



Georgia Board of Pharmacy *NEWS*

April 2022

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

As President of the Georgia Board of Pharmacy, it is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to the first installment of our newly created newsletter. Our intent is to publish this newsletter on a quarterly basis in order to provide timely information to support each of you and the practice of pharmacy.

As you may already know, the **Georgia State Board of Pharmacy** is an eight-member board appointed by the Governor to protect, promote, and preserve the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Georgia. The Board is composed of seven licensed practicing pharmacists and one consumer member. We are responsible for the regulation of pharmacists and pharmacies in Georgia. As a board member, I take that charge to protect, promote and preserve the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Georgia very seriously. But as a practicing pharmacist I understand the

challenges pharmacists face providing high levels of care to our patients. I want to make sure that while we protect our patients, that we raise the bar for pharmacy care. One of the ways to raise the bar, I believe, is through communication. It is very important in any relationship you have. I remember as a young pharmacist receiving a newsletter from the board that provided information on the pressing issues of the day and found it most helpful. It is with that same mindset that we present you with this newsletter today.

Before I go, I would like to thank each of you for the tremendous efforts you put forth during 2021. Collectively, you raised the importance of pharmacy in the total patient healthcare experience and made a huge difference in countless lives. Thank you for the dedication and sacrifice during an incredible year!

Sincerely,
Dean Stone

GEORGIA DRUGS AND NARCOTICS AGENCY UPDATE

The Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency (GDNA) is excited to be a part of the Board of Pharmacy's newsletter. We believe it will provide us with an opportunity to share helpful information with pharmacy professionals throughout the State. GDNA has a long history of serving the community and our profession. The agency was founded in 1908 as the Office of the Chief Drug Inspector. While many things have changed, our mission remains the same - to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

The primary functions of the agency are to serve as facility inspectors and as the administrative and criminal investigations arm for the Georgia Board of Pharmacy. Over the last fiscal year GDNA conducted 2599 inspections at GA Board of Pharmacy licensed facilities. Special Agents interact and work with thousands of pharmacists and technicians each year during their time in pharmacies. During inspections it is our hope that they provide education and assistance to those with whom they interact.

GDNA is currently accepting applications for a Special Agent position in Southwest Georgia. If you are interested in applying for a position with the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency, please visit our website at www.GDNA.Georgia.GOV. If you live in or around Southwest Georgia, have at least two years of professional experience as a pharmacist and have interest in working with the GDNA team we encourage you to apply.

Dennis M. Troughton Sr.
Director GDNA

Michael Karnbach
Deputy Director GDNA

LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS UPDATE

In 2021, the Georgia Legislature changed the law regarding the pharmacy to pharmacy technician ratio. O.C.G.A. § 26-4-82(d) now provides that the pharmacist to pharmacy technician ratio shall not exceed one pharmacist providing direct supervision of four pharmacy technicians. At any time during which the pharmacist directly supervises four pharmacy technicians, two of such technicians must be certified. At any time during which the pharmacist directly supervises three pharmacy technicians, one of such technicians must be certified. No certification is required for pharmacy technicians in pharmacies at any time during which the pharmacist directly supervises one or two pharmacy technicians. The Board is in the process of updating its rules to conform to the new Georgia statute.

GENERAL UPDATES

In 2022, all pharmacists licensed in the state of Georgia are required to renew their license. Pharmacist licenses will expire December 31st, 2022. For continuing education requirements see referenced Rule 480-3-.03 (5)

A pharmacist licensed before or during the first six (6) months of the biennium (January to June), shall be required to obtain 30 hours of C.E. A pharmacist licensed during the following twelve (12) months (June to July) shall be required to obtain 15 hours of C.E. A pharmacist licensed during the last six (6) months of the biennium shall be exempt from continuing education for that biennium only.

In addition, all researcher's permits are required to renew their license and will expire June 30th, 2022. Reference rule 480-7-.04(5)

Permits are renewable every two (2) years and expire on June 30th of the even- numbered years. Permits may be renewed upon the payment of the required renewal fee and the filing of the renewal application form. If the application is not made and the fee not paid before September 1st of the even-numbered year, the permit shall lapse and shall not be renewable except by application for a new permit.

For more information, please refer to the board website gbp.georgia.gov for FAQs and access to Laws, Policies, and Rules.

Upcoming Board Meeting:

Date: April 13th

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, members of the public wishing to join Open Session of the board meeting may do so via conference call. Conference call information will be posted with the agenda prior to the meeting.

Board Members

President: Dean Stone

Vice President: Michael Azzolin

Michael Brinson

Young Chang

Cecil Cordle

Chuck Page

Bill Prather

Consumer Member: Carrie T. Ashbee

2022 Public Board Meetings

January 19, 2022

February 16, 2022

March 16, 2022

April 13, 2022

May 11, 2022

June 15, 2022

July 13, 2022

August 17, 2022

September 14, 2022

October 12, 2022

November 16 & 17, 2022

December 14, 2022

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