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Margaret Hemm Consumer Member

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Angela Warr Executive Assistant III

Kristi Mullins Accounting

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

From the Desk of the Executive Director



The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy (ABPT) has the responsibility and the privilege of providing services to two very important groups of people in Alabama. First and foremost is the public who seek the services provided by ABPT licensees. The Board ensures that the public is protected from potential incompetent practicing of physical therapy. The second group are the licensees who provide much needed physical therapy services to the public. This is achieved through the establishment of minimum qualifications for those who enter the physical therapy profession in Alabama. Rules are adopted, laws and guidelines are implemented to prevent unlawful conduct and swift corrective action is establish for those practitioners who violate those rules, laws, and guidelines. The Board, the public, and the licensees work together to ensure public safety and quality physical therapy services are rendered.

In addition, the staff of the ABPT strives to provide quality "customer service" every day through assisting the public and licensees by addressing issues and answering questions via telephone calls, email, and other means of correspondence. The Board endeavors to provide licensees with accurate information so that informed choices are made by practitioners that are in keeping with statutes and regulations. By doing so, the Board helps to facilitate the ABPT's main purpose - public protection. The Board works hard to keep licensees informed through email, website updates, and social media posts by providing reminders of upcoming events, such as renewals, board meetings, and any other vital information necessary to maintain the highest level of professionalism and practice. The Board aims to efficiently issue licenses and process renewal applications, plus deliver exceptional and courteous services to all.

-Kathy Miller, Executive Director

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

2022 License Renewals Start July 1!

The annual licensure renewal period is July 1 through September 30. You must complete your online renewal application by midnight on September 30 to avoid the expiration of you license.

Renewal fees are the same this year- \$130.00 for PTs and \$93.00 for PTAs (plus a processing fee). To renew your license, go to our website, www.pt.alabama.gov, and select the "Licensing Renewal" tab. Once there, scroll to the bottom of the page and select "Renew Your License Here." You will be prompted to select 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.

All licensees are required to upload their continuing education certificates, preferably in pdf format. There will be three options to choose from when you are renewing your license:

- 1. I graduated in the last calendar year and I am renewing for the first time. You will be required to upload 2 hours of Alabama Jurisprudence.
- 2. I am renewing my license for the first time in Alabama. (I am not a new graduate). You will be required to upload 8 hours of CE and 2 hours of Alabama Jurisprudence.
- 3. This is not my first license renewal in Alabama. You will be required to upload 10 hours of CE. (No Alabama Jurisprudence Required).

You can proceed with renewing your license online once you upload the required documents. We hope to have the "bugs" worked out from last year that prevented renewals from mobile devices and tablets. However, if you experience issues while trying to renew, we recommend trying from a desktop or laptop computer.

REMINDER! The ABPT does not mail certificates each year when you renew! If you wish to have a an updated certificate with the gold seal, there is a \$5.00 fee. Please keep a copy of your receipt for your records. The email with your renewal verification will come from an email address that contains "igovsolutions". Please check your spam/junk folders if you do not receive it in your regular inbox. All licensees are encouraged visit our website and create a licensee profile under the "Services" tab, if you have not already done so. You are able to access and print your license and your receipt throughout the year. See page 3 for additional instructions.

We strongly encourage you to renew early to avoid any potential issues!

-Angela Warr, Executive Assistant III

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter



You can go to the ABPT website and print a copy of your license/certificate at any time. Create a user profile by accessing: https://pt.alabama.gov/Services.aspx.

To print your license/certificate, logon to https://alpt.igovsolution.net/online/User login.aspx with your user name and password.

- Go to the "Summary" section.
- Click on the "Print" icon in the certificate column (Highlighted in red below).
- That will download a copy of the certificate.



In addition to printing your license, you will be able to access your receipt for payment of renewal

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

New Board Members

The ABPT is excited to welcome two new board members!



Dr. Dana Daniel Blake, PT Representative, 6th Congressional District, Board Treasurer

Dana Daniel Blake, PT, DPT, OCS, MTC, received an appointment to the ABPT by Governor Kay Ivey in January 2022. Dr. Blake is eager to serve the public and the physical therapists and physical therapist assistants of our great state of Alabama. She will also be serving as the Treasurer for the Board.

She has served as an Assistant Professor in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program since 2018 and as Director of Clinical Education since 2019 at Samford University. She has over twenty-five years of experience in the dual roles of a practicing clinician and a multi-site clinical director with responsibilities and national awards related to high financial acumen, engaging customer service, best practice management techniques and excellent patient care. She has presented and taught courses across the nation in the areas of manual therapy, dry needling, ergonomics, and spine care. She has experience in for-profit and not-for-profit settings with environments such as outpatient, inpatient, aquatic care, ergonomics/industrial rehab, and consulting activities.

She has completed numerous certifications over her physical therapy career including: Manual Therapy Certification from the University of St. Augustine; Orthopedics Certified Specialist from the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA); Certified Clinical Instructor from the APTA; and Certified Physical Work Performance Evaluator from Ergoscience. Dr. Blake earned her DPT from College of St. Scholastica; MSPT from the University of Alabama at Birmingham; and her BS in Biology from Samford University.

Dr. Blake resides in Shelby county and has been involved in teaching clinicians for over twenty years. She is excited to bring this passion for excellence in skill advancement and service delivery and service to the public to the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy for the next four years.

Welcome to the Board, Dana Daniel Blake!

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

New Board Members (cont.)



T-Michael Dougherty PTA Representative, Southern Region

T-Michael Dougherty, PTA, MPA, earned his PTA degree from South University Montgomery in 2006. Currently, he serves as the Program Director and full time faculty member of the recently accredited PTA Program at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College in Greenville, Alabama. With nearly 20 years of experience in the healthcare industry in both the public and private sectors, he has worked as a clinician, consultant, and educator. He began his physical therapy career in 2006 as a PTA with PT Solutions and served in a variety of clinical settings in Montgomery, Eufaula, and Wetumpka, including acute-care, outpatient orthopedic, and long-term acute care, and was a rehabilitation departmental director in an acute care hospital in Phenix City.

Mr. Dougherty furthered his education and obtained a BS in Business Administration (2012) and a Master's in Public Administration (2013). He worked as a consultant with the Long Term Care Division of the Alabama Medicaid Agency and the Alabama Department of Senior Services with the design and implementation of the Gateway to Community Living program, among other projects.

In 2016, Mr. Dougherty began his career as an educator, simultaneously teaching as an adjunct instructor in both the PTA and undergraduate Healthcare Management Programs at South University. In 2018, he accepted his current role as Program Director of the PTA Program at LBWCC, successfully designing, implementing, and guiding the program to its initial accreditation, obtained in May of 2022. In addition to his role as Program Director, he is responsible for teaching many courses in the program.

Mr. Dougherty was certified from 2017-2020 as a Geriatric Care Manager, and served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Alabama Gerontological Society from 2016 – 2018. In July 2020, he was nominated and subsequently elected to the Board of Directors for the Alabama chapter of the APTA, serving as the PTA Representative-at-Large until July 2022.

Mr. Dougherty resides in Montgomery, and enjoys spending time with his wife and 2-year old daughter, completing the restoration of their nearly 100-year old home, playing tennis, flyfishing, woodworking, and traveling.

Welcome to the Board, T-Michael Dougherty!

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

Update on Alabama as Compact Privilege State

Many have asked the status Alabama's ability to issue "Compact privileges." Alabama is not able to issue or accept Compact Privileges yet. As you may recall from our Spring 2021 newsletter, Governor Ivey signed legislation making Alabama the 31st state to join the PT Compact on March 18, 2021. Our neighbor states Mississippi, Tennessee, and Georgia are actively issuing and accepting Compact privileges. Please refer to http://ptcompact.org/ptc-states for an interactive map showing all states in the PT Compact, including those who are issuing compact privileges.

As a reminder, initial PT Compact bill was introduced in the 2020 legislative session, but did not progress due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Senator Whatley, the Senate sponsor, reintroduced the bill in the 2021 legislative session, with the House companion bill sponsored by Representative Parker Moore. The bill quickly gained traction because it was one of a package of bills that the Military Stability Commission put together in an effort to make Alabama friendlier to military service members. The Commission was chaired by Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth and included a number of bills to provide for the acceptance of occupational licenses from other state boards for spouses and dependents of military members.

However, Alabama cannot begin issuing Compact privileges until there are other significant changes made to the Alabama Physical Therapy Practice Act (APTPA) and the Administrative Code to include Compact privileges. The Board has written a bill which will address all of the necessary changes to the APTPA, however, the bill was not proposed before the end of the 2022 legislative session. The Board will be working diligently to move the bill forward during the 2023 legislative session.

The Board anticipates that it could be ready to issue Compact privileges within the next two years. We will provide regular updates on our progress through social media and on our website. Of course, licensees are welcome to attend board meetings at any time. Until then, you can learn more about the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact on the Federation of State Board's website here: https://www.fsbpt.org/Free-Resources/Physical-Therapy-Licensure-Compact.

-Jonathan Zecher, Board Chair

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

Wellness Program

The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy continues to work with Dr. Michael 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 16 participants, with 15 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 ABPT hearing, and the subsequent reporting to the National Practitioner Data Bank. Additionally, there is no public record as participants are only known to the ABPT by case number. For assistance, physical therapist and physical therapist assistants may contact the executive director at 1-855-865-6704 (Wellness Center Hotline) or may contact Dr. Garver directly at the information below.

Mentors continue to be fundamental in the success of the program. They allow participants to have someone to turn to that have faced those same challenges of addiction. Mentors remain anonymous and time frame for participation is at each individual's discretion. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact Dr. Garver at the contact below.

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

E-mail: abptwellness@gmail.com

Phone: (256)866-5585 Fax: (251) 866-5570

DISCIPLINARY NOTICES

Case #: 2022-01 License Surrendered Approved: March 10, 2022 James Wesley Stewart Case #: 2022-004
Working Prior to Licensure
Letter of Concern
Approved: May 12, 2022

Tamarah Adams Horton

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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

BOARD NOMINTATIONS

Members of the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy are appointed for staggered terms of five years each, so that at least 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.

Position coming available this year: one PT position currently held by Alina Adams, representing Congressional District 4.

The Board is accepting nominations of <u>currently licensed physical therapists who reside in districts</u> **2, 3, 4 or 7** to fill the vacant position. See next page a map showing the district locations.

Nominations, which must include a written, signed consent-to-serve letter from each nominee, may be submitted via mail, fax, or email to the Board's office, **but <u>must be received</u>** no later than end of business on July 29th, 2022. In the event five qualified nominations from the above listed Congressional Districts are not received prior to the July 29th, 2022 deadline the Board will request qualified nominations during the Board's meeting on August 6th, 2022. Any person nominated from the floor must provide the Board with a written, signed consent-to-serve letter within 30 days (that is, end of business on September 7th, 2022) or be present to provide the consent-to-serve verbally. In the event five qualified nominations from the above listed Congressional Districts are not received, nominations will be accepted from the state-at-large during the Board's meeting on August 6th, 2022.

Qualifications for nominees for the position 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.
- (4) Must provide written, signed consent to serve.

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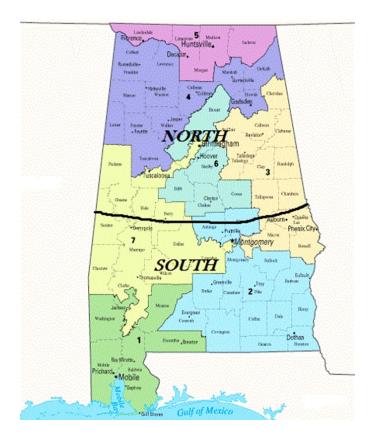


Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

BOARD NOMINTATIONS (cont.)

In the event more than five qualified nominations from the above listed Congressional Districts are received prior to the July 29th, 2022 deadline, an election will be held to determine the 5 names to submit to the Governor. The election will occur at the Board's meeting which will be held on Saturday, August 6th, 2022, at Jefferson State Community College, in conjunction with the Alabama Physical Therapy Association's business meeting. All licensees are invited to attend.

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



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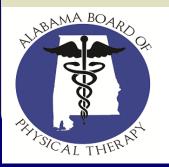
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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

SCHOOL VISITS

The ABPT takes a proactive approach to public protection by visiting schools and speaking to future licensees about the profession, the application process and requirements, and the importance of the Practice Act and the Administrative Code. This service protects the public as it serves to supplement the education of future physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. Board staff has given six presentations this year (so far). Two were in person and four via video conference.



Board Staff Angela Warr (far left) and Kathy Miller (far right) with students from South University in Montgomery.



Lurleen B. Wallace Community College's first ever PTA class and LBWCC staff Rachel Green (far left) and T-Michael Doughtery (far right).

In addition to being informative, school visits are fun!



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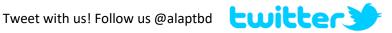


Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

WE ARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



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Connect with us on LinkedIn! Alabama Board of Physical Therapy

Follow, like, and connect with us for reminders, announcements, updates, and other important information!

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JUNE 2022 VOLUME 30 ISSUE I

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See our website for the latest news, Board minutes, and access to your user profile - www.pt.alabama.gov

We encourage you to check out:



www.ptalabama.org



www.fsbpt.org



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