

# Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapy Examining Committee

December 6, 2000

## Regular Committee Meeting

A meeting of the Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapists was held on December 6, 2000 in the Monmouth Room on the 7th Floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey. Barbara G. Benson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

### ROLL CALL

#### PRESENT

Present were Committee Members: Carol Alexander (Vice-chairperson), Barbara G. Benson (left at 11:30 a.m.), Donda Kraus-Sternberg, Deborah Overholt, Henry Roth, Alan G. Vonderahe

#### ALSO PRESENT

Deputy Director, Anthony Miragliotta, Regulatory Analyst, Charles Manning, Deputy Attorney General, Kathy Rohr, Executive Director, New Jersey State Board of Nursing, Patricia Polansky, Assistant Executive Director, Kathryn Schneider.

#### A QUORUM WAS DECLARED PRESENT

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing on May 25, 2000. A schedule of all 2000 and 2001 (first quarter) Regular Open Board Meetings of the Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapy Examining Committee was provided to the Office of the Secretary of State, Star Ledger, Trenton Times, The New York Times, Camden Courier Post and the Philadelphia Inquirer. The schedule has also been posted on the bulletin board at the New Jersey State Board of Nursing Office.

A reading and approval of the minutes for the regular open meeting on November 1, 2000.

THE COMMITTEE, UPON A MOTION MADE BY DEBORAH OVERHOLT AND SECONDED BY CAROL J. ALEXANDER, VOTED FOR APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2000 REGULAR OPEN MEETING MINUTES.

#### Confidentiality

Kathy Rohr, Deputy Attorney General, reminded the Committee members that minutes and/or information discussed in Executive Session must remain confidential.

#### Scope of Practice and Insurance

Carol Alexander, Vice-Chairperson, wrote a letter to the Committee and staff discussing registered professional nurses who are performing massage therapy. Discussion included titling, scope of practice, and which Board/Committee has jurisdiction over the Nurse Massage Therapists.

Discussed that a licensed medical doctor may perform massage therapy if it is within their scope of practice. Discussion also included physicians authority to delegate. A physician may delegate, but not to an individual who otherwise could not perform the task delegated by statute.

Healthcare providers may not bill for client services performed by another practitioner i.e. massage therapy, by a Massage Therapist without disclosing the actual provider of the service. Filing a claim as though the provider had personally performed the service may be considered insurance fraud.

### **Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Law**

Kathryn Schneider, Assistant Executive Director, discussed with the Committee members the New Jersey conflicts of Interest Law, and the Department Code of Ethics concerning the receipt of gifts and favors that may be offered for the purpose of influencing them in the discharge of their official duties or creating the appearance of a violation of the public trust. Committee members are to report all offers of gifts or benefits to the Division of Consumer Affairs or Department Ethics Officer.

### **COMTA Survey**

Barbara G. Benson, Chairperson and Kathy Rohr, Deputy Attorney General, discussed the Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation (COMTA) survey: Call for comment/response. COMTA represents one of the organizations that approves Massage Schools. The suggestion was made to ask COMTA for an extension to allow for a response from the Committee.

Alan Vonderahe, Donda Kraus-Sternberg, Henry Roth and Barbara G. Benson volunteered to form a subcommittee to review and respond to the COMTA survey.

### **Public Comment**

Barbara G. Benson, Chairperson, invited comments from the public. The Committee heard comments regarding New Jersey casinos employing individuals to perform massage therapy who are not schooled/trained massage/bodywork therapists.

### **Mobile Services**

Anthony Miragliotta, Deputy Director, led discussion with the Committee regarding mobile or on-site services of a Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapist. Discussion points included apparatus, insurance and education requirements for the Committee to consider as it pertains to crafting regulations.

### **Regulations**

Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst, discussed with the Committee designations for Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapy Certification titling.

### **Core Curriculum**

Carol Alexander, Vice-Chairperson and Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst, continued discussion/revision of the components of the Core Curriculum for Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapy.

### **Motion to Executive Session**

Carol Alexander, Vice-Chairperson, made a motion to go into executive session to approve November 1, 2000 minutes.

### **Adjournment**

On December 6, 2000 the Regular Open Examining Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. The next regular open Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Examining Committee will be held on January 3, 2001.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Barbara G. Benson  
Chairperson



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*Modified March 2002*