



Communiqué

November 2022

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Physical Therapy Board

Harvey Aikman, PT, Chair
Liesl Olson, PT, Vice Chair
Kathryn "Kate" Roby, PT, Sec.
Manuel "Tony" Domenech, PT
Melissa Skillern, PT
Omar Palomin, PT
Donivan Hodge, Public Member
Jacob Delgado, Public Member
Glenda Clausell, Public
Member

Next Board Meeting

January 27, 2023
Teleconference
1801 Congress Ave, Ste.10.900
Austin, Texas

Excellence in Regulation

At the recent annual meeting of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in Orange County, CA, the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (PT Board) received the **Excellence in Regulation Award** for its significant accomplishments in increasing public protection for consumers of physical therapy services in the State of Texas.

The Award is presented annually to a jurisdiction(s) for outstanding accomplishments in regulation. The PT Board shared this honor with the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board this year.

Congratulations, PT Board!



New Address Correction

ECPTOTE recently learned that USPS does not recognize the "N" in the street address that was provided to us by the Texas Facilities Commission. Correspondence sent via USPS or any other carrier should be mailed to the address below:

ECPTOTE
1801 Congress Ave Ste 10.900
Austin, TX 78701

The **Consumer Information Sign** that must be prominently displayed in a licensee's primary place of business as well as other forms have been updated and are available at <https://ptot.texas.gov/forms/>.

Why Does ECPTOTE Exist?

A recently received anonymous comment questioned why the Executive Council of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Examiners (ECPTOTE) exists.

“I really don’t know why ECPTOTE exists. It’s does nothing but regulate and does that poorly. A group that gives no consideration to the professionals that create its ability to exist. A heavy handed institution that doesn’t benefit PhysicalTherapist at all.”

There is a misconception that ECPTOTE and the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (PT Board) are advocates for the physical therapy profession.

The 62nd Texas Legislature enacted the Physical Therapy Practice Act in 1971 and created the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners as a state regulatory agency with the purpose of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Texas. Responsibilities of the first PT Board included determining qualifications of applicants for licensure and enforcing provisions against the unauthorized practice of physical therapy in Texas.

During the 73rd Legislative Session in 1993, Senate Bill 690 established the ECPTOTE and placed the PT Board under its oversight.

As authorized by the Practice Act, the PT Board adopts Rules to govern the practice of physical therapy in the state. Rules can be adopted, amended, or repealed in response to developments in physical therapy practice, administrative changes, or legislative mandates. The Rules are established as minimum standards of practice to ensure that the public is adequately protected not to advance the physical therapy profession.

Public Protection is first and foremost in all actions taken by the PT Board whether in the rulemaking process or enforcement of the Rules.

Advocacy for the physical therapist, physical therapist assistant, and the physical therapy profession is a role of the professional associations – the American Physical Therapy Association and the Texas Physical Therapy Association. This role is echoed in the mission statement of each entity.

American Physical Therapy Association - Building a community that advances the profession of physical therapy to improve the health of society.

Texas Physical Therapy Association - The Texas Physical Therapy Association champions the profession of physical therapy to advance practice and optimize the movement, health, and wellness of people.

Even though individual members may have ideas about how the profession should advance, the PT Board is constrained to the rulemaking authority provided in the PT Practice Act by the legislative process and to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the consumer public in Texas.

Disciplinary Actions

PT Board Formal Disciplinary Actions taken at the October 14, 2022 Board Meeting:

- (1) **Shaquala Price, PTA #2155619 (Houston)** - failed to meet initial licensure requirements by not meeting the fingerprint requirement in a timely manner. Violation of Section 453.215 of the Act and Chapter 329.1 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.**
- (2) **Chandler Ruterbusch, PT #1338800 (Orange Park, FL)** - failed to meet initial licensure requirements by not meeting the fingerprint requirement in a timely manner. Violation of Section 453.215 of the Act and Chapter 329.1 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.**
- (3) **Christina Cogdell, PTA #2056863 (Georgetown)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- (4) **Cordelia Umeh, PTA #2040335 (Richmond)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (30) hours of community service.**
- (5) **Aixa Parker, PTA #2119243 (Eagle Pass)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- (6) **Dedrie Beck, PTA #2042174 (Bartonville)** - (audit) failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (30) hours of community service.**
- (7) **Jacqueline Reeves, PTA #2114560 (Brownsville)** - (audit) failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- (8) **Eric Ramirez, PTA #2067298 (El Paso)** - (audit) failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- (9) **Joel Munoz, PTA #2151230 ()** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.**
- (10) **Spencer Noble, PT #1291067 (New Braunfels)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (60) days.**
- (11) **Cardell Redd, PTA #2047835 (Cypress)** - failed to comply with a previous Board Order by not completing the provisions listed in the Order. Violation of Sections 453.351 and 453.452 of the Act; and Chapters 322 and 343 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.**

Disciplinary Action, cont. from pg. 3

- (12) **Sammy Esparza, PTA #2171838 (Ruskin, FL)** - failed to disclose criminal history on application for licensure. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 343.6 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.**
- (13) **Jeffrey Dela Cruz, PT #1182168 (Forney)** - failed to report disciplinary action taken against PT license from another state in a timely manner. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341.21 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.**
- (14) **Stefani Blackburn, PTA #2153234 (Fort Hood)** - failed to report disciplinary action taken against PTA license from another state in a timely manner. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341.21 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (45) hours of community service.**
- (15) **Sara Navarro, PT #1289908 (Mansfield)** - failed to report disciplinary action taken against PT license from another state in a timely manner. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341.21 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (45) hours of community service.**
- (16) **Miguel Aguilar, PTA #2053176 (Midland)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to document physical therapy services, inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering patient/client records. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (45) days.**
- (17) **Mark Helms, PTA #2042422 (Spring Branch)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by abandoning or neglecting patient(s) under current care without making reasonable arrangements for the continuation of such care. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (30) days.**
- (18) **Victoria Lyons, PT #1301090 (San Antonio)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by abandoning or neglecting patient(s) under current care without making reasonable arrangements for the continuation of such care. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (60) days.**



Upcoming PT Board Meetings

The following dates have been set for the Board's upcoming quarterly meetings:

- January 27, 2023
- April 21, 2023

Meeting dates are subject to change. Check for updated information online at:

<https://www.ptot.texas.gov/meeting-dates>

Proposed/Adopted Rules

The Board took the following rulemaking actions at its October 14, 2022 meeting.

Adopted Rules: No adopted rule amendments.

Proposed Rules: §322.4. Practicing in a Manner Detrimental to the Public Health and Welfare - the amendment is proposed in order to add failing to respond to agency correspondence and failing to complete the provisions of an agreed order to the list of actions considered detrimental practice.

The text of the amendment is available online at <https://ptot.texas.gov/act-and-rules/> under PT Proposed Rules, and will appear in an upcoming edition of the *Texas Register* for public comment.



Agency Holiday Schedule

ECPTOTE will be closed for the upcoming holidays according to the schedule below:

Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 23, 2022
Thursday, November 24, 2022, and
Friday, November 25, 2022

Christmas

Friday, December 23, 2022, and
Monday, December 26, 2022

*Wishing you and your family a
Safe and Happy Holidays!*