

NEWSLETTER



Nevada Physical Therapy Board

Vision:

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

Mission:

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.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Dry needling was specifically added to the PT Practice Act on October 1, 2019. The Board is currently working with the Legislative Counsel Bureau to adopt regulations and qualifications for physical therapists performing dry needling. These will be forwarded to licensees once they are ratified. The new regulation will include:
 - Requirements for education & training in dry needling.
 - Procedures concerning the handling and disposal of needles after a single use.
 - Definition of needle retention.
- The Physical Therapy Compact Bill did not pass in 2019. The bill will be presented to the 2021 Legislature.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

- ❑ 341 new licenses were issued in 2019. [245 issued to PTs & 96 issued to PTAs].
- ❑ Eight public board meetings were conducted by the Board.
- ❑ Eight advisory meetings were conducted by the Advisory Committee on Continuing Competency.
- ❑ The Board completed an extensive regulation review and await the adoption of proposed changes pending approval of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.
- ❑ The Board relocated to its new office at 3291 N. Buffalo Drive, Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV 89129.
- ❑ The Board conducted an annual retreat to review and update its strategic plan, mission, vision and values.
- ❑ Board and staff members participated in educational training and conferences offered by the NV Attorney General’s Office and the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy to receive training on Open Meeting Law, and learn about laws governing boards, issues regarding occupational licensing and concerns for public protection, locally, nationally and internationally.



Board Chair Sherise Smith presented “The Wild, Wild West of the 2019 Legislative Session” at the FSBPT Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City, OK.

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BOARD MEMBERS

CHAIR

Sherise Smith, PT, MSPT

VICE CHAIR

Brian J. Fearnley, PT, MPT

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Jennifer Nash, PT, DPT

PTA MEMBER

Vacant

PUBLIC MEMBER

Eathan O’Bryant



EXECUTIVE STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Charles D. Harvey, MPA

LICENSING SPECIALIST

Muriel Morin-Mendes

BOARD OPERATIONS SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Vacant

ADMIN ASSISTANT

Chelsea Wilson

BOARD INVESTIGATOR

Deborah Dieter, PT

LICENSEE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Each licensee must report the following information to the Board.

- ❑ Notify the Board of a legal name change within 30 days [NAC 640.055].
- ❑ Notify the Board of any change in residential address or primary professional address, within 30 days after the change [NAC 640.0610].
- ❑ Report any unlicensed, unauthorized, unqualified or unethical practice of PT by another person [NAC 640.550].
- ❑ Voluntarily report to the Board his or her addiction to the use of a controlled substance [NAC 640.685].
- ❑ Voluntarily report to the Board within 30 days of any judgement or settlement in an amount of \$5,000 or more entered against or agreed to by the licensee on a claim involving malpractice [NAC 640.685].



ACTIVE LICENSEES (as of 12/31/2019)

- PHYSICAL THERAPISTS: 2,021
- PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS: 755



NEW BOARD COUNSEL

We are pleased to introduce Deputy Attorney General Michael Detmer as the Board's new legal counsel. Michael has worked with the Nevada Attorney General's Office since 2015. He started with the NVAGO's Criminal Prosecution Unit until he transferred to the NVAGO's Boards and Open Government Division, wherein he served as counsel for multiple State Boards and Commissions.

Michael is an accomplished attorney who brings experience in both criminal and administrative matters. We look forward to his legal advice and counsel, and believe he will be a tremendous asset to the Board.

We also thank Senior Deputy Attorney General Sarah Bradley for providing four years of outstanding legal counsel for the Board. Sarah will be sincerely missed and we wish her well in her new position!

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- ❑ Board staff participated in workgroups with the Council of State Governments, and the Nevada Occupational Licensing Policy Consortium, on issues related to improving occupational licensing regulations and reducing licensing barriers.
- ❑ Board staff conducted outreach to students at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, Pima Medical Institute, and Touro University.
- ❑ The Board conducted a continuing competency audit of 10% of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants to verify that continuing competency requirements were being satisfied.
- ❑ The Board performed inspections on more than 125 licensees and places of employment.
- ❑ The ACCC reviewed and approved more than 1,000 continuing competency courses.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Former Board Chair Tina Baum was honored with an Outstanding Service Award at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy, in Oklahoma City, OK.



Tina also presented: *The Art of Considering Criminal History as an Indicator of Moral Character*, at the Annual Meeting. The session provided insight into the proper use and handling of criminal history record information.

2020 Board Meeting Schedule



- January 17, 2020
- February 21 - 23, 2020
- March 6, 2020
- May 8, 2020
- July 10, 2020
- September 11, 2020
- November 13, 2020



PT PRACTICE ACT

[NRS 640: Nevada Revised Statutes](#)

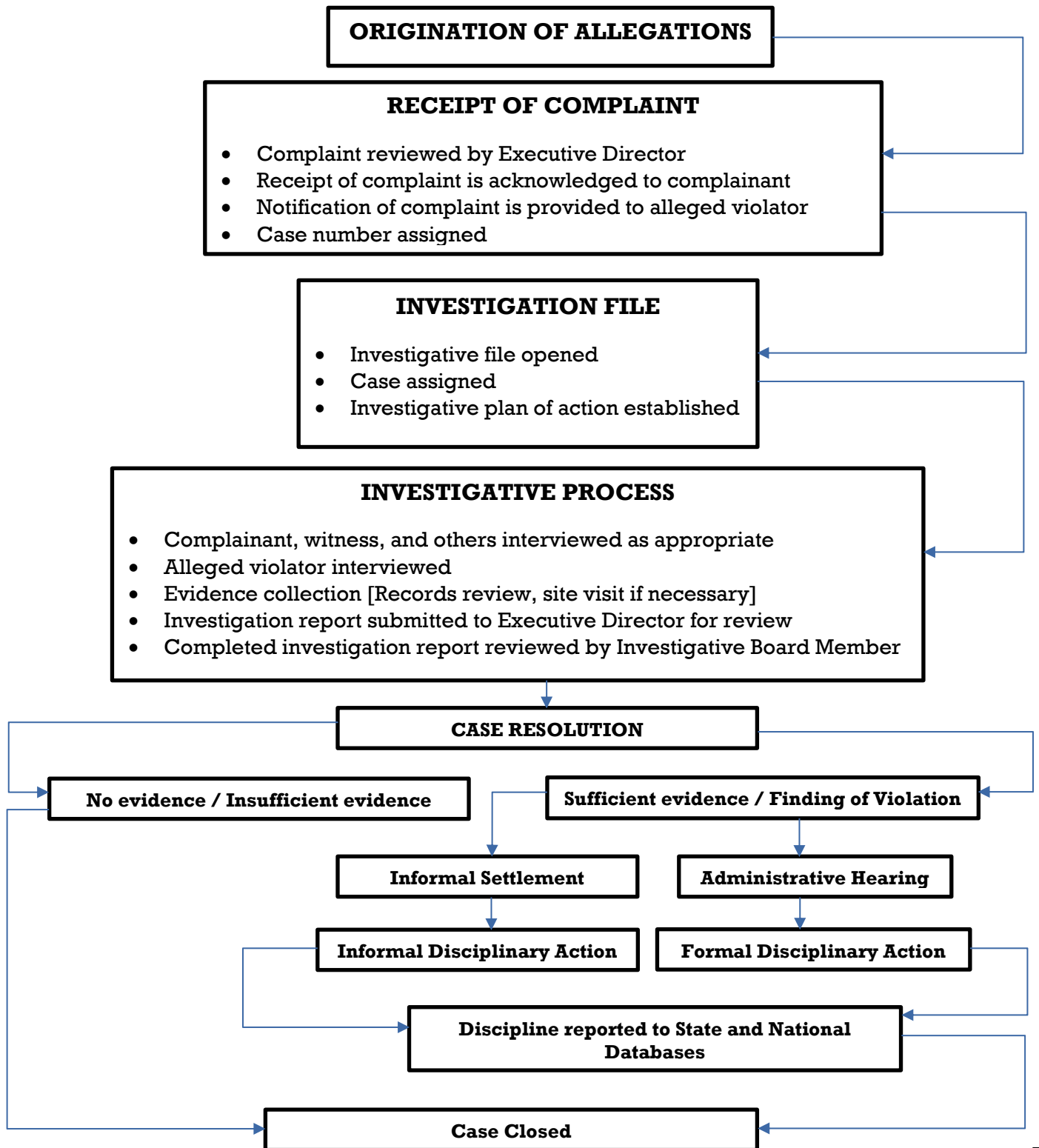
Governs the profession of physical therapy in the State of Nevada.

[NAC 640: Nevada Administrative Code](#)

The regulation or rules that further define and explain the statutes.

COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATION PROCESS

Complaints may be initiated against any person licensed by the Nevada Physical Therapy Board. The following chart provides an overview of the complaint, investigation, and resolution process.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CONTINUING COMPETENCY

Each licensee is responsible for completing 15 hours of continuing competence each year, in courses or activities approved by the Board.

Have you ever wondered how these courses are approved?

The ACCC reviews courses submitted by course providers or licensees to ensure each approved course meets the Board's strict requirements to help our licensees maintain professional competence.



The lifelong process of maintaining and documenting competence through ongoing self-assessment, development and implementation of a personal learning plan, and subsequent reassessment.

ACCC MEMBERS

Chair

Katherine Joines

Vice Chair

Kirk Sachtler

Board Member Liaison

Jennifer Nash

Committee Member

Tiffany Barrett

Committee Member

Beren Shah

Committee Member

Christopher Kegler

Committee Member

Luann Tucker

MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR



Happy New Year!

It has been a busy year for Board members and staff. As you know, the vision of the Nevada Physical Therapy Board is to be the leader in public protection, promotion of wellness and access to care. We had many initiatives this past year promoting this vision, including working to get the PT Compact established in Nevada (we are hoping to get this bill passed in the 2021 session), getting our inspection and investigative department modernized, and working to provide the best customer service to our licensees. I would like to thank our Board staff of Charles, Muriel, Chelsea and Debbie for the great job they do every day.

We would also like to acknowledge you, the licensees of Nevada, for the important job you do in providing excellent physical therapy care to the citizens of our state. Please feel free to attend one of our Board meetings this year to earn one CCU unit as well, we would love to see you.

Here's to a great 2020,

Sherise Smith, PT, MSPT
Chair, Nevada Physical Therapy Board

Nevada Physical Therapy Board

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