



# Report of the Executive Director/Secretary

116<sup>th</sup> NABP Annual Meeting  
May 14, 2020

***Presented by:***

Lemrey "Al" Carter, MS, PharmD, RPh



I would first like to take this opportunity to thank the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®)

Executive Committee for their confidence and trust in me to lead this amazing organization; I am honored and humbled by the opportunity. I would also like to take this occasion to recognize, Carmen Catizone. It is through Carmen's unwavering commitment, foresight, and leadership that NABP is the remarkable organization that it is today. It is my intent to continue in this role with a renewed commitment of passion, vigor, and respect, and to continue to support the member boards of pharmacy and serve our mission to protect public health.

I am a product of Biloxi, MS. I received my doctorate in pharmacy from Xavier University of Louisiana and received my master of science from the University of Florida. Prior to moving to Chicago, IL, every year starting on June 1 until the end of November, the potential to evacuate due to a hurricane was evident and, in many situations, a forced evacuation

was mandated. In some way, shape, or form, we programmed it into our brains and had a routine to prepare in the event a hurricane was headed our way. For the last five months and for the undetermined future, we have been dealing and will continue to deal with a pandemic that no one was prepared for. As Chairperson Campbell stated, this pandemic far exceeds any regional hurricane efforts; yet, NABP along with the member state boards of pharmacy have continued to step up to the plate to provide nationwide support through the utilization of NABP Passport and real-time updates to assist members with questions, inquiries, and guidance regarding this deadly virus. We will continue to support all members through this unprecedented time until a vaccine is developed and a solid treatment protocol is implemented.

Due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the evolution of the practice of pharmacy has been accelerated and will never be the same. NABP will have to respond quickly to comprehend the impact and determine the best way to support our members during these changes. The emerging prevalence and expansion of telehealth and

telepharmacy, the change in the role of a pharmacist to align with scope of practice changes, and the desire for a greater digital presence are all factors that will change the pharmacy profession and how you regulate the practice in your state. NABP will support our members during any changes and make sure that this transition is seamless. I, along with the NABP Executive Committee and NABP staff, promise to work tirelessly to minimize disruption in our programs and services we provide.

My three-year plan focuses first on you, the people. It is my priority to develop and strengthen relationships with the Executive Committee, and all state executives and board members to understand how NABP can better serve your interests. We are committed to deliver a seamless transition with no interruption in the services that are provided to our members. Second, we will continue to focus on our programs and make improvements that foster a culture of innovation through technology and the utilization of data and digital solutions to assist member boards in regulating for the purpose of protecting public health. Our

third priority will focus on data integration and the opportunities that exist with the enhanced collection and utilization of e-Profile data. Data integration provides many opportunities for NABP and state boards of pharmacy to create digital solutions to streamline and remove burdensome administrative processes, providing better efficiency and lowering operational costs for state boards of pharmacy and NABP.

I have served as a pharmacist in the community for over 15 years, as a member and chairperson of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation – State Board of Pharmacy for six years and have served on numerous task forces and committees with pharmacy organizations, including NABP, for the past 12 years. One thing that is consistent is that you are only as strong as the members of your

team. With a continued focus on collaborative teamwork and **unity**, adherence to the strategic vision and mission of NABP, and a commitment to servant leadership, we will continue to overcome any pandemic or challenge that is in our path and will continue to see **ideas ignite**. Thank you.