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Sandra Reed, MPA
Executive Director Member

Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Mission: The Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine's mission is to protect and safeguard the public by licensing and disciplining well-educated and competent Doctors of Osteopathy (DO) and Physician Assistants (PA).

Board and Staff: The Board was formally created on July 1, 1977. The Board is charged with enforcing and implementing NRS 633 and NAC 633. The Board consists of seven members appointed by the Governor. Five Board members must be licensed osteopathic physicians. One of the public members must represent the interests of persons or agencies that regularly provide health care to patients who are indigent, uninsured, or unable to afford health care.

The Board office consists of four full-time staff: Executive Director; Complaint Specialist/Investigator; Licensing Specialist; and Administrative/Licensing Assistant.

Board Memberships: Federation of State Medical Boards; Administrators in Medicine; and National Practitioner Data Bank.

Best Practices: The Board adheres to all applicable statutes and regulations, and regularly evaluates ways to improve service and processes. The Board reviews and prepares annually the budget, it reviews its reserve account, and it undergoes a third-party audit. The Board provides an efficient licensing process. The Board recently approved a new license data base system to improve the efficiency of initial licensing, renewals, complaints and the management of Board documents.

Board's Operations under Governor's Emergency Orders for COVID-19: Board office and operations adhered to the Governor's Directives and posted on its website and sent to its licensees all pertinent Directives. The Board granted license waivers per the Governor's Directive. The Board office adhered to State Health and CDC guidelines and posted the guidelines in Board office.

Recent Legislative Impacts: None. Per SB184 (2021 Session), as of January 1, 2022, the Board processes dual PA licenses (for osteopathic and allopathic boards) and no longer charges fees to PAs to go "inactive." Furthermore, per SB184, the Board no longer requires annual National Commission on Certification of PA (NCCPA). **Currently, there are five (5) PA applications for dual licenses.**

Proposed Legislative Recommendations for 2023:

- Biennial renewal for half of licensees, by alphabet
- Reduce the percentage of annual continuing education audits from licensees from 33% to either a fixed number to be determined or a percentage to be determined annually by the Board based on licensee numbers

Licensing

Board Meetings occur monthly, except for July, ensuring an efficient and timely licensing process.

Licensee Types/Numbers - January 2021 - December 31, 2021:

- Active DO (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine): **1607**
- Active PA (Physician Assistant): **161**
- Inactive DO: **65**
- Active Not Working (no supervising DO) PA: **66**
- Special License (Resident): **397**
- DO Special-Other: **2**
- Temporary License: **0**
- Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact): **135**
- **Total of All Licensee Types – 2433**

General Licensing:

- Applications for licenses (initial and renewal) are available online
- Applications may be submitted electronically or downloaded and printed for manual completion.
- Approximately **70%** of initial applicants apply online; and over **90%** renew online
- Applications for all types of licensing occur throughout the year
- Renewals for licenses are due **annually each December 31**. Resident licenses, however, are renewed one year after approval
- Completed applications are placed on the upcoming Board Meeting agenda for approval, except for licenses by endorsement, which are approved by the Board President, and Compact licenses, which are approved by the Executive Director
- Active Military pay no initial licensing fee
- Board offers a 50% discount on licensing fees for Veterans and Veterans' spouses
- A typical complete application (without history of discipline) may be licensed **between 30-60 days**
- Approximately **90%** of licensees (DO and PA) are registered with the PMP

Improvements to the licensing process:

- Regulation **LCB R011-19** – effective 01/01/2020-allowed for the further expediting of license applications by the following:
 - 1) Applicants may submit directly to the Board approved documentation, and avoid the Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS) expediting the license process by about 30 days
 - 2) Reduced application and renewal fees by \$100

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact):

- The Board is a member of Compact, and the Executive Director is the Board's representative as a "Compact Commissioner"
- The purpose of the Compact is to expand and expedite efficient interstate licensing for physicians
- The Commission has promulgated the rules and bylaws
- The Compact is self-funded by application fees, renewal fees, and grants
- The first Compact licenses were issued in April 2017
- The Commissioners oversee nine Compact staff
- Through December 31, 2021, the Board has licensed **135** physicians under the compact
- **Currently, there are 34 U. S. member states, the District of Columbia and the territory of Guam, totaling 36 members, with three additional states planning to join**

Board Complaints and Disciplinary Action Process:

- Conducted case-by-case
- Executive Director (ED) reviews complaints; investigator obtains needed information; ED assigns complaint to an Investigating Board Member to review. If discipline results, it must be approved by the full Board
- Discipline Information is also obtained from the National Practitioner Databank (NPDB), which indicates:
 - Disciplinary issues (i.e. probation, suspension or revocation from another licensing board)

- Medical malpractice cases
- Record of alcohol or other substance abuse
- Falsifying an application
- Positive fingerprint report (indicating prior arrests/convictions)
- All complaints are confidential unless the result becomes a formal discipline as follows: settlement agreement and order; public reprimand; license suspension; or revocation

Enforcement Statistics: Jan-Dec 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complaints Reviewed/Investigated: 108 ● Settlement/Remediation Agreements: 0 ● Letters of Caution: 14 ● Complaints Closed: 82 ● Fulfilled Agreements: 1 	Types of Complaints*: Jan-Dec 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Medical Malpractice – 11 ● Prescribing – 4 ● Standard of Care – 52 ● Unprofessional Conduct – 36 ● Non-Reporting – 1 ● Out of Jurisdiction - 4 <p>*Some Complaint Types Overlap</p>
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Outreach:

- Executive Director and staff have typically presented to student osteopathic physicians and physician assistants twice annually at Touro University
- Executive Director often works in conjunction with other medically related boards regarding investigations, legislation, and policy
- Executive Director works and meets with other Nevada state boards to exchange ideas and provide support and information