



Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing

Board News...

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The mission of the Board of Registration in Nursing is to lead in the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth through the fair and consistent application of the statutes & regulations governing nursing practice & nursing education

Board Members

Janet Sweeney Rico, RN/NP
Acting Chairperson
Maureen Butts, LPN
Jennifer Dubose, LPN
Katherine Gehly, RN
Karen Harwood-Green, RN
Sandra Kelly, RN/NP
Joan Killion, LPN
Donna Lampman, RN
Catherine Lundeen, RN
Paulette Remijan, RN/NP
E. Richard Rothmund, Public Member
Mary Jean Roy, RN
Catherine Simonian, RPh
Robert Smith, LPN
Cilorene Weeks-Cabey, RN

Governor Patrick Appoints New Board Members. Governor Deval Patrick recently appointed eleven new members to the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing. The Board is pleased to welcome Maureen Butts, LPN; Jennifer Faye Dubose, LPN; Katherine Gehly, MSN, RN (Educator/Associate Degree RN Program); Karen Harwood-Green, MA, BSN, RN (Administrator, Nursing Service); Sandra Kelly, MS, RN/NP (Advanced Practice/Direct Care) Joan Killion, LPN; Catherine Lundeen, RN (RN/Direct Care); E. Richard Rothmund (Public Member); Catherine Simonian, RPh (Pharmacist); Robert Smith, LPN, and Cilorene Weeks-Cabey, RN (RN/Direct Care).

The Governor also reappointed Janet Sweeney Rico, MS, RN/NP (Educator/Baccalaureate and Higher Degree RN Program), Paulette Remijan, MS, RN/NP (Advanced Practice/Direct Care) and Jean Roy, MS, RN (Educator/Diploma RN Program), each to a second 3-year term.

The new and returning members join current member, Donna Lampman, MS, RN (Educator/Practice Nurse Program), to bring the total number of seated Board members to 15; two vacant seats remain. The composition of the 17-member Board is established at Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 13, Section 13, and includes nine Registered Nurses, four Licensed Practical Nurses, one physician, one pharmacist and two public members.

The Board extends its thanks to departing members, Diane Hanley, former Board Chairperson, Maura Flynn, Dave Seaver and Phil Waithe for their many years of service and their invaluable contributions to the mission of the Board.

For a list of Board meeting dates for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2009, visit the Board's website at www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn and click on About the Board of Registration in Nursing then click on the link to the Board calendar.

Board's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Impacted by Fiscal Crunch. The Governor's 9C budget cuts have decreased the Board's line item by \$181,833 which is equivalent to 10.5% of the \$1,725,170 million appropriation for Fiscal Year 2009.

New On-line Licensing System. The Division of Health Professions Licensure (DHPL) is developing a new on-line licensing system. Nurses licensed by the Board can register to use on-line services on a 24/7 basis via a secure internet connection. At the present time, you can change your address of record on-line. In the near future, nurses will also be able to renew a nursing license on-

line or request a duplicate license and pay licensing fees by credit card or electronic check. Visit

<https://mylicense.hhs.state.ma.us/MyLicense%20Enterprise/>

The DHPL has also launched a new License Verification web site where employers and the public can verify a nurse's license status and if applicable, view the nurse's discipline history:

<https://licensecheck.hhs.state.ma.us/mylicenseverification/>

Board Participates in National Nursing Education Capacity Summit.

Nursing Education Coordinator, Judith M. Pelletier, MS, RN, represented the Board as a member of the Massachusetts Team invited to attend the National Nursing Education Capacity Summit last June in Washington, D.C. The summit of 17 multi-stakeholder state teams was organized by the American Association of Retired Persons, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration and the U.S. Department of Labor, to share innovative solutions to address barriers to increasing nursing school enrollments - including the shortage of nurse educators, physical space and clinical resources - in order to meet future nurse workforce demands.

Other members of the Massachusetts Team included representatives from the American Association of Retired Persons/Massachusetts, the Commonwealth Corporation, the Massachusetts Association of Colleges of Nursing, the Massachusetts Center for Nursing, the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, the Massachusetts Hospital Association, the Massachusetts Organization of Nurse Executives, the Massachusetts/Rhode Island League for Nursing, and the Tufts Health Plan Foundation. A second summit will be held in February 2009.

Board Advisory Ruling Topic of Massachusetts Senior Care Association Panel Presentation.

The Massachusetts Senior Care Association (MSCA), formerly the Massachusetts Extended Care Federation, hosted a panel presentation on December 11, 2009, on the Board's new *Advisory Ruling on the Initiation and Withholding of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation in Massachusetts Long-term Care Facilities with 24-Hour Skilled Nursing Staff on Duty*. A public-private collaborative effort of the Board, the Massachusetts Division of Healthcare Quality, the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Association of Directors of Nursing Administration/Long-term Care and the MSCA, the program was designed to provide attendees with the information necessary to insure that long-term care nurses are able to practice according to the standard of care described in the Advisory Ruling.

Invited guest speakers included Lisa Maffie, MS, RN/NP (a member of the Board's Task Force on the Nursing Management of Unwitnessed Cardiac Arrests in Massachusetts Nursing Homes and a Nurse Practitioner on the staff of the Elder Service Plan, Dorchester), Deborah Stone, MS, RN (a faculty member at the Forensic Nursing Program, Fitchburg State College and a clinician in the Emergency Department at Emerson Hospital), and Board staff members, Carol Silveira, MS, RN, Assistant Director and Laurie Talarico, MS, RN/NP, Nursing

Practice Coordinator. Held at the Holiday Inn in Marlboro, the program was attended by approximately 100 nursing service directors and staff development instructors from Massachusetts' nursing homes, and RN and LPN education program faculty.

The Advisory Ruling, the Advisory Ruling-Related Competencies tool and the report of the Task Force on the Nursing Management of Unwitnessed Cardiac Arrests in Massachusetts Nursing Homes are available on the Board's website at www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn. Click on Nursing Practice then click on Advisory Rulings on Nursing Practice.

Board Hosts New Administrator Orientation. The Board hosted its annual New Administrator Orientation on October 31. Presented by the Board's Nursing Education Coordinator, Judith Pelletier, MS, RN, the orientation is designed to provide newly appointed Registered Nurse administrators of Board-approved RN and LPN education programs with information about the regulations at 244 CMR 6.00 governing the approval of basic nursing education programs in Massachusetts, initial RN and LPN licensure by examination, and the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

The orientation was attended by 16 administrators and faculty with delegated administrative responsibilities. Currently, there are 70 Board-approved RN and LPN education programs including 25 Practical Nurse Programs, 1 Hospital-based Diploma Program, 21 Associate Degree Programs, 16 Baccalaureate Degree Programs and 7 Entry-level Graduate Degree Programs.

Laurie Talarico, MS, RN/NP, Appointed as Board's Nursing Practice Coordinator. Laurie Talarico, MS, RN/NP, joined the Board's staff last September as its new Nursing Practice Coordinator. An experienced Geriatric Nurse Practitioner, nursing service administrator and consultant, Ms. Talarico has extensive knowledge of the long-term care practice arena. Since graduating with a master of science degree in gerontological nursing (Nurse Practitioner track) from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell in 1980, Ms. Talarico's nursing career has focused on patient safety and quality improvement, the development of evidence-based standards and policies, and effective program design and management. Prior to joining the Board's staff, she was the Clinical Services Manager, EverCare, Inc., where she provided administrative oversight of 25 Nurse Practitioners.

As the Board's Nursing Practice Coordinator, Ms. Talarico will manage activities related to the regulation of Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, provide expert consultation to the Board and its staff on current and emerging trends in nursing practice, and serve as a resource to the health care and regulatory communities on the regulation of nursing practice in Massachusetts.

The Board extends its appreciation to former staff member, Gino Chisari, MSN, RN, who had continued to advise the Board on practice matters after he assumed his Deputy Executive Director responsibilities in 2007. Mr. Chisari resigned that position last October to assume the position of Director, Norman

Knight Nursing Center for Clinical and Professional Development at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Highlights from Chapter 305 of the Acts of 2008

Consumers Able to Select Nurse Practitioners as Primary Care

Providers. Health care reform legislation passed last summer to address issues of access, quality and transparency in health care statewide (Chapter 305) requires all Massachusetts health care insurers to recognize nurse practitioners as primary care providers. As a result, nurse practitioners must now be listed in provider directories enabling consumers to choose primary care that is provided by a nurse practitioner. The Commissioner, Department of Public Health, and the Group Insurance Commission will promulgate the implementation regulations for this new requirement. A total of 5824 Nurse Practitioners hold current Board authorization for practice at this time.

New Health Care Workforce Center Established at DPH. Statewide health care workforce shortages and access to culturally competent primary care services are among the issues to be addressed by the new Health Care Workforce Center (Center) at the Department of Public Health (DPH). Funded through Chapter 305, the Health Care Workforce Center will also administer a loan repayment program for eligible medical and nursing school graduates who practice in underserved areas of the state. Chapter 305 also requires the Governor to appoint a 16-member Advisory Committee to advise the DPH on Center activities. Designated nurse members of the Advisory Committee will include representation from the Massachusetts Organization of Nurse Executives, the Massachusetts Center for Nursing, the Massachusetts Association of Registered Nurses and the Massachusetts Nurses Association as well as two Advanced Practice RNs, one each from practice in rural and urban settings. The Board and a number of other DPH agencies have been invited by DPH Commissioner Auerbach to assist him in establishing the Center and its Advisory Committee.

News from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing

National of State Boards of Nursing seeks Volunteers. Development of the NCLEX-RN® and NCLEX-PN® licensing examinations utilizes contributions from hundreds of nurse educators, clinicians and managers who work with entry-level nurses. Volunteers are selected for three types of panels:

- Item Writing - Item writers create the items that are used for the NCLEX examination.
- Item Review - Item reviewers examine the items that are created by item writers.
- Panel of Judges - The panel of judges recommends potential NCLEX passing standards to the NCSBN Board of Directors.

If you are interested, you can apply online at www.ncsbn.org, or call the NCSBN Item Development hotline at 312.525.3775 - leave your name and address and an application will be sent to you.