

NC Board of PT Examiners Report to the NCPTA

(There was no NCPTA Business Meeting because APTA NEXT Conference was held in Charlotte, NC)

June 1, 2014

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

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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 19, 2014.
 2. **Appointments to the Board:** Governor Pat McCrory appointed David Reed, PT, and Michael Fajgenbaum, MD for 3-year appointments to the Board from 2014 - 2016. Still to be appointed is the Public Member.

On May 1, 2014, the "Call for Nominations Letter" was posted on the Board's web page seeking recommendations for two physical therapists and one physical therapist assistant for appointments commencing on January 1, 2015. In addition, a blast-email was sent to all licensees who reside in the State to let them know that the Call for Nominations Letter has been posted. Angela Diaz, PT, PT, completed her first term of office; however, she has indicated that she is not seeking reappointment. Patricia S. Hodson, PT and Judy Edwards, PTA, completed their second terms of office and are not eligible for reappointment. On August 1, 2014, a ballot will be mailed to all licensees who reside in North Carolina and the biographies of the nominees will be posted on the Board's website.

The Board elected Patricia S. Hodson, PT, DPT, to serve as Chair, and Judy L. Edwards, PTA, to serve as Secretary-Treasurer.

3. **Proposed changes have been approved by the Board for consideration by the NC Rules Review Commission at its meeting on January 15, 2015.** The proposed rules will be posted on the Board's website in early July, 2014 along with a tentative timeline, Fiscal Impact Analysis, Notice of Text, and information regarding the Public Comment Period and Public Hearing. The purpose of the proposed rules changes are as follows:
 - Editorial changes as recommended by attorneys at the Rules Review Commission.
 - Proposed rule clarifies that, to be eligible to serve on the Board of Examiners, each physical therapist and physical therapist assistant shall be employed in a physical therapy related position for at least 1,000 hours annually.
 - Proposed rule requires physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who would like to practice in NC due to a disaster or emergency in NC or would like to obtain a license in NC secondary to a disaster or emergency in their home state are required to complete an application for exemption that has been approved by the Board.
 - Proposed rules clarify supervision requirements for physical therapists.
 - Proposed rules clarify licensure requirements for foreign trained physical therapist and assistant applicants.

- Proposed rules clarify requirements for a physical therapist to perform intramuscular manual therapy / dry needling.
- Proposed rule clarifies the maximum number of times that an applicant will be allowed to take the NPTE (National Physical Therapy Examination).
- Proposed rule clarifies that an applicant shall be required to consent to a criminal history record check and will be responsible for paying for it.
- Proposed rules clarify continuing competence requirements.
- Proposed rule provides for the Board to allow licensees to participate in chemical impairment / dependency programs.

4. Continuing Competence – Spring 2014 Update

Updates to Continuing Competence Board rules

Updates to the Continuing Competence rules became effective January 1, 2014 as anticipated in the Spring 2013 NCBPTE report to NCPTA. The Board website, continuing competence resources and online reporting tools were updated to address these changes.

Proposed Board rule changes also include updates to the continuing competence rules. Proposed rules were published on the Board website July 15, 2014. Changes related to continuing competence include updated wording clarifying current rules and addition of several methods for earning points toward the renewal requirement including continuing education participation in study groups through live and electronic media and participating in professional service as a delegate to a national assembly. The proposed changes become effective February 1, 2015 if approved by the Rules Review Commission.

License Renewal

9,904 licensees renewed for 2014.

Continuing Competence Audits

Audits for the 2011-2012 reporting period are complete, including PT and PTA licensees selected at random and licensees demonstrating non-compliance with continuing competence requirements for the second consecutive reporting period. As a result of auditing for this reporting period, six (6) licensees were issued Advisory letters, seven (7) licensees were issued Warnings, one (1) licensee voluntarily surrendered her license and one (1) licensee will be unable to renew for 2015 as the audit remains incomplete.

Audits for 2012-2014 reporting period have begun. As a result of the rule change effective January 1, 2014, no Advisory letters for failure to complete continuing competence activities within the date range of the reporting period were issued. Of the licensees renewing for 2014, 1,029 were assigned to this reporting period and are eligible for audit. Thus far, a total of 150 letters have been sent to randomly selected licensees requesting documentation of continuing competence activities be sent to the Board.

Licensees receiving letters requesting documentation of activities for audit have 30 days to comply with this request and send documents to the Board office. If there is a hardship related to this submission a licensee should contact the Board within this time frame to request an extension or assistance. Licensees are also requested to update all contact information including home and employer addresses, phone numbers and email addresses via the Board website online services link. Failure to provide an updated email address may result in licensees missing time sensitive communications from the Board office.

NCBPTE and NCPTA - Course and Provider approvals

Communications continue between NCBPTE and NCPTA staff and PDCC as needed. NCPTA Approved Providers appear well informed about Board rules and their responsibilities in providing continuing competence activities to licensees. Collaborations about rule interpretations, information to provide to activity vendors and website wordings are the most recent activities. Attendance forms are regularly submitted to the Board office in compliance with Board's rules.

Continuing Competence Activities available on the NCBPTE website

Three Jurisprudence Exercises, a Self-Assessment/Reflective Practice Exercise and PTA Scope of Work and Supervision (updated June 2013) remain available on the Board website for licensees to obtain educational information and/or earn points toward license renewal requirements.

The latest video produced in conjunction with Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC), NCBPTE Continuing Competence 2.0 providing an educational overview related to NCBPTE Continuing Competence requirements, is available on the Board and MAHEC's websites for review and point earning.

5. **Newsletter:** The next Board Newsletter should be posted on the Board's webpage around October 1, 2014.
6. **Address Information:** Remember to keep Board apprised of current home and work addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses. A license renewal reminder card will be mailed the first of November.
7. **Questions and Answers:**

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Summary / 2013 Disciplinary Complaints
Updated: Updated June 1, 2014
Summary of Complaints Filed

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Cases Reported and Investigated <i>(Total Cases may not equal Total Complaints as some cases have multiple licensees involved)</i>	47	47	47	50	54	54	50	59	54	47	45	92 (30 were CC)	85 (18 were CC)	80 (35 were CC)
Total advertising complaints	15	17	15	14	13	7	12	16	7	8	8	11	15	7
Cont Comp Complaint												30	18	35
Total "other" complaints	22	20	25	25	34	31	23	30	32	29	31	41	34	38
Total failure to renew	10	10	05	11	13	16	15	15	15	10	6	10	18	14

Summary of Complaints That Were Resolved

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Cases Dismissed	03	13	07	11	06	19	17	11	09	08	18	19	21	09
Total Licenses Surrendered	00	00	00	00	03	00	00	00	01	01	00	00	01	01
Total Renewals Denied						01	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Total Revoked						01	00	00	00	01	00	01	01	00
Total Suspensions Issued	03	05	03	03	02	01	02	04	05	03	02	03	07	00
Total Probations Issued	01	01	01	01	02	02	02	04	02	00	01	00	00	03
Total Warnings Issued	02	01	04	04	02	02	01	02	04	04	04	17 (13 were CC)	11 (6 were CC)	12 (8 were CC)
Total Reprimands Issued	10 ***	00 **	00 **	00 **	00 **	00**	00**	00**	00**	00**	00**	00**	00**	00**
Total Letters of Concern written <i>(Not considered "disciplinary action")</i>	03										00	00	00	00
Total Letters of Caution written – Advisory Letters <i>(Not considered "disciplinary action")</i>	04	12	07	16	22	20	20	25	17	13	12	38 (17 were CC)	36 (10 were CC)	27 (5 were CC)
Advisory Letters for failing to complete CC by Dec 31 deadline												309	27	00
Total Letters sent re advertising	11	18	14	10	5	6	3	16	09	06	04	10	11	07
Other	02	00	00	00	02	01	01	00	01	02	03	01	01	00
Cases still pending	05	00	03	08	21	01	08	03	02	09	01	05	00	00

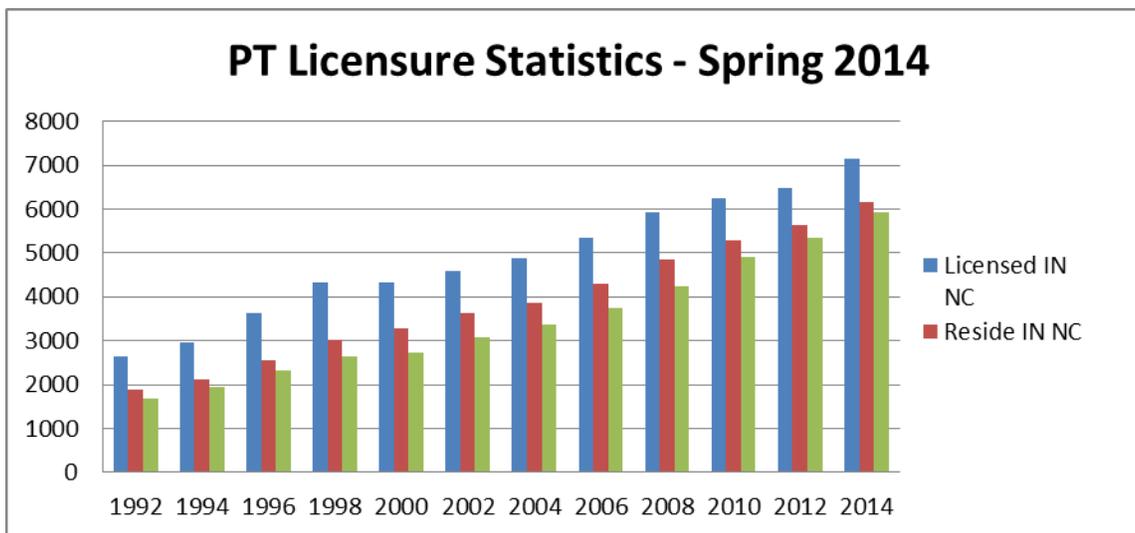
(* 1 is included with suspension)

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

Physical Therapist Statistics – Spring, 2014

May 2014

DATE (May)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	2654	1890	1682
1994	2971	2131	1957
1996	3619	2556	2333
1998	4322	3009	2649
2000	4320	3268	2742
2002	4601	3619	3074
2004	4874	3855	3368
2006	5353	4294	3479
2008	5921	4855	4234
2010	6254	5278	4917
2012	6491	5634	5334
2014	7133	6148	5932



Physical Therapist Assistant Statistics – Spring, 2014
May 2014

DATE (May)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	942	786	713
1994	1136	960	896
1996	1476	1232	1150
1998	1835	1548	1360
2000	1937	1686	1358
2002	2082	1841	1553
2004	2192	1944	1658
2006	2386	2111	1830
2008	2590	2298	1979
2010	2692	2418	2223
2012	2895	2606	2408
2014	3181	2867	2732

