



GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

LICENSE | REGULATE | EDUCATE



MEET OUR BOARD CHAIR



BOARD CHAIR
SREENI GANGASANI, MD

Dr. Sreeni R. Gangasani is a practicing Cardiologist in Lawrenceville, Georgia with board certifications in Cardiovascular disease, Nuclear cardiology, Heart failure and transplantation. He is founding partner of Cardiovascular Group based in Gwinnett county in Metro Atlanta. He graduated with Gold medals from Kurnool Medical College of University of Health Sciences. He was past president of Georgia Association of Physicians of Indian heritage(GAPI).

He has been a member of the Georgia Composite Medical Board since 2021 and served as Vice Chair for the year 2023-24.

MEET OUR BOARD VICE CHAIR



BOARD VICE CHAIR
KATHRYN CHEEK, MD

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Dr. Kathryn K. Cheek has been dedicated to the private practice of Pediatrics in Columbus, Georgia, for the past 37 years. Dr. Cheek completed her undergraduate education at the University of North Carolina and earned a Master of Health Education from the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University. She received her Doctor of Medicine from the same institution and completed her postgraduate training in pediatric residency at Emory University's affiliated hospitals

Dr. Cheek is a past president of the Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (GaAAP) and a past chairperson of the Pediatric Healthcare Improvement Coalition of Georgia (PHIC). She has been a member of the Georgia Composite Medical Board since 2021. She has served as a board member of the Georgia Department of Public Health since 2011.



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NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

Dr. David Retterbush is a Board-Certified General Surgeon practicing in Valdosta, Ga at South Georgia Medical Center Health since 1982. Dr. Retterbush is currently employed by SGMC Health as a hospital-based surgeon and has served in numerous leadership positions there including Chief of Staff and Chairman of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Retterbush graduated from medical school in 1977 from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, Ga.

Dr. Retterbush previously served as a board member on the GCMB from 2008 to 2021 and was Chairman from 2014 to 2015.



DAVID RETTERBUSH, MD



EX OFFICIO MEMBER
CHARMAINE FAUCHER, PA

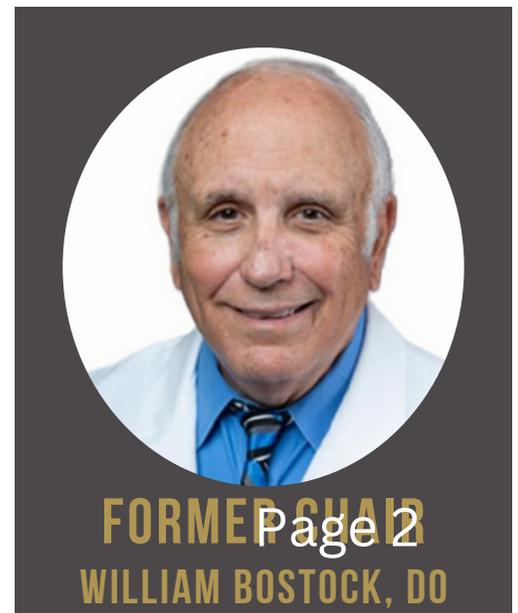
SPECIAL THANKS TO:

We'd like to extend a warm thank you to Charmaine Faucher for her invaluable service on the Georgia Medical Board. Her dedication and expertise as a PA have been instrumental in our work, and we deeply appreciate the time and effort she has devoted to our cause.

Thank you, Ms. Faucher for all you've done!

We would like to express our gratitude to Dr. William Bostock for his incredible service as Chairman of the Medical Board from 2023 to 2024.

His leadership and dedication have made a real difference, and we're grateful for all his hard work. Dr. Bostock still serves on the Georgia Composite Medical Board.



FORMER CHAIR
WILLIAM BOSTOCK, DO



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATES

Licensing Database upgrades: ThoughtSpan is a cutting-edge licensing database designed to streamline the management of licensure applications, renewals, and compliance activities. The platform offers advanced features that will significantly improve our ability to process applications more quickly and accurately, while also providing a better user experience for licensees.

- **Improved Efficiency:** ThoughtSpan automates many of the manual processes currently used in our licensing operations. This will reduce processing times and minimize the potential for human error.
- **Enhanced User Experience:** The new system provides a more intuitive and user-friendly interface for applicants and licensees. It allows for easier submission of applications, tracking of application status, and communication with our staff.



JASON S. JONES, MPSA



We're thrilled to share that GCMB has created special challenge coins

featuring our new logo! These unique tokens symbolize our commitment to excellence and the spirit of our dedication to the medical community. Stay tuned for more details on how you can get your hands on one of these limited-edition coins. We look forward to celebrating our progress and shared achievements with you

We're excited to announce that GCMB's new public outreach program

is launching soon! This initiative is designed to engage and inform our medical community about important licensing tools, updated regulations, and the many ways GCMB can support you. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks. If you're interested in learning more or would like GCMB to be involved in your programs—whether at medical schools, healthcare facilities, job fairs, or other events—please don't hesitate to reach out. We'd love to connect and keep you updated on all the upcoming opportunities!

GCMB is dedicated to streamlining our processes and work with our partners to assure we are providing the best quality service to our citizens and licensees. We are taking every step necessary to improve our services to narrow our licensing and protocol timelines to better serve you!



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GCMB UPDATES

APRN/PA LAW UPDATES:

<https://medicalboard.georgia.gov/document/document/aprn-information-summary06242024pdf/download>

<https://medicalboard.georgia.gov/document/document/gcmb-statement-pa-law-changes-2024pdf/download>

RECENT PUBLIC BOARD ORDERS

AUGUST 2024

1. JADE COPPERSTONE, PA-C

8814

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
CONSENT AGREEMENT
FOR REINSTATEMENT

2. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TOWE, MD

19794

PHYSICIAN PUBLIC CONSENT
ORDER

4. ASA HENRY NAILS, JR., RCP

10710

RESPIRATORY CARE PROFESSIONAL
PUBLIC CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR
REINSTATEMENT

3. CHARLES KEVIN GRIGSBY, MD

97094 PHYSICIAN PUBLIC

CONSENT TERMINATING
RESTRICTIONS

5. ALEXIS B. PARKS

VOLUNTARY CEASE AND

DESIST ORDER

6. VICTOR TSENG, MD

81169

PHYSICIAN ORDER
SCHEDULING REVIEW

7. GARY DAVID VOGIN, MD

39259

PHYSICIAN VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

8. HILLARY SPEARMAN WINSCH, SLP

SENIOR LASER PRACTITIONER

PUBLIC CONSENT AGREEMENT

FOR LICENSURE

RECENT PUBLIC BOARD ORDERS

SEPTEMBER 2024

1. JOHN ABELL, MD

33014

PHYSICIAN ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

2. MARY KATE ELLIS, PA-C

9414

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
CONSENT AGREEMENT
FOR REINSTATEMENT

3. NEDRA CLEM JACKSON, MD

VOLUNTARY CEASE AND DESIST

ORDER

4. NATALIE NABORS, ALP

2724

ASSISTANT LASER PRACTITIONER
PUBLIC CONSENT AGREEMENT
FOR LICENSURE

GCMB MEETING DATES 2024

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 7, 2024

WEEK OF DECEMBER 5, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS

SREENI GANGASANI, MD CHAIR GWINNETT COUNTY

KATHRYN CHEEK, MD VICE CHAIR TAYLOR COUNTY

JOHN S. ANTALIS, MD WHITFIELD COUNTY

SUBRAHMANYA BHAT, MD HENRY COUNTY

WILLIAM BOSTOCK, DO GWINNETT COUNTY

DAVID RETTERBUSH, MD LOWNDES COUNTY

DEBI DALTON, MD COBB COUNTY

ASHLEY GRIFFIN, PA-C FULTON COUNTY

AUSTIN FLINT, MD HALL COUNTY

JUDY GARDNER, PHARMD FULTON COUNTY

ALEXANDER S. GROSS, MD DEKALB COUNTY

CHARLES E. HARRIS, JR. HALL COUNTY

GEORGE HARRISON, MD HOUSTON COUNTY

J. JEFFREY MARSHALL, MD FULTON COUNTY

MATTHEW NORMAN, MD FULTON COUNTY

BARBY J. SIMMONS, DO HENRY COUNTY



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TOP 10 LIST

MOST COMMON DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AGAINST HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

1. Don't have sexual or romantic relationships with ANY PATIENTS (with or without consent)

The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) defines sexual misconduct as "behavior that exploits the physician-patient relationship sexually". This behavior may be verbal or physical and could occur in person or over the Internet.

2. Never write prescriptions to a family member or to patients you do not have an established doctor-patient relationship

While your loved ones may want to have easy access to antibiotics and other medications, this is a violation of the medical practice act. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, in Georgia, to establish a doctor-patient relationship you must have had an in person visit to begin that relationship. The telemedicine exception is still in effect and laws regarding telemedicine prescribing are currently under review at both the federal and state level.

3. Do not over prescribe narcotic or other medications

Inappropriate prescribing is defined as giving medications to a given patient for whom the risks outweigh the benefits.

4. Never write a prescription for narcotics without first checking the PDMP

To prevent multiple narcotic prescriptions and possible inadvertent over prescribing, you should never write a prescription for narcotics without checking the PDMP.

5. Renew your medical license on time

Failure to renew your medical license and continuing the practice of medicine is a violation of the medical practice act.

6. Be mindful of signing death certificates promptly

Georgia Death Certificates may be signed by the following medical professionals: an attending physician, a physician assistant, or an APRN. All of these providers must have access to the deceased patient's medical record, and the death certificate must be signed within 72 hrs. Unless the cause of death on a death certificate is wantonly misrepresented, medical professionals have civil immunity regarding mistakes regarding the actual cause of death [§ 31-10-15(c)(3)].

7. Report Out-of-State disciplinary actions to the GCMB in a timely manner

If you have medical licenses in multiple states and you have a disciplinary action in another state, this action must be reported to the Georgia Composite Medical Board.

8. Convicted felons cannot have a Georgia medical license

If you are convicted of a felony in state or federal court you will most likely lose your license. This includes but is not limited to crimes such as domestic violence, convicted felony DUI, drug trafficking and other drug crimes, and fraud, including Medicare or Medicaid fraud.

9. Proven and adjudicated medical practice below the standard of care is a violation of the medical practice act

Multiple and egregious Med Mal verdicts or judgments could put your license at risk.

10. Losing clinical hospital privileges could result in the loss of your medical license

If you lose your clinical hospital privileges, you must mandatorily report this action to the GCMB.

MORE INFO



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MONTHLY LICENSING STATS SNAPSHOT

EXPLORING THE DATA THAT SHAPES GEORGIA'S MEDICAL COMMUNITY

Physician:

Applications received- 145
Applications Approved- 361
Board Review- 29
Applications Renewed- 1245

Physician's Assistant:

Applications received- 16
Applications Approved- 47
Board Review- 97
Applications Renewed- 387

Clinical Perfusionist:

Applications received- 3
Applications Approved- 5
Board Review- 7
Applications Renewed- 9

Genetic Counselor:

Applications received- 3
Applications Approved- 16
Board Review- 10
Applications Renewed- 15

Auricular Ear Detoxification

Technician:

Applications received- 0
Applications Approved- 0
Board Review- 0
Applications Renewed- 0

APRN Agreements:

Applications received- 734
Applications Approved- 347
Board Review- 40

Respiratory Care:

Applications received- 27
Applications Approved- 17
Board Review- 54
Applications Renewed- 248

Acupuncturist

Applications received: 9
Applications Approved: 3
Applications Renewed: 18

Anesthesiologist Asst:

Applications received- 0
Applications Approved- 0
Board Review- 0
Applications Renewed- 0

Orthotist:

Applications received- 1
Applications Approved- 0
Board Review- 0
Applications Renewed- 4

Resident Training Permits:

Applications received- 10
Applications Approved- 14
Board Review- 0
Applications Renewed- 0

Cosmetic Laser

Practitioner:

Applications received- 36
Applications Approved- 91
Board Review- 10
Applications Renewed- 67

Vaccine Protocol:

Applications received- 38
Applications Approved- 12

Pain Clinic:

Applications received- 5
Applications Approved- 1

Prosthetist:

Applications received- 1
Applications Approved- 0
Board Review- 0
Applications Renewed- 1

Orthotist/Prosthetist Dual:

Applications received- 1
Applications Approved- 0
Board Review- 1
Applications Renewed- 5