

Texas Chiropractic Board Report

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Issue #2

GOVERNOR APPOINTS, SENATE CONFIRMS NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Governor Rick Perry appointed three new members to the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners on March 25, 2009. The Texas Senate shortly thereafter unanimously approved the appointments during the recently concluded 81st legislative session. All were appointed for six-year terms that expire on February 1, 2015 and replace members whose terms had expired. The three appointees are:

Patrick Thomas, D. C.



Patrick Thomas, D.C., of Corpus Christi is a partner in the Snowden-Thomas Clinic and has been in practice for 35 years. Dr. Thomas is a 60-year resident of Corpus Christi and is active in several local community-based organizations. He is a graduate of Texas Chiropractic College and the International Academy of Medical Acupuncture. He holds National Board Certifications in both Chiropractic and Acupuncture. He enjoys being with his family, kayak fishing, woodworking and amateur radio. Dr. Thomas serves as a member of the Board's Licensing and Educational Standards Committee. He replaces Dr. Scott Isdale of Killeen.

Larry Montgomery, D.C.



Larry Montgomery, D.C., is President of Montgomery Chiropractic, P.A. in Belton, Texas. Dr. Montgomery is a member of the American Chiropractic Association and served as President of the Texas Chiropractic Association in 1998-99. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Belton Lions Club. Dr. Montgomery earned his DC degree at Texas Chiropractic College and also has completed the post-graduate program in orthopedics at TCC. He is married to Priscilla and they have two sons, Micah and Malachi. He serves on the Board's Enforcement Committee and replaces Dr. David Sime of El Paso.

Mr. Thomas O. Turner



Mr. Tom O. Turner is founder and CEO of Pisces Capital Group LLC, the Austin-based private equity firm with additional offices in San Antonio. A

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Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners

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Glenn Parker

Executive Director

A Message from the Executive Director...



This issue of the *Texas Chiropractic Board Report* contains several articles that I believe will be of interest to most, if not all, practicing doctors of chiropractic in Texas. Our lead article on Page 3 concerns a significant change to the laws governing the solicitation of patients. It is now illegal for chiropractors and certain other professionals to contact victims of accidents or disasters or the relatives of those victims before the 31st day after the event.

Pages 3 & 4 contain a review of all rule changes adopted by the Board since August of 2008. Other important articles or features list the disciplinary actions taken by the Board during Fiscal Year 2009, present an overview of the complaint resolution process, and offer some advice on how to avoid becoming involved in complaints or disciplinary actions at all.

We also introduce three new board members recently appointed to the Board by Governor Perry. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank the three outstanding individuals who recently left the Board at the expiration of their terms in office. They are Ms. Marcia Daughtrey of Tyler, Dr. Scott Isdale of Killeen, and Dr. David Sime of El Paso. Their unflinching professionalism, dedication, and integrity have been an inspiration to me. Board members serve terms of six years. They receive no pay and several of the members decline some or all of the expense reimbursements to which they are entitled. I am confident that it costs the typical board member a significant amount of money out of his or her own pocket to serve on a state board such as the TBCE when expenses and missed business income are factored in. Most state boards would have a difficult time operating properly without the sacrifices made by the board members.

Here at the agency we continue to strive to improve our customer service efforts and to make it as easy as possible for DCs, clinic owners and radiologic technologists to know and comply with the laws under which they must operate. Improving our online renewal processes has allowed us to reach a point where over 90% of DCs now renew their licenses online each year, while more than 80% of facility owners renew their clinic registrations online. We also now provide free online verifications of DC licenses and will have online verifications of clinics and radiologic technologist registrations available in a few weeks. We still have challenges in getting our phones answered all the time and our website needs some significant improvements but our goal is to continue to improve in measurable ways over the next year.

Glenn Parker – Executive Director

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Legislature Tightens Accident Victim Solicitation Laws

Taking action that will affect many attorneys, chiropractors, physicians and others throughout the state, the 81st Legislature amended the Texas Penal Code to prohibit people in certain professions or occupations or their agents from contacting accident or disaster victims before a certain amount of time has elapsed. Effective September 1, 2009 it is illegal for a doctor of chiropractic or anyone acting on the doctor's behalf to contact an individual who is a victim of an accident or a disaster before the 31st day after the date on which the accident or disaster occurred. It is also illegal to contact a relative of the injured person before the 31st day after that date.

House Bill 148, authored by Rep. Todd Smith and sponsored in the Senate by Sen. Jeff Wentworth, was signed into law by Governor Rick Perry on June 19, 2009, with an effective date of September 1, 2009. HB 148 amended Section 28.12(d) of the Texas Penal Code to protect accident victims and their families from the emotional distress of unwanted solicitations and to protect the integrity of certain professionals licensed in Texas. According to an analysis of the bill provided by the Legislature, the background and purpose of HB 148 is as follows:

Currently, there exists a thriving telemarketing business focused on motor vehicle accident victims through information obtained from police reports. These victims are subjected to calls and callbacks from attorneys, chiropractors, physicians, surgeons, health care professionals, private investigators, and telemarketers soon after an accident, at a time when they are most vulnerable and often while they are impaired by pain medication. Victims should be provided with protection from further pain and suffering. The United States Supreme Court has recognized that states have a substantial interest in protecting the privacy of accident victims, protecting accident victims and their families from the emotional stress of unwanted solicitation, and protecting the integrity of professionals licensed in Texas.

HB 148 provides further protection to the public from professional solicitation by prohibiting certain professionals from providing or knowingly permitting to be provided to an individual who has not sought the person's employment, legal representation, advice, or care a solicitation by telephone or in person of business relating to certain legal actions or matters, including personal injury matters before a certain date or indefinitely if the person has indicated a desire not to be contacted.

Doctors of chiropractic, their employees, or their agents who

violate the prohibition against contacting accident or disaster victims or their families before the 31st day after the accident or event may be subject to discipline by the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners and to prosecution by local and state law enforcement officials.

The Board also wants to take this opportunity to remind all doctors of chiropractic of their responsibilities concerning the solicitation of patients under Board Rule §77.2. In general, all chiropractors who engage in telemarketing directly, through their staffs or outside parties must abide by the following requirements (see Rule §77.2 for specifics):



1. Do not make any false, fraudulent, misleading, or unfair statements or claims. Do not promise successful treatment of any injuries or conditions;
2. Do not offer or describe services that are not within the scope of practice for chiropractors in Texas;
3. Licensees and facilities engaging in telemarketing shall not misrepresent to the person called any association with an insurance company, or another DC, chiropractic group or facility;
4. Licensees, facilities or their agents engaging in telemarketing must identify themselves at the start of each call to inform the person being called who they are and what DC or clinic they represent;
5. You must keep a copy of each script used in telemarketing and you must keep a log of all individuals called, including the date, telephone number and the name of each person called; copies of the scripts and logs must be kept for a minimum of two years;
6. If you use a testimonial, a copy of the testimonial signed by the person or group providing the testimony must be kept for a minimum of two years from the date the testimony was published;
7. Licensees and clinics must clearly differentiate a chiropractic clinic, office or facility from any other business enterprise in any form of public communication; and
8. Licensees must identify themselves as either "doctor of chiropractic," "DC," or "chiropractor" in all forms of public communication.

Board Adopts Rules Changes, Proposes New Rules & Amendments

One of the primary responsibilities of the Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Board) is to adopt and revise rules as necessary to regulate effectively and fairly the practice of chiropractic in Texas. New rules and amendments to existing rules are researched, proposed, reviewed and adopted in a multi-step process that takes place over a number of months. Before adoption, all proposed rules changes are published for public comment in the *Texas Register*, which is published weekly each Friday by the office of the Texas Secretary of State. (The *Register* can be found on the website for the Secretary of State at: www.sos.state.tx.us.) All rules that have been adopted and are currently in force can be found on the Board's website at: www.tbce.state.tx.us. Follow the links under "Statutes and Rules" on our home page.

Adopted New Rules & Amended Rules

The Board met five times in the thirteen months from August 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009. During those five meetings the Board adopted five (5) new rules and also adopted amendments to three (3) existing rules. Several of these rules changes affect all DCs, while some may have a more limited effect depending on the individual practice circumstances for each doctor. The remainder of this article addresses in a summary manner the rules changes that were adopted, in chronological order. The Board suggests that all licensees read each rule in its entirety.

Rule §75.19 Cease and Desist Orders

On August 16, 2008, the Board adopted new Rule §75.19 Cease and Desist Orders. By adoption of this rule, the Board delegated to its Enforcement Committee the right to issue Cease and Desist Orders on behalf of the Board. If the Enforcement Committee determines that a person is practicing chiropractic without a license, the Committee may – after notifying the person and giving him/her the opportunity for a hearing – order that person to stop engaging in that activity. The Enforcement Committee meets several times each year, while the full Board usually meets only four times each year. Delegating this responsibility to the Enforcement Committee allows the agency to take action quicker against people who are practicing chiropractic without a license.

Rule §80.11 Code of Ethics

On August 16, 2008, the Board adopted new Rule §80.11 Code of Ethics. This rule encourages chiropractors to practice with a high level of ethics to enable patients to make informed choices about their chiropractic treatment,

consult with other health care professionals as appropriate, serve patients without discrimination, help others in the profession acquire knowledge, and to maintain high standards of scholarship, education, training and in the dissemination of accurate and complete information.

Rule §80.5 Maintenance of Chiropractic Records

The Board, also at its meeting on August 16, 2008, adopted an amendment to Rule §80.5 Maintenance of Chiropractic Records that contains a significant provision concerning the content of patient and billing records. Rule §80.5 (f) is especially important and is quoted in full:

(f) Licensees shall maintain patient and billing records in a manner consistent with the protection and welfare of the patient. A licensee's patient records shall support all diagnoses, treatments, and billing. Records shall be timely, dated, accurate, signed or initialed by the licensee or the person providing treatment, and legible. Electronic signatures are acceptable.

Notice that the patient's records **shall** support **all** diagnosis, treatments, and billing. They must also be signed by the licensee or the person providing the treatment. Failure to properly document the diagnosis, treatment and billing for each patient is a significant shortcoming for many chiropractors in Texas.

Rule §75.17 Scope of Practice

On May 14, 2009, the Board adopted an amendment to its Scope of Practice Rule (Rule §75.17) to state specifically that, "In order to provide therapeutic care for a patient or patient population, licensees are authorized to use... (O) manipulation under anesthesia;..." The Board has consistently held for many years that MUA is within scope of practice for properly educated and trained DCs but had held off on specifically listing MUA in Rule §75.17 until

the Board had time to further study the question since first adopting Rule §75.17 in May of 2006.

Rule §75.21 Acupuncture

Also on May 4, 2009, the Board adopted new Rule §75.21 Acupuncture. This new rule establishes the requirements that must be met by any licensed DC in Texas who wishes to include acupuncture in his/her chiropractic practice. It is strongly suggested that DCs read Rule §75.21. In summary (see Rule §75.21 for actual details), DCs who are currently licensed in Texas before January 1, 2010 may legally practice acupuncture if they meet any **one** of the following requirements: (1) have completed a course of at least 100 hours in acupuncture provided by a chiropractic college or an acupuncture school approved by the Texas Board of Acupuncture Examiners; or (2) have successfully completed the acupuncture examination offered by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners; or (3) have successfully completed the examination offered by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; or (4) have been trained in acupuncture and have been practicing acupuncture for at least the past ten (10) years; or (5) have successfully completed at least 100 hours in acupuncture training in a course approved by the Board.

All **new** Texas DCs who wish to practice acupuncture and who are licensed initially after January 1, 2010 **must** successfully complete either the NBCE acupuncture examination or the examination offered by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. This examination requirement does not apply retroactively to currently licensed DCs who qualify to practice acupuncture under one of the five provisions listed above.

Rule §71.15 Recognized Specialties

At its most recent meeting August 13, 2009, the Board adopted new Rule §71.15 Recognized Specialties. This rule will contain a listing of those areas of chiropractic practice that the Board has officially recognized as being a legitimate chiropractic specialty field of practice. Recognition of a chiropractic specialty by the Board is a multi-step process in which the Board reviews an application from a recognized organization that represents the specialty area. It is important

to note that the Board is not recognizing, certifying, or licensing individual practitioners. Please see the article on Chiropractic Specialties on page 13 of this newsletter.

Rule §76.21 Extensions of Time

The Board on August 13, 2009 also adopted new Rule §76.21 Extensions of Time. This rule does not directly affect the practice of chiropractic in Texas. It is intended to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Board by delegating to the agency's Executive Director the authority to enter into certain agreements on behalf of the Board for the purpose of expediting matters between the agency and the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

Rule 75.7 Required Fees and Charges

The Board on August 13, 2009 adopted changes to Rule 75.7 Required Fees and Charges to adopt fees for issuing and renewing temporary faculty licenses for qualified faculty at Texas Chiropractic College and Parker College of Chiropractic, as required by HB 3450. The Board also adopted an increase in fees for approving continuing education courses. (The Board receives no part of the fees collected from attendees who attend the courses.) The Board did not increase any licensing fees for doctors, clinics or chiropractic radiologic technologists.



Rules Changes Proposed by the Board

At the meeting held on August 13, 2009, the Board reviewed one proposed new rule and one proposed rule amendment and instructed the staff to publish the proposed rule changes in the Texas Register for public comment. The proposed rules changes, which will be eligible for adoption by the Board at its November 12, 2009 meeting, include:

Proposed New Rule 71.17 Temporary Faculty License, which sets forth proposed requirements for issuing and renewing temporary faculty licenses to qualified faculty members at Texas Chiropractic College and Parker College of Chiropractic;

Proposed Amendment to Rule 75.17 Scope of Practice, which updates language concerning the use of lasers to allow the use of "therapeutic lasers" for the treatment of conditions within the scope of practice for DCs.



THE TBCE COMPLAINT RESOLUTION PROCESS

The mission of the Board of Chiropractic Examiners is to protect the public through the fair and reasonable regulation of the practice of chiropractic. The Board (or TBCE) receives approximately 250 complaints each year alleging possible misconduct by doctors of chiropractic or other Board licensees. The Board is obligated to investigate each complaint and to reach a resolution as quickly as possible that is appropriate for the circumstances for that complaint. This article is intended to give licensees an overview of the TBCE's complaint investigation and resolution process. It does not cover the process in every detail. Future newsletter articles are planned that will present details of a fictitious but typical case to help licensees to better understand how this important Board process works.

Who Can File a Complaint? Anyone who has a complaint regarding a licensee or a chiropractic facility may file it with the Board in person at the Board's office in Austin or in any written form, including an agency complaint form. The agency complaint form is available in both English and Spanish. The Board receives complaints from patients, former patients, relatives of patients, other chiropractors, insurance companies, attorneys, law enforcement agencies, federal and state criminal courts of law, federal and state civil courts of law, district attorneys, county attorneys, the U.S. Attorney's Office, other Texas public health licensing agencies and licensing agencies from other states. In addition, the Board staff may initiate an investigation, including the filing of a complaint on a licensee or facility owner for violations of statutes, rules or law. The Board also receives anonymous complaints. Anonymous complaints are not investigated if insufficient information is provided or the allegations are vague, appear to lack credible or factual foundation, or cannot be proved for lack of a witness or other evidence. The majority of the anonymous complaints received deal with advertising violations, unlicensed practices or unregistered facilities. These can usually be substantiated and are investigated.

Staff Review and Investigation. When a complaint is received it is reviewed by the Director of Enforcement or other authorized Enforcement staff for violations of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), the Texas Occupations Code/Chiropractic Act (CA); the HPCA; the MRTCA; the rules or an order of the TDH; the Texas

Penal Code (PC); and federal law (USC). Upon initial review the complaint may be closed due to insufficient information or evidence; no violations of statute, rule or law; non-jurisdictional; duplicate of a previous case; or the complaint was withdrawn.

If a complaint is found to be non-jurisdictional, the complaint is forwarded to the agency with jurisdiction in the matter, if any. If the complaint is found to contain allegations of violations of a statute, rule or law the case is processed for an administrative investigation and assigned a case number. The chiropractor or facility owner (respondent) named in the complaint is notified of the investigation by certified mail (CM/RRR). This notification contains a cover letter from the Board, a copy of the complaint and a copy of the rule, statute or law that he/she is allegedly to be in violation of.

The cover letter informs the respondent that an investigation has been initiated into possible allegations of a violation of a statute, rule or law and that 22 TAC §75.6 require him/her to respond in writing within 15 days of receipt of the letter. Failure to respond within 15 days is a violation of 22 TAC §75.6. In the written response the respondent is to address the allegations in the complaint and provide any information, including pertinent documents, that he/she believes the Enforcement Committee should consider. The respondent may also show that they have complied with all requirements of law, including statute, rule or law. The complainant is notified in writing that an investigation has been initiated into the complaint. The case is then assigned to an Investigator for follow-up. The Enforcement Committee has the authority to issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, records, and documents, to issue commissions to take depositions, to administer oaths and to take testimony concerning all matters within the assigned jurisdiction to assist in the investigation.

Informal Hearing Before the TBCE Enforcement Committee.

When the staff investigation is completed the case is scheduled for an informal conference (IC) with the Enforcement Committee. The purpose of the Informal Conference is to attempt to resolve the complaint without having to go through the potentially expensive and time-consuming process of formal hearings at the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) or an actual trial in the state's court system. The Enforcement Committee is

composed of three board members, two of which are DCs, along with one public member of the Board. The hearings themselves are closed to the public, although notices are given that the EC will meet. Agency enforcement and legal staff and attorneys from the Office of the Attorney General attend to present evidence and to advise the Committee. The IC allows the complainant and the respondent to be heard to facilitate the resolution of the case. Both the complainant and the respondent are notified by mail of the date of the IC. The respondent is urged, but not required, to attend the IC. The complainant is invited but is not required to attend. Both the respondent and the complainant may have their legal counsel present if they wish.

Upon review of the case, the EC may close the case as No Violation; Insufficient Evidence; Complaint Withdrawn; or No Jurisdiction. In the cases of Non-Jurisdiction, the EC may order the case referred to another agency. In cases where the EC has made a finding of a violation of a statute, rule or law the EC will recommend disciplinary action. This discipline may include revocation of license; suspension of license for a definite period of time; suspension with probation for a definite period of time; formal reprimand; administrative penalty (fine); additional continuing education; cease and desist orders; or a combination of any of these provisions. In a case where the EC has made a finding of a violation for which a sanction is imposed, an Agreed Order will be offered to the respondent in an effort to resolve the case informally. The Agreed Order is sent to the respondent with the EC's recommendation. The respondent may accept the recommendation and sign the Agreed Order or the respondent may choose not to accept the recommendation and request a formal hearing at the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

The order is then returned to the TBCE. If the respondent agreed to the recommendation it is presented to the full Board at the next scheduled Board meeting for approval. The Board may approve the recommendation or vote to amend the order. If the Board approves the Agreed Order it is signed by the Board President and the Executive Director. A copy is sent to the respondent and he/she normally has 30 days to comply with the provisions of the agreed order. Should the Board amend the proposed order, the respondent is contacted for concurrence with the amended order. If the respondent does not concur with the amended order, the EC shall determine whether negotiations on an agreed order should continue or to refer the case for SOAH.

Formal Hearing at SOAH. If the respondent chooses not to sign the Agreed Order, the case is referred to SOAH and a court date assigned. The respondent is given reasonable notice of a hearing of not less than 10 days prior to the hearing. This notice will contain the date, time, place and nature of the hearing; a statement of the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing is being held; a reference to the particular sections of the Chiropractic Act, other law or rules which the respondent is alleged have violated;

and a short and plain statement of the acts relied on by the Board as a violation of the cited law and rules. The respondent shall enter an appearance by filing a written answer or other responsive pleading with SOAH, with a copy to the other party, within 20 days of the date which the notice of hearing and formal complaint or petition is served on the respondent. If the respondent fails to appear in person or by legal counsel on the date and the time of the hearing, regardless of whether an appearance has been entered, the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), pursuant to SOAH rules, on the motion of petitioner (Board), shall enter a default judgment in the matter adverse to the respondent. Within a reasonable time after the conclusion of the hearing, the ALJ shall prepare and serve on the parties a proposal for decision that includes the ALJ's finding of fact and conclusions of law. In the finding of a violation, the ALJ may recommend to the Board an appropriate disciplinary sanction. The respondent who is adversely affected by the proposed for decision of the ALJ may file exceptions and a supporting brief to the proposal for decision within 15 days after the date of service of the proposal for decision. A reply to the exceptions may be filed within 15 days of the filing of exceptions.

Board Makes Final Decision Unless Appealed to District Court.

The Board shall render the final decision in all cases, including the denial of a license or registration, revocation, temporary suspension, reprimand, and/or administrative penalties. The final order is mailed to the respondent. The decision of the Board is immediate, final and appealable upon the signing of the written order. Any appeal of a final Board order issued after an ALJ's ruling at SOAH must be through a civil District Court. All disciplinary actions issued by the Board in the form of a Board order will be recorded and made available upon request as public information. All disciplinary actions shall be published in the TBCE newsletter, may be released in a press release, and shall be transmitted to the Chiropractic Information Network-Board Action Data Bank (CIN-BAD) or other national data bank as required. A licensee whose license has been suspended for a specific period of time (down-time) shall not during the period of suspension realize any remuneration from his or her practice; be in attendance in his or her office when it is open to serve patients; or provide chiropractic services to any person at any location. A licensee or facility owner whose license or registration has been revoked for a period of more than one year may, after the expiration of at least one year from the date that such revocation became final, apply to the Board for reinstatement. The Board in its discretion may deny reinstatement or grant reinstatement without conditions or with probation for a specified period of time under specified conditions or with or without reexamination or additional training.

Cases appealed to District Court may then be argued and appealed in the state and federal court systems as the laws regarding those court systems apply. The licensee is guaranteed the right to due process throughout the hearings and court procedures.

TBCE Board Takes 63 Disciplinary Actions

Name	Lic #	Discipline	Date of Action	City
Ajayi, Francis Ayodeji	DC 11053	Suspend/Probate	5/4/2009	Richmond
Allen, Sammy Joe	DC 5434	Ltr of Reprimand	2/26/2009	Brownsville
Babb, Christopher Thomas	DC 11107	Suspend/Probate	5/4/2009	Lake Dallas
Bennett-Burton, Tina	DC 10635	Fine	5/14/2009	Dallas
Benthall, Steven Clinton	DC 2967	Cease and Desist w/fine	5/14/2009	Austin
Beyer, Jr. Michael Dan	DC 8122	Fine	5/14/2009	Houston
Books, Phyllis E.B.	DC 4321	Fine with Stips	8/13/2009	Austin
Buckley, Matthew D.	DC 9396	Fine with Stips	8/13/2009	Austin
Burbridge, Darlene	F 3343	Fine	8/13/2009	Houston
Burdin, Daniel Bradley	DC 6933	Fine	5/14/2009	San Antonio
Cantu, Daniel D.	DC 6930	Fine, Refer to Medical Board	2/26/2009	Houston
Carlson, Ky H.	DC 9440	Suspend/Probate w/Stips	5/14/2009	Conroe
Davis, Chris DeMond	DC 8439	Revocation	2/26/2009	Gladewater
Diamond, Timothy L.	DC 8568	Surrender of License	11/18/2008	Fort Worth
Diamond, Timothy L.	DC 8568	Surrender of License	11/18/2008	Fort Worth
Doyle, Danny Ray	DC 2433	Revocation	8/13/2009	Fort Worth
Duke, Darrell Duane	DC 2776	Fine	11/6/2008	Dumas
Ecola, Michael J.	DC 9997	Suspend/Probate w/Fine	2/26/2009	Sulphur Springs
Ehrke, Larry Dale	DC 2702	Fine	5/14/2009	Brownwood
Fields, Ernie Van	DC 6365	Fine	11/6/2008	Plainview
Funderburk, Ursula Danyelle	DC 6673	Fine	2/26/2009	Houston
Garcia, Bertha	F 8268	Fine	2/26/2009	Houston
Glans, Howard C.	DC 7229	Fine	11/6/2008	Keller
Glans, Howard C.	DC 7229	Fine	11/6/2008	Keller
Gonser-Prado, Genene A.	DC 6945	Fine	8/13/2009	Liberty Hill
Guidry, Jr. Richard Ignatius	DC 8045	Cease and Desist	10/14/2008	Houston
Hanson, Mark L.	DC 4238	Fine	2/26/2009	Dallas
Hogan, Thomas Earl	DC 8701	Fine	8/13/2009	Austin
Hogan, Thomas Earl	DC 8701	Fine	8/13/2009	Austin
Huaman, James	F 8129	Fine	8/13/2009	Irving
Huse, Ronnie Ray	DC 2405	Revocation	2/26/2009	Dallas
Huynh, Cindy	F 6422	Fine	8/13/2009	Houston
Jacobs, Craig Steven	DC 6826	Fine w/Stips	5/14/2009	Plano
Johns, Randall Baugh	DC 9359	Fine	8/13/2009	Texarkana
Jones, LaShunda	F 7490	Fine	11/6/2008	Houston
Kelly, Richard	DC 2812	Fine	8/13/2009	Houston

During Fiscal-Year 2009

Name	Lic #	Discipline	Date of Action	City
Ledbetter, Edward Chestley	DC 9364	Fine	5/14/2009	Gladewater
Leza, Mario Albert	DC 9901	Fine	5/14/2009	Lewisville
Mack, Preston C.	DC 6713	Fine	8/13/2009	Houston
Mathes, Loren Arthur	DC 5761	Fine	8/13/2009	Wichita
McCoy-Moore, Tiffany	DC 6315	Fine	11/6/2008	Flower Mound
Ngo, Terry	F 8097	Ltr of Reprimand	8/13/2009	Houston
Nguyen, Hong Michelle	DC 9323	Fine	8/13/2009	Bellaire
Odmark, Dean Thorston	DC 4047	Fine	8/13/2009	San Antonio
Ozor, George	No License	Cease and Desist	3/17/2009	Dallas
Perkins, Larin B.	DC 4363	Fine	5/14/2009	Houston
Pete, Henry	F 6483	Cease and Desist	1/26/2009	Houston
Peterson, Arthur Darwin	DC 2750	Fine	5/14/2009	Austin
Pettke, Michael Brandon	DC 9711	Fine	8/13/2009	Burleson
Pick, Jeffrey David	DC 5586	Surrender of License	11/18/2008	Cedar Park
Polson, Michael Clark	DC 4024	Ltr of Reprimand w/fine	2/26/2009	Mansfield
Rongers, Edward Walter	DC 2366	Ltr of Reprimand	2/26/2009	Wills Point
Rongers, Edward Walter	DC 2366	Ltr of Reprimand	2/26/2009	Wills Point
Ryder, Kelly	F 7898	Cease and Desist w/fine	5/14/2009	Dallas
Shanu-Abu, Joseph	F 4369	Fine	11/6/2008	Houston
Southerland, Dale Alan	DC 6914	Fine	8/13/2009	Pearland
Thai, Binh Van	DC 6790	Revocation	11/6/2008	Arlington
Tran, Nam Cuong	F 5867	Ltr of Reprimand w/fine	11/6/2008	Dallas
Tran, Nam Cuong	F 5867	Ltr of Reprimand w/fine	11/6/2008	Dallas
Vance, James Lane	DC 4038	Fine	5/14/2009	Austin
Vo, Thientuan D.	DC 8751	Revocation	8/13/2009	Arlington
Wilson, Joseph F.	DC 4937	Fine	8/13/2009	El Paso
American Health Choice	F 8474	Fine	8/13/2009	Flower Mound

Note: Some names appear twice because of multiple violations.

CORRECTION: In the August 2008 issue of this newsletter (Issue #1), we erroneously included Dr. Jeff Rodriguez (DC license #5590) in a list of disciplinary actions taken by the Board during Fiscal Year 2007. Dr. Jeff Rodriguez was not disciplined by the Board during FY 2007 for any reason and his name should not have been included on the disciplinary list. We regret the error and have apologized to Dr. Rodriguez.

Glenn Parker, Executive Director
Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

How to Avoid Disciplinary Action

The purpose of this article is to give TBCE licensees some guidance on how to practice legally and ethically and thereby avoid facing the prospect of being disciplined by the Board.

Board Prefers Compliance, Not Punishment

No doctor wants to be the recipient of disciplinary action by the Board and, in a perfect world, the Board would prefer to never have to take disciplinary action against a licensee. We would prefer that all licensees know, understand and comply with the statutes and rules that govern the practice of chiropractic in Texas.

Unfortunately, we do not live in a perfect world. Doctors of chiropractic do make mistakes and sometimes they make decisions that lead to unethical or illegal activities. Sometimes the standard of care given to a patient is clearly inadequate. More often the DC may, knowingly or unknowingly, violate some aspect of the Texas Chiropractic Act, Board Rules, or other state laws that govern the practice of chiropractic. A few doctors or chiropractic clinic owners choose to willfully engage in criminal activity.

The mission of the Board is to promote, preserve and protect the health, safety and economic welfare of the people of Texas through the regulation of the practice of chiropractic. Protecting the public is clearly the highest priority for the Board and it is resolute in fulfilling that duty. However, the Board recognizes that it also has a responsibility to regulate the practice of chiropractic in a manner that is reasonable and fair to its licensees.

To that end, the Board seeks to ensure that all licensees know and understand their professional responsibilities under the Texas Chiropractic Act and Board Rules. Below are some suggestions on how to ensure that your practice record remains clear. Some are major issues and others are simply reminders on doing the little things to avoid problems. We do have to accept that there is no way to guarantee a DC will not have a complaint filed against him or her. No matter how perfectly a DC practices and obeys all laws, an unhappy patient or employee may file a complaint with the Board. However, the following tips should help most DCs avoid ever becoming involved in the TBCE's disciplinary process.

Tips on Protecting Yourself and Your Practice

- **Know the Law** – It is the responsibility of each DC to know and comply with the state laws that govern the practice of DCs in Texas. Get a copy of the Chiropractic

Act and Board Rules and become thoroughly familiar with them. Print a copy of the statutes and rules off our website or order a booklet from the TBCE.

- **Renew DC License on Time** – It is illegal to practice with an expired license. A DC may renew online at our website 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- **Renew Facility Registration on Time** – It is illegal to operate a clinic or to work in a clinic that does not have a current registration. Clinic (facility) registration renewals can be done online.
- **Register Radiologic Technologists** – Rad Techs must be registered with the Texas Department of State Health Services and with the Board. Anyone taking x-rays must be qualified to do so by the state.
- **Provide Copies of Records Upon Request** – DCs are legally obligated to provide patients with copies of their records or a summary of those records upon written request. See Rule §80.3 for guidance on fees that you may charge to provide records. Records cannot be withheld until the patient pays an outstanding balance or signs a letter of protection.
- **Keep Good Records** – Clearly document in the patient records all that you do. The documentation must support all assessments, evaluations, treatments, outcomes and billings.
- **Respect Personal Boundaries** – DCs work in a physical way with most patients and it is imperative that the DC always maintain a proper professional relationship with all patients. Be very careful about how and where you touch a patient and how you talk with patients. Violation of sexual and personal boundaries is a very serious issue with the Board.
- **Keep Advertising Ethical** – Always identify yourself as a DC and never promise results, make claims of superiority or make any statements that cannot be shown to be true or that might tend to mislead a potential patient.
- **Telemarketing** – Do not contact accident or disaster victims earlier than the 31st day after the event. Keep copies of all scripts used and logs of everyone contacted.
- **Bill Properly** – Bill only for actual services rendered and present the patient with a written statement of charges for every visit.

Board Puts DC License Verifications and DC Database Search Online

Transparency and Open Government

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners is keenly aware of its status as an official agency of the State of Texas and of its legal and ethical responsibilities to operate in accordance with state laws concerning open government, open meetings and open records. The agency seeks to provide reasonable and efficient access to its public records and actions to any interested party in accord with state law.



The TBCE is pleased to announce that it now provides free online verification of DC licenses to all interested parties. It is also possible to search the DC database in various ways to provide useful information concerning licensed doctors of chiropractic in Texas. The service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on the agency's website (www.tbce.state.tx.us). The file is updated before 9:00 A.M. every working day and displays the license status and other information as of the close of business on the previous day.

We believe this free service will prove to be very useful to our licensees, chiropractic patients and potential patients, insurance companies and others interested in the practice of chiropractic in Texas. Putting the service online at no charge is expected to greatly reduce the agency's workload in this area as we receive more than 11,000 written requests annually for license verifications and disciplinary records.

Verifying a DC License

To access the verifications and search feature, go to the agency website and click on "Verifications" or click on the red announcement at the top of the home page and then follow the links and instructions.

The verification function is intended to allow a DC and other interested parties to verify the status of the DC's license at any point in time. To verify the status of any particular DC licensee, go to the search box in the verification function and type in the 5-digit DC license number, including leading zeros as necessary. If the license number is not known, one can simply search on any combination of first, middle and/or last names.

The response page displays all the records found that match the search criteria and gives the following information for each record: License Number; Last Name; First Name; Middle Name; City;

State; License Status; License Issue Date; License Expiration Date; and Disciplinary Action. For instance, typing the word "Smith" into the search box will return a list of all Texas licensed DCs with the first, middle, or last name of Smith or who live in a city with the word "Smith" in its name, such as Ft. Smith, Arkansas. The response page can be printed and includes an explanation of the meanings of the ten possible statuses for a license, such as Active, Expired, Suspended, etc. The city listed is the city for the official mailing address of the doctor as provided to the agency by the licensee. It may be the doctor's home city, the city in which the clinic is located, or another mailing address such as a post office box.

The search function also allows one to see how many DCs are in any particular city, which licenses are expired, get a listing of all licenses that are currently revoked, etc. Try different search combinations that may be of interest to you.

Disciplinary Action

One of the fields displayed on the response to any inquiry for license verification is the Disciplinary Action field. This field will contain either the word "No" or the word "Yes." A "No" in the Disciplinary Action field means that the agency has no record of this doctor ever having been disciplined by the Board. A "Yes" in the Disciplinary Action field means that the Board has taken official disciplinary action against the licensee at some point.

All disciplinary actions taken by the Board are public records and must be disclosed under the state's Open Records Act. Insurance companies especially inquire about any disciplinary actions taken by the Board as do patients. Also, other states check with the TBCE whenever any DC who has ever been licensed in Texas applies for licensure in another state. Under state law we must provide the information.

The agency is in the process of providing direct, online access to copies of disciplinary actions taken by the Board. If a DC has a "Yes" in his or her Disciplinary Action field, a link will be provided so that anyone can view and print a copy of the official disciplinary action taken by the Board.

Online Facility (Clinic) Verifications Coming

Agency staff members are also in the process of developing free online verification and database search systems for chiropractic facilities (clinics) and for chiropractic radiologic technologists. We plan to have those verification and search options online by the end of November, 2009 if not sooner.

Q *I am hearing a lot of talk about acupuncture. Specifically, is it true that any DC in Texas who wants to practice acupuncture after January 1, 2010 must pass the acupuncture examination given by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners? I have included acupuncture in my DC practice for many years and completed a 100 hour certification course in acupuncture through a chiropractic college several years ago.*

A If you have already completed a 100 hour post graduate acupuncture course you will not be required to pass the NBCE acupuncture examination to continue using acupuncture in your DC practice. The Board adopted Rule §75.21 (Acupuncture) on May 4, 2009. While the Board has long held that acupuncture is within scope of practice for properly trained and qualified DCs, it has never previously adopted any rules to specify what the minimal qualifications are for a DC in Texas to practice acupuncture. Rule §75.21 establishes those minimum qualifications. (See also Page 5)

The rule sets different requirements for two sets of licensees – those who will be licensed for the first time in Texas after January 1, 2010 and those already licensed with the TBCE before January 1, 2010. First, all DCs who are licensed in Texas for the first time on or after January 1, 2010 must pass either the NBCE acupuncture exam or the examination offered by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM). They will have no other options.

Those DCs who are currently licensed in Texas or who will be issued their initial license prior to January 1, 2010 must meet any **one** of the following requirements to practice acupuncture as a DC:

- Have passed the NBCE acupuncture exam; or
- Have passed the exam offered by the NCCAOM; or
- Have completed a post graduate course in acupuncture of at least 100 hours offered by a CCE chiropractic college; or
- Have completed a course in acupuncture of at least 100 hours that was approved by the TBCE; or
- Have been a licensed DC for at least ten years and be able to prove to the Board that you have practiced acupuncture for at least ten years.

Q *What is the status of the lawsuit against the Board that was brought by the Texas Medical Association in 2006?*

A The lawsuit is still active. We expect to go to trial, if necessary, sometime in the early months of 2010.

Q *Is the use of ultraviolet light within the scope of practice for DCs in Texas?*

A The use of ultraviolet light to treat patients is within scope if it is used to treat the subluxation complex or the biomechanics of the musculoskeletal system of the human body. All treatments for any other purposes, including cosmetic purposes, are not within scope of practice for doctors of chiropractic.

Q *We are trying to determine whether Lithotripsy / Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy, CPT Code 50590, is considered within or outside the scope of practice for a chiropractor in Texas. Can you help us?*

A It is the opinion of the Board that Lithotripsy / Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy using CPT Code 50590 is not within scope of practice for DCs in Texas. It is our understanding that CPT Code 50590 is a surgical code used in breaking up kidney stones. Other uses of L/E Shockwave Therapy may or may not be within scope of practice but those uses are not addressed in this response.

Q *I recently called the Board's office in Austin seeking advice on how to properly code an insurance submittal. I was surprised to learn that the Board employees do not offer advice or help on coding issues. Why not?*

A The Board recognizes that coding of insurance and Medicare claims is an important issue for DCs. That is one reason why the Board has implemented a continuing education requirement that all DCs obtain at least one hour of continuing education credit in coding each year. A thorough class or seminar in coding would seem to be a good investment for most DCs. However, it is not within the Board's direct statutory responsibility or authority to provide advice or direction on how to properly code claims. In addition, the agency has only a small staff and cannot afford to employ an expert in coding.

On the other hand, the Board clearly has the authority and responsibility to investigate complaints involving possible fraud in which a DC has miscoded insurance or Medicare claims with the intent to illegally enrich the DC. Also, improper coding that results in a patient being denied reimbursement for legitimate treatment may be a cause for disciplinary action against the DC if the Board believes that the DC has not exercised proper diligence. The Board's Enforcement Committee will also review the coding in patient records if it is relevant to the resolution of a complaint.

DOCUMENTATION MUST SUPPORT DIAGNOSIS TREATMENT & BILLING

CHIROPRACTIC *Specialties*

In the course of a year, agency Enforcement Department staff and board members who serve on the Enforcement Committee review tens of thousands of pages of patient files and documentation. The quality of the documentation found in those records ranges from outstanding to non-existent. It is sometimes difficult, if not impossible, for even the highly qualified doctors of chiropractic who sit on the Board to determine from the records what treatment a DC provided to the patient and the assessment or diagnosis supporting that treatment.

Board Rule §75.2 (Proper Diligence and Efficient Practice of Chiropractic) says that it is a lack of proper diligence for a DC to fail "...to assess and evaluate a patient's status..." Rule §80.5 (Maintenance of Chiropractic Records), in paragraph (f), states:

"Licensees shall maintain patient and billing records in a manner consistent with the protection and welfare of the patient. A licensee's patient records shall support all diagnoses, treatments, and billing. Records shall be timely, dated, accurate, signed or initialed by the licensee or the person providing the treatment, and legible. Electronic signatures are acceptable."

It should be possible for any qualified doctor of chiropractic to review the patient files and documentation of another DC's patient and have a reasonably clear understanding of the treating DC's assessment or diagnosis of the patient, the course of treatment decided on by the treating DC, the actual treatment provided (when, what, how much, by whom) and the outcome of that treatment. It should also be possible to clearly track the charges for treatment back to the actual treatment documented in the patient's files.

In December of 2007, the Board adopted new Rule §71.13 (Chiropractic Specialties). There has been some confusion in the chiropractic community since that time over the Board's intent in adopting the rule and how it may impact practicing DCs. The Board recognizes that many doctors of chiropractic have gone on to complete rigorous, advanced specialized courses in various areas of practice, often receiving diplomates in those areas. It was and is the Board's intention to simply officially recognize that certain areas of practice are legitimate chiropractic specialty areas. The Board believes that its official recognition of legitimate chiropractic specialties will support the general acceptance of those specialties by the public and other interested parties.

It is important to understand that the Board is only recognizing approved specialty areas of practice. It is NOT recognizing or certifying individual DCs as being "state board certified" to practice in those specialty areas. Most, if not all, specialty areas will already have a national organization or board that confers diplomate status on qualified individuals.

To date, the Board has received and approved specialty recognition for chiropractic radiology and chiropractic orthopedics. An application is pending (but not yet approved) for the recognition of chiropractic acupuncture as a specialty area. Any person or entity may submit an application to the Board for recognition of a chiropractic specialty. The application must conform to the requirements of Rule §71.13 and a \$750 fee is required. The form can be found on the agency website under "Forms/Downloads." At this time, if you have a diplomate in radiology or orthopedics, you may use the terms "specialty" or "specializing" in your advertisements and other public communications.

AGENCY LICENSING & REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Number of DCs		Number of Clinics	
Active License	4,666	Active Registration	3,413
Expired License	296	Expired Registration	208
Inactive License	651		
License on Probation	14	Number of Radiologic Technologists	
License Suspended	3	Active Registration	79
License Revoked	19	Expired Registration	32

Information in this table was current as of August, 2009

Non-DC Owned Clinic Registrations Past Due After *Sept. 1, 2009*

All chiropractic clinics (facilities) that are owned by individuals or organizations that are not licensed doctors of chiropractic must renew their facility registrations with the Board by September 1 of each year. Renewal forms reminding clinic owners of the renewal requirements were mailed to all non-DC owned clinics approximately 45-60 days prior to September 1. (The annual registration for a chiropractic clinic whose primary owner is a chiropractor is due at the same time that the DC's license is due for renewal, which is the first day of the month in which the DC was born.)

This is a friendly reminder that any non-DC or organization that is the primary owner of a chiropractic clinic and that has not renewed the annual clinic registration should immediately go to the TBCE website and renew the registration online. It is quick and easy to do. Our website address is: www.tbce.state.tx.us. Check the menu on the left hand side of our home page and click on the tab for "Facility Licensing and Renewals." Follow the links to the Texas Online renewal page. You will need your facility number (which is on your registration certificate) and a credit card. It is illegal to operate a chiropractic clinic that is not currently registered with the Board and it is illegal for any doctor of chiropractic to work in a chiropractic clinic that is not currently registered with the Board. Insurance companies often refuse to reimburse a DC for work performed in a clinic during any time period in which the facility registration was expired and sometimes demand refunds for any payments made.

Radiologic Technologist Registration Renewals Due *January 1*

All individuals who take x-rays in a chiropractic clinic must be qualified to do so, either by their licensure as a DC, a nurse or another health care professional or must be certified by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). TBCE Board Rule §78.1 requires that individuals other than DCs, nurses and certified medical technologists must register annually with the Board as Chiropractic Radiologic Technologists. So-called Rad Techs are required to renew their registration with the Board by January 1 of each year. Renewal forms are sent by the Board approximately 45-60 days before the renewal date.

The TBCE does not certify individuals to work as x-ray technologists but relies on DSHS to certify individuals for that purpose. Information on how to register with DSHS and become certified can be found at the following location on the DSHS website: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mrt/default.shtm>

A DC can apply to DSHS for a hardship exemption if a qualified chiropractic radiologic technologist cannot be found. Individuals taking x-rays in a chiropractic clinic under a hardship exemption must register with the TBCE and renew their registration annually. The Board is concerned that very few chiropractic radiologic technologists are registered with the Board. Allowing an unqualified individual to take x-rays endangers patients and is a violation of Board rules. It is not permissible for a doctor to train the employee to take x-rays unless the DC has a current hardship exemption from DSHS.

Governor Appoints Turner,

Continued from page 1

fourth generation Texan, Mr. Turner is also a limited partner of San Antonio-based TETCO, Inc. and co-chairman of the Austin-based political action committee Maverick PAC. Mr. Turner received a B.A. in Economics and a B.A. in Political Science, cum laude, from Washington and Lee University. Mr. Turner, a public member, serves on the Board's Licensing & Educational Standards Committee. He replaces Ms. Marcia Daughtrey of Tyler.

TBCE STATUTES AND RULES ORDER FORM

Know the Law! - To order your copy of the Statutes and Rules that govern the practice of chiropractic in Texas, copy and complete this order form and mail it with a check or money order to: Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners (or TBCE), 333 Guadalupe St., Suite 3-825, Austin, Texas 78701.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

of Copies _____ x \$10 each = \$ _____ Enclosed

BOARD MEETING INFORMATION & DATES

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners meets (usually) four times each year, but may meet more or less often as circumstances require. The Board is required to meet at least two times each fiscal year. Unless otherwise announced, board meetings are held in Room 2-225 of the William P. Hobby Building, which is located at 333 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas (the corner of 4th and Guadalupe streets in downtown Austin).

Official meeting dates, locations and agendas are published at least seven (7) days in advance by the Secretary of State. To find these notices online, go to the Secretary of State's website at: www.sos.state.tx.us and look for Open Meetings. Tentative dates for TBCE board meetings for the next several years can be found on the agency's website at: www.tbce.state.tx.us under the Calendar section. Tentative dates for the remainder of 2009 and for 2010 are:

- November 12, 2009
- February 18, 2010
- May 20, 2010
- August 12, 2010
- November 4, 2010

ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE DATES

The Enforcement Committee of the Board meets most months, usually 9-to-10 times each year. The Committee meets with licensees and other individuals against whom complaints have been filed charging them with violations of the Chiropractic Act, Board Rules or other laws. Portions of the Enforcement Committee meetings are open to the public but the discussion and/or consideration of specific complaints are closed in accordance with the Chiropractic Act. The agency notifies in advance those individuals whose cases will be considered. Enforcement Committee meetings are usually held in various locations within the William P. Hobby Building, 333 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas 78701. The Enforcement Committee has scheduled meetings for the following dates at this time:

- September 15, 2009
- October 20, 2009
- November 12, 2009 *(in conjunction with the full board meeting on that date)*
- November 17, 2009
- December 2009 *(No meeting scheduled at this time)*

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Office Number 512-305-6700
 Office Fax Number 512-305-6705
 Website www.tbce.state.tx.us
 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday except holidays

LICENSING

Jennifer Hertsberg, Director of Licensing512-305-6702

- New DC Applications, DC Renewals & Inactive Status
- Facility (Clinic) Registrations & Renewals Applications
- Radiologic Technologists Registrations & Renewals
- Approval of CE Course Applications

Anita Wilkerson, Administrative Assistant512-305-6707

- License Verifications
- Open Records Requests
- Sales of Lists

ENFORCEMENT

Scott Parker, Director of Enforcement.....512-305-6708
Bill Zilar, Investigator512-305-6704
Mary Feys, Admin. Assistant for Enforcement.....512-305-6901
Toll-Free Complaint Hot Line
(to request a complaint form only).....800-821-3205

ADMINISTRATION

Arletia Middleton, Chief Financial Officer512-305-6709
Mary Ann Garcia, Admin. Asst. Purchasing.....512-305-6703



Purpose of the Board Report

The purpose of the *Texas Chiropractic Board Report* newsletter is to disseminate information concerning the laws and regulations governing the practice of chiropractic in Texas to doctors of chiropractic, chiropractic clinic owners, clinic employees, the public and other interested stakeholders. The newsletter provides information on current issues in chiropractic regulation, rules adopted or under consideration for adoption, information concerning licensure and practice and disciplinary actions taken by the Board against licensees or others who violate the Texas Chiropractic Act or Board Rules. While the TBCE attempts to ensure that all information presented in the newsletter is accurate, the Board cannot guarantee that the contents are accurate or legally correct in all circumstances.

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, this document may be requested in alternate formats by contacting the Board's office at 512-305-6700 (Voice), 512-305-6705 (Fax), by e-mailing us at tbce@tbce.state.tx.us, or by visiting the Board's offices at 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-825, Austin, Texas 78701.

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The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners has its offices in the William P. Hobby Building, which is located at the corner of 4th and Guadalupe streets in downtown Austin (see address above). Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for designated holidays.

The agency's website is: www.tbce.state.tx.us. Please check the website regularly for current information.

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability in employment or in the provisions of services, programs or activities.

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