

**NC Board of PT Examiners Report at the NCPTA Business Meeting
Radisson Hotel, High Point, NC**

October 11, 2008

By Ben F. Massey, Jr., PT, MA, Executive Director

1. **Purpose of the Board:** Reminder of the purpose of the Board is to regulate the practice of physical therapy in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of North Carolina. The next meeting of NC Board of PT Examiners is scheduled for Wednesday, December 04, 2008.

2. **Appointments to the Board:**

The 2009 Ballots for appointment of two (2) physical therapists and one (1) physical therapist assistant were mailed in early August with a return deadline of September 12, 2008. The ballots were counted at the NCPTA Headquarters on September 18, 2008 and the candidates for appointment were forwarded to the Governor on September 24, 2008.

3. **Continuing Competence:** In response to the passage of the continuing competence legislation by the North Carolina General Assembly in July, 2006, the Board has developed proposed rules which were posted on the Board's web page in mid July, 2008 and also published in the **NC Register** on August 1, 2008 (Vol. 23, Issue 03). A Public Hearing was conducted on August 28, 2008 at the Siena Hotel in Chapel Hill, NC and written comments have been accepted from August 15, 2008 – October 1, 2008. The Board incorporated suggestions it received into the version that was adopted on August 28, 2008. The proposed rules, as adopted by the Board, will be submitted to the Rules Review Commission (RRC) for consideration at its next meeting, which is scheduled for November 20, 2008. If the RRC approves the Rules, the effective date for implementation will be January 1, 2009. In addition to the program on the new continuing competence regulations that was presented at the NCPTA Chapter Meeting on October 10, 2008, there will be six (6) other programs presented across the State to discuss and explain the new requirements. Information regarding the programs can be located at the Board's web page (www.ncptboard.org).

Stu MacRoberts, PT, Board Member was appointed to serve on the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy's Continuing Competence Committee.

4. **Chemical Dependency Program:** In 2007, The Board entered into an Agreement with the North Carolina Board of Nursing (BON) for the BON to provide services on a contractual basis for a chemical dependency program for physical therapy licensees as an alternative to disciplinary action. The PT Board has consulted with the Board of Nursing regarding three (3) licensees. One (1) licensee has entered in the voluntary Alternative Program to Disciplinary Action.

5. **Jurisprudence Exercise One & Two:** To ensure that new licensees are familiar with the **North Carolina Physical Therapy Practice Act**, Board's rules, and position statements, all applicants who apply for licensure after January 1, 2007 will be required to complete an online jurisprudence exercise (Jurisprudence Exercise One). Current licensees may also complete the jurisprudence exercise and will receive a certificate for 1 contact hour. In 2009, Jurisprudence Exercise Two will be available for licensees to complete and learn more about the new continuing competence requirements. One (1) contact hour will be awarded for successfully completing Jurisprudence Exercise Two.

6. **Update regarding Investigations and Disciplinary Actions:**

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS FILED IN 2008 – YTD (Oct. 10, 2008)

YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS

Total Cases Reported and Investigated:	44
Total advertising complaints:	06
Total “other” complaints:	20
Total failure to renew	15

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS THAT WERE RESOLVED THROUGH SEPT 2008

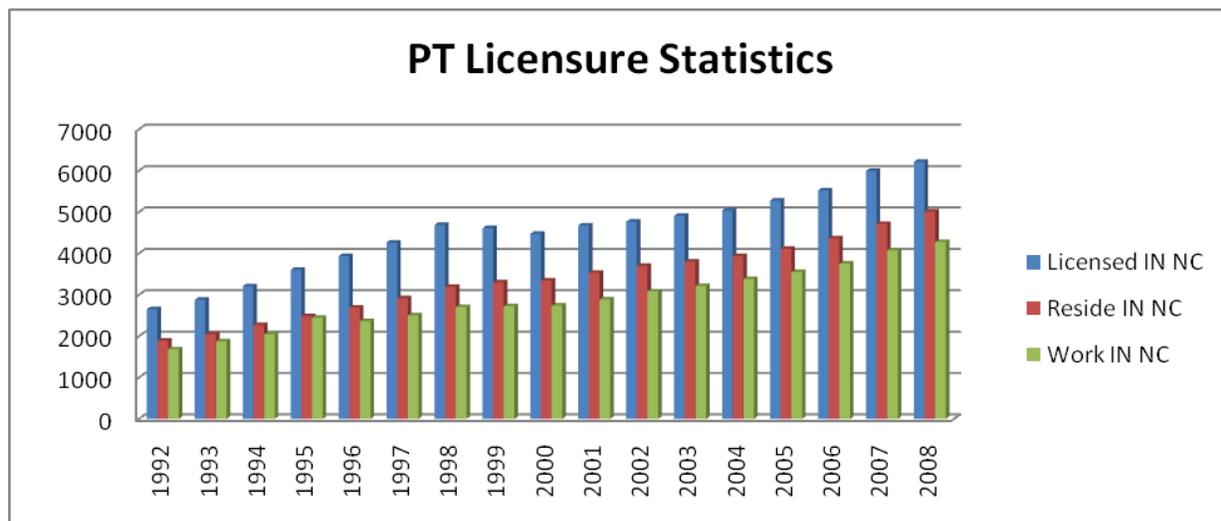
Total Cases Dismissed:	06
Total Suspensions Issued:	04
Total Probations Issued:	01
Total Warnings Issued:	04
Total Surrender of Licenses:	01
Total Reprimands Issued:	00
Total Renewals Denied	00
Total Letters of Caution written:	15 (including 14 letters for failure to renew by deadline)
Total Letters sent regarding advertising:	06
Other:	01
Cases still pending:	04

7. **Board Newsletter:** There will be a Special Edition of the Newsletter that will be mailed in December or January that will address the new regulations related to Continuing Competence. Please read your Newsletter, discuss it at staff meetings, and file it for future reference.
8. **Changes of Address:** As there is a rule that requires notification of the Board of address and name changes within **30 days**, as a friendly reminder, please keep the Board apprised of current home and work addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses. License renewals will be mailed the first of November.
9. **Questions and Answers:**

Physical Therapist Statistics – Fall 2008

September 2008

DATE (Oct)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	2654	1890	1682
1993	2881	2046	1876
1994	3207	2269	2046
1995	3602	2482	2445
1996	3933	2693	2365
1997	4262	2916	2506
1998	4688	3193	2702
1999	4612	3301	2723
2000	4477	3343	2738
2001	4678	3533	2889
2002	4767	3699	3083
2003	4912	3802	3212
2004	5044	3935	3384
2005	5280	4113	3551
2006	5524	4365	3757
2007	5994	4741	4078
2008	6215	5014	4278



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Physical Therapist Assistant Statistics – Fall 2008

September 2008

DATE (Oct)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	942	786	713
1993	1107	931	864
1994	1251	1055	975
1995	1428	1179	1093
1996	1633	1342	1163
1997	1800	1490	1270
1998	1968	1627	1500
1999	2018	1711	1354
2000	2047	1770	1358
2001	2100	1830	1459
2002	2141	1880	1529
2003	2201	1951	1601
2004	2285	2016	1665
2005	2380	2090	1755
2006	2479	2184	1836
2007	2620	2288	1933
2008	2718	2399	2000

