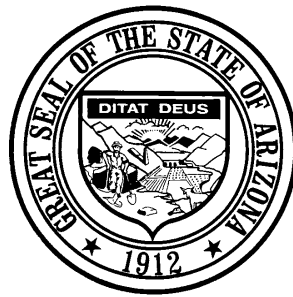


ARIZONA REGULATORY BOARD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT



9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85258
(480) 551-2700 or toll-free (877) 255-2212
www.azpa.gov

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LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR

JANET NAPOLITANO

Governor

Janet Napolitano

Members of the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants

Joan M. Reynolds, M.M.S., P.A.-C
Chair/Physician Assistant Member

Peter C. Wagner, D.O.
Vice Chair/Physician Member

Randy Danielson, Ph.D., P.A.-C
Physician Assistant Member

Michael E. Goodwin, P.A.
Physician Assistant Member

James E. Meyer, M.D.
Physician Member

Sigmund G. Popko, J.D.
Public Member

Anna Marie Prassa
Public Member

Albert Ray Tuttle, P.A.
Physician Assistant Member

Dr. Kelli M. Ward, D.O., M.P.H., FACOFP
Physician Member

Barry D. Weiss, M.D.
Physician Member

Executive Staff

Timothy C. Miller, J.D.
Executive Director

Amanda J. Diehl, M.P.A., C.P.M.
Deputy Executive Director

Roger Downey
Media Relations Officer

Dear Governor Napolitano:

On behalf of the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants, I submit to you our 2007 Annual Report.

Last year, we reported the tremendous improvement we had made in redesigning our investigative/adjudicative process and our licensing process. The results were a spectacular success with the Board meeting all of its performance measures for the entire year.

The Board is now turning its attention outward, toward the community. For the upcoming year, the Board will continue its involvement in providing guidance to the community and working with the community. Just a few of the projects the Board is working on includes: drafting a guideline for physician supervision of physician assistants; rewriting the physician assistant rules and updating them; and drafting rules for PAs performing minor surgeries.

We believe these new rules, guidelines and the substantive policy statement will enhance patient safety, while helping physicians understand what the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants expects.

Sincerely,



Timothy C. Miller
Executive Director

ARIZONA REGULATORY BOARD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS MEMBERSHIP

Joan M. Reynolds, M.M.S., P.A.-C, Board Chair, is a practicing physician assistant at Mayo Clinic Scottsdale. She has been employed as a physician assistant since 1986, serving in primary care settings.



Ms. Reynolds earned her Physician Assistant degree at Hahnemann University in Philadelphia. She received her Masters Degree in Medical Science through Nova Southeastern University.

She is past-president of the Arizona State Association of Physician Assistants and has served as an elected delegate to the American Academy of Physician Assistants in the House of Delegates.

She serves as a preceptor for PA students in Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic Scottsdale, and is an Adjunct Faculty Member for Midwestern University in Glendale, Arizona, and for Arizona School of Health Sciences in Mesa.

Peter C. Wagner, D.O., Vice-Chair and a physician member, is Board-certified in Family Medicine and is the medical director of the Gila Crossing Clinic on the Pima Indian Reservation south of Phoenix.



Dr. Wagner is a member of the clinical faculty at the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine in Glendale, Arizona. He is also a Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

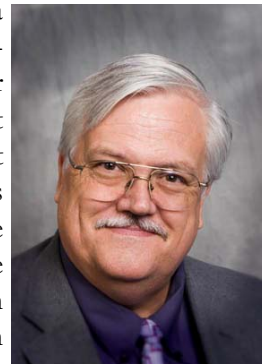
Dr. Wagner was the acting clinical director at Sells

Indian Hospital, a clinical lecturer at the UofA Medical School, and the chairman of the Family Medical Department at Mesa General Hospital.

Dr. Wagner has served on the Arizona Osteopathic Association Committee on Comprehensive Planning. He is a published author and is the recipient of numerous awards.

Dr. Wagner received his D.O. Degree from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Missouri and completed his residency in family practice at Richmond Heights General Hospital in Ohio. He is a member of the American Osteopathic Association and the American College of General Practice.

Randy Danielson, Ph.D., P.A.-C is Professor and Dean of the Arizona School of Health Sciences (ASHS), a School of A.T. Still University. He is a former Chair in the Department of Physician Assistant Studies at ASHS. He is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA).



Dr. Danielsen has served on the NCCPA Board since 1997 as chair of the Research & Test Development Committee, as Secretary of the Board, and as a member of the Executive Committee. He is also a member of the American Academy of Physician Assistants.

Dr. Danielsen received his PA training at the University of Utah MEDEX program, his Masters in PA Studies from the University of Nebraska, and a Doctorate in Education from the Union Institute & University.

ARIZONA REGULATORY BOARD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS MEMBERSHIP

Michael E. Goodwin, P.A., is the founder and owner of Occupational Assessments & Services, an occupational medicine provider in and out of the State of Arizona. He is a licensed physician assistant, having received his training at the U.S. Medical Center in Springfield, Missouri. He attended the University of Cincinnati residency in occupational medicine.



Mr. Goodwin is currently a member of the Executive Board, Section on Medical Center Occupational Health for the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. He is also a member of the adjunct faculty, Arizona School of Health Sciences, and is a member of the Advisory Board for the Arizona Valle del Sol Association of Occupational Health Services.

Mr. Goodwin is a member of the American Academy of Physician Assistants in Occupational and Environmental Medicine, is a founding member of the Arizona State Association of Physician Assistants, and belongs to the American Academy of Physician Assistants and to the Arizona Medical Association.

James E. Meyer, M.D., a physician member of the Board, is the Medical Director of the Physician Assistant Program and an Associate Professor for the College of Health Sciences at Midwestern University in Glendale. He is also an Associated Medical Director of Hospice of Arizona.

Dr. Meyer received his medical education at the University of Michigan Medical School and completed a medicine internship at the Milton S. Her-

shey Medical Center at Penn State University and an Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Colorado Medical Center. He also completed extensive postgraduate psychotherapy training.



Dr. Meyer is a Board-certified Marriage and Family Therapist and a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine. He is a member of the American College of Physicians, the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, and “Who’s Who” in Medicine and Healthcare.

Sigmund G. Popko, J.D., a public member of the Board, is an Associate Clinical Professor of Law at Arizona State University in Tempe. He received his law degree summa cum laude from the University of Arizona College of Law in Tucson. Prior to assuming his current position, he served as a Visiting Attorney for the United States Sentencing Commission in Washington, D.C., and as an Assistant Federal Public Defender for the Federal Public Defender’s Office, District of Arizona.



Mr. Popko is a member of Arizona Attorneys for Criminal Justice. He is the co-author of a treatise on the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, “Federal Sentencing Law and Practice.”

ARIZONA REGULATORY BOARD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS MEMBERSHIP

Anna Marie Prassa, a public member of the Board, founded Executive Stress Busters, Inc., and pioneered the 15-minute, in-office massage concept to combat computer and work related injuries. She also opened Natural Day Spa and is a highly-trained motivational speaker.



Ms. Prassa has a Bachelor of Science Degree. She has completed workshops and medical programs at the Touch Research Institute at the University of Miami School of Medicine and has attended an internship program at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

In the past, Ms. Prassa has served on the Arizona Homeopathic Board of Medical Examiners and on the Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners.

In April 2001, Ms. Prassa sold her businesses for a less stressful life and to pursue her speaking career.

Albert Ray Tuttle, P.A., is employed by the Family Medical Center in Safford and part-time at the Emergency Room of the Mount Graham Regional Medical Center in Safford. He has been a licensed physician assistant in Arizona since 1891 and formerly was a medic in the U.S. Army. In Arizona, he has worked exclusively in family practice in rural settings and in the ER.



Mr. Tuttle currently serves on the City of Safford Planning and Zoning Commission and has served on the Special Olympics and is actively involved as a Boy Scout Leader.

Mr. Tuttle is a member of the American Association of Physician Assistants, the Arizona Medical Association, and the Arizona State Association of Physician Assistants.

Mr. Tuttle has a special interest in the developmentally disabled and in 1998 became certified as a lifestyle counselor for weight control and stress management.

Dr. Kelli M. Ward, D.O., M.P.H., FACOFP, a physician member of the Board, has had a medical practice in Lake Havasu City since 1999. She is Board-certified in Family Practice and has a Masters Degree in Public Health.



Dr. Ward received her medical degree from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and continued her education with a family practice residency, a faculty development fellowship and clinician educator fellowship in Michigan. Additionally, she completed the Osteopathic Heritage Health Policy Fellowship in 2003.

Dr. Ward is the president of the Arizona Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, the secretary-treasurer of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association, and a member of the American Osteopathic Association.

Dr. Ward lectures nationally on subjects such as bioterrorism, water safety, electronic medical records, and obesity. She is active in her community, serving as a Chamber of Commerce ambassador, singing in the Praise Team at her church, and performing in community theater productions. She is married and has two children.

ARIZONA REGULATORY BOARD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS MEMBERSHIP

Dr. Barry D. Weiss, M.D., a physician member of the Board, is Board-certified in both Family Practice and Geriatric Medicine. He maintains his practice in Tucson and is a Professor of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine.



Dr. Weiss received his medical degree from State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine. After he completed his internship at the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center in Tucson, he stayed to do his residency in Family Practice.

Dr. Weiss is the editor of “Family Medicine,” the Journal of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, and the associate editor of the American Academy of Family Physicians’ Home Study Monograph program.

LICENSING

The Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants issued 23% fewer licenses in FY 2007 than it did in the previous fiscal year, and yet the number of licensees rose 6.3%.

The role of physician assistants in Arizona has become very important to our state's rapidly growing population because of a continuing shortage of physicians.

The concept of physician assistants came about in the 1960s when the seeds of the current healthcare worker shortage began to take root, especially in under-served rural communities.

Today, physician assistants help by extending a doctor's practice. They see patients who might otherwise have to wait days for

appointments with their supervising physicians.

Hospitals also use physician assistants to work with physicians in their emergency rooms and for other medical tasks.

And in some rural areas, they may be the only available healthcare professionals.

When Arizona began licensing physician assistants in the 1970s, the first group numbered 15 and came from an initial applicant group of 33. More than 30 years later, the number of licensees is nearing the 1,600 mark.

| Licenses | |
|--|-------|
| | FY 07 |
| Total Number of Physician Assistants | 1,572 |
| Licenses Issued | 191 |
| Temporary Licenses Issued | 20 |
| Supervision Notifications Processed | 1,103 |
| Average Number of Days to approve a PA licensing application <i>(Date of receipt of fully completed application to final issue)</i> | 17 |

REGULATION

The Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants opens an investigation of a licensee when it receives a complaint and the allegation, if true, would be a violation of the Physician Assistant Practice Act.

Compliance Monitoring is the Board's way of knowing that its orders involving practice restrictions, limitations and probation are being followed. The figure represents the number of physician's assistants being monitored for these reasons. Compliance officers conduct random chart reviews, review physician records and report to the Board any findings of non-compliance.

Failure to obey a Board order can lead to more disciplinary action.

Fourteen physician assistants participated in the Monitored Aftercare Program (MAP) of the Physician Health Program

Board Staff ensure PAs comply with program requirements and are safe to practice medicine. Findings of non-compliance are brought to the Board's attention.

| PA Regulation | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| | FY 06 | FY 07 |
| Investigations Remaining Open at Fiscal Year's End | 18 | 15 |
| Number of PAs Monitored for Compliance | 3 | 5 |
| Number of PAs in Monitored Aftercare Program (MAP) | 10 | 14 |
| Number of PAs in Physician Health Program (PHP) | 2 | 0 |

