# NEWSLETTER



# <u>VISION</u>

The Nevada Physical Therapy Board will be the leader in public protection through the promotion of safety, competence, and access to care.

# <u>MISSION</u>

The Nevada Physical Therapy Board protects and promotes the health and safety of Nevadans by pursuing the highest quality of physical therapy practice through education, communication, licensing, legislation, regulation, and enforcement.



## IN THIS EDITION Executive Director's Message **Board Diversity Statement** Mentorship Opportunity Notice of Public Hearing **Board Performance Measures** Board Inspections, Citations Complaints, What Happens Next? Message from the Board Chair **New Licensees** Dec 2022 – Feb 2023 Board Members & 2023 Meeting Schedule

### **Next Board Meeting**

March 17, 2023

#### Nevada Physical Therapy Board

3291 N. Buffalo Drive, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89129 Phone: (702) 876-5535 Fax: (702) 876-2097

Website: <a href="https://ptboard.nv.gov/">https://ptboard.nv.gov/</a> Email: PTapplication@govmail.state.nv.us

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



### Change is in the Air!

As spring approaches, we have several important updates for you to be aware of.



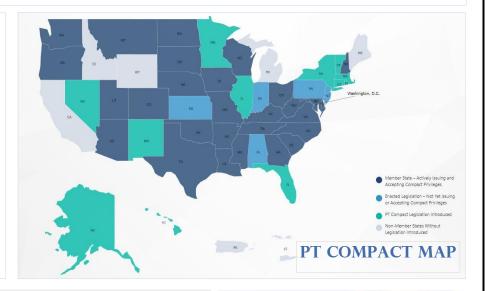
### 1. PT Compact Update

The PT Compact Bill was introduced in the 82<sup>nd</sup> (2023) Nevada Legislative Session on February 2, 2023.

The Bill (SB97) seeks to enact provisions governing the interstate practice of physical therapy.

To view SB97 in its entirety and track its progress, please visit the Nevada Legislative website: <a href="https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Ap">https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Ap</a>

https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/82nd2023/Bill/9718/Overview#



## 2. Transition to a New Cloud-Based Licensing System.

We are excited to provide licensees with a more user-friendly system, and appreciate your patience and understanding during the transition. This initiative will provide an easy-to-use public portal for online applications and renewals, and mobile access for both customers and field staff

Licensees will receive email notifications with instructions on creating their user account.



### 3. New Online Jurisprudence Assessment Module (NV JAM)

The NV JAM is a free open book examination of state laws and rules contained in the Practice Act. The online exam goes live in April 2023, and will be available on the Board website for applicants and licensees.

### 4. New Continuing Competence Tools

The Board is partnering with CE Broker to offer a comprehensive resource for course searches, and reporting continuing competency credits. Nevada licensees will soon be able to sign up for a free Basic Account, gain access to helpful continuing education course search tools, and track and know precisely how many hours they've completed and how many hours are remaining. The information collected in CE Broker will allow for the enhanced auditing of licensee compliance by verifying which licensees have completed their required CC hours, in accordance with the laws and rules governing their profession.

The Nevada Physical Therapy Board currently provides licensing and regulatory services for more than 3,200 physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. The number of licensees continues to increase each year as does the need for physical therapy services.

At the board office we are constantly assessing how we are doing and looking for ways to improve. I would like to thank the Board Staff for their professionalism and hard work as we continue our modernization efforts and strive to demonstrate effectiveness and innovation in the use of technology and best practices.

The launch of so many new initiatives and systems is sure to bring challenges! We look forward to your continuous feedback to help us do our jobs better. If you have any questions, encounter challenges navigating any of these initiatives or have ideas on improvements, please reach out to us and let us know. We look forward to your feedback as we move forward.

Please look for informational emails in your mailbox, and check the Board website frequently (https://ptboard.nv.gov/), as additional information and updates will be posted there. You can reach us in the Board office at (702) 876-5535.



Charles D. Harvey Executive Director

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND JUSTICE



## MENTORING OPPORTUNITY



### Mentor Update

Thank you to the licensees who have volunteered to serve as mentors for aspiring PT and PTA students in their clinical setting. A mentor list has been created on the board website and can be viewed at:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1to5oXIVhJ5QNxBl5tx-GzvflP-5BSJFhQ48SgBbPuuc/edit#gid=0

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact <u>Aramirez@govmail.state.nv.us</u> or call the Board office at (702) 876-5535 and provide the following information:

Name	Telephone No.	Email
Business Address	Clinical Setting	Hours Available

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – MARCH 31, 2023

Purpose: Executive Order 2023-003 requires a review of existing regulations by all executive branch agencies, departments, boards and commissions.

- On January 12, 2023, Governor Lombardo signed an Executive Order aimed at reducing regulatory burdens. Executive Order 2023-03 requires all executive branch entities to undertake a comprehensive review of their regulations and provide a report to the Governor's office detailing how the regulation subject to its enforcement can be streamlined, clarified, reduced or otherwise improved to ensure those regulations provide for the general welfare of the State without unnecessarily inhibiting economic growth.
- Prior to submitting this report, every executive branch department, agency, board and commission must hold a public hearing with key stakeholders to vet any recommended changes, solicit input and identify any other stakeholder recommendations.
- Pursuant to Executive Order 2023-003, the Nevada Physical Therapy Board will hold a public hearing on March 31, 2023 at 1:00 pm, to receive input from stakeholders on existing regulations (NAC Chapter 640) and recommend at least 10 for removal. Please note: There is no physical location designated for this Public Hearing. Accordingly, any person planning to participate must participate using Zoom for video access, or by calling the phone-in access for telephone access.

**VIDEOCONFERENCE ACCESS:** Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81962458430?pwd=N1NWdmhrZVhFZ2RkRDFZTFVhMGpzQT09

**Meeting ID:** 819 6245 8430 | **Passcode:** 984293

### **TELEPHONE ACCESS:**

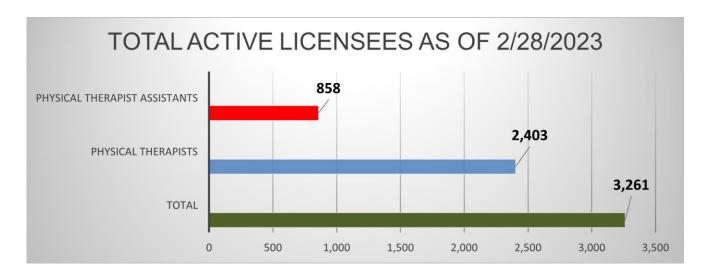
Members of the public may also participate in the meeting telephonically by dialing 1(669) 900-6833

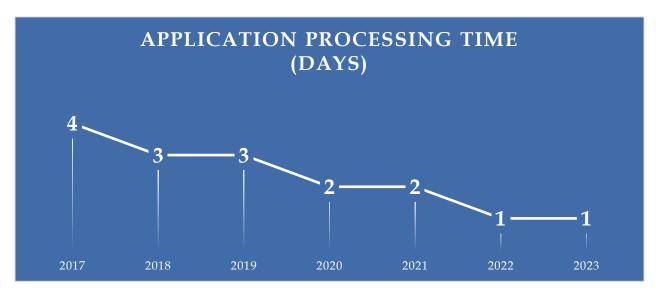
**Meeting ID:** 819 6245 8430 | **Passcode:** 984293

Persons wishing to provide written comments for consideration by the Board at the March 31, 2023 Public Hearing may submit them to the Board office at 3291, N. Buffalo Drive, Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV 89129 or email to <a href="mailto:pted@govmail.state.nv.us">pted@govmail.state.nv.us</a>.

A copy of the Public Hearing agenda and Executive Order 2023-03 may be viewed on the Board website at: <a href="https://ptboard.nv.gov/About/Meetings/2023/2023/">https://ptboard.nv.gov/About/Meetings/2023/2023/</a> Please contact the Board office if you have any questions.

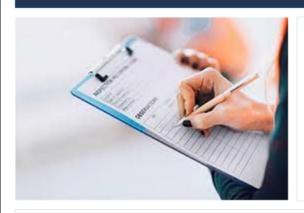
## BOARD PERFORMANCE MEASURES







## BOARD INSPECTIONS



The Nevada Physical Therapy Board is authorized to conduct inspections to determine compliance with the provisions of the Practice Act. An inspection is a process of closely looking at any documentation and examining facilities to ensure adherence to stipulated regulations and other licensing frameworks.

The Board conducts announced and unannounced site visits and inspections in accordance with NRS 640.050(6).

Board inspections are designed to encourage compliance rather than be a punitive measure, and each type of inspection is a form of monitoring and evaluation. Unannounced inspections consist of onsite visits to a licensee's place of employment by a Board Inspector employed in northern and southern Nevada. Generally, unannounced inspections focus on compliance in the following areas: NAC 640.061; NAC 640.592; NAC 640.610; NAC 640.650, and NRS 640.170.

### Inspections include:

- Review of displayed licenses of PTs and PTAs working in the facility [NRS 640.110(3) / NAC 640.560(2)]
- Review of business addresses on file with the Board [NAC 640.061(2)]
- Walk through the facility for cleanliness, and safety issues.
- Review of staffing and supervision ratios [NAC 640.594].
- Review of authorizations for PTs performing dry needling [NRS 640.050(3)].
- Chart audit to ensure the following requirements are being met:
  - 1. Initial examination, including identification of a problem list, impairment list, or some form of specific assessment related to a patient's physical therapy diagnosis [NAC 640.590(b)(c)]
  - 2. Plan of care including goals, presented with the initial evaluation [NAC 640.590(c).
  - 3. PT is assessing the patient every 7<sup>th</sup> day of treatment or every 21 days (whichever comes first) [NAC 640.592(d).
  - 4. Evidence of patient program review and/or progression [NAC 640.590(g)(h)(i)(j)].
  - 5. Evidence of discharge evaluation, report, or documentation reflecting patient discharge [NAC 640.590(i)].
  - 6. Notes for care provided are completed within 72 hours of the visit [NAC 640.610(1b)].

## WHAT IS A BOARD CITATION?

The Board may issue a citation pursuant to NRS 640.155, as an alternate means to address relatively minor violations. Currently, the process of discipline is the same for a minor infraction as a major infraction and is as follows: Complaint – Investigation – Hearing. This process can be costly to a licensee as they may incur the cost of the investigation, legal fees, and hearing costs.

The citation process may reduce the need for attorney involvement for resolution of some of the more basic violations (i.e., display of license, change of address, supervision ratios), and allow a licensee to settle a violation in an expedited fashion. Citations also increase the effectiveness of the Board's oversight process by providing a method to effectively address less egregious violations.

If a licensee is found to be in violation of one of the provisions of the Practice Act, a Board Inspector or Investigator may write a citation on the spot, which the licensee can take care of immediately without having to go through further formal proceedings with the Board.

Citations shall be in writing and shall describe the nature and facts of the violation, including a reference to the statute or regulation allegedly violated. Payment of a fine with or without an informal conference or administrative hearing does not constitute an admission of the violation charged but represents a satisfactory resolution of the citation for purposes of public disclosure. After a citation is issued, the licensee may:

- 1. Pay the fine and the matter will be satisfactorily resolved.
- 2. Request an Administrative Hearing in appeal of the citation.

Failure to pay a fine, unless the citation is being appealed, may result in disciplinary action. Where a citation is not contested and a fine is not paid, the fine shall be added to the fee for renewal of the license.

## **COMPLAINTS**

The Nevada Physical Therapy Board receives approximately 20 to 30 consumer complaints each year. The Board conducts investigations resulting from the filing of a complaint in accordance with NAC 640.170. These announced interviews/inspections typically involve advance scheduling of time with complainants, witnesses, and respondents (licensees), and arranging for access to documents, equipment, or locations.

An example of an unannounced inspection in response to a Board complaint might be a complaint regarding improper supervision/staffing ratios.

# A COMPLAINT IS FILED AGAINST YOU, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If you are contacted regarding a complaint filed against you, the Board wants to offer some guidance to help navigate this process.

### 1. The Nevada Physical Therapy Board takes consumer concerns seriously.

After the receipt of a complaint, the Board sends the licensee a notification that a complaint has been filed against their license. The Board's role is to determine if a violation of any provision of the Practice Act has occurred. An investigator is assigned to conduct an investigation. Typically, when contacted by the Board, you will be asked to provide timely and relevant patient records and a statement or explanation of care and treatment. It's helpful to provide as much information as possible regarding the circumstances in question.

### 2. We need your cooperation and timely responses.

Your cooperation is critical for Board staff to successfully uphold the Board's mission and protect consumers, while ensuring proper review and investigation of each complaint. If you are contacted by the Board, you will be provided a summary of the complaint and allegations made against you, and will have the opportunity provide a response and any corroborating evidence in rebuttal. The Board will gather all of the relevant evidence to determine whether or not a violation of the law has occurred and does so in an objective, fact-based approach.

Please note that the Board is required by law to keep all aspects of the complaint and its investigation confidential. Upon completion of an investigation, all information on file regarding the allegations will be reviewed to determine if further steps are appropriate. If it is determined that no potential violation existed or there is insufficient evidence to file a formal complaint, the complaint against you will be closed. If it is determined that a violation of law occurred, the matter will be referred to the State of Nevada Office of the Attorney General (OAG) for possible initiation of disciplinary proceedings. If a formal complaint is filed, the matter will be set for a disciplinary hearing. Due to the potential for possible action against your license, licensees have the right to consult with an attorney before filing a response or at any time during the course of the process. However, they are not required to have an attorney represent them in any matters before the Board.

### 3. Be aware of Scam (Fake) Phone Calls.

Please note that the Board <u>WILL NOT</u> notify licensees over the phone of a complaint or investigation. If you receive a call from someone identifying themselves as a board employee, or government or law enforcement official, you may be the victim of a scam. Although the caller's phone number may appears on Caller ID to be the Board's main phone number, it is not. Licensees who think they may be the victim of a scammer requesting payment should contact the Board office by telephone (702) 876-5535.

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Hi All,

Despite the cold & windy weather outside, the Board has been busy. So far this year, we have held 3 public meetings (well 3rd is March 17th), met with Dr. Patrick Nuzzo who is introducing AB153 whose goal is to bring the practice of Naprapathy to Nevada (anyone had experience with a Naprapath??), and testified to the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee to introduce SB97, our PT Compact Bill (Thank you, Senator Heidi Gansert, for supporting us again on our third try!). If you have comments regarding

either bill, please reach out to us and your legislators. We will send out our next newsletter once the 83rd legislative session ends recapping all you need to know.

Other good news – We anticipate that our new licensing system will be up and running in April 2023! If you happen to call the office, please make sure to thank the board staff as they have been busy testing it so that your experience will be top-notch! I am excited to get your feedback as you go to renew your license this year! Please let us know!

We had a great response to our call for mentors. Thank you - the Board is excited to begin connecting aspiring physical therapy students with you. If you have not added your name to that list, please consider doing so. We are hoping to decrease the burden of hopeful young adults of finding professionals to observe or provide guidance in their journey.

Thank you for the work you do every day to help Nevada move. Be sure to reach out if you have ways that we might be able to serve the public better.

В	e	S	t,

Jen

# NEW LICENSEES DECEMBER 2022 – FEBRUARY 2023

The Nevada Physical Therapy Board is pleased to welcome the following new licensees to the physical therapy community in Nevada.

## PHYSICAL THERAPISTS & PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS

Last	First, Middle	License
		No.
Ryan	Margaret	5015
McKeown	Sean	5016
Kenefick	Kevin Gerard	5017
Breimeier	Megan	5018
Teneyck	Connor	5019
Quon	Enoch	5020
McGuire	Nicola	5021
Serrano	Matthew	5022
Nufable	Walter	5023
Tam	Eric	5024
Gunning	Natalie Anne	5025
Welter	Amanda Marie	5026
McGinlay	Jodie	5027
Ricafort	Martina	5028
Nguyen	Stacy Y.	5029
Zura	Kimberly Anne	5030
MitraChakraborty	Jhansi	5031
Babarinde	Adetayo Adeoti	5032
De Leon	Arthur Joel	5033
Delegard	Sophia	5034
Monaghan	Heather	5035
Marigliano	Erika Jade	5036
Papavasiliou	Thanos	5037
Evans	Christian	5038
Chang	Elaine	5039
Cox	Preston	5040
Brewer	Jake	5041
Brewer	Karlie	5042
Maszak	Alexander	5043
Flordeliz	Jasfer	5044
Berry	Jessica	5045

Last	First, Middle	License
		No.
Nolan	Kerry	5046
Smith	Gwendolyn S.	5047
Santos	Noelia	5049
Mann	Sarah	5050
Thumann	Anne Elisabeth	5051
Guillot	Justin Donovan	5052
Bekkerman	Monica	5053
Gibson	Travis	5054
Borromeo	Nerissa T.	5055
Crass	Tanner James	5056
Laney	Natalie D.	5057
Tygett	Timothy J.	A-1551
Merle	Annette Marie	A-1552
Sherrod	Jesse	A-1553
Neria	Luke	A-1554
Brunk	Billie	A-1555
Johnston	Lindsey L.	A-1556
Jones	Peter	A-1557
Blaylock	Sabrina	A-1558
Tapia	Emily M	A-1559
Rutherford	Hanna Christine	A-1560
Garcia	Lucia	A-1561
Hafen	Kayla	A-1562
Hermosura	Jennine	A-1563
Gionson	Kenya	A-1565
Martin	Kathryn	A-1566
Rangel	Sarah	A-1567
Sanchez Cota	Efren Alejandro	A-1568
Jensen	Kristin	A-1569
Pope	Eric C.	A-1570

### **BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF**

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

BOARD CHAIR TERM

Jennifer Nash, PT, DPT, NCS 11/1/2021 - 10/31/2024

11/1/2018 - 10/31/2021

**VICE-CHAIR** 

Katherine Joines, PT, DPT 11/1/2020 - 10/31/2023

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Laura Cerame, PTA 11/1/2020 - 10/31/2023

3/17/2020 - 10/31/2020

**MEMBERS** 

Jessie Fisher, PT, MPT, MBA 11/1/2021 - 10/31/2024

Aaron Stevens, Public Member 11/1/2021 - 10/31/2024



### **BOARD STAFF**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Charles D. Harvey, MPA

### **LICENSING COORDINATOR**

Muriel Morin Mendes

### **BOARD OPERATIONS SUPPORT SPECIALIST**

April Ramirez

### **BOARD INVESTIGATOR**

Deborah Dieter, PT

#### **BOARD INSPECTORS**

Chad Bible, PT, DPT

Wendy Johnson, PT

Steven Liaos, PT, DPT

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**ACCC CHAIR** 

**VICE-CHAIR** 

Krysta Boyd, PT, DPT

Jennifer Luthy, PT, DPT

#### **MEMBERS**

Laura Cerame, PTA, Board Liaison

Meghan Pefley, PT, DPT

Dennis Gutierrez, PT, DPT

## **BOARD MEETINGS**

The Nevada Physical Therapy Board conducts public meetings throughout the year for purposes of conducting administrative business concerning ratifying licenses, promulgating rules, disciplinary matters, etc.

The five members of the Board are appointed by the Governor and serve a three-year term. A quorum of three members is required to conduct public business. Nevada Open Meeting Law requires that board meetings be open to the public and that any such governmental body give adequate notice of such meetings.

Open meeting notices can be accessed on the Board website at https://ptboard.nv.gov/About/Meetings/.



All Board meetings are viewable via the internet. Links to view each meeting can be accessed by visiting the Board website: <a href="https://ptboard.nv.gov/About/Meetings/">https://ptboard.nv.gov/About/Meetings/</a>

## 2023 BOARD OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Board Office Closed	Day(s)	Dates(s)
New Years'	Mon	Jan 2, 2023
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Mon	Jan 16, 2023
President's Day	Mon	Feb 20, 2023
Memorial Day	Mon	May 29, 2023
Juneteenth	Mon	Jun 19, 2023
Independence Day	Tue	Jul 4, 2023
Labor Day	Mon	Sep 4, 2023
Nevada Day	Fri	Oct 27, 2023
Veteran's Day	Fri	Nov 10, 2023
Thanksgiving/Family Day	Thu & Fri	Nov 23 -24, 2023
Christmas	Mon	Dec 25, 2022



