

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT EXAMINERS
LICENSURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JULY 30, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Chairman, Tony Hedges, D.O. Committee members present were Michael Belgard, PA-C; G. Al Bendeck, PA-C; and Pamela W. Clark. Jerry Walker, Deputy Executive Director; Jennifer Kaufman, J.D., Assistant General Counsel; Tonie Knight, Manager, Licensing, Permits and Registration; Tim Speer, Team Leader, Physician Assistant/Acupuncture Division; and various other staff were also present.

Agenda item #2, Executive Session, was considered. Ms. Clark moved, Mr. Belgard seconded, and the motion passed at 10:06 a.m. to go into executive session for private consultation and advice of counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, deliberations concerning licensure applications, possible disciplinary action and/or possible rehabilitation order under the authority of the Open Meetings Act, GOV'T CODE, §551.071; and the Medical Practice Act, TEX. OCC. CODE ANN., §152.009; and the Physician Assistant Licensing Act, TEX. OCC. CODE ANN., §§204.208, 204.254, 204.305, and 204.306; and Attorney General's Opinion No. H-484. Open session resumed at 10:53 a.m. and it was announced that no action was taken during Executive Session. A certified agenda was made.

Agenda item #4, regarding licensure applicants referred to the Licensure Committee by the Executive Director for determination of eligibility of licensure, was considered. Applicant #PA-47 appeared before the Committee for the consideration of his application for licensure and to discuss being arrested for assault on October 5, 1994; Abandonment/Endangerment of a Child with Intent to Return on March 23, 1997; Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon on June 7, 2000; and failure to report the third arrest on his application for licensure. Applicant #PA-47 made a statement and answered committee members' questions. Following discussion, **Mr. Belgard moved, Ms. Clark seconded, all voted in favor, and the motion passed to recommend to the**

full board that Applicant #PA-47 be allowed to withdraw his application and resubmit it with truthful statements and that upon such submission that he be eligible for unrestricted license at the next meeting of the Board.

Applicant #PA-33 appeared before the Committee for the consideration of his application for licensure and to discuss his employment history including being disciplined by his current employer by being placed on a five-day suspension and six months probation. Applicant #PA-33 made a statement and answered committee members' questions. Following discussion, **Ms. Clark moved, Mr. Belgard seconded, all voted in favor, and the motion passed to recommend to the full board that Applicant #PA-33 be granted an unrestricted Physician Assistant license.**

Applicant #PA-34 appeared before the Committee for the reconsideration of his application for licensure and to discuss his supervising physicians' evaluation of his work performance during the last 12 months. Applicant #PA-34 appeared before the Committee at the May 2, 2003 meeting and a motion was passed that Applicant #PA-34 be issued a temporary license allowing him to obtain at least 12 months of full-time, supervised practice. Applicant #PA-34 made a statement and answered committee members' questions regard poor evaluations from Dr. Vrendenberg and Villalobos. Applicant #PA-34 also explained to the committee that he has been employed for close to one year with Drs. Saheba, Kluge, and Vinge with good to excellent evaluation. Following discussion, **Mr. Bendeck moved, Ms. Clark seconded, and the motion passed to recommend to the full board that Applicant #PA-34 be granted an unrestricted Physician Assistant license.**

Applicant #PA-48 appeared before the Committee for the reconsideration of her application for licensure and to her supervising physicians' evaluation of her work performance during the last six months. Applicant #PA-48 appeared before the Committee at the November 21, 2003 meeting and a motion was passed that Applicant #PA-48 be issued a temporary license allowing her to obtain six months of full-time, supervised practice. Applicant #PA-48 made a statement and answered committee members' questions. Following discussion, **Ms. Clark moved, Mr. Bendeck seconded, all voted in favor, and the motion passed to recommend to the full board that Applicant #PA-48 be granted an unrestricted Physician Assistant license.**

Applicant #PA-49 appeared before the Committee for the consideration of his application for licensure and to discuss his below average evaluation from a recent employer. Applicant #PA-49 explained that he was angry his supervising physician for criticizing him in public and quit without giving notice and that was the reason for the poor evaluation. Following discussion, **Mr. Bendeck moved, Mr. Belgard seconded, all voted in favor, and the motion passed to recommend to the full board that Applicant #PA-49 be granted an unrestricted Physician Assistant license.**

Applicant #PA-50 appeared before the Committee for the consideration of her application and to discuss being out of practice since graduation August 29, 2002. Applicant #PA-50 made a statement and answered committee members' questions. Applicant #PA-50 explained that she had been out of practice because she had relocated on several occasions and that caused her to fail her certification exam several times. She noted that she has now passed it and is studying for the surgical board exam. Following discussion, **Mr. Belgard moved, Ms. Clark seconded, all voted in favor, and the motion passed to recommend to the full board that based on the fact that Applicant #PA-50 does not meet the requirement set out in Board rule 185.4(d) regarding active practice as a Physician Assistant, Applicant #PA-50 be issued a temporary license with an expiration date that will allow her to obtain at least six months of supervised practice on the condition that she only work in a setting that provides continuous full-time, on-site physician supervision. Two weeks prior to the temporary license expiring, the supervising physician will submit to this office a log showing time worked and an evaluation to board staff regarding Applicant #PA-50's work performance. If this evaluation is favorable, Applicant PA-50's name may be placed on a list of applicants who have met all requirements for licensure to be considered at the following board meeting. If the evaluation is unsatisfactory, Applicant #PA-50 will be required to appear at the following Board meeting for reconsideration of her application.**

Applicant #286 appeared before the Committee for the reconsideration of his application for licensure due to the fact that he had not practiced as a physician assistant since January 2004. Applicant #286 explained that he had been keeping up on his CME and was selling Real Estate to earn a living. Following discussion, **Mr. Bendeck moved,**

Ms. Clark seconded, and the motion passed to recommend to the full board that based on the fact that Applicant #286 does not meet the requirement set out in Board rule 185.4(d) regarding active practice as a Physician Assistant, Applicant #286 be issued a temporary license with an expiration date that will allow him to obtain at least six months of supervised practice on the condition that he only work in a setting that provides continuous full-time, on-site physician supervision. Two weeks prior to the temporary license expiring, the supervising physician will submit to this office a log showing time worked and an evaluation to board staff regarding Applicant #286's work performance. If this evaluation is favorable, Applicant #286's name may be placed on a list of applicants who have met all requirements for licensure to be considered at the following board meeting. If the evaluation is unsatisfactory, Applicant #286 will be required to appear at the following Board meeting for reconsideration of his application.

The Committee then considered the application of Applicant #286. The Committee noted that the independent psychiatric evaluation of Applicant #286 indicated that he/she did not represent a significant risk to practice as a physician assistant. **Ms. Clark moved to recommend to the full Board that no action be taken in regard to Applicant #286. Mr. Belgard seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.**

Agenda item #3 regarding review of physician assistant applications for permanent licensure, was considered. Tim Speer, Manager of Physician Assistant Licensure, presented to the Committee a list of applicants for physician assistant licensure who had met all requirements. **Ms. Clark moved, Mr. Bendeck seconded, and the motion passed to recommend to the full Board that the sixty-four applicants and one relicensure applicant listed be granted Physician Assistant licensure.**

There being no further business, **Mr. Bendeck moved, Mr. Belgard seconded, all voted in favor, and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 a.m.**