

**GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD
MINUTES
December 29, 2014**

The Georgia Composite Medical Board (GCMB) held a specially-called meeting by teleconference on December 29, 2014 at 2 Peachtree St., NW 36th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 to consider Medical Board matters.

Board members in attendance were:

David Retterbush, MD, Chairperson
Alice A. House, MD, Vice Chairperson
John S. Antalis, MD
Keisha Callins, MD
E. Daniel DeLoach, MD
Charmaine Faucher, PA-C (Ex-Officio Member)
Alexander S. Gross, MD
Jeffery Grossman, MD
Jane "Cami" McGarity (Consumer Member)
J. Jeffrey Marshall, MD
B. K. Mohan, MD
George "Trey" Powell, MD
Ronald "Ronnie" Wallace, MBA (Consumer Member)
Richard Weil, MD
Charles White, DO

Board members absent were:

William S. Sightler, DO

Staff members present were:

LaSharn Hughes, MBA, Executive Director
Jean Sumner, MD, Medical Director
Robert Jeffery, MBA, Director of Operations
Jennifer Bass, MS, Director of Enforcement
Emmalie Kirkland, Director of Investigations
Betsy Cohen, Legal Services Officer
Janet Wray, Senior Assistant Attorney General

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Retterbush called the meeting of the Georgia Composite Medical Board to order at 5:30 PM.

AGENDA

Dr. White submitted a motion, seconded by Ms. McGarity, to approve the agenda of the December 29, 2014 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

LASER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Gross presented the Laser Advisory Committee as a motion. Dr. Antalis seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. The Board took the following actions:

Approved the following applications for Assistant Laser Practitioner licensure:

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License# Name

181 ALLEN, TAYLOR ELISE
182 ANTOSKOW, DONNA
183 AZOLINA, NATALIA
184 BAGGETTE, LINDSAY ELIZABETH
185 BEAUSOLEIL, MELISSA RENA
186 BELLARD, DAWN ANGELIQUE
187 BERG, SHARILYN GLORIA
188 BROWN, KATRINA MECHELLE
189 CAPEL, TAMMY CAROLINE
190 CAREY, AMANDA FELICIA
191 CHEEK, AMY LYN
192 COLBERT-EHERMAN, DANA LYNN
193 COLUMBUS, KAREN SUZANNE
194 CONRADY, CANDACE MILLER
195 COPELAND, JEANNIE NICHOLE
196 COPPOLA, OLENA V
197 DAVIS, HEATHER DAWN
198 DELONG, ALEXANDRA LEIGH
199 DERBY, JENNIFER ANNE
200 DEVITO, MARISSA ANN
201 FISHER, LAUREN MICHELE
202 FRANCIS, AMBER NICOLE
203 FREELAND, MARK B
204 FULLER, MARSHA BARNES
205 GARRISON, LISA C
206 GEORGIA, ANDERIA P
207 GOODEN, AMANDA NICOLE
208 GOODEN, KIMBERLY H
209 GRADY, HILLARY ANNE
210 GREEN, KAREN MICHELE
211 GRIFFIN, CARI DIANE
212 GRISMER, TONYA DIETRICH
213 GWALTNEY, SUSAN H
214 HALL, RAY ANTHONY
215 HATHAWAY, KIMBERLY DAWN
216 HAWE, JAMIE LYNNE
217 HEGWOOD, KRISTEN L
218 HOLMES, LAUREN O'REAL
219 HONG, HEATHER
220 JENKINS, JACQUELINE FOEHR
221 JOHNSON, JULIE WOOD
222 JOHNSON, KIMBERLEY
223 JOOMA, MUNIRA
224 KELLEY, CANDICE ERIN
225 KENT, TRACEY LYNN
226 KESLER, STEPHANIE GAIL
227 KIM, JEONG A
228 KINNEY, EMILY ELIZABETH

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License# Name

229 KINSEY, PAMELA DAWN
230 KIRKSEY, JENNIFER BRIDGES
231 LAWSON, CAROLINE C
232 LEONARD, CANDICE AMANDA
233 LOWE, KELLYE THOMAS
234 LUCKS, TONYIA ANN
235 LYNCH, CHARLES MICHAEL
236 MAIYER, ANGELA DEBORAH
237 MALICKA-DECKER, ANIA M
238 MCBRIDE, BARBARA VIRGINIA
239 MEKHMUKH, MELISSA SABRINA
240 MILLER, KATRINA LOUISE
241 MILLER, LAUREN GAIL
242 MILLER, SARAH ELIZABETH
243 MOLETTE, DOUGLAS
244 MONACO, JANILE ELAINE
245 MOORE, MIRANDA AMELIA
246 MURRAY, STACEY AMANDA
247 NEWTON, LESLEY DAWN
248 NEWTON, SUSAN
249 NISTOR RETENELLER, LIDIA
250 PAK, KRISTAL H
180 PATTERSON-PALMIERI, MARGARET
KIMBERLY
251 PERRY, MELISSA KAY
252 PETERKIN, LANEISHA SHANNETTE
253 PIERCE, KIMBERLEY ANN
254 PITTMAN, ANGELA DAWN
255 PIZA, LINJI FRANKLYN
256 REID, KERRY GARNER
257 RICE, TINA MICHELLE
258 RICHARDSON, T'WANA RAW'SHE
259 ROBERTSON, JODI MILLER
260 ROBILLARD, PRISCILLA D
261 ROBINSON, MELVIN
262 ROLAND, KATIE ELIZABETH
263 ROSEN, BENJAMIN JEFFREY
264 RUDNITSKAYA, ALENA
265 RUSSO, RAMIE RENEE
266 SAPIENZA, MARIE B
267 SCHNEIDER, PAULA JO
268 SEREDICK, MARY VIRGINIA
269 SHAW, PATRICIA BEACHUM
270 SMITH, ALICIA LEIGH
271 SMITH, ANSLEY LYNETTE
272 SPIVEY, LINSIE CARROLL
273 STANLEY, APRIL ELIZABETH
274 STEPHENS, JULIE ELIZABETH

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License# Name

275 STERLING, ELAINE JENNIE
276 STEVENS, STEPHANIE PAIGE
277 STILL, ALICIA MICHELLE
278 SUAREZ, JANIS
279 SUMLIN, LASHAWN PLESHETTE
280 TAK, CHU HYON
281 VILLA, BRANDI CAMPBELL
282 VILLA, RUBEN ARTHUR
283 WALD, SANDRA KAY
284 WANSLEY, LEAH CHAU
285 WEIMER, ASHLEY MCKIBBEN
286 WHITE, CARLA MARIE
287 WILLIAMS, DIERDRE MARIE
288 WILLIAMS, SHALON CHARMAINE
289 YEAGER, LAUREN NICOLE

Approved the following applications for Senior Laser Practitioner licensure:

License# Name

122 BECKER, MARGARET MCCANN
123 BRUNNER, AARON MATTHEW
124 COOPER, RENEE CARTER
125 DANIEL, PATRICIA LEE
126 DEROUEN, PATRICK RYAN
127 DONAHUE, KIMBERLY ANN
128 DORSEY, ELIZABETH CAROL
129 FREEMAN, GARRETT DOUGLAS
130 GREGORY, TRACEY MICHELE
131 HARPER, TERRI BENNETT
132 LOWE, RACHEL ALICE
133 MCCULLOHS, STACI HAGGERTY
134 MCINTOSH, MARKEITA LANEICE
135 MEADOWS, KATHRYN KIRSTEN
136 MUTZ, STACEY KATHERINE
137 SISSOM, JENNIFER BETH
138 VALLIERE, GABRIELLE JEN'E
139 VANLENTEN, BARBARA LYNN
140 WILSON, LOU A
141 WINOKUR, VANESSA M

Tabled the following applications for licensure for additional information:

Applicant	Application type	Information or item needed
D.C.	Assistant Laser Practitioner (Grandfather)	One certificate with physician attestation
L.K.	Assistant Laser Practitioner (Grandfather)	Payment of application fee

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Applicant	Application type	Information or item needed
S.N.	Assistant Laser Practitioner (Grandfather)	Statement regarding arrest
P.W.	Assistant Laser Practitioner (Grandfather)	Passport-sized photo for affidavit
K.B.	Assistant Laser Practitioner	Third certificate or 2,000 hours of experience
J.J.	Assistant Laser Practitioner	Certificate with physician attestation
A.H.	Assistant Laser Practitioner	Payment of application fee
K.R.	Assistant Laser Practitioner	Third certificate or 2,000 hours of experience
A.Z.	Assistant Laser Practitioner	Notarized application affidavit
D.B.	Senior Laser Practitioner	Payment of application fee
J.C.	Senior Laser Practitioner	Verification that trainer is a certified educator
K.C.	Senior Laser Practitioner	Verification that trainer is a certified educator
N.T.	Senior Laser Practitioner	Verification that trainer is a certified educator
C.W.	Senior Laser Practitioner	Certificates

Other business:

1. Jamie Malone asked the Board if the Board has approved any specific laser/IPL continuing education courses. The Board responded, "No."
2. Joseph Carroll asked the Board the following questions:
 - a. Is it permissible for a licensed assistant laser practitioner to perform laser hair removal under the supervision of a doctor? The Board responded, "Yes."
 - b. Does laser tattoo removal require licensure under Article 9 of the Medical Practice Act (the Cosmetic Laser Services Act)? The Board responded, "Yes."
 - c. If an individual performs laser tattoo removal outside the regulations of the Board, could this be considered unlicensed practice under O.C.G.A. § 43-34-247? The Board responded, "Yes."
 - d. When did the Board's licensing and regulation of cosmetic laser practitioners begin? The Board responded, "March 1, 2014."
 - e. What is an individual's recourse for first and second offenses if he or she provides cosmetic laser services without a license? The Board responded that Mr. Carroll should consult a private attorney for legal advice.
 - f. What are the responsibilities of the physician and senior laser practitioner regarding the evaluation of patients? The Board responded that each patient must be examined by a licensed physician trained in laser modalities, or by a licensed physician assistant (PA) or

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advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) with the appropriate Board authorization to do so.

3. Sarah Kiley of Allied Professionals Association asked how to become a continuing education provider. The Board responded that it is currently drafting rules.
4. Melvin Robinson asked the Board if two certificates are required for licensure under the grandfather provisions, or if one certificate is sufficient if it lists multiple courses. The Board responded that two certificates are required for licensure under the grandfather clause, and that each certificate must also document that the training was provided by a licensed physician or a certified continuing education educator, or that that it was attended by a licensed physician who participated in the training.
5. Jodi Bell asked the following questions:
 - a. Is it permissible for a licensed assistant laser practitioner to perform laser hair removal outside the onsite supervision of a doctor or senior laser practitioner? The Board responded, “Yes.”
 - b. Why must an assistant laser practitioner have an onsite supervisor, when O.C.G.A. Section 43-34-248(b) requires a cosmetic laser services facility to “have a supervisor present at the facility or immediately available for consultation and supervision either personally or via telecommunications”? The Board referred Ms. Bell to the law’s description of the scope of practice of the assistant laser practitioner, and to a private attorney for legal advice.
 - c. Is a senior laser practitioner’s supervision necessary when the consulting physician is immediately available? The Board referred Ms. Bell to the law’s description of the scope of practice of the assistant laser practitioner, and to a private attorney for legal advice.
 - d. Is a licensed practical nurse (LPN) eligible for licensure as a senior laser practitioner, if the LPN meets the other licensure requirements? The Board responded, “An LPN does not qualify for licensure as a senior laser practitioner unless the LPN has previously held a license as a physician assistant, registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician, and meets all other licensure requirements.”
6. Toni Stanfill of Southeast Laser Academics asked the following questions:
 - a. Is it permissible for a licensed dentist to act as a consulting physician or supervisor to an assistant laser practitioner? The Board responded, “No.”
 - b. Is a licensed dentist eligible for licensure as a senior laser practitioner? The Board responded, “A dentist does not qualify for licensure as a senior laser practitioner unless

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the dentist has previously held a license as a physician assistant, registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician, and meets all other licensure requirements.”

- c. Must a licensed dentist who owns a medical spa that provides cosmetic laser services other than laser hair removal hire a senior laser practitioner, PA, or APRN to consult and supervise the assistant laser practitioner? The Board responded, “An assistant laser practitioner who is providing cosmetic laser services other than laser hair removal must be supervised by a licensed senior laser practitioner or a consulting physician.”
7. Amy Priest asked if a PA with only primary duties needs a license as a laser practitioner to provide cosmetic laser services, or if the PA could provide cosmetic laser services with Board-approved additional duties. The Board responded that the PA may provide cosmetic laser services if he or she has Board-approved additional duties that include the procedures.
8. Jeleva Carr asked if an individual with a current master cosmetologist license needs to apply for assistant laser practitioner licensure under the grandfather provision. The Board responded that she could apply for licensure under either the grandfather provision or with the standard eligibility criteria, depending on how many certificates she has and how many hours of experience she had prior to March 1, 2014.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Wallace made a motion, seconded by Ms. McGarity, to go into closed session to discuss investigation, disciplinary, and pending application matters. The motion carried unanimously.

OPEN MEETING

Dr. House declared the meeting in Open Session.

CONSENT ORDERS

The Board took the following actions:

1. **Case # 20150701:** Dr. Gross made a motion, seconded by Dr. House, to accept a private consent order. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Case # 20150700:** Dr. Gross made a motion, seconded by Dr. House, to accept a private consent order. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **RODRIGUEZ, GRETCHEN SUZANNE** (Respiratory Care Professional License # 5575): Dr. Powell made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gross, to accept a public consent order. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Case # 20141453:** Dr. Gross made a motion, seconded by Dr. House, to table the matter and refer the respondent to the Wellness Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

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5. **Cases # 20150668 and 20150681:** Dr. Weil made a motion, seconded by Dr. House, to send the case files to the Attorney General.

UPCOMING LEGISLATION

The Board discussed the following legislative matters:

1. **Senate Bill 268**, which passed the Senate in 2014 but failed to gain consideration in the House, and would allow physicians to delegate to physician assistants the prescribing of all Schedule II medications. The Georgia Association of Physician Assistants (GAPA) sent the Board a letter asking the Board to support SB 268, or to support it in a more limited form to allow PAs to prescribe certain Schedule II medications. Dr. Antalis made a motion, seconded by Dr. DeLoach, to adopt the position that the Board does not support the expansion of prescribing authority as it is currently written in the bill or in the GAPA letter. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Licensure of International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLC).** Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia sent a letter to the Board requesting its support for the coalition's effort to require licensure of IBCLCs in Georgia. House Bill 363, which would have required licensure of lactation consultants, failed to gain a favorable finding by the Georgia Occupational Regulation Review Committee (GORRC) in 2013, and failed to gain consideration by either the House or the Senate. Dr. Antalis made a motion, seconded by Dr. House, to adopt the position that the Board has no opinion on licensure of lactation consultants, but that if the bill becomes law, it should have a clause stating that it shall be effective when it is funded by specific act of the Legislature. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **The Georgia Right to Try Act** would give patients with terminal illness access to investigational medications, treatments, and devices that have passed Food and Drug Administration (FDA) safety trials but have not yet passed efficacy trials. Ms. Wray stated that O.C.G.A. § 43-34-38, the Access to Medical Treatment Act, may accomplish the same purpose as the proposed bill. Dr. Antalis made a motion, seconded by Dr. House, to ask Ms. Hughes to find out if any other states have laws similar to the Georgia Right to Try Act. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **The Polysomnography Practice Act** would require licensure of polysomnography technologists in Georgia, and would assign the regulatory oversight and licensure responsibility to the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Dr. Antalis made a motion, seconded by Dr. DeLoach, to adopt the position that the Board does not support licensure of polysomnography technologists. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Dr. Retterbush announced new committee assignments for 2014-2015.

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INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL SCHOOLS

The Board reviewed a letter to the University of Medicine and Health Sciences (UMHS) St. Kitts. UMHS has applied for status as a Board-approved medical school so its graduates may become eligible for physician licensure in Georgia after one year of postgraduate medical training in an accredited program in the United States, if the graduates met all other eligibility criteria for physician licensure. Dr. Gross made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mohan, to ask Ms. Hughes to rephrase the letter for clarity. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Gross made a motion, seconded by Antalis, to adjourn the December 29, 2014 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously. Dr. Retterbush adjourned the meeting at 6:47 PM.

David Retterbush, MD
Chairperson

LaSharn Hughes, MBA
Executive Director