



**NC Board of PT Examiners Report - NCPTA Business Meeting  
Wilmington Convention Center  
Wilmington, NC  
October 4, 2019  
By Kathy O. Arney, PT, MA, Executive Director**

**Purpose of the Board:** The purpose of the NC Board of Physical Therapy Examiners 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 the Board is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11, 2019.

**1. Appointments to the Board:**

The 2020 Ballots for appointments of one (1) physical therapist and one (1) Medical Doctor to the Board were mailed in late July, 2019 to all NC physical therapy licensees. On September 18, 2019, the ballots were counted at the NCPTA Headquarters, and the candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for each position were forwarded to Governor Roy Cooper by NCPTA for appointment for terms beginning January 1, 2020.

The Board would like to thank Mr. David C. Reed, PT, for his service to the Board from 2014-2019, including his service as Secretary-Treasurer in 2015, Board Chair from 2016-2019, member of the Finance and Audit Committee in 2015 and Investigative Committee in 2018. His Board participation extended to representing North Carolina as the Delegate to the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Delegate Assembly in 2019. He is not eligible for reappointment to the Board.

The Board would like to thank Dr. Paul Garcia for his service to the Board from 2016-2019. His contribution was instrumental in creating the website posting regarding information to licensees who may require assistance from substance use disorders. He is eligible for reappointment.

The Board would also like to thank Mr. Stuart W. MacRoberts, Public Member, for his service to the Board from 2015-2019. His insights regarding physical therapy as a member of the public have contributed to the Board fulfilling its public protection mission. He is eligible for reappointment.

Current Board members will continue to serve until appointments are made by the Governor.

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
David C. Reed, PT	Chair	2019
Crystal D. Ostlind, PTA	Secretary/Treasurer	2021
Paul Garcia, MD*	Medical Doctor	2019
Stuart W. MacRoberts*	Public Member	2019
C. David Edwards, PT	Member	2020
Teresa F. Hale, PT	Member	2020
Pearl L. Rhone, PTA	Member	2020
Leslie P. Kesler, PT	Member	2021

*\*Eligible for reappointment*

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2. **Online Renewal:** Licensees are required to renew licenses **online**. Postcards will be mailed prior to November 1, 2019 specifying that the renewal period will be open online from November 1, 2019 until January 31, 2020 at 12:00 a.m. (midnight) and will require a major credit card. Licensees not wanting to use a credit card may renew online, but payment by check or money order must be postmarked by the January 31 midnight deadline. *(The Board **strongly** recommends that licensees renew online by January 15, 2019 to ensure timely processing. The renewal fee is \$120.00 plus the cost of credit card processing.)*
  
3. **Continuing Competence – Fall 2019 Update**

**Continuing Competence Audits:** Audits for the January 1, 2017- January 31, 2019 reporting period are ongoing, including PT and PTA licensees selected at random. Licensee response to audit requests are required within 30 days.
  
4. **4. Board's Rules:**
  - **Periodic Review of Rules:** Every 10 years, Occupational Licensing Boards must undertake a thorough review of existing rules to see if changes need to be made, or if rules have substantive public interest. The three rules found to have substantive public interest are:  
**21 NCAC 48F .0102- Fees**  
**21 NCAC 48F .0103- Complaints**  
**21 NCAC 48G .0504- Complaints and Investigations**  
 A public comment period was followed by a public hearing at the Board's meeting on December 11, 2018. These three rules were re-adopted without substantive changes, became effective May 1, 2019 and have been entered into the NC Administrative Code. The Periodic Rules Review process for this 10-year cycle is now complete for the NCBPTE.
  
  - **Rule Technical Changes:** Technical changes to Board Rules are any addresses, website links, or punctuation errors that do not involve changes to the intent of a rule. Due to re-codification of the NC PT Practice Act in October 2017, all of the updated statute numbers were changed in the body of the Board Rules effective September 1, 2019 and are now in the NC Administrative Code.
  
  - **Permanent Rulemaking:** The Board Rules Committee will continue to review and update rules in response to National Physical Therapy Exam eligibility requirements and other relevant topics. Feedback to the Board regarding all rules is welcome at any time.
  
5. **Board Newsletter 2019:** The annual Newsletter will be posted on the Board's website in early November, 2019. The Newsletter will address the following topics:
  - scope of practice,
  - position statements,
  - observations from the Chair,
  - PT Licensure Compact,

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**Board Newsletter 2019 cont.:**

- A report from Debbie Ragan, Deputy Director.
- Reminders about annual license renewals and
- FBI Criminal Background Checks information

6. **Status of Dry Needling in NC post-Lawsuit:** On December 8, 2018 the North Carolina Supreme Court issued its ruling in the North Carolina Acupuncture Licensing Board (NCALB) vs. North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. The Supreme Court upheld the Physical Therapy Board issued declaratory ruling on June 27, 2016, stating that trigger point dry needling is within the PT scope of practice in North Carolina. The NC Supreme Court Ruling and NCBPTE Declaratory Ruling are posted on the Board website under the “Announcements” page for reference. In summary, the Board has determined dry needling is an advanced skill for which training beyond entry level education is required. It is incumbent upon the licensee to obtain the appropriate training, education and be competent to perform trigger point dry needling. There is no longer a position statement and there are no specific requirements for the education and training required for performing trigger point dry needling by a physical therapist licensee.

7. **Board Meeting Minutes:**

For additional information on Board determinations, approved Board meeting minutes are posted on the Board website under “About Us”, Recent Board Meeting Minutes.

8. **Licensing – Compact Privilege Issuance Updates**

**a. Physical Therapy Licensure Compact**

The PT Compact Commission began issuing “privileges to practice” in North Carolina on July 1, 2019. North Carolina joined fifteen (15) states currently issuing privileges. As of September 19, 2019, eighteen (18) Compact Privileges have been issued for NC. For more information about eligibility for or obtaining a privilege in member states or the PT Compact Commission in general, go to: [ptcompact.org](http://ptcompact.org).

In compliance with the Compact law, NCBPTE must require FBI Criminal Background checks for all initial licensure applicants. For additional information see the Board website under the Licensing tab or contact the Board office.

North Carolina continues to be represented on the PT Compact Commission by Kathy O. Arney, PT as delegate and Vice-Chair.

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9. **Licensee Changes of Address and contact information:** As required by rule, within **30 days** please keep the Board apprised of any change in current home and work addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses. A current email address on file with the Board office decreases the chance you will miss timely communications from the Board. License renewals will be mailed the first of November to the preferred address on file.
  
10. **Board Office Location and Address:** NCBPTE, 8300 Health Park, Suite 233, Raleigh, NC, 27615. Website: <https://www.ncptboard.org>; Phone: (919) 490-6393 or (800) 800-8982; Fax (919) 490-5106; Email contact for questions: [angela.licensing@ncptboard.org](mailto:angela.licensing@ncptboard.org)

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**11. Update regarding Investigations and Disciplinary Actions:**

**SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS FILED IN 2019 – YTD (October 1, 2019)**

**YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS**

Total Cases Reported and Investigated:	39
Total advertising complaints:	04
Total “other” complaints:	24
Total failure to renew	09
Total cont. comp complaints	02

**SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS THAT WERE RESOLVED THROUGH October 1, 2018**

Total Cases Dismissed:	12
Total Suspensions Issued:	00
Total Probations Issued:	01
Total Warnings Issued:	03
Total Surrender of Licenses:	00
Total Revoked	00
Total Renewals Denied	00
Total Advisory Letters written:	013 (including 8 letters for failure to renew by deadline)
Total Letters sent regarding advertising:	02
Completed audit, no action required	00
Other: including invalid complaints-no name	02
Cases still pending:	06

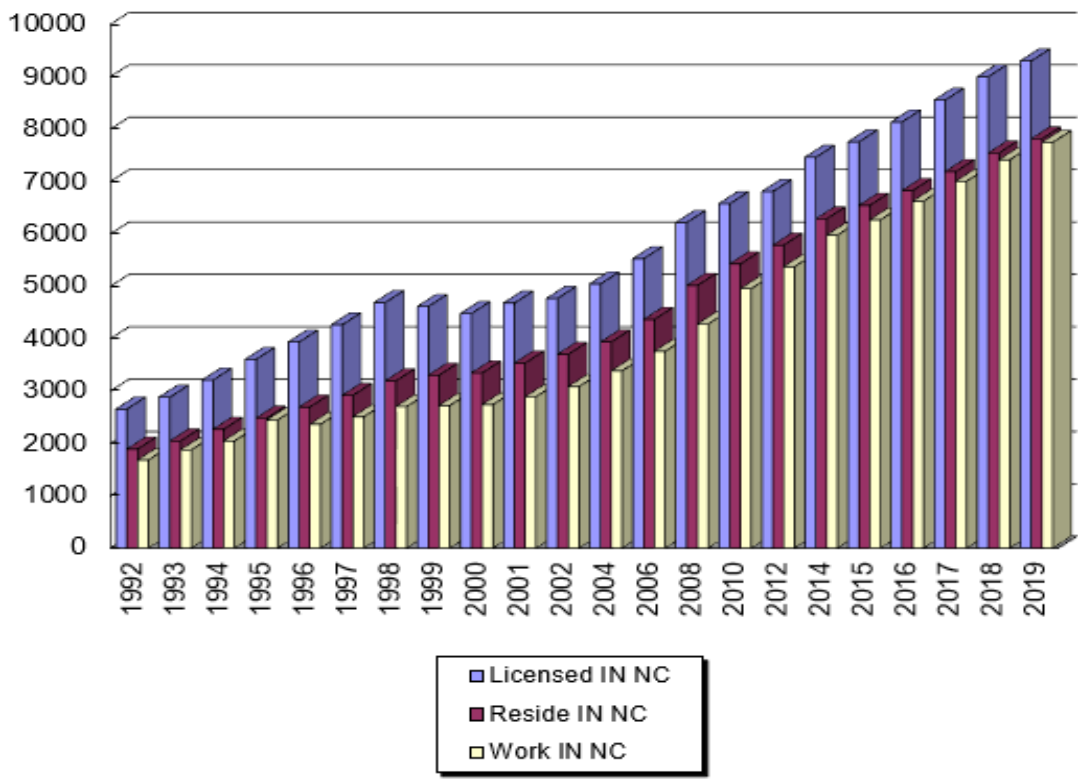
**12. Questions? Email [karney@ncptboard.org](mailto:karney@ncptboard.org)**

## Physical Therapist Statistics - Fall 2019

September 19, 2019

DATE (Oct)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	2654	1890	1682
1994	3207	2269	2046
1996	3933	2693	2365
1998	4688	3193	2702
2000	4477	3343	2738
2002	4767	3699	3083
2004	5044	3935	3384
2006	5524	4365	3757
2008	6215	5014	4278
2010	6574	5426	4953
2012	6807	5782	5371
2014	7461	6285	5974
2015	7755	6542	6266
2016	8134	6826	6623
2017	8551	7187	7003
2018	8998	7541	7412
2019	9299	7813	7745

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## Physical Therapist Assistant Statistics - Fall 2019

September 19, 2019

DATE (Oct)	LICENSED IN NC	RESIDE IN NC	WORK IN NC
1992	942	786	713
1994	1251	1055	975
1996	1633	1342	1163
1998	1968	1627	1500
2000	2047	1770	1358
2002	2141	1880	1529
2004	2285	2016	1665
2006	2479	2184	1836
2008	2718	2399	2000
2010	2836	2521	2237
2012	3033	2695	2419
2014	3327	2959	2750
2015	3511	3106	2898
2016	3674	3269	3103
2017	3856	3412	3271
2018	3985	3553	3436
2019	4110	3661	3591



PTA Licensure Statistics

