



March 2015

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### **Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy**

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### **Georgia to use aPTitude for continuing competence reporting and audits**

The Georgia Board of Physical Therapy is the most recent jurisdiction to fully implement [aPTitude](#), the online continuing competence system.

Beginning with the current licensure cycle, Georgia licensees will use [aPTitude](#) to record completed activities and upload completion certificates. The Georgia Board will then conduct compliance verification of a percentage of licensees through the system.

FSBPT is working closely with the Georgia Board to ensure a smooth transition to [aPTitude](#) for all users. Nearly 3,000 of Georgia's 8,000 licensees have created their accounts within the first few weeks of the announcement of [aPTitude](#) implementation. If your board is interested in using [aPTitude](#), contact us at [CompetenceStaff@fsbpt.org](mailto:CompetenceStaff@fsbpt.org).

### **There is still time to sign up for the FSBPT regulatory training in June**

FSBPT hosts annual training for all jurisdiction board members and administrators on physical therapy regulation. It receives *consistently exceptional reviews*; we are not kidding! And *FSBPT funds your attendance*.

This year's Jurisdiction Board Member and Administrator Training is **June 12-14, 2015** in Alexandria, Virginia.

**Topics** - Regulatory law, terminology, board powers/responsibilities/roles, the regulation of physical therapy, delegation of authority, immunity – and a familiarization with FSBPT services.

**Learn more** - Log into the [FSBPT Members Site](#). Look for “forget your username or password?” if you need help logging in. Once you’re in, look for Upcoming Board Member & Administrator Training under Meetings & Events.

**Register for training by April 10, 2015** – Email [communications@fsbpt.org](mailto:communications@fsbpt.org).

### **2015 Annual Meeting credentialing opens**



Jurisdiction board members:

You probably know that each year, your board administrator completes the online delegate/ administrator credentialing process for the FSBPT annual meeting.

This occurs after your board elects its delegates and chooses the FSBPT-funded administrator to attend the annual meeting.

**New this year – Please work to complete the credentialing process by June**

**30<sup>th</sup>.**

Why? So we can send travel authorizations to your board’s voting delegate and funded administrator to the August Leadership Issues Forum (LIF) in a timely manner.

We sent an email to board administrators on March 16, 2015 with directions for completing the credentialing process. We also sent a separate email to board chairs explaining our desire to send LIF travel authorizations in a timely manner.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR ANNUAL MEETING:**

Requested completion date for delegate/administrator credentialing: June 30, 2015

Leadership Issues Forum (LIF) Alexandria, Virginia: August 1-2, 2015

Deadline for motions to the [resolutions committee](#): July 21, 2015

Annual Meeting Orlando, Florida: October 15-17, 2015

#### **Reminder: Ideas for annual meeting topics/speakers/ presentation due April 17**

#### **Do you have a topic/speaker to recommend for the annual meeting?**

Maybe you’ve got a topic that your board is wrestling with or you’ve seen a speaker cover a topic that is pertinent to healthcare regulation. If so, please send those topics and speakers to [communications@fsbpt.org](mailto:communications@fsbpt.org) for forwarding to the FSBPT Education Committee.

### Does your board have a project to present to your peers at the annual meeting?

Do you have a unique approach to some aspect of the regulation of physical therapy within your state?

Do you have some specific experience or expertise in a regulatory topic? Send it on!

If your proposal is chosen, two presenters will be funded to attend the annual meeting in Orlando, Florida October 15-17, 2015. Programs are limited to one-hour sessions.

### Due date: Friday, April 17, 2015

Proposal submissions must contain the following:

1. Title
2. Course description
3. Course objectives
4. Tentative outline of time and content
5. Biographical information for each speaker, including degrees/credentials, institution, city, and state

Proposals should be sent to [communications@fsbpt.org](mailto:communications@fsbpt.org).



### Our volunteers hard at work

This month, FSBPT hosted the following groups:

PT Exam Development Committee

PT Item Bank Review Committee

Ethics and Legislation Committee

*Jane Julian*, SC, Chair

*Joni Kalis*, AZ

*Scott Majors*, KY

*Larry Ohman*, ID

*David Reed*, NC

*Lana Svien*, SD

*Ken Gordon*, TX, Board liaison

*Natalie Harms*, NE, Board liaison

### Spotlight on member resources: The Public section has a new page



There is a new page on The Public section of the FSBPT website – [Additional Resources](#). This page links to the [Choosing Wisely](#) website and [Choosing Wisely Lists](#).

You'll find a handout from APTA under the **Specialty Society Lists of Five Things Physicians and Patients Should Question** column. And under the **Patient-Friendly Resources** column, look for *Physical Therapy – Five treatments you probably don't need*, also from APTA.

An initiative of the ABIM Foundation, Choosing Wisely is working to spark conversations between providers and patients to ensure the right care is delivered at the right time.

## **Cheating in the News**

### **Detroit Area Patient Recruiter and Physical Therapist Convicted in \$1.6 Million Medicare Fraud Scheme**

On February 25, 2015, the Department of Justice reported, “A federal jury in Detroit today convicted a patient recruiter and a physical therapist for their roles in a \$1.6 million Medicare fraud scheme...

“Reginald Smith, 54, of Flint, Michigan, a patient recruiter, was found guilty of one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud and one count of conspiracy to solicit and receive health care kickbacks.

Rajan Patel, 30, of Clinton Township, Michigan, a physical therapist, was found guilty of one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud, three counts of health care fraud, and three counts of making false statements relating to health care matters.”

[View article.](#)

### **600 Indian students expelled for cheating on school exams**

The Associated Press reported on March 20, 2015 that, “About 600 high school students in eastern India have been expelled for cheating on pressure-packed 10th grade examinations this week, education authorities said Friday.

“The incident has received widespread attention after Indian television footage showed parents and friends of students scaling the outer walls of school buildings to pass cheat sheets to students inside taking exams.”

[View article.](#)

### **Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services Announce Over \$27.8 Billion in Returns from Joint Efforts to Combat Health Care Fraud**

On March 19, 2015, the US Department of Justice reported that “More than \$27.8 billion has been returned to the Medicare Trust Fund over the life of the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control (HCFAC) Program, Attorney General Eric Holder and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell announced today.

“The government’s health care fraud prevention and enforcement efforts recovered \$3.3 billion in taxpayer dollars in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 from individuals and companies who attempted to defraud federal health programs, including programs serving seniors, persons with disabilities or those with low incomes.

“For every dollar spent on health care-related fraud and abuse investigations in the last three years, the administration recovered \$7.70. This is about \$2 higher than the average return on investment in the HCFAC program since it was created in 1997. It is also the third highest return on investment in the life of the program.”

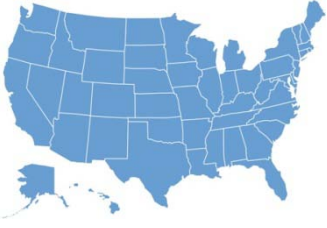


[View article.](#)






### **Board of Directors Report**

There were no motions from the March 2015 board of directors conference call.

### **Board Liaisons to Jurisdictions**

Find out which member of the board of directors is liaison to your jurisdiction.

 <p><b>Jurisdictions</b></p>	<p><b>Your Board Liaisons</b></p>
<p>Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah</p>	<p>Charles Brown</p> 
<p>Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont</p>	<p>Maggie Donohue</p> 
<p>Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, Tennessee</p>	<p>Natalie Harms</p>

	
<p>Alaska, California, Hawaii, Ohio, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Washington</p>	<p><b>Jim Heider</b></p> 
<p>Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia</p>	<p><b>Nancy Kirsch</b></p> 
<p>Idaho, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming</p>	<p><b>David Relling</b></p> 
<p>Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina</p>	<p><b>Ron Seymour</b></p> 



**Staff Contact Information**  
**Who Should I Contact?**

**FSBPT: 703.299.3100 | FCCPT: 703.684.8406**  
 (Call FSBPT unless otherwise noted after name.)

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Point of Contact</b>
ADA accommodations	Shana Smith
Assessment/ examination development questions	Lorin Mueller, Ph.D. Susan Layton
Continuing competence	Heidi Herbst Paakkonen
Credentials review	Jaime Nolan, FCCPT Susan K. Lindeblad, Ph.D., FCCPT
Exam, Licensure and Disciplinary Database (ELDD) participation	<a href="mailto:eldd@fsbpt.org">eldd@fsbpt.org</a>
Exam registration processing	Christine Sousa
Foreign educated issues	Mark Lane Susan K. Lindeblad, Ph.D., FCCPT
Immigration	Susan K. Lindeblad, Ph.D., FCCPT
Legislation or Model Practice Act	Mark Lane Leslie Adrian
Meeting arrangements	Paul Delaney
Member contact updates	Maribeth C. Decker
NPDB reports/questions	Angela Burnham
Practice Review Tool (PRT)	<a href="mailto:practicereview@fsbpt.org">practicereview@fsbpt.org</a>
PT and PTA Practice Exam & Assessment Tool (PEAT)	<a href="mailto:peat@fsbpt.org">peat@fsbpt.org</a>
Reimbursement of expenses; other financial matters	Tracy Leadmon Larry Wilkerson
School reports	<a href="mailto:SchoolReports@fsbpt.org">SchoolReports@fsbpt.org</a>
Score transfer & reporting	Christine Sousa
Security issues	Susan Layton
Anything else, including news to share with members	William A. Hatherill Maribeth C. Decker



**Sign off: That's all the news today from the greening Saint Patrick's Day banks of the Potomac, where the fish are faster, the fishing boats are longer, and the fishermen are still full of stories.**

**- *William A. Hatherill, CEO***