

LOUISIANA BOARD OF PHARMACY

*Newsletter to Promote Pharmacy
and Drug Law Compliance.*

Board Member Appointments (24-10-781)

The terms of five Louisiana Board of Pharmacy members expired on June 30, 2024. Governor Jeff Landry reappointed two members and named three new members to the Board. He also reappointed the consumer member, who serves at the pleasure of the governor.

- For District 3, Mr Richard A. "Andy" Soileau, from New Iberia, LA, was appointed to replace Mr Blake P. Pitre, from Houma, LA, who completed 42 years of service to the Board.
- For District 4, Dr David G. Collins, from Shreveport, LA, was appointed to replace Mr Rhonny K. Valentine, from Natchitoches, LA, who completed 12 years of service to the Board.
- For District 5, Dr J. Robert Cloud, from Calhoun, LA, was reappointed to another term.

- For District 7, Mr Kevin LaGrange, from Lafayette, LA, was reappointed to another term.
- For District 8, Mr Robert A. "Butch" Ray, from Pineville, LA, was appointed to replace Mr Robert C. "Rock" LeBas, from Opelousas, LA, who completed six years of service to the Board.
- For the consumer member, Mr Don L. Resweber, from St Martinville, LA, was reappointed to serve at the pleasure of the governor. Mr Resweber has served as the consumer member since November 2, 2011.

The Board extends its appreciation to the three outgoing members for their dedicated service to the Board and welcomes the new members. The terms for all five district members appointed will expire on June 30, 2030.

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Compliance Officer News (24-10-782)

After more than 22 years of dedicated service to the Board, Compliance Officer Huey J. Savoie announced his retirement; his last day of work was August 9, 2024. Mr Savoie served the Board and

the public well and with distinction. He will be greatly missed. Congratulations, Huey!

The Board is pleased to announce that Dr Jordan T. Bergeaux, from Basile, LA, will replace Mr Savoie

as compliance officer. Dr Bergeaux began her service to the Board on August 5, 2024, and is responsible for the southwestern area of the state.



New Rules (24-10-783)

The Board completed the rulemaking process for **Regulatory Project 2023-09 – Product Integrity;** **Regulatory Project 2024-02 – Open Meetings via Electronic Means;** and **Regulatory Project 2024-03 – Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Advisory Council Open Meetings via Electronic Means** with the publication of the final rules in the August 20, 2024 edition of the *Louisiana Register*, with immediate effective dates.

The Board completed the rulemaking process for **Regulatory Project**

2024-01 – Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) Licensing with the publication of the final rule in the September 20, 2024 edition of the *Louisiana Register*, with an immediate effective date.

The Board distributed email notices regarding the progress of these regulatory projects in addition to maintaining the information on the **Regulatory Projects** page of the Board's website. Please refer to the Regulatory Projects page to view the status and details of all projects.

Renewal Time for Pharmacists and Pharmacies (24-10-784)

The renewal cycle for pharmacist licenses (PST), pharmacy permits (PHY), compounded sterile preparations permits (CSP-PHY), and controlled dangerous substance (CDS) licenses for pharmacies (CDS-PHY) will open on November 1, 2024. Just prior to that date, you should receive a renewal notice by email from licensing@pharmacy.la.gov. Those who do not have an email address on file with the Board will receive the renewal notice by mail the first week of November. You

have three options to renew your credentials:

- 1) Visit the Board's [website](#) and renew your credential using the online services portal and an electronic method of payment.
- 2) Visit the same website to download and print an application form. Then, complete and mail the application form with the appropriate fee, using a

check or money order, to the Board office.

- 3) Send a written request to the Board office with your name, credential number, and mailing address, requesting the Board to mail an application form to you.

The online renewal module on the Board's website is programmed to automatically activate at 12:01 AM on November 1, 2024. While the Board makes every effort to

Renewal Time for Pharmacists and Pharmacies (24-10-784)

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maintain online convenience during the renewal cycle, internet service providers may experience weather-related or other unforeseen technical difficulties from time to time. Such service disruptions have already happened more than once during the many years the Board has been offering the online option, including the final day of the renewal cycle. To avoid late renewal and reinstatement fees, please do not wait until the last minute of the last day.

The online renewal process will include a question relative to the licensee's compliance with continuing pharmacy education (CPE) requirements. The renewal process will then pause for an automated check of the applicant's records via CPE Monitor®. Upon CPE Monitor verification of compliance with CPE requirements, the applicant will be permitted to complete the renewal process. In the event that compliance cannot be verified by CPE Monitor, the renewal process will be terminated, and the applicant will be invited to return to complete the renewal process when their records at CPE Monitor can substantiate their compliance with CPE requirements.

As a reminder, the Board's rules for CPE requirements for renewal of pharmacist licensure are found in the Board's regulations under Section 507 – Continuing Education Program. The rule requires a pharmacist to acquire at least 15 hours of Accreditation Council

for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)-accredited CPE each year to qualify for the renewal of their pharmacist license. Of those 15 hours, at least three hours must be earned via live presentation. The rule offers an alternative for those pharmacists unable to earn at least three hours via live presentation; they shall obtain at least 20 hours of ACPE-accredited CPE each year to qualify for the renewal of their pharmacist license.

In the event that you elect or are required to use paper application forms, the Board suggests that you submit your completed application forms and fees to the Board office no later than December 1, 2024, especially if you require a renewed license on or before January 1, 2025. If it is important for you to know when your paper application forms are received at the Board office, the Board suggests that you use a mailing service with tracking options, eg, United States Postal Service, FedEx, DHL, or United Parcel Service. Because of the volume of mail received, the Board will not be able to respond to requests for delivery confirmation. Please do not forget to answer all the questions and sign and date the paper application form. If the forms are incomplete or there is no supporting documentation when required, then the Board may return your application form to you, resulting in a delay in the renewal of your credential. Upon receipt of a paper application, Board staff

will ensure compliance with CPE requirements by viewing your CPE Monitor transcript. If the minimum CPE requirements are not reflected, your application will be returned unprocessed.

- Current pharmacist licenses expire at midnight on December 31, 2024. There is no "grace period," and a pharmacist shall not practice with an expired license.
- The fee for the timely renewal of a pharmacist license is \$150. Unless opted out, the pharmacy education support (PES) fee of \$100 will be added to the total cost. The reinstatement of an expired license will incur a 50% penalty fee of \$75 and a \$200 reinstatement fee on January 1, 2025.

Please remember that the pharmacy permit, compounded sterile preparations permit, and CDS license for the pharmacy are all separate credentials and must be renewed on separate application forms when using paper applications and the online portal. You may write one check for one or more credentials, but the application forms are separate. If you send multiple applications with one check and there is a problem with one of the applications, then all the applications covered by that check will be delayed until all the applications paid for with that check can be processed. If renewing online, those credentials have separate application forms

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and are available for access at the same time. All must be completed to renew all credentials. You may elect to renew and pay for them in separate transactions or place multiple applications on the same invoice prior to electronic payment.

- To qualify for the renewal of a pharmacy permit, the Board requires evidence of a recent satisfactory inspection dated within the two-year period prior to the date of the renewal application. If the Board does not have that inspection report, you will not be able to renew the pharmacy permit until the updated inspection is received.
- Current pharmacy permits, compounded sterile preparations permits, and CDS licenses for pharmacies expire at midnight on December 31, 2024. There is no “grace period.”
- The fee for the timely renewal of a pharmacy permit is \$225, which includes the \$25 PMP assessment. Unless opted out, the PES fee of \$100 will be added to the total cost. The reinstatement of an expired permit will incur a 50% penalty fee of \$100 and a \$200 reinstatement fee on January 1, 2025.
- The fee for the timely renewal of a CDS license for a pharmacy is \$25. The reinstatement of an expired CDS license for a pharmacy will incur a 50% penalty fee of \$12.50 and a \$200 reinstatement fee on January 1, 2025.
- The fee for the timely renewal of a compounded sterile preparations permit for a pharmacy is \$300. Failure to renew this credential will result

in the pharmacy permit’s loss of sterile compounding authority.

As required by Act 298 of the 2015 Louisiana Legislature, the Board is required to assess the PES fee of \$100 on the renewal of every pharmacist license and pharmacy permit issued by the Board. The law also provides an option for the pharmacist and pharmacy to decline to pay the fee. You will notice the default position is for the fee to be included on your invoice; you must “opt out” if you wish to decline to pay the PES fee. If you forget to opt out and then pay the fee, the Board cannot issue a refund of the PES fee.

As a reminder, credentials are now virtual, meaning no paper form exists for the Board to mail to you. You can check the status of your license at any time on the Board’s website.

Spotlight on Compliance (24-10-785)

When filling prescriptions, it is important for the recorded information to be accurate. For controlled substance (CS) prescriptions, the prescriber’s Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration number is a required element of a prescription (Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 46:LIII.2511.D.1.a). When the prescription information is entered into the pharmacy dispensing information system,

the DEA registration number in the prescriber file should match the DEA registration number on the prescription. If the numbers do not match, the pharmacist should determine the correct number.

Pharmacies dispensing CS and *drugs of concern* shall submit information regarding those prescriptions to the PMP. One of the required data elements of the reported transaction is the DEA registration number and suffix,

if applicable, or, alternatively, the National Provider Identifier (NPI) of the prescriber (LAC 46:LIII.2913). If the DEA number is that of a hospital or institution, the suffix number assigned to the prescriber is required in addition to the prescriber’s name. Prescriptions for *drugs of concern* do not require that the prescriber possess a DEA number; the NPI number is acceptable.

The use of a placeholder, or “dummy,” DEA number is not

Spotlight on Compliance (24-10-785)

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appropriate or acceptable. When filling CS prescriptions, there is a responsibility to verify the authority of the prescriber to prescribe the CS. During data entry and review, the DEA number should be one of the checks that occur. For prescriptions

for *drugs of concern* written by a prescriber with no DEA number, the DEA number field should be left blank.

Information regarding the PMP, including tutorials, user guides, and

pharmacy guidance, is available on the [PMP](#) page of the Board's [website](#). Laws and regulations are also found on the Board's website under the Resources tab.

Disciplinary and Other Licensure Actions (24-10-786)

During its August 14, 2024 meeting, the Board took action in the following matters:

Walgreen Louisiana Co, Inc, dba Walgreens Pharmacy No. 110-03047 (Baton Rouge, LA)

(PHY.003245): For its accountability for a CS shortage and failure to provide effective controls and procedures to guard against theft or diversion, the Board assessed a fine of \$5,000 plus administrative and investigative costs.

Louisiana CVS Pharmacy, LLC, dba CVS Pharmacy No. 5396 (Bossier City, LA) (PHY.005963):

For its failure to provide effective controls and procedures to guard against theft or diversion of CS, for its accountability for shortages of CS, and failure to conduct a CS inventory upon discovery of a CS loss, the Board assessed a fine of \$35,000 plus administrative and investigative costs.

Louisiana CVS Pharmacy, LLC, dba CVS Pharmacy No. 4743 (Shreveport)

(PHY.006485): For its failure to provide effective controls and procedures to guard against theft or diversion of CS, for its

accountability for shortages of CS, and failure to conduct a CS inventory upon discovery of a CS loss, the Board assessed a fine of \$10,000 plus administrative and investigative costs.

Monique Rashae Morris

(CPT.008384): For departing from or failing to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing pharmacy practice while employed at CVS Pharmacy No. 4743, the Board suspended her certificate for one year beginning on August 13, 2024, and terminating on August 13, 2025, suspended the suspension, then placed her certificate on probation for the period of suspension, subject to certain conditions enumerated within the voluntary consent agreement.

Robbie James Bruce (PST.015875):

For practicing with an expired license, the Board issued a letter of warning; and further, assessed administrative and investigative costs.

Brinkhaus Thrifty Way Pharmacy of Louisiana, Inc, Store No. 23, dba Brinkhaus Thrifty Way Pharmacy

(Sunset, LA) (PHY.005820):

For its failure to comply with Board regulations regarding the compounding of sterile preparations, the Board assessed a fine of \$5,000 plus administrative and investigative costs.

Scottie James Knott (PST.015279):

For his accountability as pharmacist-in-charge (PIC) for compliance with Board regulations regarding the compounding of sterile preparations at Brinkhaus Thrifty Way Pharmacy, the Board assessed a fine of \$5,000 plus administrative costs.

Pharmacore, Inc, dba Hallandale Pharmacy (Fort Lauderdale, FL)

(PHY.007866): For dispensing multiple prescriptions for drug products to Louisiana residents that did not meet Louisiana standards, the Board assessed a fine of \$53,790 plus administrative and investigative costs.

Gary Gilbert Koesten (PST.017432):

For his accountability as PIC of Hallandale Pharmacy regarding the dispensing of multiple prescriptions for drug products to Louisiana residents that did not meet Louisiana standards, the Board

Disciplinary and Other Licensure Actions (24-10-786)

(continued)

assessed a fine of \$5,000, plus administrative costs.

Brittany Tiera Glapion (CPT.016521): For her failure to report an April 2024 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician reinstatement application, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

J'onese La'shae Carter (CPT.017558): For her failure to report a January 2024 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician application, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

Aunjane' Lynette Renee' Sims (CPT.017349): For her failure to report a March 2024 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician application, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

Tynesha Rene Walker (CPT.016952): For her failure to report a November 2023 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician renewal application for 2024-2025, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

Tabitha Nicole Duhon (CPT.013821): For her failure to report a January

2024 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician application, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

Mendy Lee Tregle (CPT.014084): For her failure to report a February 2024 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician application, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

Marquita Nicole Carter (CPT.012454): For her failure to report a May 2024 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician renewal application for 2024-2025, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

Alexis Morgan Edmond (CPT.014926): For her failure to report an April 2024 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician renewal application for 2024-2025, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

Amber Michelle Melancon Vicknair (CPT.013743): For her failure to report an August 2023 arrest as part of her pharmacy technician

renewal application for 2024-2025, despite specific questioning for such information, the Board issued a letter of reprimand; and further, assessed a fine of \$250 plus administrative costs.

Destinee Audnell Lyons (CPT.015164): For an alleged diversion of CS, the Board revoked her credential; and further, prohibited her from applying or reapplying to practice or assist in the practice of pharmacy.

Kenneth Norman Kellow, III (PST.022855): In lieu of immediate administrative action on a pending matter, the Board accepted the voluntary surrender of the credential, resulting in the active suspension of the license for an indefinite period of time commencing on June 28, 2024.

Cody Lane Guitreau (PST.022345): In lieu of immediate administrative action on a pending matter, the Board accepted the voluntary surrender of the credential, resulting in the active suspension of the license for an indefinite period of time commencing on July 5, 2024.

Jordan Beatrice Rodenbaugh (PST.021335): In lieu of immediate administrative action on a pending matter, the Board accepted the voluntary surrender of the credential, resulting in the active suspension of the license for an indefinite period of time commencing on August 5, 2024.

Courtney Elizabeth-Marie McNeal (PST.022118): Board granted her

Disciplinary and Other Licensure Actions (24-10-786)

(continued)

request for modification of previous orders by removing Article 2-e imposed from her May 25, 2023 Board order, thereby allowing her to serve as PIC of a pharmacy.

Brent Van Landry (PST.017440):

Board granted his request for modification of previous orders by removing all terms and conditions of his probation imposed from his

August 18, 2021 Board order and restored his license to active and unrestricted status.

Sara Gene Fletcher Feucht

(CPT.005979): Board suspended her certificate for five years beginning on August 14, 2024, and terminating on August 14, 2029, suspended the suspension, then placed her certificate on probation for the

period of suspension, subject to certain conditions enumerated within the voluntary consent agreement.

Mar'kayla Renee' Green

(CPT.017269): Board granted her request for reinstatement of a previously suspended credential imposed from her May 8, 2024 Board order and restored her certificate to active and unrestricted status.

Calendar Notes (24-10-787)

The Board office will be closed on:

- November 5, 2024, for Election Day;
- November 11, 2024, for Veterans Day;
- November 28, 2024, for Thanksgiving Day;
- November 29, 2024, for Acadian Day (if declared);
- December 25, 2024, in observance of Christmas Day; and
- January 1, 2025, in observance of New Year's Day.

Upcoming Board Meeting: The next regular quarterly meeting of the Board and some of its committees is scheduled for November 19-20, 2024. Upcoming events can be found on the home page of the Board's website.

Special Note (24-10-788)

The *Louisiana Board of Pharmacy Newsletter* is considered an official method of notification to pharmacies, pharmacists, pharmacy interns, pharmacy technicians, and

pharmacy technician candidates credentialed by the Board. **These Newsletters will be used in administrative hearings as proof of notification.** Please read them

carefully. Electronic copies dating back to 1998 are posted on the Board's website.

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