made payable to MSBPT for the renewal fee. The renewal form may be printed from the Board website. The renewal applications can be accessed by clicking the License Renewals button on the left-hand column of the website and then by selecting the renewal form M-Z. Select the appropriate renewal application, print and mail to the office. If you cannot print a renewal application, you may request a renewal form in writing and we will mail one to you.

If you are audited it will be necessary to send to the Board the paper certificates documenting your continuing education. Those documents are due in the office by June 30 or if you begin the process after mid- May no later than June 18 to ensure keeping your current licensure status.

For those individuals who are currently on CE probation, you will need to submit a paper renewal along with copies of continuing education and fee.

To renew a license online, you will need to access the Board's website at www.msbpt.state.ms.us and choose the login button on the bottom left-hand side of the screen. Note it will be necessary to have on hand your social security number. You will then enter your email address and 123abc in the password field. You will be asked to create and confirm a unique password and to input your social security number. This password will be how you access your information for this renewal as well as future renewals so you should make a note of it. Full instructions for the online renewal process are provided on the website by selecting License Renewal then Renewal Instructions.

Your license status will be updated immediately following completion of the application.

Your renewal sticker and card will be mailed to you. Remember, verification of licensure status is available on line. Note your renewal change will be posted following completion of the renewal process.

All renewal applications for Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants must be processed by June 30, 2012 or a late fee and reinstatement fee will be assessed.

We appreciate your patience as we embark on this new adventure.

If you have any questions, or need assistance in the renewal process please call the Board office 601-939-1524.

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy: Free Continuing Education Service for Mississippi PTs and PTAs!

Do you know that an online system is now available for you to manage all aspects of your Continuing Education and Continuing Competence (CE/CC) licensure requirements? And that this system seamlessly connects you with hundreds of CE/CC providers and physical therapy regulatory boards for purposes of sharing information about CE/CC courses and activities?

The system is called **aPTitude**, and was built by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) for the purpose of advancing its continuing competence initiative and its mission of public protection. It is also intended to be a comprehensive CE/CC resource to help you maintain compliance with your licensure requirements.

aPTitude is a dynamic online system that:

- ❖ Provides a single place to maintain your licensure information, keep a record of your CC/CE courses and activities, and securely store documentation for those activities;
- ❖ Enables you to search for and find CC/CE offerings that meet your individual and specific needs;
- ❖ Streamlines your planning and tracking of CC/CE activities to see how close you are to meeting your renewal requirements for one or many states;
- ❖ Keeps you up-to-date with easy-to-understand information on all of your jurisdiction's CC/CE requirements, renewal dates and approved courses and activities;
- ❖ Sends you reminders for license renewal and upcoming CC/CE compliance deadlines; and
- ❖ Issues to you optional notifications on when new activities become available from your favorite CC/CE providers!

And best of all, aPTitude is completely FREE for you to use – regardless of where you are licensed and how many licenses you maintain!!

ENHANCEMENTS COMING IN EARLY 2012:

FSBPT will begin certifying CE/CC activities for purposes of recognition and acceptance across multiple physical therapy regulatory boards – completing your requirements for multiple states will soon be much easier.

PTs and PTAs can rate and post comments and feedback on CE/CC courses and activities for other aPTitude users to review and to assist in making informed choices.

Go to <http://www.fsbpt.org/aPTitude>, complete your registration if you have not already done so, and get started today! Already registered? Don't forget to visit aPTitude frequently to search for courses and activities, store your documents, record your completed courses and activities, and to take advantage of its many current and future features. For more information, contact the FSBPT Continuing Competence Department at 703.299.3100, option 5, or aPTitude@fsbpt.org.

Frequently Asked Questions:

New Supervision per Part 3103 Rule 8.2

Q Is a physical therapist and physical therapist assistant face to face/joint visit required throughout the treatment period?

A There is no requirement for a face to face/joint visit, only a case conference with the physical therapist assistant is required. However, even though a face to face visit is not required by the regulations, it may be required for the care of the patient if in the opinion of the physical therapist the physical therapist assistant needs a face to face visit to safely implement the physical therapist plan of care. It is the responsibility of the physical therapist to make that decision based upon professional expertise, knowledge of the physical therapist assistants skills/knowledge/experience, the previous working relationship of the physical therapy practitioners and any agency policies.

New Licensees

The Board is pleased to welcome 48 new licensees to the physical therapy community in Mississippi. These licenses have been issued since the Fall 2011 newsletter. Welcome to the physical therapy practitioner community in Mississippi!!

Physical Therapists

Asbridge, Laura J.
Beuning, Brett A.
Brashier, Rebecca L.
Busby, Tracey L.
Callais, Brandon D.
Carson, Latoya R.
Cowan, Taja R.
Edwards, Benjamin C.
Fuentes, Jennifer L.
Helton, Gary L.
Jaudon, Laura G.
Johnson, Kerry D.
Jordan, Max K.
Melnick, Samuel J.
Phelps, Sara E.
Roberts, Barbara F.

Rosengren, Melissa A.
Sanders, Teresa M.
Scott, Ambrosia D.
Stacy, Joseane E.
Stoner, Mandi L.
Tucker, Amy A.
Tucker, Drew A.
Turner, Christopher B.
Ujek-Nardo, Tiffany C.
Waycaster, Diana S.
Zink, Theresa A.

Physical Therapist Assistants

Baker, Dawn A.
Barnett, Deborah L.
Biggs, Debra L.
Boyer, Jill L.

Dixon, Camilya Y.
Harris, Ava D.
Herron, Amanda M.
Hinton, Katarra T.
Jones, Jana L.
Lofton, Kimberly J.
May, Justin W.
Morrissette, Angelek
Nails, Mary B.
Oshinsky, Ryan Z.
Parker, Jessica N.
Rains, William L.
Robinson, Joshua R.
Roy, Sarah C.
Smith, Rhonda P.
Stanley, Patricia A.
Williams, Amanda B.

Complaints & Disciplinary Actions in 2011

Complaints received:

Physical Therapists – 7
Physical Therapist Assistants – 6

Disposition of complaints:

8 closed – no action/violation
1 closed – no jurisdiction
1 consent order
3 pending

Referral From Out of State Practitioners:

Physical Therapists may accept referrals from licensed out of state physicians and in state physicians that are in good standing with the Medical Board in their state of practice. It is the physical therapist's responsibility to verify that the physician has a valid license in good standing. You can verify a physician by going to their state medical licensure board.

A T T E N T I O N !

Look what's available on our website at www.msbt.state.ms.us.

Please visit the website frequently for updated information.

You can find:

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

Change of Home Address, Worksite or Name

It is the responsibility of licensees to provide the Board with written notification of address changes (home or work) no later than 30 days after such change is effective according to Section 3-8. 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 # _____

OLD NAME _____

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

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

()
PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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) 939-5246.

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of Physical Therapy
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