

TBOTE news

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

June 2021

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*Previous newsletters, forms, and FAQs are available
from the website: www.ptot.texas.gov.*

Next Board Meeting

August 6, 2021*

* Subject to change

TBOTE BOARD

Stephanie Johnston, OTR, OTD, FAOTA, Chair
Todd Novosad, OTR, Vice Chair
Jacob Boggus, Public Member
Blanca Cardenas, Public Member
Jennifer Clark, COTA
Karen Gardner, OTR
Eddie Jessie, Public Member
Sally Harris King, COTA

Notes from the Coordinator

Board Member Information

The Board is deeply saddened to share that one of its board members, DeLana Honaker, has passed away. Please turn to the next page to read more about this dear board member.

Please also note that board members Jacob Boggus, Stephanie Johnston, and Sally Harris King have been reappointed.

Rule Amendments

There were no rule proposals or adoptions at the May, 2021 board meeting.

Renewal Requirement Reminder: Training concerning Human Trafficking and Fingerprinting

Human Trafficking Prevention Training

HB 2059 of the previous legislative session added the completion of a training course approved by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on the prevention of human trafficking as a condition for license renewal for certain health care practitioners. HB 2059 requires that HHSC approve at least one course available without charge.

This new renewal requirement took effect September 1, 2020.

Refer to the [Continuing Education](#) page for further information regarding this new requirement, including information regarding accessing the list of HHSC approved training courses.

The [Continuing Education](#) page addresses many frequently asked questions regarding this training and includes further details.

Note that this training is now a required CE activity to renew a license and must be completed each renewal period.

Fingerprinting

The Board's fingerprinting requirement took effect January 1, 2019.

OT and OTA applicants and licensees who have not yet satisfied the fingerprinting requirement (for example, for the issuance or a previous renewal of the license) will need to meet the fingerprinting requirement in order to obtain or renew the license. Fingerprinting is not required for inactive status.

See the [OT Application](#) and [OT Renewal](#) pages for further information.

On the passing of Beloved Board Member DeLana Honaker, OTR, PhD, CLT, FAOTA

On March 16, 2021, the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners lost one of its dear board members, DeLana Honaker, who passed away on that date. A link to a tribute to her life and work appears below.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/delana-kaye-honaker/#.YLeXgKhKgZt>

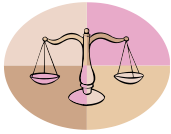


DeLana was an occupational therapist with a passion for all things OT. DeLana's commitment to fulfilling her role as one of the Board's occupational therapist members was evident in her perennial orientation toward protecting the recipients of occupational therapy services and her constant willingness to serve. DeLana was the secretary of the Board and chair of the Rules Committee and was a previous member of the Education Committee.

An author, researcher, clinician, and educator, DeLana was constantly growing and learning in virtually every topic and occupation (including the creative arts) and was recognized by the American Occupational Therapy Association as a Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association (FAOTA) for her significant contribution to the field.

One of DeLana's most evident traits was her true generosity of spirit. It was almost as if she could not contain the largess of her warmth and kindness, both of which overflowed. She was a compassionate, loving individual with a fearlessness and resilience that inspired similar courage and determination in those around her.

The Board extends its deep condolences to the occupational therapy community, to DeLana's family, and to the innumerable individuals who loved DeLana and whose lives she made the better.



May 7, 2021 OT BOARD MEETING

FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN

- (1) **Elizabeth Sawyers-Robles, OT #111620 (Austin)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by practicing with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for five (5) days.**
- (2) **Emilee Pierson, OT #112627 (McKinney)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by practicing with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for seven (7) days.**
- (3) **Rushine Wallace, OT #112977 (Conroe)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by practicing with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.**
- (4) **Eric Szymonski, OT #116303 (Sioux Falls, SD)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.**
- (5) **Vanessa Welshhans, OT #115330 (Thornton, CO)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.**
- (6) **Sylvia Milam, OTA #205770 (San Antonio)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (7) **Kelly Crumpler, OT #111193 (Oppelo, AR)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. **Board Order accepted the surrender of license to practice in lieu of other disciplinary action by the Board.**
- (8) **Amy Rogers, OTA #210260 (Ferris)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (9) **Virginia Humann, OTA #210063 (Gun Barrel City)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (10) **Laura Conklin, OTA #213842 (McKinney)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (11) **Mario Melgoza, OT #118876 (New Braunfels)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**

- (12) **Jennifer Pate, OT #113223 (Mineral Wells)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for sixty (60) days.***
- (13) **Della Hokett, OTA #213271 (Nederland)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for sixty (60) days.***
- (14) **Enrique Olivas Gomez, OTA #214937 (El Paso)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by practicing outside scope of OTA license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.***

ADMINISTRATIVE SUSPENSIONS REPORTED

- (1) **Tony Thomas, OT #117801 (Skokie, IL)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. ***Board administratively suspended license to practice.***
- (2) **Alice Lubanga, OT #112764 (Round Rock)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. ***Board administratively suspended license to practice.***
- (3) **Matilda Brunner, OT #118704 (San Antonio)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. ***Board administratively suspended license to practice.***
- (4) **Chris Allen, OTA #210083 (Keller)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. ***Board administratively suspended license to practice.***
- (5) **Sheryl Masanotti, OTA #213901 (San Angelo)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. ***Board administratively suspended license to practice.***
- (6) **Ashley Shidler, OT #114898 (Houston)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. ***Board administratively suspended license to practice.***
- (7) **Angela Williams, OTA #210101 (Marshall)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. ***Board administratively suspended license to practice.***
- (8) **Shawn Russell, OTA #211803 (McAllen)** – failed to complete the fingerprint requirement pursuant to Section 454.255 of the Act and chapter 370.1 of the board rules. ***Board administratively suspended license to practice.***