

Alabama Board of Physical Therapy

BOARD MEMBERS

Jay Segal Birmingham AL Chair	PT
Vince Molyneux Mobile AL Secretary	PTA
Nathan McGriff Montgomery, AL Treasurer	PTA
Wiley Christian Mobile AL Member	PTA
Chad Hobbs Huntsville, AL Member	PT
Alina Adams Hanceville, AL Member	PT
Graham Champion Montgomery, AL	Consumer Member

LEGAL COUNSEL

MATT BLEDSOE
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

BOARD STAFF

GLENN A. DAVIS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GLENN.DAVIS@PT.ALABAMA.GOV
SHEILA WRIGHT
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT III
SHEILA.WRIGHT@PT.ALABAMA.GOV
REGINA MCGHEE
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ASSISTANT
REGINA.MCGHEE@PT.ALABAMA.GOV
PHONE: (334)242-4064 (334)242-3603
(334)242-3602 TOLL FREE (888)726-9743

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

I am honored to serve as the new Board Chair. All Board officers are elected by the Board members at the meeting immediately following the appointment of any new member by the Governor. Our public member, Graham Champion, was appointed last October and so officers were elected at the November meeting. In addition to myself, Vince Molyneux, PTA, was elected Secretary and Nathan McGriff, PTA, was elected Treasurer. One of the responsibilities of the Chair is to be a member of the Violations Committee and to appoint one other Board member to serve on the committee. Wiley Christian was asked to serve in this role and has agreed to do so.

The Executive Director has been committed to streamlining administrative functions of the Board office. Over the past year the following changes have been implemented:

- Licensees can request license verification, name change, and license reprint online,
- Entities can purchase licensee lists online,
- Receipts are sent electronically,
- Improved communications with licensees online utilizing our website and Facebook accounts including scheduled meetings, draft agendas, etc.,
- Nearing the launch of an online application for licensure, and
- In the process of migrating our paper records to electronic format.

The staff continues to work tirelessly to better serve our licensees.

Last year the Board adopted new Rules concerning Continuing Education. These changes represent a significant philosophical shift in how it is determined what courses are acceptable. It is now the licensee’s responsibility to choose courses they want to take based on the rules. Very clear guidelines have been written, and I encourage all licensees to read the rules and the guidelines, before contacting the Board office with questions. The hope was that these changes would better meet the individual needs of the licensees. (Continued on Page 2)

It has been my mission since I was first appointed to the Board nine years ago to increase licensee involvement with, and understanding of the Board, and improve communications with outside entities. I am still committed to this mission. To this end, I have worked with the Chapter and now they have a representative attend most of our meetings. The Chapter has been encouraged to provide input to the Board whenever they have concerns. Not only have they done this, but have encouraged their members to also provide input. Hopefully, this has clarified how the Board functions, and provided greater transparency of our processes. Additionally, the Board has a better working relationship with the legislature. We have been able to introduce successful legislation over the past few years and plan on pursuing rule changes this year. The Board attorney, Matt Bledsoe, has meticulously reviewed our rules. He has made suggestions to remove redundant language, ensure there is statutory support for all the rules currently in place and to remove those rules where this is not the case, and remove language that is ambiguous. The Board is in the process of reviewing these recommendations and will submit our recommended changes to the Legislature in the next month.

I encourage all licensees, as well as the public, to follow the Board's activities. Our agenda is posted on the website and all meetings are open to whomever would like to attend. Our next meeting will be held at the Chapter's Spring Conference, in Orange Beach. This would be a good opportunity to meet the Board members and share your thoughts. The first fifteen minutes of every meeting is set aside for comments and discussion by all in attendance. Please do not hesitate to contact us by e-mail or phone with your thoughts, questions, and concerns. I look forward to serving in the role as Chair during my last year on the board.



Jay H. Segal, PT
Board Chair

Please keep your **mailing address** and **email address**
updated with the
"Alabama Board of Physical Therapy"



Are You Interested in serving on the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy?

The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy (ALBPT) provides the vital function of ensuring the public's safety as they benefit from physical therapy services throughout the state of Alabama. Serving on the board is a great opportunity for therapy professionals to ensure the continued integrity and safety of physical therapy practice. The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy is required by law to have 4 members who are physical therapists, 2 members who are physical therapist assistants, and 1 consumer member.

A quick look through the website will reveal the term end dates for each of the current board members and the district they represent. Once you have identified your eligibility, you can reach out to the ALBPT and determine the nomination period for that specific seat. Being nominated to the ALBPT is much easier than you think. One little known fact is that you can nominate YOURSELF! That's correct! If you have an interest in serving, please reach out to the Board directly. If you know a qualified candidate that is interested in serving, you are able to nominate that individual, as well. Once all nominations are collected, the final list will be sent to the governor to make the final selection.

Members of the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy are appointed for staggered terms of five years each, so that one member's term expires each year. Members of the board are appointed by the Governor from a list of five persons nominated for each place on the board by the current licensees and certified to him or her by the board. To be qualified for consideration as a member of the board nominees must:

- (1) Be a resident and citizen of this state;**
- (2) Have practiced physical therapy within the State of Alabama for the three years preceding his or her appointment;**
- (3) Have no disciplinary action against their license for the three years preceding his or her appointment; and**
- (4) Must provide written, signed consent to serve.**

The board is currently seeking nominations for a physical therapist position and consumer member position on the board **The Board is required to seek nominations of at least 5 currently licensed physical therapists who reside in congressional districts 2, 3, 6, and 7** and is also required to seek **nominations of at least 5 qualified individuals from the state-at-large to fill the consumer member position**. If 5 qualified nominations are not received from the above listed congressional districts for the physical therapist position the nominations will then be opened for qualified physical therapists from the state-at-large. Nominations may be submitted via mail, fax, or email and must contain the name of the person being nominated, a consent to serve if selected form from the nominee, and the name of the person submitting the nomination. Nominations can be submitted to the board's office until March 15, 2016 or may be submitted verbally at the Nominations Meeting held on April 16, 2016 at Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, AL. (continued on page 4)

Verbal nominations must include a signed consent to serve by the nominee (if the nominee is not present) or a verbal consent to serve if the nominee is present.

Why do we need a regulatory board?

The State of Alabama Board of Physical Therapy is constantly challenged with protecting the public while meeting the needs of its licensees. Although the primary responsibility of the board is to protect the public by assuring the lawful and competent practice of physical therapy it has an equal responsibility of assisting its licensees in achieving these objectives. It is at best naive to assume that every therapist can and will perform their duties as expected which is why rules and regulations are necessary. For unknown reasons individuals occasionally step outside of the legal and competent boundaries of the practice of physical therapy and require guidance or corrective action to address these failures.

The board has to make sure that every licensee understands the rules and regulations that apply to the lawful practice of physical therapy and remain competent throughout their entire career. This is why we require evidence of annual continuing education and completion of the Alabama jurisprudence course every five years. We want our licensees to remain competent and current with advances in the practice of physical therapy and know the laws as they are updated.

We can easily relate to the negative impression that's made when a restaurant receives a poor health rating or we hear about fraudulent and unlawful acts committed by professionals. A good reputation, competence and trustworthiness are what our consumers expect, and it is the foundation on which we build our professional value. Our rules and regulations aren't designed for the purpose of meaningless restrictions or punishment, but are meant to provide a clear explanation of what we do, and how we should do it. These clear definitions not only build the confidence of our consumers, but it also establishes reliable guidelines for us as health care professionals to follow.

The amount of time required of board members is variable each month depending on the amount of items in need of review or action. However, there are general timeframes that will fit within a typical month. The board often has a meeting each month, which requires a full day of service. Board Meetings typically begin a 10:00am and often last until mid-afternoon, so depending on your travel time a full day is needed. Prior to the board meeting, members must review the meeting packet to ensure they are prepared for the meeting to ensure the time spent with the other board members is productive. This requires 1-3 hours depending on the amount of information to be covered in the meeting. Outside of the meetings and meeting preparation, it is not uncommon to field several questions each month from individual licensees. In some cases the board member has the answer, but in many others they must reach out to the board office and then respond to the licensee.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving on the board please contact the board's office or one of the board members for further information or to submit a nomination.

Chad Hobbs, PT, Board Member
Glenn Davis, Executive Director

Wellness Program Update

The Physical Therapy Board's substance abuse program is now in its third year. It is functioning very well and exactly how it was intended to work. The program is designed to allow licensees to self-report and get help without jeopardizing their license. There are now eight licensees in the program, all but one of them self-reported. This is an exceptional record and is a testimony to the success of the program. Licensees who are in need of help or simply have questions, please call the program's toll free number at (855) 865-6704, which is operational 24-7. An individual's identity is kept anonymous when using this number.

Part of the long-term success of the program is the use of mentors. Mentors are the key to preventing recidivism. A mentor is an individual who can communicate with licensees, with understanding, caring, and empathy. We currently have twelve mentors who are licensees and who themselves have had a substance abuse problem and have recovered. We are looking for additional mentors and our preference is that these individuals, have themselves, gone through a program somewhere. These individuals will be working directly with Dr. Garver, who is the Director of the program. Their identity is known only to him and not known to the Board. If you are interested in finding out more, he may be contacted at:

Michael Garver, DMD
19260 North Mobile Street
P. O. Box 426
Citronelle, AL 36522

Fax: (251) 866-5570
Phone: (251) 866-5585
E-mail: abptwellness@gmail.com

The Physical Therapy Board will have a booth at the Chapter's Spring Conference, in Orange Beach. Please feel free to come by and learn more about the Wellness Program and/or being a mentor.



Jay H. Segal, P.T.

Board Liaison to the Wellness Committee

Disciplinary Actions

Case #: 16-01-01

Allegation: Treating Patients with Expired License

Disposition: Fine Paid

Approved: January 7, 2016

Name: Roney Livingston

Case #: 16-01-02

Allegation: Treating Patients with Expired License

Disposition: Fine Paid

Approved: January 7, 2016

Name: Kimberly Perkins

Case #: 16-01-04

Allegation: Treating Patients with Expired License

Disposition: Fine Paid

Approved: January 7, 2016

Name: Joseph Pierce

Case #: 16-01-05

Allegation: Treating Patients with Expired License

Disposition: Fine Paid

Approved: January 7, 2016

Name: Robert Wessell

Case #: 16-01-06

Allegation: Treating Patients with Expired License

Disposition: Fine Paid

Approved: January 7, 2016

Name: Shannon Montgomery

Case #: 16-01-07

Allegation: Treating Patients with Expired License

Disposition: Fine Paid

Approved: March 3, 2016

Name: Jim Warren

Case #: 16-01-08

Allegation: Treating Patients with Expired License

Disposition: Fine Paid

Approved: January 7, 2016

Name: Timothy Bush

Disciplinary Actions

Case #: 16-01-11

Allegation: Failure to Properly Supervise

Disposition: Letter of Concern

Approved: November 16, 2015

Name: Pamela Walker

Case #: 16-01-12

Allegation: Failure to Properly Supervise

Disposition: Letter of Concern

Approved: November 16, 2015

Name: Lisbeth Weinheimer

Case #: 16-01-13

Allegation: Working Prior to Licensure

Disposition: Letter of Concern

Approved: November 16, 2015

Name: Ashley Gray

Regular Board Meetings

The next meeting will be:

March 3, 2016 (Board Office)

April 15, 2016 (Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach, AL)

June 7, 2016 (Board Office)

We invite you to join us, our board meetings are open to the public.