



D.C. Board of Chiropractic

★ ★ ★ District of Columbia
Department of Health
Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor



July 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Important Reminder about Chiro Exam	2
Board Meeting Schedule	2
Must Practice Under Name on License	2
Interview with New Executive Director	3
Verification of Licensure	3
<i>Counsel's Column:</i> Changes in the Law that Affect your Practice	4
Unlicensed Practitioners Beware!	5
Meet Board Statutory Member Vance Farrow	6
Filing a Complaint	7
Board Orders	7
Apply to Serve on the Board	7
Current Board Members Board staff and Contact Information	8

YOUR MAILING ADDRESS

Changing your mailing address? Send your name, mailing address, and license number to:

DC Board of Chiropractic
Processing Department
Address/Name Change
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

Letter from the Chair

The Board of Chiropractic (BOC) is pleased to present its July 2009 Newsletter.

The Board is facing some exciting times. We have a new Executive Director, Dr. Jacqueline A. Watson, and an introductory article in the form of questions and answers may be found on page 3. We have a new Board member, Vance Farrow, MPH, and he is introduced to you on page 6. Having worked for just a few months with Dr. Watson and Mr. Farrow, I am excited about the energy and enthusiasm that both will bring to the world of licensed Chiropractic.

Many new amendments to the Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) have been passed that will be affecting your practice and our Board attorney has addressed some of the more important matters on page 4 and 5. The Board has had inquiries about the training needed to practice Chiropractic on animals and the Board recently approved a process and certification program so that those who wish to practice on animals may do so. That information may also be found in the Counsel's Column. All of these changes will find their way into our regulation.

Moving forward, the BOC plans to continue to improve its public outreach, fine tune any remaining issues, and be more meticulous when processing and disciplining applicants and licensees, as appropriate. The Board is dedicated to supporting both the Chiropractor and the patient. Safe, ethical practice that comports with the best standards of accepted practice is what the Board strives for in the District. I am very proud of the Board, its staff, and the dedicated Chiropractors who are licensed in the District. Our patients deserve the finest treatment and the Board exists to ensure that happens.



Anthony J. Mirando, DC

— Anthony J. Mirando, DC
Chairperson
DC Board of Chiropractic

OUR NEW WEB ADDRESS:
WWW.HPLA.DOH.DC.GOV/BOC

Board Meetings

THE BOARD OF
CHIROPRACTIC
meets

6 times per year:

- January
- March
- May
- July
- September, and
- November

at 717 14th St., NW, 10th Floor,
Washington, DC 20005

Open Session is at 9:00 am.

LICENSEES MUST PRACTICE UNDER NAME ON LICENSE

A notice of final rulemaking has been made regarding the name under which a health care professional may practice. Section 4016 of 17 DCMR Chapter 40, HEALTH OCCUPATIONS: GENERAL RULES states that "an individual holding a license, registration, or certification to practice a health occupation in the District of Columbia shall perform all professional practice in the District under the full name in which his or her license was issued." § 4016 also specifies that all signage, stationary, and advertisements, as well as oral and written communication with the public must be in the same name as on one's license.

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT EXAMS

THE ANNUAL CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINATIONS ARE GIVEN ONLY TWICE A YEAR (IN JUNE AND DECEMBER).

IF YOU PLAN TO APPLY, PLEASE BE SURE TO SUBMIT YOUR DOCUMENTS, WELL IN ADVANCE, TO ENSURE YOUR ACCEPTANCE AND ADEQUATE STUDY TIME.

THE DECEMBER DATE THIS YEAR IS 12/5/09.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board of Chiropractic (BOC) will now hold meetings 6 times per year, in September, November, January, March, May, and July.

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER & ANNUAL REPORT

DC Board of Chiropractic will produce an annual newsletter each July. At the end of each fiscal year, the DC Board produces an annual report.

Each of these publications may be downloaded from our website:

WWW.HPLA.DOH.DC.GOV/BOC

WHEN YOU MOVE (OR CHANGE YOUR NAME)

Licensees sometimes forget to inform the Board of Chiropractic when they move, or undergo a name change. If we do not have your current address, you may not receive your renewal mailing because we may send it to your former address. All name and address changes must come in writing to our office within 30 days of the change. Failure to do so may result in a \$100 fine per section 16A DCMR § 3201.1 (d). Please include your name, address, Social Security number, and license number (if you know it). If you have a name change, you must also enclose a copy of your certificate of marriage, divorce decree, or court order that authorizes the change. Fax your request to (202) 727-8471, or mail your name and/or address change to: DC Board of Chiropractic, Attn: HRLA Processing Department, Address/Name Change, 717 14th Street, NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005.

INTERVIEW WITH JACQUELINE A. WATSON, DO, MBA, NEW BOARD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

When did you become the new Executive Director of the Board of Chiropractic?

I assumed the position of Executive Director (ED) of the Board of Chiropractic (BOC) and the Board of Medicine (BOM) on March 16, 2009.

What are your top priorities in your new position?

1. To work closely with board members to understand any unique challenges being faced by the profession.
2. Fill vacant board slots.
3. Have all recommended changes to the regulations updated.
4. Improve the flow of information between the BOC, licensees and the public.

The launching of the BOC newsletter is the first step in this process and it will be published online—annually each July.

In addition, an enhanced Board of Chiropractic website has been developed and is



*Chiropractic Board ED
Jacqueline A. Watson, DO, MBA*

“Over the course of my career I have developed a strong work ethic and effective organizational management skills that allow me to multitask and communicate with diverse groups...”

accessible at:
www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc.

Does the Chiropractic Board face different challenges than the other boards under your purview?

Not really. In fact, many of the challenges are similar for all BOM boards and advisory committees in that there are vacancies that need to be filled and

this must be addressed swiftly in order to allow each board and committee to do their work effectively.

What lessons did you learn from your previous career that will help you to be an effective ED for the Board of Chiropractic?

Over the course of my career I have developed a strong work ethic and effective organizational management skills that allow me to multitask and communicate with diverse groups to achieve desired results.

Do you have any plans to attend any upcoming Chiropractic meetings?

I plan to attend the upcoming Regional meeting in October and the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards annual conference in Baltimore in 2010. This will give me the opportunity to meet my fellow colleagues in the regulatory world and provide me with the up-to-the-minute perspectives on hot issues in licensure and regulation.

VERIFICATION OF LICENSURE

Licensing authorities and some health facilities often require a letter of verification of the licenses you currently hold or have held in the past. These letters of verification are sometimes called “letters of good standing,” even though your DC license may have expired.

If the jurisdiction or institution to which you wish the letter sent gave you a form, simply forward the form, with a check or money order payable to “DC Treasurer” in the amount of thirty-four dollars (\$34.00), to:

DC Board of Chiropractic
Suite 600
717 14th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

On the form, be sure to include your name, and the address where the form is to be sent.

If the jurisdiction or institution did not give you a form, please send us a short note requesting a letter of verification. The note should include your name, and the name and address of the institution where you want the letter of verification sent. Please enclose a check or money order, payable to “DC Treasurer.”

Counsel's Column

CHANGES IN THE LAW THAT AFFECT YOUR PRACTICE

By John C. Greenhaugh, Esq.
Senior Assistant Attorney General & Board Legal Advisor

The D.C. Council passed legislation this year that amends the Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) that will have an effect on your practice. Also, the Board of Chiropractic has requested a change to the regulations which will be implemented this fall. All of these changes will be incorporated by rule-making and included in Title 17, District of Columbia Municipal Regulation (DCMR) Chapter 48. Chapter 48 is the municipal regulation that contains the rules for Chiropractic. A few of the laws having the potential to most affect practice are addressed.

Travel-to-Treat. The law has been expanded to include an individual licensed to practice a health occupation in a state, who is providing care to a group for a limited period of time, provided that the individual engages in the provision of care in affiliation with a comparable health professional licensed in the District. Previously, the law did not specifically mention "providing care for a group", noting only the care of an individual. The Board will be addressing in the regulations what it means to be affiliated with a comparable health professional and the parameters of a "limited period of time."

Chiropractic on Animals. Currently, Chapter 48 of the DCMR does not address using the skills of a chiropractor on animals. The Board has voted to include in the regulations that in order for a chiropractor to use chiropractic techniques on animals, the chiropractor must be accredited by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association (AVCA). The current steps to achieve AVCA certification include the following:

1. Attend an Animal Chiropractic accreditation Commission (ACAC) of the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association (AVCA) accredited animal chiropractic program.
2. After successfully passing the ACAC accredited program's exit exam, contact the Animal Chiropractic Certification Commission (ACCC) of the AVCA to be sent an Examination candidate handbook.
3. Apply and sit for the ACCC written and clinical (practical) examinations within 1 year of graduation from an ACAC accredited program.
4. Pass both the ACCC written and clinical examinations.

For a complete explanation of the program and certification, please visit the website:

http://animalchiropractic.org/animal_chiropractic_certification.htm

Professional requirements for Chiropractors practicing in the District.

1. Each licensee shall:
 - a. Display the board-issued license conspicuously in each place of business or employment of the licensee.
 - b. Wear a tag at all times, if practical, while acting in a professional capacity that displays his or her name and profession or title.
 - c. Practice only under the legal name that appears on his or her license.
2. Further, all licensees shall notify the board in writing of any:
 - a. change of address of place of residence or place of business or employment within 30 days after the change.
 - b. Legal change of name within 30 days after the change
 - c. Termination, revocation, suspension, or voluntary surrender ("separation event") of health care facility privileges by reason of incompetence or improper professional conduct, during any period while an application is pending or during the licensing, by certified mail, return receipt, within 10 days of the separation event.

CHANGES IN THE LAW...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

Patient records. The responsibility of a health care professional to turn over records upon request has been made clearer. The statute declares: Upon written request from a patient or client, or person authorized to have access to the patient's record under a health care power of attorney for the patient or client, the health care provider having custody and control of the patient's or client's record shall furnish, with a reasonable period of time, a complete and current copy of that record. If the patient or client is deceased, the request may be made by the executor of the decedent's estate, the administrator of the decedent's estate or any survivor of the decedent. The statute also states that the health care provider may require the patient or client, or person authorized to have access to the patient's or client's record, to pay a reasonable fee for copying, as determined by the board through rulemaking.

The new amendments to the Health Occupations Revision Act also expand the definition of "records" to include any document, or combination of documents, except for a birth or death record or a record of admission to or discharge from a hospital or other health-care facility, that pertains to the history, diagnosis, or health condition of a patient or client and is generated and maintained in the process of providing health-care treatment, regardless of whether the health care record originated with or was previously in the possession of another health-care provider. Thus, "records" now includes the records in the possession of the current licensee, although the records originated with a prior health-care provider.

Finally, please keep in mind that the law now includes some specific violations that did not previously exist and for which the Board can take action against the licensee. Specifically, it is now a violation of HORA to refuse, withhold from, or discriminate against an individual with regard to the provision of professional services that the licensee is qualified to render because the individual is HIV positive, or refuses on ethical, moral, or religious grounds to provide services to a customer or client.

These are not the only changes to the HORA that were recently passed, but they represent some of the changes that practitioners should be aware of. Please remember that if the changes appear in the law, they are effective. Rule-making found in the regulations can implement statutory changes or provide detail, but the law is effective and enforceable after the Congressional review is over.

UNLICENSED PRACTITIONERS BEWARE!

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Office of the Attorney General

December 6, 2007

ATTORNEY GENERAL SINGER: "PSYCHOLOGIST" SENTENCED FOR PRACTICING WITHOUT A LICENSE

Washington, D.C. – District of Columbia Attorney General today announced that a jury has found D.C. resident Geoffrey Wuzor guilty of practicing psychology without a license.

The defendant, who was sentenced on November 30, had been working at a "core service agency" certified by the D.C. Department of Mental Health. The core service agency reported and terminated Wuzor as soon as it learned that he had no such license. While Wuzor did some 30 hours of graduate work at Howard University, he obtained no degree that would qualify him for a license to practice psychology. He did obtain a "doctorate degree" in Theocentric Psychology from an online program offered by LaSalle University in Louisiana, LaSalle is not an accredited entity recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

"A license is not just a piece of paper, but an assurance that those who hold themselves out to the public have the training and skill to provide the care they promise," Attorney General Singer said. "Our licensing requirements are serious and are put into place to safeguard the public. I am particularly concerned that Wuzor worked with children."

The sentence included jail time of 30 days on the nine counts of practicing without a license, with execution of the sentence suspended except for 12 days to be served on weekends starting December 7, 2007, and 30 days on the seven counts of misrepresenting himself as a psychologist, with execution of sentence suspended. Wuzor additionally was placed on probation for 18 months thereafter and ordered to perform 100 hours of community service within the first year. He also was ordered to pay a fine of \$800 for each of the 16 counts. The judge stated that the jail time was in part for its deterrent value. The case was handled by Senior Assistant Attorney General Maureen Zaniel.



Vance Farrow, MPH

MEET BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC STATUTORY MEMBER VANCE FARROW, MPH

“As a key member of the Bureau of Cancer and Chronic Disease, I have been supportive of several efforts to enhance the health and welfare of District residents. I hope to bring a perspective that speaks to the diversity of my experiences as well as the lessons learned along the way.”

When were you appointed to the Board?

I was appointed in June 2009, and serve as Dr. Vigilance’s representative on the Board of Chiropractic. This came as a pleasant surprise to me because I am always looking for unique ways to serve our city and its residents.

Why and how did you first get involved with the Board?

I believe in doing good work, and what I have noticed in District government is that when you are able to accomplish that, you are rewarded with more work!

I am looking forward to working with the Board of Chiropractic staff and the Board members.

What future goals do you have as a Board member?

As I spoke with Dr. Watson upon my appointment, she mentioned the idea of streamlining the processes of the Board. As government employees, we are expected to increase efficiency whenever possible and I support in this effort and consider this to be a major goal of my appointment.

What issues, related to the regulation of your profession, interest you most?

As the manager of the DC Department of Health’s Cardiovascular Health Program, I work with hospitals, health care providers, community stakeholders and businesses to effect change within the health care system. We are beginning to fund programs that will be a part of a continuous quality improvement learning organization. We are very proud of this, and look forward to the policy changes

that will occur as a result of our Chronic Care Initiative.

What unique perspective do you bring to the board (if any)?

As a key member of the Bureau of Cancer and Chronic Disease, I have been supportive of several efforts to enhance the health and welfare of District residents. I hope to bring a perspective that speaks to the diversity of my experiences as well as the lessons learned along the way.

TIPS FOR EXPEDITING YOUR LICENSE

- **Make sure to have your entire application filled out and signed.**
- **Provide official court documents of final case dispositions for any felonies or misdemeanors that you incurred.**
- **Case dispositions should include a case number, jurisdiction, year, all the defendant names, all plaintiff names, a brief summary of the case, and final disposition, such as judgment dollar amount, dismissed with or without prejudice, or settlement dollar amount—this information must be sent with your application.**

FILING A COMPLAINT WITH THE BOARD

To file a complaint against a licensed DC Chiropractor, simply write a letter that describes your complaint. The letter must be signed, and you should attach copies of any pertinent documents that you may have. The letter must also include your address, so we may contact you as necessary and notify you of any findings.

Please note: You can print a complaint form from our website at www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc

You should mail the complaint to:

DC Board of Chiropractic
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

You can also fax the complaint to the Board at (202) 724-8677.

If your complaint alleges unlicensed activity, you should address your complaint to:

Supervisory Investigator
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005

You can also fax your complaint about unlicensed activity to (202) 724-8677.

Please be advised that the health professional licensing boards do not have jurisdiction over fee disputes, except for billing for services that were not provided. If you have a fee dispute with a health professional, you can seek redress through the civil courts.

BOARD ORDERS

January 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009

There have been no reportable Board Actions against
Board of Chiropractic Licensees during this period.

APPLY TO SERVE ON THE BOARD!

**IF YOU ARE A RESIDENT OF DC, YOU MAY APPLY TO SERVE ON THE BOARD.
FOR FULL INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO APPLY, PLEASE CONTACT THE
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (OBC):**

OBC Website: <http://obc.dc.gov>

Phone: (202) 727-1372

Fax: (202) 727-2359

Address:

Office of Boards and Commissions
Executive Office of the Mayor
1350 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Suite 302
Washington, DC 20004

D.C. BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005



Government of the District of Columbia
Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor



Health Professional
Licensing Administration

Address

DC Board of Chiropractic
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

Board phone number

(202) 724-8800

Fax number

(202) 724-8677

Health Professional
Licensing Administration
www.hpla.doh.dc.gov

**BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC
WEB PAGE**

www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc

**Current Members
of The District of Columbia
Board of Chiropractic**

Anthony Mirando, DC
Chairperson

David Bronat, DC
Board Member

Vance Farrow, MPH, representing
Pierre N. D. Vigilance, MD, MPH
Statutory Member

Director, Department of Health
Pierre N.D. Vigilance, MD, MPH

Board Staff

Executive Director

Jacqueline A. Watson, DO, MBA

Health Licensing Specialists

Lisa Robinson
Antoinette Stokes
Aisha Williams

Health Licensing Assistant

Lena Cameron

Senior Assistant Attorney General

John C. Greenhaugh, Esq.

Newsletter Editor/Layout/Photos

Nancy Kofie