

# ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

*Newsletter to Promote Pharmacy and Drug Law Compliance.*

## Update Your Profile

In an effort to communicate more effectively with its licensees and permittees, the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy has noticed that contact information in its system is not always current and up to date. The Board reminds you that you are

required to update your personal contact information and pharmacy employer within 10 days after a change, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) §32-1926. Please use your online profile to update your contact information.

## Be on Alert – Scam Letters and/or Phone Calls

**Warning: Scammers are using letters, in addition to phone calls, to scam licensees. The Board has recently experienced an increase in the number of reports from licensees who are receiving scam calls.**

In one past incident, the imposter called the pharmacist's cell phone using a caller ID that matched the Board's phone number. The caller claimed to be a Board investigator. The imposter threatened the

pharmacist, saying that the phone was tapped and that emails were being monitored by the Board. The caller was intimidating and manipulative and connected the pharmacist with another caller who pretended to be a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent.

The pharmacist was sent a letter that claimed to be an official notice of suspension. This letter had Board letterhead, a State of Arizona Board of Pharmacy seal, the licensee

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number, and appeared to have been **signed by the Board's executive director.**

Fortunately, this licensee contacted the Board and confirmed that they were in good standing and not part of any investigation. The licensee also provided the information found in this alert so that the Board could notify other licensees about this imposter and scam.

## Techniques used by fake callers include the following:

- A caller uses a caller ID that shows "AZ State Board of Pharmacy" with the Board's phone number, 602/771-2727.
- The caller claims that a licensee is under investigation by the Board, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), FBI, or

another government agency. In some cases, the caller also warns of discipline unless the licensee pays a "fine" over the phone.

- A caller warns a licensee not to report the call to anyone, "or else [they] will jeopardize the investigation."
- A caller requests a licensee's mobile phone number.
- A caller gives a fake callback number.

## These calls are scams!

In many cases, callers are attempting to extort money or elicit sensitive, nonpublic information – bank account information, personal addresses, DEA registration numbers, etc – from licensees.

## What can you do to protect yourself and your pharmacy?

Licensee security is important to the Board. Be aware of these tips:


- **If you have any doubts or questions about someone claiming, by phone or in person, to represent the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy, call the Board at 602/771-2727.**
- If a scam caller claims to represent DEA or the FBI, report the call to [DEA's Extortion Scam reporting program](#) or the [FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center](#).
- If a scam caller's phone number appears to be a Board telephone number, report the scam using the [Federal Communications Commission's consumer complaint form](#).

# Thank You for Serving – Cedar Lahann and Kevin Dang

The Board would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to Cedar Lahann and Kevin Dang for their outstanding dedication and service. Their unwavering commitment to upholding the Board's mission – to

protect public health, ensure the highest standards of pharmacy practice, and support the professional integrity of pharmacists – has made a meaningful and lasting impact. Their insight, leadership, and

sound judgment have consistently guided the Board in making responsible decisions that reflect the best interests of both the profession and the communities we serve.



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# Welcome to the Board – Christopher Hogan and Stephanie Spark

Welcome to the Board! We are thrilled to have Christopher “Chris” Hogan and Stephanie Spark join us and bring their valuable expertise, perspectives, and passion. Their backgrounds and dedication to public health will undoubtedly strengthen our efforts to uphold the Board’s mission. We look forward to your insights and collaboration as we work together to protect patients and address evolving challenges in health care. Welcome aboard – we are excited to begin this important work.



**Christopher J. Hogan, MBA, RPh**  
**President, Hogan Healthcare Consulting, LLC**

Hogan is a seasoned senior operations and strategic professional with over 25 years of success in shaping one of Arizona’s largest health insurance providers. Collaborating closely

with C-suite executives and business segment leaders across commercial, individual, and Medicaid and Medicare markets, he has consistently delivered strong financial and service outcomes while advancing the health care industry’s triple aim: improving customer service, enhancing quality, and reducing costs. In the mid-1990s, following his master’s degree and experience as a pharmacy benefits manager for United Drugs, Hogan became the first chief pharmacy officer and vice president of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona. In this role, he led strategic initiatives across vendor negotiations, financial planning, business development,

and clinical and legislative policy, aligning with the organization’s long-term goals.

Throughout his distinguished career, Hogan has demonstrated expertise in pharmacy and health insurance administration, clinical policy, and contract negotiations, while also prioritizing diversity and human resources. His civic engagement is equally notable, having chaired the boards of the Phoenix Zoo and the National Kidney Foundation of Arizona, and serving on state commissions through gubernatorial appointments. Hogan has received several honors, including the CEO Award of Excellence from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona and the Bowl of Hygieia Award from the Arizona Pharmacy Association (AzPA). He is currently a licensed pharmacist and an active member of AzPA. Hogan holds a bachelor of science in pharmacy from the University of Arizona, a master of business administration from the University of Phoenix, and a graduate certificate in nonprofit leadership and management from Arizona State University.



**Stephanie Spark, PharmD**, has been a licensed pharmacist in Arizona for over 22 years and currently serves as director of pharmacy for Fry’s Food Stores, a division of The Kroger Co. In this role, she leads pharmacy operations across the state, guiding teams and initiatives

focused on enhancing patient care and advancing community health.

Dr Spark earned her doctor of pharmacy from Midwestern University in Glendale, AZ. She is a certified immunizer and an active member of both AzPA and the American Pharmacists Association. In recognition of her contributions to the profession, she was inducted into the AzPA Hall of Fame in 2024.

A resident of Gilbert, AZ, Dr Spark enjoys spending quality time with her husband and family, relaxing at her cabin in Prescott, and reading avidly in her free time.



## Understanding ARS §20-1742: Malpractice Reporting Requirements in Arizona

**ARS §20-1742** imposes a reporting requirement on health care insurers that provide professional liability insurance to health care professionals.<sup>1</sup> The statute is clear in its intent and scope. Pursuant to **ARS §20-1742(E)**, the purpose of this article is to inform and create awareness with the health care insurers related to the requirement.

**ARS §20-1742** is applicable to insurers that are licensed or have a certificate of authority under ARS §20-215.

Under ARS §20-1742, an insurer must report to the health profession regulatory board (Arizona State Board of Pharmacy) within **30 days** after the settlement was agreed to or the judgment was entered in superior court, including any of the following involving a covered health care provider. This information shall be confidential, non-discoverable, and non-admissible as evidence:

1. **A settlement or judgment** related to a professional liability claim.
2. **Any written or oral claim or legal action** for damages for personal injury allegedly caused by:
  - An **error, omission, or negligence** in providing professional services.
  - Performance of professional services **without adequate informed consent**.

- **Breach of contract** related to the performance of professional services.

This includes **any communication**, formal or informal, where a claim is made, not just actual lawsuits.

### Purpose of the Law

The statute ensures that state regulators are notified of potential or actual malpractice issues in a timely manner. This enables regulatory boards to evaluate provider conduct, monitor patterns, and take disciplinary action if necessary.

### Who Must Comply

- **Insurers (insurance companies)** are responsible for reporting qualifying claims, actions, settlements, or judgments.
- **Health care providers:** Should be aware that these events, even if resolved privately, may still be reported to the state.

### Key Takeaway

If a professional liability insurer is made aware of a claim involving a provider it covers, regardless of the formality, it must notify the regulatory board (Arizona State Board of Pharmacy) within 30 days.

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<sup>1</sup> The exception to this reporting requirement is the Arizona Medical Board. A health care insurer that provides professional liability insurance to an allopathic physician is **not** required to report the receipt of any written or oral claim or action for damages for personal injury against that physician. However, a health care insurer is required to report a medical malpractice settlement or judgment against an allopathic physician.

# 2025 Legislative Update and Bills Signed Into Law

The Arizona Legislature adjourned *sine die* on June 27, 2025. Pursuant to legislative timelines, all bills that have been chaptered (signed into law) will take effect on September 26, 2025, unless otherwise specified with an immediate effective date.

Board staff has identified the following legislation (note: not an exhaustive list) that may be of particular interest. To view additional chaptered bills, please click [here](#).

Chaptered Bills	Title	Summary
<b>House Bill (HB) 2173</b>	Mental Health Inquiry; Prohibition	Prohibits a health profession regulatory board or licensing authority from including any question on an application for a license, permit, certificate, registration, or endorsement that requests information about whether the applicant has sought mental health assistance or received a mental health diagnosis or treatment
<b>HB 2291</b>	Opioids; Containers; Labeling Requirements; Repeal	Mandate to use red caps is repealed. A warning label prescribed by the Board about potential addiction is still required.
<b>HB 2405</b>	Topical Medications	A multidose medication used on a patient 24 hours before a surgical procedure can be offered to the patient on discharge if it is required to continue for treatment. Labeling requirements must be met. Prescriber is responsible for counseling the patient. Multidose medication for this purpose is topical antibiotics, anti-inflammatory, dilation, or glaucoma drop or ointment.
<b>HB 2627</b>	Pharmacies; Emergency Authority	The Board may adopt rules to allow pharmacies owned by a health system to compound and repackaging prescription drugs on a non-patient-specific basis during a declared emergency due to natural disaster or terrorist attack.
<b>HB 2628</b>	Pharmacists; Emergency Medication; Administration	Pharmacists authorized to order and administer any medication may order and administer emergency medication to manage an acute allergic reaction. Emergency medications include: epinephrine, corticosteroids, albuterol, oxygen, and antihistamines.
<b>Senate Bill (SB) 1102</b>	Pharmacy Benefits; Prescribing; Exemptions	Forbids a pharmacy benefit manager from limiting or excluding coverage of a prescription drug for any covered individual who is on a specific prescription drug if certain conditions are met. Establishes formulary change notification requirements and creates a formulary prescription drug exception process.

Chaptered Bills	Title	Summary
<b>SB 1372</b>	Public Records; Notification; Commercial Purpose	Public records requester shall affirm the requested information is not for commercial purpose. If for a commercial purpose, provide a statement that explains the intended use.
<b>SB 1377</b>	Authorized Recipients; Donated Medicine; Information	Post information related to where and how donors may donate medications on the Board's website
<b>SB 1440</b>	Epinephrine Delivery Systems	Replace auto-injector with delivery system throughout Title 15
<b>SB 1555</b>	Approved Medication; Rescheduling; Controlled Substance	Any pharmaceutical composition of crystalline polymorph psilocybin that is approved by Food and Drug Administration and rescheduled to anything other than Schedule I may be prescribed in this state

## Disciplinary Actions and Updates – Health Boards

Disciplinary actions for the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy can be found [here](#) and in the [Arizona Board's License Verification Online Application lookup tool](#).

Disciplinary actions for the Arizona Medical Board can be found [here](#).

Disciplinary actions for the Arizona Osteopathic Board can be found [here](#).

Disciplinary actions for the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners can be found [here](#).

### Board Members

- Lorri Walmsley, RPh, President
- Jeff Anderson, PharmD, RPh, Vice President
- Stephanie Spark, PharmD, RPh, Member
- Tarek Al Nassif, RPh, Member
- Chris Hogan, RPh, Member
- Tenille Davis, PharmD, RPh, Member
- Kristen Snair, CPhT, Member
- Frank Thorwald, Member (Public)
- Les Braswell, Member (Public)

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