

TBOTE news

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

March 2021

Contents

Notes from the Coordinator.....	1
§369.3 and the use of OT and OTA.....	2
Disciplinary Actions and Administrative Suspensions.....	3

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

Next Board Meeting

May 7, 2021*

* Subject to change

TBOTE BOARD

Stephanie Johnston, OTR, OTD, FAOTA, Chair

Todd Novosad, OTR, Vice Chair

DeLana Honaker, OTR, PhD, CLT, FAOTA,
Secretary

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

Rule Amendments

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

New Renewal Requirement Took Effect September 1, 2020: Training concerning Human Trafficking

HB 2059 of the last 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.

TBOTE Board Member Appointment

In December, Governor Greg Abbott appointed Jacob Boggus as a public member of the TBOTE Board. For a brief introduction to this newly appointed member, please see an excerpt from the Office of the Governor's press release, below.

Jacob Boggus of Harlingen is the General Manager of Boggus Ford Harlingen. He is a board member of Valley Automotive Dealers Association and Valley Zoological Society and a Texas Dealer Academy Member in the Texas Automotive Dealers Association. Additionally, he is a Budget Committee Member of the United Way of Cameron County and an Executive Board Member for the Harlingen Chamber of Commerce. Boggus received a Bachelor of Finance from Missouri State University.

§369.3 and the use of OT and OTA

Note: What follows is a brief overview regarding the use of OT and OTA by TBOTE licensees. Refer to the [Act and Rules](#) for further regulations.

As per §369.3(a) of the OT Rules, "A licensed occupational therapist shall use the title occupational therapist or the initials OT. OTR® is an alternate term for OT if an individual who is licensed by this board takes the responsibility for ensuring that he or she is qualified to use it by maintaining certification through NBCOT."

OTs may use the initials OT. They may, alternately, use OTR if they are both maintaining licensure through the Board (TBOTE) and maintaining certification through NBCOT.

As per §369.3(b) of the OT Rules, "A licensed occupational therapy assistant shall use the title occupational therapy assistant or the initials OTA. COTA® is an alternate term for OTA if an individual who is licensed by this board takes the responsibility for ensuring that he or she is qualified to use it by maintaining certification through NBCOT."

OTAs may use the initials OTA. They may, alternately, use COTA if they are both maintaining licensure through the Board (TBOTE) and maintaining certification through NBCOT.

While in order to practice in Texas, an individual must maintain licensure through TBOTE, TBOTE does not require that licensees maintain NBCOT certification.

OT, OTR, OTA, or COTA, as described above, should be used. As stated in §369.3(c), "No other titles or initials are conferred for a license from this board."

Initials such as OT/L, OTR/L, and LOT and OTA/L, COTA/L, and LOTA should not be used.

Further regulations regarding the use of titles may be found in the full §369.3 and the full [Act and Rules](#).

CE Reminder

As per §367.3 of the OT Rules, the licensee is solely responsible for keeping accurate documentation of all continuing education requirements. Continuing education documentation must be maintained for two years from the date of the last renewal for auditing purposes.



FEBRUARY 5, 2021 OT BOARD MEETING

FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN

- (1) **Thealicia Taylor, OT #113844 (Prosper)** – 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) **Wendy Anderson, OTA #210894 (Norwich, CT)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by resigning position without sufficient prior notice resulting in loss or delay of patient treatment under the licensee’s care. 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.***
- (3) **Cori Dorsey, OTA #216302 (Longview)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by resigning position without sufficient prior notice resulting in loss or delay of patient treatment under the licensee’s care. 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.***
- (4) **Chad Shrader, OTA #209306 (Houston)** – 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.***
- (5) **Terri Hatcher, OTA #207916 (Longview)** – 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.***
- (6) **Gloria Holland, OTA #210166 (Humble)** – 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.***
- (7) **Kieshia Lewis, OTA #213291 (Bryan)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by fraudulently documenting treatment rendered. 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.***
- (8) **Rebecca Morin, OTA #213596 (Laredo)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by fraudulently documenting treatment rendered. 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) **Kerry Morris, OT #120945 (Sunnyvale)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by fraudulently documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order accepted the surrender of license to practice in lieu of other disciplinary action by the Board.***
- (10) **Richard Willhite, OTA #204761 (Nacogdoches)** – failed to disclose a felony conviction involving an act of fraud or deceit and is considered to be directly related to the duties and responsibilities of an occupational therapy assistant. 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) **Julie Wicker, OT #104866 (Wichita Falls)** – 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) **Michelle Pitts, OTA #213265 (Palm Desert, CA)** – 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.***