

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE
178 Albion Street, Suite 330
Wakefield, Massachusetts 01880
(Teleconference)
June 25, 2026
10:33 a.m.

Public Session I

Members Participating Remotely:

Booker T. Bush, M.D., Physician Member, Chair
Frank O'Donnell, Esq., Public Member, Vice Chair
Sandeep Singh Jubbal, M.D., Physician Member, Secretary
Aviva Lee-Parritz, M.D., Physician Member
David Rosenbloom, Ph.D., Public Member

Members absent:

Yvonne Y. Cheung, MD, MPH, MBA, Physician Member

Staff Present and Participating Remotely:

George Zachos, Executive Director
Vita P. Berg, General Counsel
Michael Sinacola, Director of Licensing
Lisa Fuccione, Director of Enforcement
Roisin Cahill, Deputy Director of Licensing
Steven Hoffman, Manager, Division of Law and Policy
Eileen A. Prebensen, Senior Policy Counsel

Minutes taken by: Donald LaPointe, Paralegal, Division of Law and Policy.

Marsha Johnson, Stenographer, was present to record the Board meeting.

Dr. Bush called the Roll to confirm that there was a quorum of the Board.

Dr. Jubbal – Aye
Mr. O'Donnell – Aye
Dr. Lee-Parritz-Aye
Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Chair voted Aye.
Motion carried 5-0 (unanimous).

Dr. Bush informed those individuals in attendance that the Board meeting is being conducted via teleconference and is being recorded by a stenographer. Under Open Meeting Law, specifically Mass. General Laws chapter 30A section 20(f), any person who makes a video or audio recording must first notify the Chair, so that the Chair may notify other attendees of any

recordings. Dr. Bush asked if anyone present was making a recording. No individuals in attendance indicated that they were recording the Board meeting.

Acupuncture Licensing Cases

Eileen A. Prebensen, Senior Policy Counsel and Counsel to the Committee on Acupuncture, informed the Board that there are five Acupuncture Licensing Cases before them due to a lack of quorum to consider these matters at the June 18, 2026 Committee on Acupuncture meeting.

Lennon, Xianlu Q.

The Board considered the Request for Substantial Equivalency of Undergraduate Education, Request for TOEFL Waiver and Full Acupuncture License application.

Ms. Prebensen informed the Board that Ms. Lennon was asking for a waiver of the TOEFL examination requirement as she has been living in the United States since 1995. During this time, she has earned three Masters' Degrees from English-speaking universities.

Regarding Ms. Lennon's undergraduate education, Ms. Prebensen informed the Board that Ms. Lennon earned a Bachelor of Medicine degree from China Medical University, which is an accredited University. Additionally, Ms. Lennon provided a World Education Services credentials evaluation (WES) report that indicates Ms. Lennon's bachelor's degree in medicine from China Medical University is equivalent to five years of professional study in traditional Chinese medicine.

In the **Lennon** matter, Mr. O'Donnell moved to approve the Request for Substantial Equivalency and for a TOEFL Waiver and the Full Acupuncture License application.

Dr. Rosenbloom seconded the motion.

Dr. Lee-Parritz seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye

Dr. Jubbal – Aye

Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye

Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Chair voted Aye.

Motion carried 5-0. (unanimous)

Marquez, Elsa D.

The Board considered the Full Acupuncture License application.

Ms. Prebensen informed the Board that this application is before them due to Ms. Marquez's failure to pass her Foundations of Oriental Medicine examination on two occasions. Ms. Marquez did pass all her examinations in 2023.

Ms. Prebensen explained to the Board that, pursuant to the Acupuncture Regulation 243 CMR 5.02(7), any acupuncture license applicant who has failed the licensure examination or any component of that examination on two or more occasions may be subject to additional training or education requirements to address any deficiencies. These requirements are imposed solely at the discretion of the Committee on Acupuncture.

Ms. Prebensen stated that Ms. Marquez is a registered nurse and provided them with Ms. Marquez's explanation for her failures of the examinations due to personal and medical issues.

Pursuant to the Board's inquiries, Ms. Prebensen stated that she reviewed similar matters, going back three years, where acupuncturists failed their exams on multiple occasions and the Committee on Acupuncture did not impose additional training or CAEs on those applicants.

Mr. O'Donnell inquired if there was any data to indicate a correlation between exam failures and complaints filed against an acupuncturist who failed their exams.

Vita P. Berg, General Counsel, responded that historically the Committee on Acupuncture receives very few complaints against acupuncturists. Lisa Fuccione, Director of Enforcement, stated that on average the Enforcement Division may receive 4 or 5 complaints against acupuncturists on a yearly basis.

In the **Marquez** matter, Mr. O'Donnell moved to approve the Full Acupuncture License application.

Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye

Dr. Jubbal – Aye

Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye

Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Chair voted Aye.

Motion carried 5-0. (unanimous)

Mei, Victoria

The Board considered the Full Acupuncture License application.

Ms. Prebensen informed the Board that Ms. Mei failed a total of five of her NCBAHM examinations and the Acupuncture with Point Location exam four times.

Accordingly, Ms. Mei is subject to review by the Committee on Acupuncture to determine whether additional training or education should be imposed to address any deficiencies.

Ms. Prebensen stated that there are previous cases where an applicant has failed five times and the Committee on Acupuncture did not impose additional training or education requirements on the applicant. She recommended that the Board vote to approve Ms. Mei's acupuncture license application.

In the **Mei** matter, Mr. O'Donnell moved to approve the full acupuncture license application. Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye
Dr. Jubbal – Aye
Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye
Dr. Rosenbloom – No

The Chair voted Aye.
Motion carried 41-0. (Dr. Rosenbloom opposed.)

Kyne, McKiley

The Board considered the Full Acupuncture License application.

Ms. Prebensen informed the Board that Ms. Kyne has earned an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts from Massasoit Community College and a Master of Acupuncture from New England School of Acupuncture (NESA).

Pursuant to Dr. Jubbal's inquiry, Ms. Prebensen stated that she retracts her earlier recommendation regarding the imposition of additional education.

Ms. Prebensen stated that she cannot definitively state when the Committee on Acupuncture has imposed additional training or education requirement on applicants who have failed exams two or more times, but it is rare and has not occurred within the past three years.

In the **Kyne** matter, Mr. O'Donnell moved to approve the full acupuncture license application. Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye
Dr. Jubbal – Aye
Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye
Dr. Rosenbloom – No

The Chair voted Aye.
Motion carried 4-1-0. (Dr. Rosenbloom opposed.)

Melville, Jeffrey

The Board considered the Full Acupuncture License application.

Ms. Prebensen informed the Board that he failed the NCBAHM Biomedicine examination twice but passed Biomedicine in March 2026.

She provided the Board with Mr. Melville's explanation for his failure of the Biomedicine examination. She also highlighted that Mr. Melville graduated with 3.8 GPA from NESA and recommended that the Board vote to approve his Full Acupuncture License application.

In the **Melville** matter, Mr. O'Donnell moved to approve the full acupuncture license application. Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye

Dr. Jubbal – Aye

Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye

Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Chair voted Aye.

Motion carried 5-0. (unanimous)

Pursuant to Dr. Bush's inquiry, Ms. Berg advised that a discussion on who should be appointed to the Committee on Acupuncture should be scheduled for a future Board agenda. She informed the Board that the Acupuncture License applicants were brought to the full Board for consideration and vote because one Committee on Acupuncture member was recused and another Committee on Acupuncture member was not present at the June 18, 2026 Committee on Acupuncture meeting. As such, there was a lack of quorum to consider the Acupuncture Licensing applicants. (The COA is a 7-member committee with 2 vacancies and a quorum of 4 members.) She informed the Board that if a Physician Member is not appointed to the Committee on Acupuncture, more Acupuncture License applicants will be sent to the full Board for consideration and vote.

Minutes

The Board considered the Public Session Minutes of the June 11, 2026 Board meeting.

Dr. Lee-Parritz moved to approve the Public Session Minutes of the June 11, 2026 Board meeting.

Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye

Dr. Jubbal – Aye

Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye

Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Chair voted Aye.

Motion carried 5-0. (unanimous)

Licensing

Michael Sinacola, Director of the Licensing Division, provided the Board members with an overview of the licensing data as of June 25, 2026.

Mr. Sinacola informed the Board that BORIM staff have reviewed the list of licensing applications presented to the Board pursuant to Policy 19-05 to identify any applicants who hold an existing or prospective appointment at a facility where board members hold employment or affiliation. Accordingly, staff identified one application for which Dr. Lee-Parritz may wish to recuse herself from the vote and three applications for which Dr. Bush may wish to recuse himself from the vote.

Application of Dr. Kimia Abtahi:

Mr. O'Donnell moved to approve the limited license application for Dr. Kimia Abtahi.
Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye
Dr. Jubbal – Aye
Dr. Lee-Parritz - Recused
Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Chair voted Aye.
Motion carried 4-0-1. (Dr. Lee-Parritz recused.)

License Number	First Name	Last Name	License Type
3016532	Kimia	Abtahi	Physician Limited License

The Chair recused for the next set of applications. While the Chair was recused, the Vice Chair, Mr. O'Donnell, assumed the position of Acting Chair. Mr. O'Donnell asked for a motion to approve the limited license applications for Drs. Ashish Tiwari, Emily Rodriguez Ortega and Talin Handa.

License Number	First Name	Last Name	License Type
3020265	Ashish	Tiwari	Physician Limited License
3017220	Emily	Rodriguez Ortega	Physician Limited License
3015170	Talin	Handa	Physician Limited License

Dr. Jubbal moved to approve the above-listed Limited License applications.
Dr. Lee-Parritz seconded the motion.

Mr. O'Donnell called the Roll:

Dr. Bush - Recused

Dr. Jubbal – Aye

Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye

Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Acting Chair voted Aye.

Motion carried 4-0-1. (Dr. Bush recused.)

Dr. Bush reassumed the role of Chair of the meeting and asked for a motion to approve the remaining licensing applications as listed below.

Mr. O'Donnell moved to approve the remaining licensing applications.

Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye

Dr. Jubbal – Aye

Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye

Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Chair voted Aye.

Motion carried 5-0. (unanimous)

License Number	First Name	Last Name	License Type
1024745	Alma	Pulido Ramirez	Physician Full License
1025585	Christian	Nixon	Physician Full License
3020033	Ian	Snyder	Physician Limited License
3015306	Mohammad	Khalil	Physician Limited License
3020085	Sabrina	Adams	Physician Limited License
3020184	Rhiannon	Buchholz	Physician Limited License
1027987	Dario	Winterton	Physician Full License
1028016	Jonathan	McMath	Physician Full License
1028189	Jordan	Spellman	Physician Full License
293826	Christopher	Laboe	Physician Limited License
3021630	Christian	Coulson	Physician Limited License
1028344	Yaser	Khalid	Physician Full License
1028433	Kathleen	McHale	Physician Full License
<u>6014331</u>	Allison	Despres	Full Acupuncture License - Initial Application
51975	Mary	Hawthorne	Reactivation from Retirement

Dr. Bush announced that the Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized by Mass. General Law, chapter 30A, section 21 for purposes set at subsections (a)(1) and (a)(7). Specifically, the Board will consider a Petition to Terminate a Probation Agreement. The Board will also conduct a hearing on the issue of sanction in one pending disciplinary proceeding. In so doing, the Board will discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of a licensee, or the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges against a licensee, as permitted under purpose 1 and information that may not be publicly disclosed pursuant to Mass. General Law, chapter 112, section 5 and Mass. General Law, chapter 66A, section 2, as permitted under purpose 7. The Board will also be reviewing Executive Session Minutes.

Following the Executive Session, the Board will meet in closed Adjudicatory Session, and then in closed session under Mass. General Laws, chapter 112, section 65C. The Board will reconvene in Public Session II following the conclusion of the 65C Session.

Dr. Bush asked for a motion to go into Executive Session.

Mr. O'Donnell moved to go into Executive Session.

Dr. Lee-Parritz seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye

Dr. Jubbal – Aye

Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye

Dr. Rosenbloom – Aye

The Chair voted Aye.

Motion carried 5-0. (unanimous)

Dr. Bush stated that the Board would go into Executive Session.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

**178 Albion Street, Suite 330
Wakefield, Massachusetts 01880
(Teleconference)**

June 25, 2026

12:18 p.m.

Public Session II

Members Participating Remotely:

Booker T. Bush, M.D., Physician Member, Chair
Frank O'Donnell, Esq., Public Member, Vice Chair
Sandeep Singh Jubbal, M.D., Physician Member, Secretary
Aviva Lee-Parritz, M.D., Physician Member
David Rosenbloom, Ph.D., Public Member

Members absent:

Yvonne Y. Cheung, MD, MPH, MBA, Physician Member

Staff Present and Participating:

George Zachos, Executive Director
Vita P. Berg, General Counsel
Darina Griffin, Deputy Director of Enforcement
Steven Hoffman, Manager, Division of Law and Policy
Eileen A. Prebensen, Senior Policy Counsel

Minutes taken by: Donald LaPointe, Division of Law and Policy.

Marsha Johnson, Stenographer, was present to record the Board meeting.

Motions and Votes:

In the **Bergus** matter, Dr. Lee-Parritz moved to issue the Final Decision and Order revoking Dr. Bergus' license to practice medicine.

Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye

Dr. Jubbal – Aye

Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye

Dr. Rosenbloom - Aye

The Chair voted Aye.

Motion carried 5-0 (unanimous).

In the **Schiermer** matter, Mr. O'Donnell moved to accept the Resignation of Dr. Schiermer's inchoate right to renew his license to practice medicine, pursuant to 243 CMR 1.05(5)(a).
Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye
Dr. Jubbal – Aye
Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye
Dr. Rosenbloom - Aye

The Chair voted Aye.
Motion carried 5-0 (unanimous).

In the **Stephens** matter, Mr. O'Donnell moved to issue the Statement of Allegations, Order to Use Pseudonyms and Impound Identities and Medical Records, and Order of Reference to the Division of Administrative Law Appeals.
Dr. Lee-Parritz seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye
Dr. Jubbal – Recused
Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye
Dr. Rosenbloom - Aye

The Chair voted Aye.
Motion carried 4-0-1 (Dr. Jubbal recused).

Board Member Availability:

The Board considered their anticipated availability to attend the July 16, 2026, August 20, 2026 and September 10, 2026 Board meetings.

Dr. Jubbal indicated that he may have a scheduling conflict on July 16, 2026.

Dr. Lee-Parritz indicated that she may have a scheduling conflict on August 20, 2026.

Dr. Bush asked for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting.

Dr. Rosenbloom moved to adjourn the Board meeting.
Dr. Jubbal seconded the motion.

Dr. Bush called the Roll:

Mr. O'Donnell - Aye
Dr. Jubbal – Aye
Dr. Lee-Parritz - Aye
Dr. Rosenbloom - Aye

The Chair voted Aye.
Motion carried 5-0 (unanimous).

Public Session II ended at 12:21 p.m.

Documents Considered in Public Sessions I and II:

- Memorandum regarding Xianlu Q. Lennon, M.Ac. – Request for TOEFL Waiver and Initial Full Acupuncture License Application
- Memorandum regarding Elsa Marquez, M.Ac. - Initial Full Acupuncture License Application
- Memorandum regarding Victoria Mei, M.Ac. - Initial Full Acupuncture License Application
- Memorandum regarding McKiley Kyne, M.Ac. - Initial Full Acupuncture License Application
- Memorandum regarding Jeffrey Melville, M.Ac. - Initial Full Acupuncture License Application
- Public Session Minutes of the June 11, 2026 Board Meeting
- Licensing Applications List
- Motions and Votes