

**Meeting Report
Council on Physician Assistants
Embassy Suites
1100 SE 17th St
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316
August 9, 2007**

3:00 pm Roll Call

Members Present:

Deborah Gerbert, PA-C, Chair (Via conference call)
H. Frank Farmer, M.D., Vice-Chair
Robert Cline, M.D.
Steven Rosenberg, M.D.
Ronald Burns, D.O. (via conference call)

Staff Present:

Larry McPherson, Jr., J.D., Executive Director
Ed Tellechea, J.D., Board Counsel
Nancy Murphy, Paralegal
Crystal Sanford, CPM, Program Operations Administrator

Others Present:

Raymond Pomm, M.D., Director, Practitioners Recovery Network

Suzette Bragg Peterson, American Court Reporting

Tab 1 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Council recommends approval of the minutes for the meeting held June 4, 2007.

Tab 2A – Anne F. Weir, PA

Ms. Weir made an appearance, accompanied by Dr. Pomm, to discuss positive responses on her application for licensure.

Following discussion, the Council recommends approving Ms. Weir for licensure with the condition that she comply with her contract with the Practitioners Resource Network.

Tab 2B – Tiphonie A. Allonce, PA

Ms. Allonce was making an appearance to discuss her possible unlicensed activity.

After questioning Ms. Allonce, the Council recommends approving Ms. Allonce for an unrestricted license.

Dr. Farmer introduced the following unlicensed activity investigators that were present in the audience:

Ruben Garcia
Harry Hague
Lisa Schafer

Tab 2C – Virginia K. Pullen, PA

Ms. Pullen was not required to be present, but Dr. Pomm was present to discuss Ms. Pullen’s participation with the Alabama Physician Health Program.

The Council recommends approving Ms. Pullen for an unrestricted license.

Tab 3 and 3A – Ratification of Full Licensees

The Council recommends approval of the licensure lists.

1. Deborah D. Adamcheck
2. Danielle Grace Angel
3. Todd Richard Armen
4. Ana Cecilia Bernuy
5. Gwendolyn Jo Bruch
6. Sabrina Lynn Cyril
7. Amber Nicole Dean
8. Kimberly Lynn Garcia
9. Diane C. Gevinski
10. Anita Louise Glesner
11. David Keith Grogan
12. Jorge Albert Guerrero
13. Jennifer Joy Harmon
14. Kevin Bradley Hartman
15. George William Horsley
16. Jeffery Viet Huynh
17. Michael Andrew Johnson
18. Rachel Magloire
19. Denise Kathryn Marquez
20. Jason Anthony Mateja
21. Erin MaryLee Mikan
22. Carla Christina Moodie
23. John Patrick Morgan
24. Stephanie Pawlikowski-Platt
25. Thomas Milo Peluso
26. Briana Marie Piper
27. Lisa Ann Principe
28. Samantha Carter Radigan
29. Atalie Irene Rivera
30. Eve Melissa Rollner
31. Pamela S. Ross

32. Deja Marie Simmons
33. Shannon Michelle Stafford
34. Beth Ruch Stockel
35. Margaret Rose Yearwood
36. Lenni Renee Zimmerli
37. Celia Rosa Alvarez-Reeder
38. William Andresini, Jr.
39. Douglas James Block
40. Nickola Fancine Booker
41. Kellee Katherine Brady
42. Daniel Scott Dempsey
43. Zenia Sophia Echeverria
44. Gregory Ezekiel Green
45. Edwin Xavier Gutierrez
46. Gregory Sydnor Laffitte
47. Calvin Herman Peterson, Jr.
48. Anna Karen Proctor
49. Nicole Anne Quesnette
50. Kara Nisha Rao
51. Enrique Ruiz
52. Mindy Sporn
53. Katherine Elizabeth Stenberg

Tab 4 and 4A – Ratification of Temporary Licensees

The Council recommends approval of the licensure lists.

1. Andrea D. Beltran
2. Stacey Berrios
3. Tania Berrios
4. Stacey Elaine Bispham
5. Brandi Lee Broughton
6. Ayumi Evelyn Cardoza
7. Elizabeth Markus Cece
8. Hien Thai Chau
9. Elizabeth Ann Couture
10. Karla Renee Dalrymple
11. Jennifer Starr Davis
12. Kristina Lizette Deering
13. Andrea Rose Deptula
14. Esther Rebecca Elder

15. Jessica Lynn Evers
16. John Francis Ferreira
17. Kerfala Fofana
18. Tiffany Dawn Frankel
19. Lisa Ann Gordon
20. William Kenny Higgins
21. Ryan James Johnson
22. Timothy Ray Jones
23. Wade Alan Kenney
24. Jeffrey Dwayne Lingo
25. Lisa Susan Malloy
26. Michelle Amelia McBride
27. Allison Lynsey Morgan
28. Eunice Sarah Mowery
29. Melissa Beth Murphy
30. Emily Ann Naglich
31. Elizabeth Ruth Owen
32. Jennifer Lynn Pinson
33. Ann Lauren Robinson
34. Amanda Alice Russell
35. Elleanor Hernandez Sapin
36. Ira Scott Saunders
37. Olivia Miriam Shaw
38. Artur Sikora
39. Darius Va Lance Taylor
40. Miranda Jane Trent
41. Anna Maria Wiak
42. Paola Adriana Delgado
43. Stephanie Nicole Dellone
44. Margarita I. Givens
45. Rebecca Leah Glass
46. Kristy Lee Harvey

47. Tamara Kay Lux
48. Nicolas Massimini
49. Rory Daniel McDonough
50. Tamara Lammle Meadows
51. Cindy Liz Robinson
52. Audrey Eden Ann Sanford
53. Katie Lynn Van Bussum

Tab 5 and 5A – Ratification of Upgraded Temporary Licensees to Full Licensees

The Council recommends approval of the licensure lists.

54. Ansuya Nutan Balroop
55. Tania Berrios
56. Hien Thai Chau
57. Elizabeth Ann Couture
58. Kerfala Fofana
59. Francisco Javier Garcia
60. Aurangzaib Khan
61. Anna Maria Wiak
62. Stacey Elaine Bispham
63. Brandi Lee Broughton
64. Karla Renee Dalrymple
65. Jennifer Starr Davis
66. Andrea Rose Deptula
67. John Francis Ferreira
68. Tiffany Dawn Frankel
69. Rebecca Leah Glass
70. Lisa Ann Gordon
71. Ryan James Johnson
72. Wade Alan Kenney
73. Lisa Susan Malloy
74. Michelle Amelia McBride
75. Allison Lynsey Morgan

76. Eunice Sarah Mowery
77. Melissa Beth Murphy
78. Jennifer Lynn Pinson
79. Ann Lauren Robinson
80. Amanda Alice Russell
81. Audrey Eden Ann Sanford
82. Olivia Miriam Shaw

Tab 6 and 6A – Ratification of Extended Temporary Licensees

The Council recommends approval of the licensure lists.

83. Barbara Elizabeth Dzienis
84. Jennifer A. Martinez
85. Miranda Jane Trent

Tab 7 – Ineligible Applicant – Jose Nunez

Mr. Nunez is ineligible for licensure as a Physician Assistant (PA) in Florida because he has not graduated from an approved PA program.

The Council recommends deny licensure to Mr. Nunez but allowing him seven 7 days to withdraw his application. The basis for this recommendation is that he fails to meet the educational requirements.

Tab 8 – Dispensing Physician Assistants

HB 1007 passed during the 2007 Legislative Session and amends s. 458.347, F.S. and s. 459.022, F.S. This amendment allows physician assistants to dispense non-controlled substances in accordance with his supervising physician's dispensing privileges. The Council was asked to approve a new form entitled, "Physician Assistant Dispensing Authorization Form" or approve changes to the Supervision Data Form.

After discussion, the Council recommends approval of changes to the Supervision Data Form.

Allen Grossman, Esquire, representing the Florida Academy of Physician Assistants (FAPA), addressed the Council with suggestions for improving the form. He made the following suggestions to page one (1) of the form:

- Form indicates pages 1 of 4; however, only 3 pages were present. Ms. Sanford advised the Council that page 4 is a sample page for completing the form.
- Remove the home phone number

- Place the practice address first on the form.
- Use the wording “alternate practice locations” in lieu of satellite offices.

The Council recommends approval of these changes.

After additional discussion, the Council recommends Mr. Tellechea and Mr. Grossman review the form and present recommended changes at the next meeting. The Council outlined the following additional suggestions:

- Providing additional space on page two (2) for addresses
- Supervisors signature is not needed
- Add language such as, “Please list all additional practice locations on a separate sheet of paper.”
- Delete the requirement for the PA to initial on page three (3) and only require the PA to sign the form once.
- Address the issue that page one (1) is for deleting and adding and page three (3) is for deleting only

Tab 9 – Unlicensed Practice

Board staff has found in some circumstances that applicants have practiced as a PA prior to license and was requesting direction on how the Council would like staff to handle these situations.

Mr. Hague addressed the Council and provided information on the unlicensed activity process.

Mr. Tellechea explained that other Boards ask the applicant to appear, which tolls the 90 licensure requirement, and to handle the unlicensed activity with a fine or other type of penalty. He stated if the issue is a more serious allegation, the Council can forward to the Unlicensed Activity Office.

The Council recommends requiring the applicant to appear so the Council can handle each applicant on an individual basis.

Tab 10 – Letters of Recommendation

Board staff indicated problems receiving two (2) letters of recommendation from PA’s who have been in active practice with one (1) physician for a period of time. The Council recommends handling these issues on a case by case basis. They also determined the applicants have the option of submitting a petition for waiver or variance of this rule requirement which would come before the Council as an individual consideration.

Addendum Tab 1 – Timely Reporting Changes in Supervision

Ms. Gerbert explained the statute require PA’s to report changes in supervision within 30 days.

Mr. McPherson explained the background of this issue and indicated that it is a continuing problem. He said in one month, 88 PA's were in non-compliance with this statute.

Juhan Mixon, FAPA, addressed the Council and suggested that FAPA and Board staff continue to work together to come up with suggestions to assist the PA's. He stated the issue comes up when PA's work in a setting, such as an emergency room, where the PA is supervised by multiple physicians. He said the problem lies not with adding supervisors, but with deleting them.

Mr. Tellechea reminded the Council that any changes to the 30 day requirement would require legislative changes.

Dr. Farmer stated the statute appears to be almost unenforceable as it is written and suggested the Legislature may look at the statute more closely do to that.

Dr. Cline reminded the Council to look at the physician side of this requirement as well because physicians are also required to report changes in their supervision of PA's.

The Council directed Board staff not to do any additional audits until this matter can be resolved, but gave no direction related to the 88 PA's currently in non-compliance.

New Business:

Mr. Tellechea discussed a letter received from Elizabeth Thompson, PA who recently encountered problems trying to Baker Act a patient. The Baker Act form is a Department of Children and Families (DCF) form. He explained he called DCF's General Counsel to request PA's be allowed to sign the form – currently only physician's can sign the form. He stated DCF did not agree with the Council's position from 2002 that PA's may Baker Act. He stated the Council has a couple of options, including ratifying its previous position or asking the Attorney General's Office for an opinion.

The Council recommends ratifying its previous opinion that PA's can Baker Act patients.

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.