

## NC Board of PT Examiners Report to the NCPTA Business Meeting

The Andrews Center for Medical Education

Wake Medical Center

3024 New Bern Avenue

Raleigh, NC

April 22, 2007

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

1. **Purpose of the Board:** Reminder that 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 NC Board of PT Examiners Meeting is scheduled on June 27, 2007.
2. **Appointments to the Board for 2008:** In May, 2007, the Call for Nominations letter will be sent seeking recommendations for one (1) physical therapist and one (1) medical doctor for appointments for January 1, 2008. Leslie P. Kesler, PT, and Michael Fajgenbaum, MD, are completing their first terms in office and are eligible for reappointment. Additionally, the Governor will be appointing a new Public Member as Avil Holmes is completing her second consecutive term in December, 2007. For 2007, the Board elected Paula B. Schrum, PT, as Chair, and JoDell King, PTA, as Secretary-Treasurer.
3. **Changes to Board's Rules:** Several changes to the current Board's rules took effect on December 1, 2006 including: 1) a clarification regarding test scores for the TOEL (Test of Foreign Language), 2) documentation requirements, 3) increase in licensure fees, and 4) other clarifications and editorial changes as recommended by the staff of the Rules Review Commission. Information regarding the rules changes is available on the Board's web page. ([www.ncptboard.org](http://www.ncptboard.org)).
4. **Online Renewal:** In 2006, the Board implemented its first official online renewal process. Of the 7,976 licensees who renewed, 1,082 used the online option (13.6%).
5. **Continuing Competence:** In response to the passage of the continuing competence legislation by the North Carolina General Assembly in July, 2006, at its Board Meeting on September 19, 2006, the Board passed a motion to appoint a 7-member Advisory Panel for Continuing Competence. The Panel will be assisted by John Silverstein, Board Attorney, and Ben Massey, Executive Director. The Panel had its first meeting on February 13, 2007 and will meet again on July 24, 2007 and November 13, 2007. The purpose of this panel will be to study the various options available for Continuing Competence and make recommendations to the Board. The Advisory Panel will not have authority to adopt rules as this is the responsibility of the Board.  
  
Additionally, the Board funded twelve (12) statewide Forums to be conducted by Massey and Silverstein to allow licensees to voice their opinions regarding Continuing Competence. To date, seven (7) Forums have been conducted with an average attendance of 20 -25 participants at each Forum. Four (4) more Forums will be conducted. The Forum scheduled at the NCPTA Fall Meeting has been cancelled.
6. **Chemical Dependency Agreement with Board of Nursing:** Effective January 1, 2007, the North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (Board) entered an Agreement with the North Carolina Board of Nursing (BON) that would offer physical therapy licensees the opportunity to seek eligibility for enrollment in the treatment programs administered by the BON for practitioners who are impaired as a result of chemical dependency. Within this Agreement is a provision for voluntary enrollment. Please contact Ben F. Massey, Jr., PT, Executive Director, if you would like additional information. A more complete explanation of this arrangement and the programs will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter.
7. **Jurisprudence Exercise:** To ensure that new licensees are familiar with the **North Carolina Physical Therapy Practice Act**, Board's Rules, and Position Statements, the Board has implemented a requirement that all applicants who apply for licensure after January 1, 2007 must complete a Jurisprudence Exercise. Current licensees may also take the exercise and receive a Certificate of Completion. Information is available at the Board's web page.

8. **Directory of Licensees:** The Directory should arrive in June and includes only that information approved by individual licensees.
9. **Board Newsletter:** The next Newsletter should arrive in July. Please read your Newsletter, discuss it at staff meetings, and file it for future reference.
10. **Address Information:** Remember to keep Board apprised of current home and work addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses. License renewals will be mailed the first of November.
11. Questions and Answers:
12. Update regarding Investigations and Disciplinary Actions:

### Summary of Disciplinary Complaints

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total Cases Reported and Investigated	56	47	47	47	50	54	54	50
Total advertising complaints	20	15	17	15	14	13	7	12
Total "other" complaints	20	22	20	25	25	34	31	23
Total failure to renew	16	10	10	05	11	13	16	15

### Summary of Complaints That Were Resolved

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total Cases Dismissed	11	03	13	07	11	06	19	17
Total Licenses Surrendered	00	00	00	00	00	03	00	00
Total Renewals Denied							01	01
Total Suspensions Issued	02	04	05	02	02	01	01	00
Total Probations Issued	02	03	01	01	00 *	02	02	02
Total Warnings Issued	05	02	01	06	02	02	02	03
Total Reprimands Issued	15 ***	10 ***	00 **	00 **	00 **	00 **	00**	01
Total Letters of Concern written ( <i>Not considered "disciplinary action"</i> )	03	03						00**
Total Letters of Caution written ( <i>Not considered "disciplinary action"</i> )	01	04	12	07	16	22	20	20
Total Letters sent re advertising	19	11	18	14	10	5	6	3
Other	00	02	00	00	00	02	02	01
Cases still pending	01	05	00	03	08	21	00	08

(\* 1 is included with suspension)

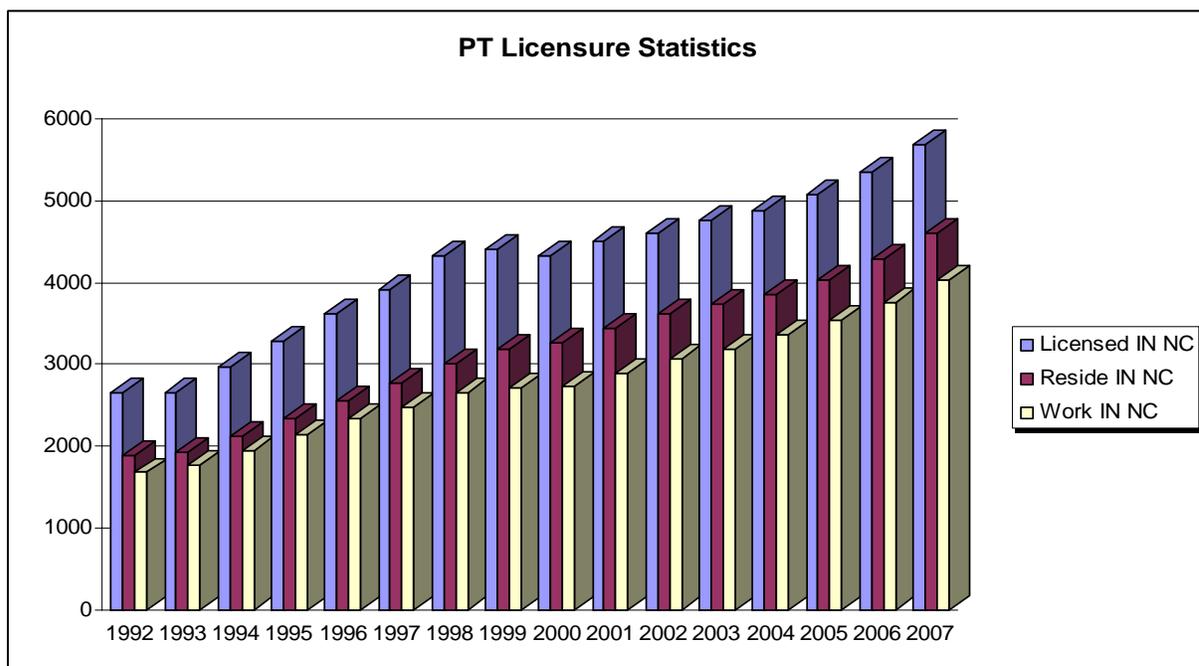
(\*\* Board basically stopped issuing Reprimands when the requirement changed that would require that reprimands to be "public" disciplinary action.)

(\*\*\* Overwhelming majority of Reprimands were issued for Failure to Renew. At that time, Reprimands were not considered disciplinary action.)

# Physical Therapist Statistics – Spring 2007

April 2007

DATE	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	2654	1890	1682
1993	2662	1934	1770
1994	2971	2131	1957
1995	3281	2350	2151
1996	3619	2556	2333
1997	3924	2771	2471
1998	4322	3009	2649
1999	4403	3191	2716
2000	4320	3268	2742
2001	4503	3447	2887
2002	4601	3619	3074
2003	4762	3729	3192
2004	4874	3855	3368
2005	5081	4037	3541
2006	5353	4294	3749
2007	5680	4603	4026



# Physical Therapist Assistant Statistics – Spring 2007

## April 2007

DATE (Oct)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	942	786	713
1993	987	840	777
1994	1136	960	896
1995	1302	1101	1021
1996	1476	1232	1150
1997	1674	1399	1256
1998	1835	1548	1360
1999	1929	1640	1350
2000	1937	1686	1358
2001	2037	1786	1458
2002	2082	1841	1553
2003	2136	1907	1594
2004	2192	1944	1658
2005	2279	2016	1755
2006	2386	2111	1830
2007	2489	2208	1915

