



Communiqué

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Contents	
Board Appointments	1
Changes to Committees	1
Board Elections/Appointments	2
PT Rule Update.....	2
Disciplinary Action	3
Who's in Charge?	4
Q&A.....	5

🚩 New Board Members Appointed; Aikman and Fisher Depart

In April, Governor Rick Perry appointed two new members to the Board. Joseph James Spano, PT (Wharton) replaces Cynthia Fisher, PT (El Paso). Joe Spano is Director of Comprehensive Therapy Services at Gulf Coast Medical Center, and holds a physical therapy degree from UTMB in Galveston. Joe was one of the first PTs licensed in Texas, already in practice in Texas when the Board was created in 1972. The Governor also appointed Patrice Dyson Jones of Grand Prairie to replace Harvey Aikman of Mission. Patrice, who graduated from Texas Women's University, has recently moved into the field of home health. The Board and staff welcome the new appointees and look forward to working with them.

Leaving the Board after more than seven years of service are Harvey Aikman and Cynthia Fisher. Both Harvey and Cynthia served terms as Board Chair during those years, and were actively involved with the Board's relationship with the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. Board and staff will miss the energy and focus they both brought to their work with the Board, and wish them well in future endeavors.

🚩 Board Makes Changes to Committees

At the July meeting, the Board abolished one committee and established another. The tasks of the Applications Review Committee, created originally to handle unusual license application issues, have been absorbed into other committees. Most of its work will now be done by the *Education Committee* (for any issues involving applicant education), with non-education issues going to the *Rules and Practice Committee*. The *Vision Committee* was created to lead the Board in its relationships with national entities (such as the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy), to monitor national practice and administrative issues, and to assist the agency's Executive Director with such efforts as the agency's Strategic Plan and Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR). (In addition to these changes, the Board changed the name of the Rules Committee to the Rules and Practice Committee, and also decided to appoint one public member to each committee whenever feasible.) The *Investigation Committee* continues unchanged.

Board Elections and Committee Appointments

At the July 14th meeting, the Board elected Karen Gordon, PT (Port O'Connor) as Chair, re-elected Sylvia Dávila, PT (San Antonio) as Vice-Chair, and *Dora Ochoa-Rutledge*, public member (San Antonio) as Secretary. Ms. Gordon has appointed the following committees:

Executive Council representatives

Sylvia Dávila, PT
Dora Ochoa-Rutledge, Public Member

Rules & Practice

Sylvia Dávila, PT - Chair
Joe Spano, PT
Mano Mahadeva, CPA - Public Member

Education

Mary Thompson, PT, PhD - Chair
Dora Ochoa-Rutledge, Public Member
Patrice Jones, PT

Investigation

Mano Mahadeva, CPA, Public Member - Chair
Mike Hines, PT
Karen Gordon, PT

Vision

Karen Gordon, PT- Chair
Mary Thompson, PT, PhD
Patrice Jones, PT
George Scott, Public Member

PT RULE UPDATE

2004 PT Rules available online

The most recent full edition of the Board's rules is the **January 2004** issue at www.ecptote.state.tx.us. This issue includes all adopted rules and amendments through January 2004.

Since that date, the Board has adopted changes to the following rules:

§322.2. Role Delineation

§329.6. Licensure by Endorsement

§329.1. General Licensure Requirements and Procedures

Chapter 347. Registration of PT Facilities – *a summary of the changes to this chapter can be found in the April 2004 newsletter.*

§329.5, Licensing Procedures for Foreign-trained Applicants

§346.3, Early Childhood (ECI) Setting

- *The text of these amendments can be found at www.ecptote.state.tx.us/pt/rules.*



Disciplinary Action Taken By the Board on July 14, 2004

PT BOARD FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN ON JULY 14, 2004:

(1) **Helen Loera, PT #1062271 (Virginia)** – failed to properly renew her license. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service and CE.**

(2) **Marialice Doherty, PTA #2006037 (Baytown)** – failed to properly renew her license. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service and CE.**

(3) **Judy Mixon, PT #1016335 (Houston)** – failed to properly renew her license. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service and CE.**

(4) **Patricia Dietrich, PTA #2044790 (Haslet)** – failed to properly renew her license. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service and CE.**

(5) **DeAnna Gray, PT #1138311 (Irving)** – practiced in an unregistered facility. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended her license for thirty (30) days.**

(6) **Victor Flores, PT #1149560 (Harlingen)** – practiced in an unregistered facility. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended his license for thirty (30) days.**

(7) **Todd Adkins, PT #1085538 (Carrollton)** – practiced in an unregistered facility. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service or two (2) one-hour presentations to schools or professional associations.**

(8) **Valerie Montminy, PT #1120830 (Austin)** – practiced in an unregistered facility. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**

(9) **Melanie McNeal, PT #1127132 (Houston)** - practiced in an unregistered facility. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**

(10) **Laura Thomas, PT #1056034 (Sugarland)** - practiced in an unregistered facility. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board rules. **Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.**

(11) **Julie Cooper, PT #1132199 (Higgins)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of §435.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**

(12) **Alex Ramirez, PT #1055861 (Austin)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of §435.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**

(13) **Mark Welch, PT #1104636 (San Antonio)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**

(14) **Candy Clark, PT #1040368 (Giddings)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of §435.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.**

(15) **Amy Freeman, PTA #2032860 (Wharton)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.**

(16) **Brett Tice, PT #1115756 (Harlingen)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended his license for fifteen (15) days.**

(17) **Nancy Doyle, PT #1047215 (San Antonio)** – inaccurately recorded treatment notes – documenting notes for patient treatments she did not render and signed other therapists’ names to documents without their knowledge or consent. Violation of §453.351 of

the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board rules. **Board Order suspended her license for ninety (90) days.**

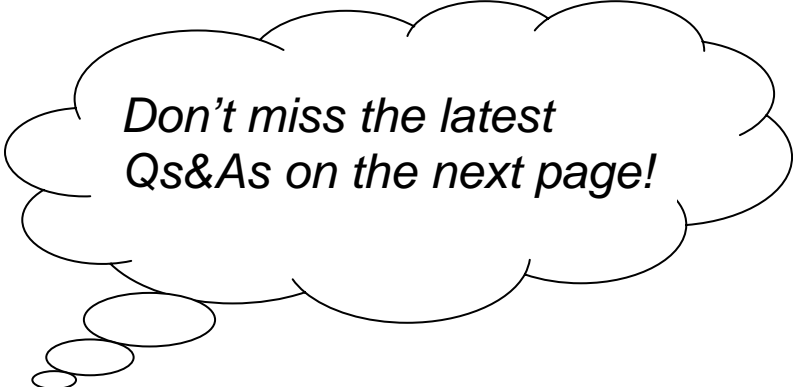
(18) **Kyle Griffin, PTA #2038800 (Midland)** - failed to cooperate with the board during audit of his CE taken to renew his license. Violation of §453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended his license indefinitely – until he provides proof and it is verified that he completed the required CE to renew.**

▮ WHO’S IN CHARGE?

Are you a contract or traveling PT? Does your employer send you to different facilities to provide physical therapy services for limited periods of time? If you are working in a registered facility*, there must be a “PT in Charge” of that facility – regardless of who actually employs the PT. The PT in Charge does not have to be present physically at the facility while you are providing services, but there must be a licensed PT on record with the Board** as having “authority and responsibility for the facility’s compliance with the Act and rules”. Make sure your employer is aware of this, and works with you to determine who will act as the PT in Charge of the facilities you work in. If it is not you, who is it?

*Don’t know if your facility is registered? Go to www.ecptote.state.tx.us/facility/forms to verify that your facility is registered. Don’t know which facilities need to register? You can find that information on the same page!

**Go to www.ecptote.state.tx.us/facility/forms to download a copy of the Therapist in Charge Affidavit. To be on record with the Board as the Therapist in Charge, the PT must complete the form and have it notarized. All forms that require affidavits must be mailed to the Board, and cannot be faxed or emailed. The Board’s address is on the first page of this newsletter.



*Don't miss the latest
Qs&As on the next page!*

Q & A

Q & A

Q & A

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Q: Do I have to take 2 hours of ethics/professional responsibility EVERY time I renew? Can I take an approved course more than once?

A: YES and YES. The Board's rule says that you must take an approved course on ethics/professional responsibility every two years. You can take any ethics course more than once, but you must take 2 hours of ethics during each renewal cycle. If you are audited for CE compliance, the Board will look at the date the course was taken, as well as the approval number. The course must be taken during the 2 year renewal period, or it will not satisfy the renewal requirements.

Q: I work in more than one facility. Can I display a duplicate of my license in each facility?

A: NO. The PT rules (§337.1) forbid hanging a second license or copy of a license, so you can't display a duplicate or a photocopy. Whether you work in two places or 20, here are the requirements: Hang your license (and the renewal certificate if you have one) in the facility where you work most often. Make photocopies of your license to keep on file in the other facilities. Carry your wallet-sized license or renewal certificate with you to provide identification if asked.

Q: Can a PTA do sharp debridement?

A: The Texas PT rules do not prohibit a PTA from doing sharp debridement. It is up to the supervising PT to make sure that a PTA has the competencies required to perform any treatment or modality, including sharp debridement. Remember, if you are the PT, the Board will hold you responsible for what your Plan of Care tells that PTA to do. If you are the PTA and you do not feel that you have been adequately trained to carry out a procedure, do not agree to perform it!

**All previous Q&As can be found at
<http://www.ecptote.state.tx.us/pt/questions.html>.**

Check them out!