

**GEORGIA BOARD OF PHARMACY**  
**Emergency Conference Call**  
**2 Peachtree St., N.W., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Atlanta, GA 30303**  
**March 31, 2020**  
**12:00 p.m.**

**The following Board members were present:**

Lisa Harris, President  
Mike Faulk, Vice-President  
Carrie Ashbee  
Michael Azzolin  
Michael Brinson  
Hal Henderson  
Bill Prather  
Dean Stone

**Staff present:**

Tanja Battle, Executive Director  
Eric Lacefield, Deputy Executive Director  
Dennis Troughton, Director, GDNA  
Michael Karnbach, Deputy Director, GDNA  
Max Changus, Assistant Attorney General  
Kimberly Emm, Attorney  
Brandi Howell, Business Support Analyst I

**Open Session**

President Harris established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

**Temporary Technician Registration:** President Harris asked if there were any comments. Mr. Azzolin commented that the wording in the below sections were confusing. The current wording reads:

(4) All temporary pharmacy technician registrations shall expire on June 30, 2020 and be administratively extended, if necessary, based on the status of the state of emergency at that time.

(5) A temporary registrant seeking to continue working as a pharmacy technician in this State after the expiration date must complete the standard technician application process as outlined in rule 480-15-.02 within 60 days.

Mr. Brinson stated that the way he reads it, the individual has 60 days to complete his/her registration and it expires on 06/30 unless it is administratively extended.. Mr. Azzolin commented that it sounds like it is saying the license expires on 06/30. The Board discussed language that would make the amendment clearer. Ms. Battle stated that she will add the suggested language and email it to all the members for review.

**GDNA Report:** Director Troughton shared a request from Glenn's Corner Pharmacy with the Board regarding a drive through window to put in the retail pharmacy. He stated that this pharmacy is close to a hospital that has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Director Troughton explained that the rule does require the Board approve the plans prior to construction. He stated that a GDNA agent has been to the store. Director Troughton requested the Board approve the plans so that the store could begin construction immediately. Mr. Faulk made a motion to approve the drive through plans for Glenn's Corner Pharmacy. Mr. Prather seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Director Troughton stated that he has been in touch with the Department of Public Health. He stated that the crisis of the lack of availability of the drugs for those on ventilators is escalating. He stated that he had all the GDNA agents reach out to the pharmacies across the state to let them know

that GDNA is here and asked how they could assist in any way. Director Troughton stated that they have already heard from a number of them saying they are short on the drugs that are used to initiate and maintain ventilation in COVID-19 patients. He stated that the question being asked is can a 503A start compounding these drugs and selling/sending them to places for office/hospital use? Director Troughton commented that FDA are the regulations that separate 503A/503B. He stated that he will reach out to the FDA to see how they are addressing that specific question. He added that the shortage is caused by DEA restrictions on how much people can order from wholesalers. He stated that he is not sure if it is a production issue or an inability to purchase. President Harris asked if the DEA has been made aware of this. Director Troughton responded that he will reach out to the DEA in Atlanta to see if he can obtain more information on this issue.

**Temporary Technician Registration:** The Board reviewed the draft provided by Ms. Battle with the updated changes. Mr. Prather made a motion to adopt Rule 480-15-0.40-.07 Temporary Pharmacy Technician Registration. Mr. Stone seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Rule 480-15-0.40-.07 Temporary Pharmacy Technician Registration.

(1) As a response to the current state of emergency as declared by the Governor, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy finds the potential for imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare of Georgia citizens. This emergency rule shall go into effect based on O.C.G.A. 50-13-4(b) and shall be effective for the duration of the emergency or a period of not more than 120 days, whichever is shorter. During the time this rule is effective, it shall replace Georgia State Board of Pharmacy Rule 480-15-.02.

(2) In order to be issued a Temporary Pharmacy Technician Registration, a Georgia Resident applicant shall:

- (a) Submit an application to the Board on the form prescribed by the Board;
- (b) Attest that applicant is at least 17 years old; and
- (c) Attest that applicant is currently enrolled in high school, or has a high school diploma, or has a GED, or has a postsecondary education or college degree.

(3) In order to be issued a Temporary Pharmacy Technician Registration, a Non-Resident applicant shall:

- (a) Submit an application to the Board on the form prescribed by the Board;
- (b) Attest that applicant is at least 17 years old;
- (c) Attest that applicant is currently enrolled in high school, or has a high school diploma, or has a GED, or has a postsecondary education or college degree; and
- (d) Submit proof of valid pharmacy technician license/registration in another state which is current and in good standing.

(4) All temporary pharmacy technician registrations shall expire 60 days from the end of the declared state of emergency.

(5) A temporary registrant must complete the standard technician application process as outlined in rule 480-15-.02 within those 60 days if he or she intends to continue working as pharmacy technician.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(3), the Board declares that special circumstances exist warranting the holding of this meeting on less than 24 hours' notice, those circumstances being the COVID-19 pandemic.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Georgia Board of Pharmacy will be held via conference call on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Community Health's office located at 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303.

Minutes recorded by Brandi Howell, Business Support Analyst I

Minutes edited by Tanja D. Battle, Executive Director