

SPRING 2019
VOLUME 26, ISSUE 1

Board Members

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April Tucker, ASA I

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

Message from the Board Office | Jeffrey Vinzant, Executive Director

For the past several years, the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy has held its required nomination board meeting in conjunction with the Alabama Physical Therapy Association's spring meeting at Orange Beach. Since the ALAPTA has elected to forgo a spring meeting this year, the Board of PT members faced the challenge of creating a meeting that will provide the forum for accepting nominations, while also providing added value for licensees.

With this in mind, the Board of Physical Therapy is pleased to announce a FREE Jurisprudence Seminar. This seminar will fulfill the 2020 Alabama law renewal expectation. Event details are below.

Friday, April 26th — Board Nominations Meeting & Jurisprudence Seminar

- To be held at Alabama State University, Buskey Hall, Room 113
- Board Meeting—Noon (open to the public)
- Nominations from the floor—1:30PM
- Jurisprudence Seminar—2:00PM to 4:00PM

This event is open to all licensees and is **FREE!** *Attendance at the seminar fulfills the Alabama Jurisprudence continuing education requirement for all 2020 license renewals! (and it's free!)*

Signing up for the event is easy. Follow this link:

<https://abpt-jurisprudence.eventbrite.com>

If you need more information, contact the Board's office at 1-888-726-9743 or info@pt.alabama.gov

Lastly, a big **thank you!** to the Alabama State University Department of Physical Therapy for providing the location.

We'll see you on April 26th!



**ALABAMA BOARD OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY**

100 North Union Street, Suite 724 Montgomery, Alabama 36130-5040

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Nominations for Membership on the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy

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.

Qualifications for nominees are:

- (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) Shall 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 accepting nominations of current licensees who reside in the northern section of the state, specifically the 5th Congressional District ([see map page 3](#)), to fill one Physical Therapist position on the board. This position is currently filled by Jonathan R. Zecher, PT, who is eligible for reappointment. Only physical therapists and physical therapist assistants holding a current license in Alabama are allowed to make nominations and vote to select the five names to be certified to the Governor for this position.

Nominations, which must include a written, signed consent-to-serve letter from each nominee, must be mailed to the board's office to be received no later than April 16th. Self-nominations are gladly accepted. In the event five nominations from the open district are not received prior to the April 16th deadline, the board will request nominations from the state-at-large to be received in the board's office no later than April 24, 2019. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the board's nomination/election meeting on April 26, 2019. Nominations from the floor must include a signed consent-to-serve letter or the nominee must be present to provide verbal consent-to-serve.

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The Board of Physical Therapy's nomination and election meeting will be held on Friday, April 26th, at Alabama State University, Buskey Hall, Room 113, at 1:30 PM. This event will follow a regularly scheduled Board of PT meeting that begins at noon and will be followed by a free Jurisprudence continuing education event.

If you have any questions about nominations/election/appointments, please contact the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy at (334) 242-4064 or info@pt.alabama.gov.

Physical Therapist position open representing the 5th Congressional District includes counties of : Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison, Morgan, and Jackson.



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2019 License Renewal | Sheila Wright, Executive Assistant III

The 2019 license renewal period will begin on July 1st! Your renewal must be completed prior to midnight on October 1, 2019, to avoid the expiration of your license.

As you begin the renewal process, we are here to help you and resolve any problems, questions, and/or delays that you may encounter.

The steps below are provided to reduce delays in completing your license renewal:

- 1) **All licensees are required to have completed 10 hours of CEU's that meet the criteria as listed under Continuing Education at <http://www.pt.alabama.gov/conted.aspx> and retain the certificates.**
- 2) **After completion of the above requirements you can renew your license online.**

New for 2019— As of January, the Board has new licensee software! If you had previously bookmarked our renewal application, it is recommended you clear that data. **ALL LICENSEES** will be required to create a new user account as they enter the license renewal application portal. On the first page of the application, you will be prompted for your license type, license number, and last four digits of your social security number. Once entered correctly, your profile should appear and you may begin updating and entering information.

You are required to list your continuing education activities during the online renewal process. As you complete the payment process, licensees are randomly selected for **CE audit**. If you receive an **AUDIT** notification, you will have 10 business days to fax (334-242-3288) or email (info@pt.alabama.gov) your certificates to the board office.

The board does NOT mail license renewal certificates! Once you have completed the online renewal process, you will be given the option to print your license renewal certificate. Also, be sure to print a receipt for your records.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for improvement, please feel free to contact the board office. We are here to serve you and make this process as smooth as possible.



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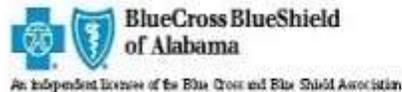
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Site of Service Update | Ellen Strunk, PT Member

BC-BS of Alabama recently sent out a letter to its Physical Therapist Preferred Network. The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy received a copy of this letter and think sharing it with all licensees would be in the best interest of the public. A copy of this letter is included below. As stewards of the consumer's health care resources, it is imperative that licensees follow the stipulations of their payers.



Physical Therapy Place of Service Delivery

It has come to our attention that some physical therapy providers are performing physical therapy services in "clinics" offered by school athletic departments. This is not an approved place of service for providers in the Preferred Physical Therapy Network.

The application for inclusion in the Preferred Physical Therapy Network requires therapists to list their practice locations. If those practice locations change, the therapist is required to notify us within 30 days of the effective date of the change.

When a preferred physical therapist bills us for services, he or she is paid based on the Preferred Physical Therapy fee schedule. The CPT codes billed by physical therapists include an amount for their practice, work and malpractice expenses. According to the Current Procedural Terminology 2018, Professional Edition, the valuations of the practice expense are based on direct and indirect practice costs included in providing the service, such as **equipment, office rent and utilities**. However, when providing services in a place of service outside of the practice location, these physical therapy providers are not paying for equipment, office rent or utilities and are, therefore, receiving an overpayment for their services.

In the interest of protecting our members by ensuring the place of service is adequate, we ask that you share this information with your licensees.

If a complaint is received, we will investigate the site and the providers.

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Wellness Program Update | Nathan McGriff, PTA

The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy continues to work with Dr. Mike Garver, DMD, to provide an Impaired Practitioner Wellness Program as a service to licensees in the state of Alabama. This program is designed to help licensees that are impaired by reason of illness, inebriation, excessive use of drugs, alcohol, narcotics, chemicals or other substances, or a result of a physical or mental condition. Currently the program has 14 participants, with 12 of those entering the program by self-report. This self-reporting option provides the opportunity for a licensee to directly contact Dr. Garver and receive much needed help without jeopardizing their license. Self-reporting avoids a formal Board of PT hearing, and the subsequent reporting to the National Practitioner Data Bank. Additionally there is no public record—participants are only known to the Board of PT by case number. For assistance, physical therapist and physical therapist assistants should contact the program director at 1-855-865-6704 (Wellness Center Hotline).

The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy is very pleased to mention that the Impaired Practitioner Wellness Program achieved a milestone this January as the first participants fully completed the program. This program is successfully helping individuals on their road to recovery and is a model for other professions in this state.

Mentors are a huge part of the success of the program. Participants are paired with a mentor that provides guidance and support. The Wellness Program continues to seek volunteers from the state as a whole, however there is an increased need for mentors in the northern portion of the state. Mentors remain anonymous and participation duration is at your discretion. If you are interested in providing mentorship to a licensee that may be facing obstacles that you have faced, please contact Dr. Garver for more information.

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



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Regular Board Meetings

April 26, 2019 (ASU Campus, Buskey Hall, Rm 113, Noon)

June 20, 2019 (Board Office, Montgomery, 10:00 AM)

August 16, 2019 (ALAPTA Fall Conference, Samford University, Homewood, 10:00AM)

October 17, 2019 (TBA, 10:00 AM)

December 12, 2019 (Board Office, Montgomery, 10:00 AM)

We invite you to join us! All Board meetings are open to the public.

Licensees!

Please keep all contact information up to date with the board office. This includes each of the following:

- **Name change**
- **Mailing address change**
- **E-mail address change**
- **Phone number change**

All information may be updated directly at our website!

Follow this link: [DATA UPDATE](#)



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DISCIPLINARY NOTICES:

Case # 18-10-26
Allegations: Inadequate supervision
Disposition: Fine and CE course
Closed & Approved: December 13, 2018
Name: David Peterson, PTH4049

Case # 19-02-05
Allegations: Falsification of records
Disposition: Fine and CE Course
Closed & Approved: December 13, 2018
Name: David Bass, PTA1139

Join us for our **FREE** Jurisprudence CE event:

Date: Friday, April 26th

Location: Alabama State University
Buskey Hall, Room 113
1155 University Drive, North
Montgomery, AL 36104

Time: Noon—Board Meeting
1:30 PM—Nominations
2:00 P—Jurisprudence Seminar

****Attend the seminar and receive your two-hour CE credit
toward your 2020 license renewal AL Law requirement!.**

Pre-register at: <https://abpt-jurisprudence.eventbrite.com>



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