

TBOTE news

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

October, 2012

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Those who subscribe to Board e-news will receive notices of proposed rules, adopted rules, newsletters, etc.

<http://www.ptot.texas.gov/subscribe-to-eneews>

*Previous newsletters, Forms and Frequently Asked Questions are on the **website**.*

www.ptot.texas.gov

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*Next Board Meeting Date
November 2, 2012
Renaissance Hotel
Austin, TX*

New! Disciplinary Actions Online

You can now look up a licensee and when you look at the date someone has been disciplined, there is a link online which will take you to the pdf of their agreed order. There is only a date in the disciplinary field for those who have been disciplined.

OT Renewals Changed June 10th

Browser issues continue to rattle licensees and staff as we work to find solutions.

About 90% of the licensees can use Chrome, Google's free browser to make the online verification and renewal system work.

<https://www.google.com/intl/en/chrome/browser/>

The most secure way to verify a license is on the web. The data is updated every business day. Licensees and their employers can see the status of the licensee and print a statement of licensure. No renewal card is required, but a licensee can download proof of license from the verification page of the website. Enter the last 4 digits of the SSN and birth date and there will be a pdf to print out. The agency will no longer mail out renewal cards.

- i The receipt page will serve as a payment receipt, which is still helpful, but it no longer gives licensees the ability to continue to work on the receipt
- i You and your employer can verify your license online.
- i Those who wait until the last minute to renew perhaps have to wait until the verification page reflects the update. Therefore it is recommended that licensees renew earlier. If the last day falls on a holiday or weekend, the

renewal will not be processed until the next business day.

Renewal Process: Those who use Microsoft's Internet Explorer should read the directions on the website to deal with compatibility issues. Without doing the compatibility fix, licensees will have trouble with seeing their JP Key Code.

Read here:

<http://www.ptot.texas.gov/occupational-therapy/ot-renewal/renew>

Try the free Chrome browser:

<https://www.google.com/intl/en/chrome/browser/>

Look-up your own proof of licensure. Look at the search which requires that you enter the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number and your date of birth. When you do, a link will appear that shows a pdf of your own licensure.

There are 3 ways to look-up licensees online:

1. By name, even by first initials
2. By License Number
3. By the last 4 digits of the SSN and date of birth.

We will continue to mail out renewal reminder postcards.

Proposed and Adopted Rules **The OT Board proposed amendments to several rules**

§367.1-3 Continuing Education

The proposed amendments are to incorporate consistent information about what is required for verification of each type of CE taken.

The other major change is a new category for obtaining CE. Read more.

§376.4, §376.6, §376.8, Facility Renewals, Late Renewals and Restoration.

The major changes in these chapters is to require that owners notify the board when occupational therapy services are no longer being provided. By notifying the Board properly, the owner can re-open the facility in the future without penalty. Those who just allow the facility registration to expire without notification and want to offer occupational therapy services again in the future will have to pay a penalty.

§651 Fees

The Executive Council has also proposed new fees for facility restoration, which is the final piece of the change in facility rules regarding facility restoration

Adopted

§376.10, Change in Occupational Therapy Facility Ownership, was adopted without changes at the September Board meeting. Read those changes here.

Sign your name professionally

The best example is written in §369.3 which says except for academic use, all licensees are for example, Mary Jones, OT, CHT or Mary Jones, OTR, CHT. The other example is Mary Jones, OTA, or Mary Jones, COTA. The licensee must be maintaining their registration or certification with NBCOT to use their copyrighted designations: COTA and OTR.

In Texas the professional designation comes first followed by other certification(s), degree(s) or honors.



OT BOARD FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN SEPTEMBER 7, 2012 BOARD MEETING

- (1) **Deborah Lookingbill, OTR #104051 (Paris)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient Type 2 hours. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (2) **Nancy Sanor, COTA #201419 (San Antonio)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient Type 2 hours. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (3) **Beth Sewell, OTR #106203 (Denton)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient Type 2 hours. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (4) **Rachel Smith, COTA #209939 (Manvel)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient Type 2 hours. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (5) **Tammi Slavin, OTR #107558 (Corpus Christi)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient Type 2 hours. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service and completion of the lacking hours of CE.**
- (6) **Sue Weeden, COTA #208903 (Burleson)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient Type 2 hours. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service and completion of the lacking hours of CE.**
- (7) **Linda Mullenix, OTR #103133 (League City)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient Type 2 hours. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service and completion of the lacking hours of CE.**
- (8) **Prince Nwagwu, COTA #207037 (Rowlett)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient Type 2 hours. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended his license for ten (10) days and required completion of the lacking hours of CE.**
- (9) **Jimmi Vasquez, COTA #209089 (Portland)** – failed the CE audit; lacked sufficient hours of continuing education. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended her license for thirty (30) days and required completion of the lacking hours of CE.**

(10) **Susan Alward Wagner, OTR #105125 (Temple)** – failed the CE audit; unable to provide proof of any continuing education hours taken during the renewal period in question. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. ***Board Order accepted the voluntary surrender of her license to practice in lieu of further action by the Board.***

(11) **Linda Schooley, COTA #2052085 (Conroe)** – previously accepted an Agreed Order from the Board for failing to properly renew her license. ***Board Order to accept the voluntary surrender of her license to practice in lieu of completion of the conditions of the prior Agreed Order.***

(12) **Rebecca Pokluda, OTR #108083 (Austin)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.***

(13) **Cristi Juarez, COTA #210674 (Grandview)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order required forty-five (45) hours of community service.***

(14) **Elena Brown, OTR #114428 (San Antonio)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by resigning her position without sufficient prior notice. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license to practice for twenty-one (21) days.***

(15) **Michelle Painter, OTR #107987 (Cibolo)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatments that were not rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license to practice for forty-five (45) days; prohibits the supervision of COTAs for 9 months; and requires monthly performance status updates from her supervisor.***

(16) **Lori Shinn, OTR #109843 (Texas City)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by using drugs to an extent that affected her professional competence; having obtained and used excessive amounts of Adderall without physician knowledge or proper supervision. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order indefinitely suspended her license to practice until such time as she: provides written confirmation from her primary care physician of her ability to practice safely; appear before the Investigation Committee of the board to review this matter; and have her license subsequently reinstated by the Board at a regularly scheduled board meeting.***



Frequently Requested Numbers

<http://www.ptot.texas.gov/occupational-therapy/ot-resources/ot-links>

Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (TBOTE)

Act & Rules, complaints, and practice of OT in Texas

512/305-6900 telephone

512/305-6970 fax

Website: www.ecptote.state.tx.us

Email: info@ecptote.state.tx.us

Texas Occupational Therapy Association (TOTA)

512/454-8682 telephone

512/450-1777 fax

www.tota.org

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)

Specialty certification, student fieldwork, national issues, etc.

301/652-2682 telephone

www.aota.org

National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)

National certification exam, and score reports

301/990-7979 telephone

301/869-8492 fax

www.nbcot.org

Dept. of Assistive and Rehab. Services (DARS)

Division of Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

512/424-6790 telephone

512/424-6799 fax

www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/

Early Childhood Education DARS, ECI

4900 N Lamar

Austin, TX 78751-2399

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/index.shtml>

Medicare and Medicaid

<http://www.cms.gov/>

www.medicare.gov

Medicare Part A

888/763-9836 (Rehab Dept, Hospital)

Medicare Part B

903/463-0720 (independent practitioners)

Medicare fraud, or abuse of a Medicare: 800-447-8477.

Medicaid: 800/252-8263

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/>

Medicaid provider fraud, or abuse of a Medicaid recipient: 512/463-2011 or email

mfcu@aog.state.tx.us

School Health and Related Services (SHARS)

www.tea.state.tx.us/interagency/shars.html

Texas Dept. Aging and Disability Services (DADS)

800/458-9858 Long term care & complaints about nursing home, home health agency, or assisted living facility.

800/252-8016 Nursing homes

512/719-3521 Licensing Boards

800/228-1570 Home health agency

Elderly or disabled abuse, neglect call

800/252-5400.

www.dads.state.tx.us

Texas Dept. of State Health Services (TDSH)

512/834-6650 Hospital licensing

www.tshs.state.tx.us

Texas Online Services

License applications, renewals, profile

TxServiceDesk@egov.com

877-452-9060 Help desk