

# MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



## Newsletter

Issue 2

Volume 1

Spring 2008

### Board Members:

Neva F. Greenwald, PT, Chair  
Marcia Kidder, PT, Secretary  
Quoinsetta Franklin, PT, Treasurer  
Susan Pearson, PT, Member  
PTA Member - Vacant  
Consumer Member - Vacant  
Rahul Vohra, MD, Physician  
Member

### Board Staff:

Stephanie Boyette,  
Board Administrator  
Shirley Givens,  
Licensing Investigator  
Lajuan Sims,  
License Registration Agent

### Board Counsel:

Gloria Green, JD, Special  
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## A Word from the Board Administrator

The renewal process for the 2007 to 2009 licensure renewal period went well. The staff worked extremely hard to ensure that all licensees received their updated renewal identification card and seal in a timely manner. A big thank you to a majority of you who made sure the renewal form was completed in its entirety, followed directions, made sure all CEUS were taken from the approved provider list and for submitting the renewal forms and documents before the deadline. Following these simple instructions made the renewal process a more productive experience for everyone. Continue the great work!!!

To the few individuals who usually submit a renewal application at the last minute, the Board urges that you submit the 2008 to 2010 renewal applications no later than the June 15 of the renewal period to ensure that your application will be processed by the June 30 expiration date. Renewal applications are mailed out 60 days prior to expiration of your license. **DON'T WAIT UNTIL LATE JUNE TO RENEW YOUR LICENSE!** Remember your license expires June 30, and you cannot provide patient care services as a practitioner until your license has been renewed.

The Board takes its role of public protection very seriously. Know your law and regulations. Abide by them and keep yourself from getting a probationary license.

*Stephanie Boyette*

## A Word from the Board Chair

### International Network of Physical Therapy Regulators - INPTRA

In May, I had the rare privilege of participating in the International Network of Physical Therapy Regulatory Authorities (INPTRA) one day meeting followed by the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) Vancouver, Canada.

Like many others attending the meetings, I had a travel delay due to weather and spent one night in route at the Houston airport due to

inclement weather. I was lucky to obtain a stand-by seat and arrived in time to participate in all meetings. Others were not so lucky and with all of the new security regulations many individuals from other countries could not get the appropriate travel documents. One therapist from Afghanistan could not get documents and did not arrive until the post conference course held by the International Society of Educators in Physiotherapy. He had assistance from many physical therapy colleagues and friends with some of these individuals actually hand carrying needed documents for him to the Pakistan and Afghanistan border. Such dedication and commitment is not often encountered.

The International Network of Physical Therapy Regulators met for one day to discuss some regulatory issues related to advanced scope of practice, to understand the role of regulators in various countries, look at frameworks for continuing competence and to facilitate international cooperation and collaboration on issues of mutual interest. At this second official meeting the group adopted a discussion paper on the organizational purpose and establishing a continuance of the network with a steering committee for management.

At WCPT the topics related to licensure regulation included:

1. Qualifying Education: what are the right entry-level qualifications for physical therapy?
2. Aspects of Continuing competence.
3. Ethics and consumer involvement.
4. Standards and Specialization – How international/national practice standards are being developed.
5. Professional Regulation Issues.
6. The shortage of health professionals vs. the over supply and how these influence health care.
7. Roles of various organizations in the national and international arenas.
8. The impact of the world situation on standards for practice and mobility of practitioners.
9. Rapid organizational change and changing consumer expectations.

*Neva F. Greenwald, PT*

# Important Licensure Renewal Reminders

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

**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 notices, approximately sixty (60) days prior to the end of the licensure period. This means the renewal application will be mailed around May 1, 2008 to the last home address on file with the Board. Please notify the Board immediately by fax, email or mail if you have recently moved, changed employment or forgot to notify the Board of this change. Refer to Section 3.8 of the regulations.

**Completion of renewal application:** Please complete the renewal application in its entirety. 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 CEU's completed on the back on the application. The entire address should be included on the form (name, address, city, state, zip and telephone number). The information requested is pertinent for your licensure file. Forms that are missing **ONE** piece of information will be returned as incomplete and may result in a lapsed license if the form is not completed in its entirety prior to the expiration date.

**Renewal Fee:** The renewal fee is \$150.00 for physical therapist and \$125.00 for physical therapist assistants. Check or money order should be made payable to Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy (MSBPT).

**Continuing Education:** Appropriate documentation of CE credits should be listed on the back of the renewal application and copies of course completion should be submitted with the renewal form. Please refer to Section 7-2 (4) of the regulations for information on licensees who have not yet received proof of course completion (90-proof).

**Change of name:** If you are requesting a change of name, a copy of a legal documentation must accompany the name change request. Legal documents consist of a copy of your marriage license, divorce decree, social security card or driver's license.

**Be on Time:** It is in your best interest to submit the renewal application prior to June 30, 2008 to avoid late and reinstatement fees. Renewal applications completed in their entirety and not returned by the Board for completion should have their new identification card and licensure seal before the end of licensure period. The Board staff cannot guarantee applications received the after June 13, 2008 will be processed in time for licensees to receive confirmation of renewal in the mail prior to June 30, 2008. **Remember... employers should not let you work until your new renewal licensure information has been received.**

**Verify receipt of renewal:** It is strongly recommended by the Board staff that you send the renewal application by certified or priority mail which requires return receipt.

**Failure to renew before the deadline:** A licensee who does not file, with the Board, all requirements for renewal before the end of the licensure period will be deemed to have allowed his/her license to lapse. Then individuals will be required to pay the late fee in addition to the renewal fee. Failure to submit all renewal requirements postmarked on or before 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 Section 6-3 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.

## Did you know?

- ◆ The PTA can write progress notes in a patient's chart, but only the PT can write the evaluation and discharge.
- ◆ There are 1410 physical therapists and 660 physical therapist assistant active licenses.
- ◆ CPR education and certification are unacceptable sources of continuing education.
- ◆ Teal is the national color chosen to represent the practice of physical therapy.
- ◆ October is national physical therapy month.
- ◆ Academic course work taken by a physical therapist/physical therapist assistant for credit toward an advanced degree in physical therapy may be counted as meeting the full continuing education requirements.
- ◆ On the 6th treatment day or 14th calendar day the PTA does not need to be present during the supervisory visit unless the PT or PTA so desires.
- ◆ There is no limit to the amount of CEU hours that may be obtained through home study/online courses as long as the course has been approved by the Board at [www.msbt.state.ms.us](http://www.msbt.state.ms.us) or listed in section 7-4 of the regulations.
- ◆ Renewal applications filed or postmarked after June 30 are subject to a late fee of \$150.00.
- ◆ A licensee who is a member of the reserves and called to active military service must submit renewal fees within 90 days after active services has ended if their license expired within the months of active service.
- ◆ Presentations made before physical therapists, medical practitioners, or other health related professionals and directly related to the practice of physical therapy may be used to satisfy some of your continuing education requirements if applied for prior to the presentation.
- ◆ There are programs strictly for health care professionals to help with addiction and mental health issues. They offer counseling, residency programs, aftercare, licensing board advocacy and job re-entry advice, among others. One such program is the Mississippi Professionals Health Program. Their telephone number is (601) 420-0240.
- ◆ Effective July 2008, all licensees must take two-hours of board-approved programs in ethics/professional responsibility as part of their total CE requirements.
- ◆ Board appointments for physical therapists members are submitted by the Mississippi Physical Therapy Association to the Governor's office.
- ◆ Employers should not let licensees work until their license renewal information has been received.
- ◆ 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 Complaint Process

Have you ever wondered what happens when a complaint is filed? When a written complaint is received by the Board's office, the Licensing Investigator and Board Administrator review it to determine whether it is within the Board's jurisdiction. The Licensing Investigator then begins an investigation. The licensee or subject of the complaint is notified by certified mail that a complaint has been filed against his/her license, and that an investigation has been initiated.

The Licensing Investigator interviews the complainant, the defendant and any witnesses, as determined. The investigator collects and maintains evidence and records. When the investigation is complete, a written report inclusive of all interviews and all evidence is sent to the Special Assistant Attorney General who is the Board's legal counsel. The Board is advised at its next regular meeting that a complaint has been received and, there is enough information to proceed. Then the Board sets a date for the hearing. The defendant must be notified of the hearing date at least thirty days prior to hearing. The Board does not learn the name of the defendant or any particulars of the case until the actual hearing. The Board sets in judgment with no pre-conceived knowledge of the case.

The defendant has the right to legal representation by an attorney, the right to present witnesses in his/her defense at hearing and the right to cross-examine the state's witnesses. After the Board's attorney and the defendant present their cases, the Board retires to deliberate and return a decision.

If the Board decides the case has merit and enough evidence has been presented to warrant disciplinary action, a Board Order is drawn, and the defendant is notified of its results. The Board may impose any of the following sanctions, singly or in combination if it finds the defendant guilty of the offense(s) as charged: revoke the license, suspend the license for any period of time, censure the license, impose a monetary penalty, place the license on probationary status and impose restrictions and conditions during the probationary period, refuse to renew a license or revoke probation that was granted under another Board Order or Consent Order.

A defendant may choose to waive his/her right to a hearing and sign a Consent Order. In this instance, the case is presented to the Board by the Board Attorney and the investigator, and the Board determines whether it will grant a Consent Order and the contents of the Consent Order. The Consent Order is sent to the defendant, and if he/she accepts the findings of the Board, he/she signs the order and it is final upon signature of the Board Chair. If the defendant disagrees with the findings of the Board, he/she may reject the Consent Order and opt for a formal hearing.

If any criminal activities are uncovered during the course of the investigation, it is incumbent upon the investigator and the Assistant Attorney General to refer the findings to the proper local, state or federal authorities for possible criminal prosecution.

## State Legislative Issues

Two bills with specific implications for licensees were introduced for the 2008 session and would be enacted as of July 1, 2008. First HB152 which extends the "Sunset" or repealer provision of the statute associated with direct access and includes physician assistants as a referral source. The present direct access provision is extended to July 2011. This bill was introduced by Representative Warren and submitted by the Mississippi Physical Therapy Association.

HB 847 is a consumer protection bill that makes only changes in technical aspects of the statute and does not have any provisions to change the scope of practice. Among the statute provisions clarified: identifies who may provide services; defines board terms, composition and appointments; simplifies the fee structure; provides guidelines for temporary licenses; recognizes and establishes guidelines for ethical practice; formalizes criteria for reporting disciplinary action to data bases, and makes other administrative changes. This bill was introduced by Representative Holland and submitted by the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy.

HB 847 passed both the House and Senate and now awaits the Governor's signature.

## Attention!

Look what's available on our website at [www.msbpt.state.ms.us](http://www.msbpt.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

## Non-Renewed Licensees for persons whose surnames begin with A-L

The following licensees did not renew their licenses and can not practice physical therapy in the State of Mississippi as of July 1, 2007. Some licensees may have had their licenses reinstated since the printing of this newsletter. Check the license verification at [www.msbpt.state.ms.us](http://www.msbpt.state.ms.us) for any updates.

### • Physical Therapists:

Micah H. Adams  
Patricia H. Adams  
Stewart P. Atkins  
Hector J. Barrios  
Kim B. Baughman  
Martha A. Baxter  
Matthew V. Beddes  
Jennifer S. Bercier  
Heidi R. Bernard  
Carol K. Best  
Julie W. Bishop  
Robert E. Bowton  
Richard A. Brasseaux  
Adam R. Brewer  
Jodi N. Bridges  
Theresa R. Brown  
Melinda P. Bruscato  
Laura J. Caldwell

Adrian P. Call, Jr.  
Dirk A. Carson  
Amanda T. Chandler  
Patricia Clendenin-McPeck  
Tracey L. Coale  
Heidi Y. Cohan  
Marissa C. Cole  
Angela R. Conley  
Matthew C. Connell  
Katherine D. Cranston  
Sarah E. Croke  
Tony K. Cumberland  
Kevin F. Drury  
Julie E. Echipare  
Joseph K. Edwards  
Pinkie D. Edwards  
Tenesha H. Edwards  
Gabriel T. Enescu

Judy L. Evans  
David M. Fairbourn  
Jeanette D. Filipi  
Jonathan G. Flores  
Allison V. Froelich  
Craig G. Futch  
Damon A. Garcia  
Marjorie J. Gaudet  
Lorian J. Gilbert-Fontana  
Paula L. Gould  
Gary A. Grant  
Sara-Kathryn E. Green  
Angella F. Greer  
Jason B. Hardage  
Sondra D. Harrell  
Cathy E. Henderson  
John M. Higginbotham  
Christopher E. Hill

Stacy L. Hite  
Phares B. Horman  
Wanda Hull  
Angela M. Hurring  
Calista R. Kelly  
Elizabeth S. Kevil  
Anita M. Killins  
Angelique N. Kim  
G. Kyle Klems  
Wendy M. Klems  
John R. Krieg  
Kimberly A. Kritzer  
Nestor A. Laysa  
Amy V. Lindsey  
Michelle K. Lindsey  
Beau B. Lowery  
Bridget A. Lowes  
Therese B. Paige

### • Physical Therapists: Assistants:

Kathryn H. Abbott  
Kasandra D. Albritton  
Cynthia F. Amos  
Gary K. Avery  
Kristie K. Beddes  
Christina S. Bell  
Sharon Bivens Wimbley  
Tresalyn R. Blackmon  
Anthony W. Bosarge

Mary L. Bounds  
Robert J. Burns  
Nancy Churchill  
Therese M. Clarke  
Cary A. Cochran  
Carlette L. Craft  
Timothy M. Crenshaw  
Odella Cribbs  
Richard D. Dubose

Melissa S. Dunnam  
Barbara K. Easter  
Steven T. Elliott  
Terry J. Evans  
Chelsea E. Fauquier  
Rosalie Foster  
Billie J. Free  
Laura C. Freeman  
Lauren K. Futch

Amy M. Goodin  
James J. Gray  
William C. Hall  
Jessica L. Hartzell  
Beverly Amber Herring  
Kimberly C. Hollie  
William H. Holmes  
Wendy B. Mayo

## 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.

# Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Meeting

The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) held its 2007 Annual Meeting and Delegate Assembly in Memphis, TN on September 6 – 10, 2007. The historic Peabody Hotel was the meeting site. Neva Greenwald, PT attended as the Mississippi board representative, and Quoinetta Franklin, PT attended as the alternate representative for the Federation Delegate Assembly. The Mississippi board previously had encouraged all interested members, the board attorney and office staff to attend this meeting. Board Attorney Gloria Green, Board Administrator Stephanie Boyette and Licensing Investigator Shirley Givens were able to attend the educational sessions.

The theme for the Memphis conference was “Whole lotta regulation goin’ on!” Emphasis in classes and assembly was placed on licensure applications, applicant licensure

information – confidentiality and disclosure, exam breaches, disciplinary case studies, ethics, continuing competence and referral for financial gain. The speakers were knowledgeable, and the classes were informative. Discussions are already being held pertaining to possible implementation at state level for some of the suggestions and ideas on best practices shared at the national conference.

The delegate assembly voted on several organizational matters and updated some policy statements. There were two agenda items that will have implications for clinical practice – practitioner competency and referral for profit.

In 1996, the Federation began exploring the area of continuing competence. Subsequently it amended the organizational vision statement to reflect a position supporting this concept as a way to provide public protection. This was followed by position

statement supporting regulatory boards to develop continuing competence for license renewal. At the 2007 delegate assembly, the Board of Directors was charged to develop a comprehensive continuing competency program which would include: an organizational structure, competence tools, a framework for integrating tools and a certification program. Presently tools including continuing education requirements, portfolio self assessment, and a required number of clinical practice hours are used by some jurisdictions.

The delegate assembly reaffirmed the directive for funding research to investigate professional and business ownership issues. This would include such actions as the analysis of the effects that ownership of services and referral for financial gain have on the utilization of physical therapy services and public protection. As of this date a firm has been granted a contract to do the research.

## Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy Tell Us How We Are Doing

### CUSTOMER SERVICE SATISFACTION SURVEY

Please rate how satisfied you were with the service you received.

(1=Very Dissatisfied,  
2=Somewhat Dissatisfied,  
3=Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied,  
4=Somewhat Satisfied,  
5=Very Satisfied)

- |  | 1                        | 2                        | 3                        | 4                        | 5                        |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. You were able to make telephone contact with the appropriate staff during business hours with minimal delays.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The staff was courteous and helpful when you contacted the office by telephone.                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Any telephone messages left for staff were responded to within 24 hours.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Your E-mails were responded to within 48 hours.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. You received answers by telephone or e-mail to your questions and/or the specific information you were seeking. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. In accessing the Web site, you found it easy to navigate.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. The information and forms located on the Web site were helpful and easily obtained.                             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. You found the newsletter to be informative and helpful.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Rate your overall satisfaction with the service you received.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Helpful Suggestions:

## Cease and Desist Order

The following is a violation of section 73-23-35 of the Mississippi Code: “It shall be unlawful for any person, corporation or association to, in any manner, represent himself or itself as a physical therapist, a physical therapist assistant or someone who provides physical therapy services, or use in connection with his or its name the words or letters physiotherapist, registered physical therapist, RPT, licensed physical therapist assistant, LPTA, or any other letters, words, abbreviations or insignia, indicating or implying that he or it is a physical therapist, a physical therapist assistant or provides physical therapy services, without a valid existing license as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, as the case may be, issued to him or it pursuant to this chapter. **It shall be unlawful to employ an unlicensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant to provide physical therapy services.**”

Example: Jane or John Doe: Non- licensee, employed at The Rehab Source, Anytown Mississippi, representing self as a practicing physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

The employer would be subject to the cease and desist order. The supervising therapist would be subject to disciplinary action.

Disciplinary actions against licensees can be viewed on the Board’s website. The action is posted as soon as the final order is signed. The list is inclusive of the last five years; however, a complete list of all disciplinary actions can be obtained by written request and payment of nominal processing fees. Disciplinary actions are public record and, by law, must be published. In addition, they are reported to the National Practitioners Data Bank.

## Therapist Corner

In future newsletters we will include a section called Therapist Corner. We invite physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who may have ideas or input they wish to share with fellow therapists about their particular area of expertise to send us articles. Please submit your article by September 10, 2008 for inclusion in the Fall 2008 newsletter. Please keep your comments short and to the point and try not to utilize more than half of an 8 X 11 sheet of paper.

Due to space constraints we may not be able to include all articles sent to the Board. Please do not be offended if your article is not published. It may be included in future newsletters if possible.

## Member Resignation

Michael Patterson, DC of Cleveland resigned with great sadness from the Board effective October 1, 2007. He was one of the original Board members appointed by the former Governor Musgrove to serve as the consumer member. Dr. Patterson's term began April 22, 2003 and expired June 30, 2006. He continued to serve as a Board member even though his term had expired until other obligations interfered with his ability to serve on the Board. Dr. Patterson has been an outstanding Board member and will truly be missed. The Board would like to thank Dr. Patterson for all his contributions and commitment during his service to the Board.

## New Board Appointment

Governor Haley Barbour has appointed Rahul Vohra, MD of Flowood to the Board of Physical Therapy as the physician member for a four-year term. His specialty is physical medicine, and his practice is at Southern Physical

Medicine & Rehabilitation Associates in Flowood. The Board and staff welcome Dr. Vohra. His contributions, background and expertise are valuable in Board deliberations.

## Officer Elections

At the September 25, 2007 board meeting, the Board re-elected Neva F. Greenwald, PT as chairperson, Quoinetta Franklin, PT was re-elected as treasurer and Marcia Kidder, PT was elected secretary. We look forward to their leadership.

## Staff Member News

Joyce "Lajuan" Sims was hired August 20, 2007 as the License Registration Agent. Lajuan's responsibilities will include reception, licensure and renewals, and general office duties. She lives in Brandon and is a life long resident of Rankin County. The Board and staff welcome Lajuan to the Physical Therapy Board family.

**Mississippi State Board  
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