

**NC Board of PT Examiners Report at the NCPTA Business Meeting
Marriott Airport Hotel, Greensboro, NC
October 20, 2007**

By Ben F. Massey, Jr., PT, MA, Executive Director

1. **Purpose of the Board:** Reminder of the purpose of the Board is to regulate the practice of physical therapy in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of North Carolina. The next meeting of NC Board of PT Examiners is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12, 2007.

2. **Appointments to the Board:**

The 2008 Ballots for appointment of one physical therapist and one physician were mailed in mid August with a return deadline of September 14, 2007. The ballots were counted at the NCPTA Headquarters on September 29, 2007 and the candidates for appointment will be forwarded to the Governor in November, 2007. In 2008, there will also be an appointment by the Governor of a Public Member and a physician.

In response to requests from licensees for additional information about nominees who are potential appointees by the Governor, the Board obtained basic biographical information regarding each nominee who had consented to serve. The biographical form is fairly simple and straightforward to keep the playing field level.

3. **Continuing Competence:** In response to the passage of the continuing competence legislation by the North Carolina General Assembly in July, 2006, at its Board Meeting on September 19, 2006, the Board passed a motion to appoint an Advisory Panel for Continuing Competence. The Advisory Panel to the Board consists of 3 Board members, 1 former Board member, and 3 members of the NCPTA. (*The Board solicited a non-NCPTA member, but no one volunteered.*). The Panel is assisted by John Silverstein, Board Attorney, and Ben Massey, Executive Director, who also serves as Facilitator. The purpose of this panel is to study the various options available for Continuing Competence and make recommendations to the Board. The Advisory Panel will not have authority to adopt rules as this is the responsibility of the Board. The Panel has conducted two (2) meetings and has two (2) more meetings scheduled. The Panel will present its recommendations to the Board for consideration at the June, 2008 Board Meeting.

Massey and Silverstein conducted eleven (11) Forums across the state to allow licensees to voice their opinions regarding Continuing Competence. The comments from the Forums were recorded and shared with the Advisory Panel. In addition, comments received at the Board office via email have been shared with the Advisory Panel.

4. **Chemical Dependency Program:** In 2007, The Board entered into an Agreement with the North Carolina Board of Nursing (BON) for the BON to provide services on a contractual basis for a chemical dependency program for physical therapy licensees as an alternative to disciplinary action. The PT Board has consulted with the Board of Nursing regarding three (3) licensees. One (1) licensee has entered in the voluntary Alternative Program to Disciplinary Action.

5. **Jurisprudence Exercise:** To ensure that new licensees are familiar with the **North Carolina Physical Therapy Practice Act**, Board's rule, and position statements, all applicants who apply for licensure after January 1, 2007 will be required to complete an online jurisprudence exercise. Current licensees may also complete the jurisprudence exercise and will receive a certificate for 1 contact hour.
6. **Update regarding Investigations and Disciplinary Actions:**

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS FILED IN 2007

YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS

Total Cases Reported and Investigated:	55
Total advertising complaints:	13
Total "other" complaints:	26
Total failure to renew	16

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS THAT WERE RESOLVED THROUGH OCT. 2007

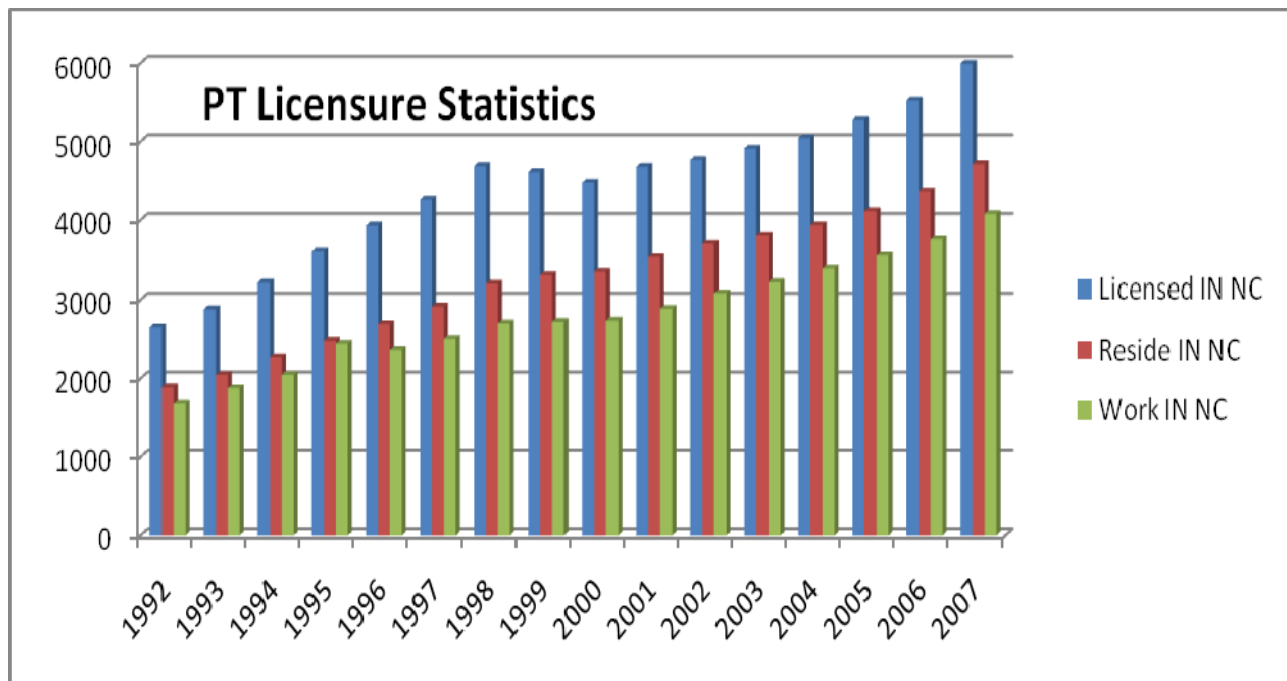
Total Cases Dismissed:	08
Total Suspensions Issued:	02
Total Probations Issued:	03
Total Warnings Issued:	01
Total Surrender of Licenses:	01
Total Reprimands Issued:	00
Total Renewals Denied	00
Total Letters of Caution written:	21 (including 16 letters for failure to renew by deadline)
Total Letters sent regarding advertising:	08
Other:	00
Cases still pending:	15

7. **Board Newsletter:** The next Newsletter should arrive in late December / early January. Please read your Newsletter, discuss it at staff meetings, and file it for future reference.
8. **Changes of Address:** As there is a rule that requires notification of the Board of address and name changes within **30 days**, as a friendly reminder, please keep the Board apprised of current home and work addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses. License renewals will be mailed the first of November.
9. **Questions and Answers:**

Physical Therapist Statistics – Fall 2007

September 2007

DATE (Oct)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	2654	1890	1682
1993	2881	2046	1876
1994	3207	2269	2046
1995	3602	2482	2445
1996	3933	2693	2365
1997	4262	2916	2506
1998	4688	3193	2702
1999	4612	3301	2723
2000	4477	3343	2738
2001	4678	3533	2889
2002	4767	3699	3083
2003	4912	3802	3212
2004	5044	3935	3384
2005	5280	4113	3551
2006	5524	4365	3757
2007	5994	4741	4078



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Physical Therapist Assistant Statistics – Fall 2007

September 2007

DATE (Oct)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	942	786	713
1993	1107	931	864
1994	1251	1055	975
1995	1428	1179	1093
1996	1633	1342	1163
1997	1800	1490	1270
1998	1968	1627	1500
1999	2018	1711	1354
2000	2047	1770	1358
2001	2100	1830	1459
2002	2141	1880	1529
2003	2201	1951	1601
2004	2285	2016	1665
2005	2380	2090	1755
2006	2479	2184	1836
2007	2620	2288	1933

