

OSTEOSCOPE

ISSUE 3 | SPRING 2025

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MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT DENISE PINES, MBA

Dear members of the OMBC community and the public,
I hope this newsletter finds you doing well, in good health, and in good spirits.

Now is a perfect time to review the OMBC mission statement. The statement is the Board's commitment to California consumers about the practice of osteopathic medicine. OMBC stands by our oath to protect the public from hurt or harm through the practice of medicine. It is our duty to uphold principles to ensure that we honor the mission statement. Those principles make sure that there is proper evaluation of applicants when it comes to licensure, enforcing and administering investigations, disciplinary actions when appropriate, and providing consumer outreach by sharing information with all regarding the practice of medicine. Our dedication to protecting consumers from unsafe practices is highly regarded and each Board member takes that responsibility seriously. Let's break down the mission statement to fully outline what OMBC wants each consumer to know.

"To protect the public by requiring competency, accountability, and integrity in the safe practice of medicine by osteopathic physicians and surgeons ..." means that OMBC cares about the consumer's rights, interests, and health. We are here to ensure that consumers do not suffer from abuse or maltreatment under the care of an osteopathic physician or surgeon. We do so by investigating complaints and imposing professional discipline that may restrict their practice or even revoke their license. It is essential that we make this a priority in our positions as Board members. OMBC follows the laws and regulations related to the practice of medicine. There are provisions listed within the Business and Professions Code that mandate how the practice of medicine must be administered. The Medical and Osteopathic Practice

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(800) 735-2922 (Voice)
Email: osteopathic@dca.ca.gov
Website: www.ombc.ca.gov

— MISSION —

To protect the public by requiring competency, accountability, and integrity in the safe practice of medicine by osteopathic physicians and surgeons.

— VISION —

Our physicians and surgeons give the highest quality of care for all, striving for excellence in public protection.

— VALUES —

Accountability, Consumer Protection, Collaboration,
Competency, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Effective
Leadership, and Innovation

— JURISDICTION —

The Osteopathic Medical Board of California's (OMBC) jurisdiction includes osteopathic physicians and surgeons. The Board's jurisdiction does not include physicians (MDs), physician assistants (PAs), licensed midwives, polysomnographic trainees, technicians and technologists, and research psychoanalysts and student research psychoanalysts, chiropractors, dentists, health maintenance organizations, hospitals, insurance companies, malpractice actions/civil lawsuits, Medi-Cal, Medicare, nurses (RNs, NPs, FNPs), or optometrists.

The Board also has no authority over a medical provider's attitude, bedside manner, demeanor, office staff, prices charged, or refund disputes with a medical provider unless there is a double payment by the insurance company. The Board cannot assist consumers in obtaining medical care or financial compensation for medical malpractice.

(Continued from page 1)

Acts allow OMBC to enforce the laws relating to the practice of medicine and determine the appropriate decision-making process to exercise licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions.

The protection of the public is our most important objective. OMBC represents the consumers. I hope by dissecting the mission statement we can all be very proud that we have a Board that oversees the practice of osteopathic physicians and surgeons.

A central aim of mine is to cultivate a culture of collaboration and transparency, and a key partnership in this endeavor is with our Executive Director Erika Calderon. Together, we aspire to amplify awareness among the public and policymakers regarding the invaluable contributions of osteopathic physicians and surgeons.

To realize this vision, the Board has established the following committees: Executive, Legislative, Licensing, Enforcement, and Education/Outreach. Through these committees the Board hopes to effectively divide labor, allow for focused expertise on specific topics, gather information from diverse perspectives, and make informed decisions by bringing together individuals with relevant knowledge, ultimately streamlining the work process within the Board by distributing responsibilities and facilitating collaborative problem-solving.

In our pursuit of transparency and accountability, I am pleased to announce that the Board is adding an open, noticed agenda item with patient advocates. This will provide an invaluable opportunity to solicit feedback and insights from key stakeholders, thereby enriching our understanding of consumer needs and priorities.

I continue to be excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for the Board and look forward to continued collaboration with all of the members to realize our shared vision.

Warm regards,

Denise Pines, MBA
President

MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT ANDREW MORENO, ESQ.



Dear members of the OMBC community and the public,

I hope this message finds you well. Serving as a public member of the Board since 2017 has been an extraordinary journey. Over the past seven years, I have witnessed the Board's unwavering commitment to protecting consumers through robust licensing, education, and regulatory enforcement. Our team—comprising

dedicated board members, staff, and Department of Consumer Affairs partners—continually sets a high standard, serving as a model for professional boards nationwide. Their collective expertise and genuine care for the public inspire me every day and remind me of the profound impact we have in serving our constituents.

A cornerstone of our mission is fostering collaboration and transparency. Working alongside Board President Denise Pines and Executive Director Erika Calderon, we remain focused on raising awareness among the public and policymakers about the critical role of osteopathic medicine. To advance this effort, we have established committees involving board members and staff and are steadfast in advocating for greater recognition and appreciation of

the osteopathic profession within the broader health care landscape. Our staff actively engages with the public and connects with communities throughout California to further our advocacy and outreach.

As Board members, our role extends beyond governance; we are committed to providing the highest level of service to the public through active participation in meetings and decision-making processes. We are also delighted to welcome our newest members to the Board. Their fresh perspectives and expertise will undoubtedly enrich our work and strengthen our mission. I encourage all stakeholders and those with an interest in osteopathic medicine to attend one of our meetings, where public input is always welcome and valued.

Looking back on my time with the Board, I am proud of how far we've come. The osteopathic profession continues to grow, with more practitioners making a difference across California. As a public member and vice president, I am excited about the opportunities ahead to advance our mission of public protection and support the next generation of osteopathic physicians. The future of the Board is bright, and I look forward to continuing this important work alongside all of you to realize our shared vision.

Sincerely,

Andrew Moreno, Esq.
Board Vice President



NAME AND ADDRESS CHANGES

It is crucial that OMBC has the most current and accurate name and address information on file should OMBC need to contact you. The link for submitting name and address changes is on the [OMBC website](#).

Licensees are required by law to notify the Board within 30 days if they change their name or address of record. It is important so licensees receive timely renewal notices and other important information, and applicants receive messages regarding application status.

There are two ways to get to the Name Change and Address Change request. You can go to your BreEZe account and click on the request form or go to online services on OMBC's website: www.ombc.ca.gov/online_services/index.shtml.



DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Licensees are encouraged to provide OMBC with an email address if the licensee has one. Email is an efficient channel for sharing information between OMBC and its applicants and licensees. OMBC will be able to communicate the status of applications, renewals, and requests for various OMBC services; provide law and regulation updates; and disseminate important OMBC news directly to each applicant and licensee. OMBC hopes this accelerated delivery and exchange of information will decrease processing times in all aspects of OMBC's programs and facilitate licensees keeping apprised of laws, regulations, and OMBC activities.

You can submit or update your email address by logging into your BreEZe account online and going to the address change section to edit or update the fields. OMBC is moving most of its applications and transactions from paper to digital so it is encouraging all licensees to familiarize themselves with the exciting changes on OMBC.ca.gov **Online Services**.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, LINKEDIN, X, OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE:



facebook.com/OsteoBoardCA/



linkedin.com/company/osteopathic-medical-board-of-california



x.com/OsteoBoardCA



ombc.ca.gov/

BECOME A BOARD MEMBER

OMBC is a nine-member board. All OMBC members collectively work to perform a vital role: providing invaluable oversight and direction. Past and present members of OMBC include both osteopathic physicians and surgeons serving in different specialties, as well as public members wanting to make a difference. The governor appoints two public members and five licensees; the senate rules committee appoints one public member, and the speaker of the house appoints another public member. OMBC members work together to approve regulations and help guide licensing, enforcement, public education, and consumer protection activities.

Through this structure, OMBC members make essential decisions on agency policies and on disciplinary actions against professionals who violate state consumer protection laws. For more information and how to apply, please refer to the DCA informational bulletin at www.dca.ca.gov (OMBC Member).

ATTEND A BOARD MEETING

Attending an OMBC meeting is a way to discover how OMBC's administrative and disciplinary processes work. Everybody is encouraged to attend an OMBC meeting. OMBC encourages students to attend, as it is a chance to see OMBC discussions and presentations in real time.. It also gives the attendee a glimpse into how decisions are made. Attendees will enhance their knowledge of not only how OMBC promulgates regulations for DOs, but also how the consumer is protected by these regulations. These processes make up a small part of the work OMBC conducts day in and day out. Please feel free to join! Meetings are held four times a year in locations throughout California. Visit OMBC's website for updates and more information: www.ombc.ca.gov (OMBC Meetings).

2025 MEETING DATES:

Thursday, May 15—Pomona

Thursday, August 14—Vallejo

Thursday, November 13—Sacramento



EXPEDITED LICENSURE

OMBC will expedite the application review process for applicants who meet one of the following criteria:

Military Veteran--Honorably Discharged

Active-duty Military--Spouses or Partners

Intend to Provide Services in a Medically Underserved Area or Population

Refugee, Immigrant Visa Holder

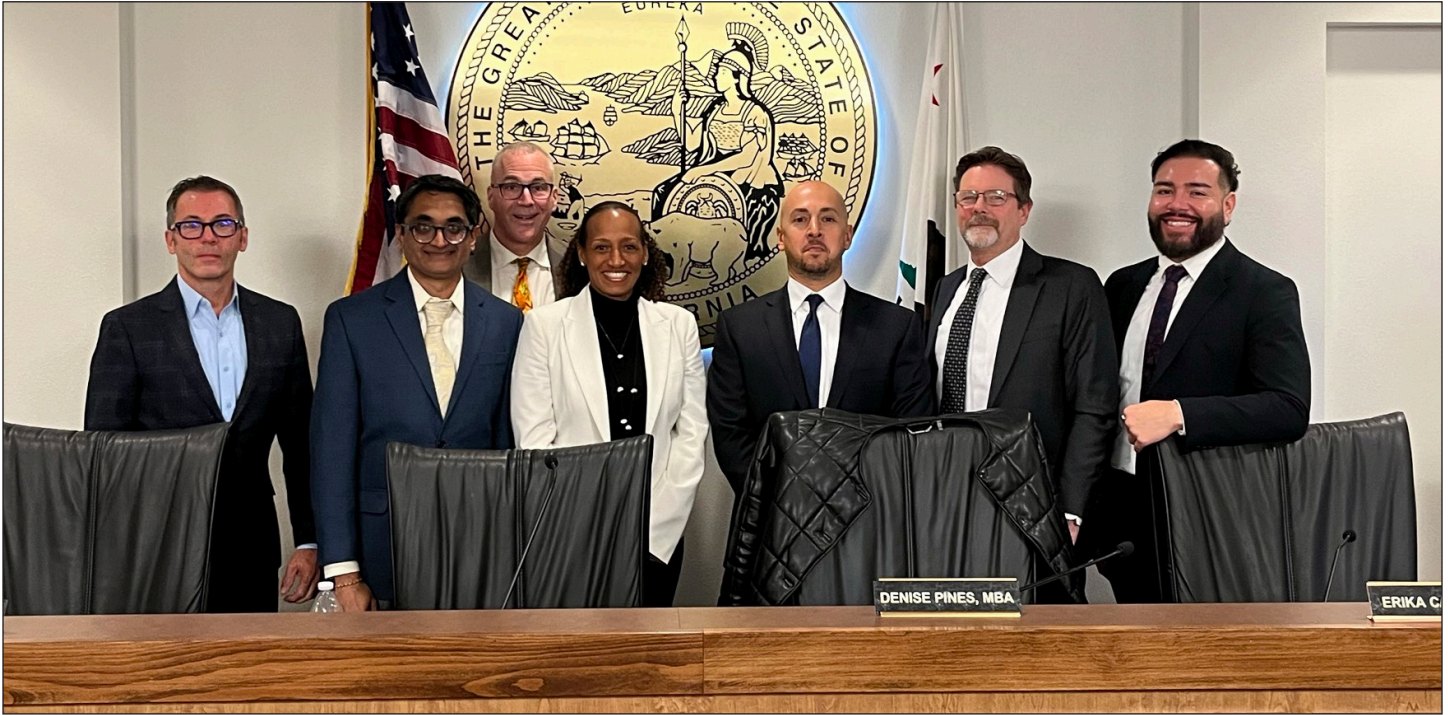
Intend to Provide Abortion Services

Skillbridge Program

JOIN THE OMBC SUBSCRIBER LIST

Please join the [OMBC's email subscriber list](#) to receive notices of changes in laws and regulations, enforcement actions taken against licensees, and information related to the practice of osteopathic physicians and surgeons.

WELCOME NEW OMBC MEMBERS



From left: Brett Lockman, DO, Hamesh Patel, DO, Matthew Swain, DO, President Denise Pines, MBA, Secretary Gary (Gor) Adamyan, John Cummins, JD, Vice President Andrew Moreno, Esq.

OMBC welcomes three new Board members!

John Cummins, J.D., was appointed by the Senate Rules Committee. Cummins practiced law for over 30 years as a federal attorney with the United States Department of the Navy, Department of Justice, and Department of Energy, retiring at the end of 2023. Most recently, Cummins served at the Department of Energy, as an assistant chief counsel with offices at two of the nation's premier national science laboratories: The Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. Prior to that, he spent over 20 years as a civilian attorney with the Navy Office of General Counsel. Cummins also served under an appointment from the U.S. attorney as a special assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of California.

Dr. Matthew Swain was appointed by Governor Newsom on July 23, 2024. Dr. Swain has been chief medical officer at Mendocino Community Health Centers since 2022. He was a hospitalist and primary care physician at South Peninsula Hospital from 2020 to 2022, and chief at the Primary Care VA Healthcare System from 2017 to 2020. He served in several positions at Naval Camp Lejeune from 2008 to 2017,

including senior medical officer, medical officer, primary care manager Wounded Warrior Battalion East, family physician and family medicine resident. Dr. Swain is a diplomate of the American Board of Family Medicine and a member of the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California. Dr. Swain earned a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Midwestern University, a Master of Business Administration degree from Western Governors University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Northern Arizona University, where he studied liberal studies, chemistry, and military studies.

Dr. Brett Lockman was appointed by Governor Newsom on August 8, 2024. Dr. Lockman has been the president of Sierra Biotensegrity since 2017. He was also the medical director of pain medicine for Adventist Health from 2018–2019. In addition, he was the chief executive officer and president of Advanced Wellness Sports and Spine from 2011–2016 and the staff physician at the Carolina Back Institute from 2009–2010. Dr. Lockman earned a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and a Bachelor of Science degree in human physiology.

DO STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Why did you decide to pursue a career in health care and specifically become an osteopathic physician (DO) or surgeon?

When I was first applying to medical school, I had vaguely heard about what a DO was but didn't understand the magnitude of the degree. It wasn't until I started shadowing a DO that I saw the power of what it means to be a DO. She explained to me the extra

component that all DOs learn in school and allowed me to shadow her performing osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT). It changed my whole perspective on what medicine should and could be in the United States and even the world. It was amazing to see the power of her hands working to heal people. Beyond just seeing the power of OMT, I also came to love how holistically she approached all her patients. She always made sure to listen to them completely and compassionately, letting them tell their stories without ever interrupting them or assuming what they needed. She also made a point to ask not only about medical symptoms but also other factors that could be affecting their health, truly embodying a physician who cares not only about the body but also the mind and spirit. I immediately knew after just a day with her that this is the kind of physician I wanted to be. I was passionate about learning osteopathic manipulative medicine and using that to help others in the future. It was an incredible opportunity to be able to shadow and work with her before medical school as it only made my knowledge, passion, and love for the field of osteopathic medicine grow. I am pursuing a career in osteopathic medicine because I want to learn and emulate what I saw and treat patients holistically, caring for them in their entirety.

What is it that you like most about this profession?

It is hard to narrow what I like about this profession down to just one thing, but one of the things I have observed and love is the willingness of those before me to mentor me and encourage me to be the physician I want to be. I feel like there is an amazing community of osteopathic physicians who are always willing to help younger generations. I know that I wouldn't be here and succeeding the way I am without the help of all the mentors I have already had. Additionally, I think the genuine love for the profession and for patients is also evident within DOs. Every physician I have talked to or worked with definitely exemplifies the osteopathic tenets and makes sure to approach patients in a very caring, compassionate, holistic manner. This profession has so many wonderful things, but these are definitely some of my favorite things about it.

What do you know about the Osteopathic Medical Board of California?

My understanding of OMBC is that it helps take care of osteopathic physicians in the state but also makes sure to take care of the public while doing that. Additionally, it is the entity that both gives and can take away licensure to osteopathic physicians.

Why did you decide to attend this specific school?

I decided to attend Touro University California for many reasons, but one of the biggest reasons was because I loved the community at Touro. It was obvious from my interview and when interacting with other accepted students that this community had a lot of power and a lot of amazing goals which I was so eager to be a part of. It was also clear that people at this school worked to lift each other up, and I think that is something that can be hard to find when you are working towards something as competitive as becoming a doctor. This was further reinforced when I met my amazing group of friends on the very first day of school. Additionally, in keeping with community, I loved the clubs on campus that allowed me to explore my passions, advocate for patients, and get involved in the community outside of school. Touro is a wonderful school and has given me an amazing support system as well as more love and a deeper understanding for the profession.

What are some things that you like to do when you are not focusing on school?

When I am not focusing on school, I love to explore new parts of the state, country, or world. I love to travel and learn about new cultures. I love going on long walks or hiking to take in the beautiful views of our beautiful state and to find fun new restaurants or coffee shops to try. Lastly, I love expanding on my hobbies, which include dancing, singing, or reading.

What advice would you give someone who is considering attending a DO school?

I think the biggest advice I would give to someone applying to a school would be to trust the process. It took me a lot longer to get to medical school than I had initially planned but every step of the journey was necessary for me to be the most successful in school now. Another piece of advice I would give is to never be afraid to advocate for yourself. I think far too often, the process can beat us down or can make us doubt ourselves, but I would encourage everyone applying to see their strengths and advocate for themselves and why they would make an amazing osteopathic physician. Lastly, I would advise applicants to make sure to take time to do the things they enjoy before medical school. I think it can be really easy to get caught up in the process, but taking time to enjoy other parts of life outside of applying is so important and grounding!

OUTREACH EVENTS

OMBC is excited to continue to utilize its OsteoScope newsletter to generate outreach efforts. OMBC wishes to reach more stakeholders, especially consumers. Most recently, our Executive Director Erika Calderon and Licensing Program Manager Machiko Chong had the pleasure of attending several outreach events. Our amazing staff was available to answer licensee, student, applicant, and consumer questions. We cannot wait to conduct more outreach events throughout the year, visiting community health and resource fairs, schools, seminars, and conferences. Stay tuned for future events by checking our website at www.ombc.ca.gov/.



Executive Director Erika Calderon at the Mexican Consulate in Sacramento on June 17, 2024, speaking about consumer protection.



Licensing Program Manager Machiko Chong attended the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California's 35th annual conference Continuing Medical Education by the Bay 2024, in Monterey from September 6–9.



OMBC attended the California Health Sciences University's residency fair on October 12, 2024, in Clovis. Chong hosted a table and answered questions about the licensure process for students.



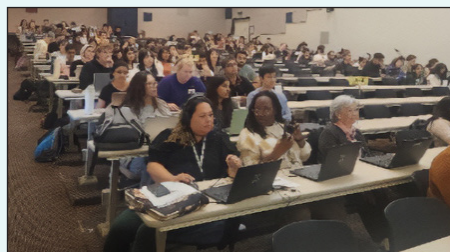
Executive Director Erika Calderon and Information Officer Peter Fournier, from DCA's Office of Public Affairs, hosted a table at the Community Health and Resources Fair on October 24 at the Selma Senior Center in Selma.

OMBC AT TOURO UNIVERSITY

What is your professional identity? That was the first question in a two-part professionalism series learning event for the class of 2027 at their osteopathic doctoring course. The professionalism module is a series of interactive learning events over the four pre-clinical semesters. This fall, Elaine Ho, D.O., chair of Touro University California's College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Alesia Wagner, D.O., associate dean of Academic Affairs, collaborated with Erika Calderon, executive director of OMBC, to present understanding professional identity and its impact to the students. The learning events culminated with small group work, where the students were "mini-OMBCs" conducting investigations and rendering decisions based on the cases. The students were given some insight into the future. And the OMBC team was impressed with the caliber of the student questions and reasoning processes into these cases. Drs. Wagner and Ho plan to continue this collaboration in the future.



Dr. Wagner, left, and Dr. Ho at Touro University.



SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

OMBC regularly conducts presentations at schools to provide information and guidance on the initial licensing process. OMBC can also cover topics such as OMBC's history, licensing process (applications and renewals), continuing competency, consumer protection (complaint process and/or probation process), and online services including BreEZe.

For more information on outreach or to have OMBC present at your next event, contact Machiko Chong at Machiko.Chong@dca.ca.gov. If you would like an OMBC representative to present at your school or organization, you can complete the application found here: www.ombc.ca.gov/forms_pubs/speakerrequest.pdf. You can also find the application by clicking "Contact Us" on the OMBC homepage, and a link to the application is located under "Request a OMBC Speaker."

LICENSING ACTIVITY

OMBC processes applications in the order they are received. Please allow 30 days to complete initial review of the application before contacting the Board for an update. Here is a summary of initial license applications and renewal of license applications approved from July 1 through September 30, 2024.

INITIAL LICENSES APPROVED	LICENSE RENEWALS APPROVED
1022	1536

LEGISLATION IMPACTING THE BOARD

These bills have been chaptered and became effective on January 1, 2025, unless stated otherwise. Detailed bill information may be found by selecting the links in the “Bill” column below.

BILL	AUTHOR, CHAPTER, STATUTE YEAR	STATUTORY REFERENCE	SUMMARY
SB 164	(Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review), Chapter 41, Statutes of 2024	Business and Professions Code 144.6 and 208	This budget trailer bill increases the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation Systems (CURES) annual fee from \$9 to \$15 (\$30 biennial renewal amount) effective April 1, 2025.
SB 233	(Skinner), Chapter 11, Statutes of 2024	Business and Professions Code 2076.6	This bill provides a pathway for Arizona physicians and surgeons to register and if approved by the Board be able to perform abortions and abortion services for their Arizona patients in California. This temporary registration in lieu of licensure or an exemption from licensure has been opened in effect since June 2024 and will become inoperative December 1, 2024, and repealed January 1, 2025.
SB 1451	(Ashby), Chapter 481, Statutes of 2024	Business and Professions Code 115.4, 115.5, 115.6, 135.4, 2054, to add Section 2097.5	This bill takes off where AB 765 left off. This bill makes amendments for various healing arts Boards and professions. New amendments add in title protection language for MDs and DOs, protect the usage of the word doctor, physician and physician and surgeon, and add reference to “Doctor of Osteopathy”; current language only references “DO” but does not spell out the full wording of the title.
AB 2164	(Berman), Chapter 952, Statutes of 2024	Business and Professions Code Section 2425 and adds Section 2090	This bill requires OMBC and the Medical Board of California (MBC) to modify their license application question(s) regarding conditions that impair or limit an applicant’s ability to practice medicine safely.
AB 1991	(Bonta), Chapter 369, Statutes of 2024	Business and Professions Code 850.2	This bill requires OMBC and MBC to collect the national provider identifier number on the Physician Survey if a licensee has such an identification number. This bill would also require certain healing arts boards to collect workforce data from their licensees at the time of renewal as a condition of renewal. It would prohibit boards from denying a renewal solely because a licensee failed to provide workforce data as required.
AB 3030	(Calderon), Chapter 848, Statutes of 2024	Adds Chapter 2.13, Section 1339.75 to Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code	This bill requires an entity, including a health facility, clinic, physician’s office, or office of a group practice that uses a generative artificial intelligence tool to generate responses for health care providers to communicate with patients to ensure that those communications include both (1) a disclaimer that indicates to the patient that a communication was generated by artificial intelligence and (2) clear instructions for the patient to access direct communications with a human health care provider, as specified. The bill authorizes MBC and OMBC to have enforcement jurisdiction in determining whether discipline is appropriate and necessary if physicians violate this new law.
AB 2270	(Maienschaein), Chapter 636, Statutes of 2024	Amends Business and Professions Code Sections 2191, 2811.5, 3524.5, 4980.54, 4989.34, 4996.22, and 4999.76 of, and adds Section 2914.4.	This bill encourages physicians to take continuing medical education course work on the topics of menopausal and mental or physical health of older women. This bill adds menopausal and mental and physical health training to the list of acceptable and priority continuing medical education (CME) topics. It is optional, not mandatory.
AB 2581	(Maienschaein), Chapter 836, Statutes of 2024	Amends Business and Professions Code Sections 2811.5, 3524.5, 4980.54, 4989.34, 4996.22, and 4999.76 and adds Section 2914.5.	This bill encourages physicians to take CME on maternal mental health adding it to the list of acceptable and priority CME topics. This bill applies to boards other than OMBC and MBC who do not have this continuing education requirement.
AB 3119	(Low), Chapter 433, Statutes of 2024	Adds Business and Professions Code Sections 2191.6 and 2456.6.	This bill adds BPC sections 2191.6 and 2454.56 to add “Long COVID” training to the list of acceptable and priority CME topics. It is optional, not mandatory.
SB 639	(Limon), Chapter 336, Statutes of 2024	Business and Professions Code Section 2190.3.	This bill adds an additional topic, “special care needs of patients with dementia,” to an existing mandatory CME requirement for specified physicians and surgeon pursuant to BPC section 2190.3. Specifically, this bill requires all general internists and family physicians who have a patient population of which over 25% are 65 years of age or older complete at least 20% of all mandatory continuing education hours in a course in the field of geriatric medicine, the special care needs of patients with dementia, or the care of older patients.
SB 607	(Portantino), Chapter 862, Statutes of 2024	Amends Health and Safety Code Section 11158.1 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to controlled substances.	Existing law requires a prescriber, with certain exceptions, before directly dispensing or issuing for a minor the first prescription for a controlled substance containing an opioid in a single course of treatment, to discuss specified information with the minor, the minor’s parent, or guardian, or another adult authorized to consent to the minor’s medical treatment. This bill would extend that requirement for the prescriber by applying it to any patient, not only a minor, under those circumstances.

MEDICAL CONSULTANTS NEEDED

Medical consultants review complaints to determine whether a formal investigation by Board investigative staff is needed, or if the complaint can be resolved by a preliminary review of the medical records and a subject's narrative statement.

Participating physicians are reimbursed \$75 per hour for record review and report preparation.

If you are interested, please contact Enforcement Lead Analyst Cristy Livramento at (916) 263-1676 or Cristy.Livramento@dca.ca.gov.

Application and eligibility information is available on our website at www.ombc.ca.gov/consultant_expert/index.shtml.

All specialties are welcome and encouraged to apply. We currently have a need for the following specialties:

- Colon and rectal surgery
- Neurological surgery
- Orthopedic surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Pain medicine
- Urology
- Orthopedics
- Endocrinology
- Oncology
- Cosmetic/plastic
- Cardiology
- Electrophysiology

CITATION PROCESS: WHAT TO EXPECT

OMBC uses the citation and fine program as an alternative method to impose a sanction and take an administrative action against a DO found in minor violation of a law or regulation governing the practice of osteopathic physicians and surgeons. OMBC has authority to issue citations and fines for specified violations of law per Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 125.9 and the California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1659.30-1659.35.

Receiving a citation or having to pay a fine is not desirable. If you do receive a citation package, what can you expect?

When a citation is issued, it is sent by certified mail to ensure receipt. The citation package itself contains:

1. A cover letter.
2. The citation order itself (explains the violation of law; states the imposed fine or order of abatement with any compliance instructions; provides instructions for arranging an informal conference or appealing the citation and/or fine).
3. Copies of laws and regulations governing the citation and fine program and the specific code(s) violated.
4. A notice of appeal/request for informal conference general information sheet.

If a licensee wishes to appeal all or part of a citation, an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing may be requested. To request an informal conference, you must submit a written request by email or mail to the OMBC office within 15 calendar days after service of the citation. Staff will arrange the conference with OMBC's executive director (ED), after which the ED may affirm, modify, or withdraw the

citation. Following an informal conference, if a satisfactory resolution has not been obtained, the licensee may send a written request to OMBC for an administrative hearing within 30 days of receiving an amended citation. In addition, the licensee may ask for a formal administrative hearing from the outset; an informal conference is not required to file an appeal but is recommended to expedite the matter. Citations are not considered formal disciplinary action, although they are public record. The citation record is posted on OMBC's website, and a copy of the citation must be provided to the public upon request for 10 years from the date of resolution. Payment of the fine is considered successful resolution of a citation and/or fine for public disclosure purposes; however, any compliance/abatement order must be completed as instructed to avoid additional discipline. What are the most common violations?

- BPC section 2052—Unlicensed practice of medicine.
- BPC section 2236—Conviction of a crime.
- BPC section 2266—Failure to maintain adequate medical records.

OMBC wishes to work with licensees to gain compliance. A good-faith effort to immediately correct a deficiency in a minor violation case may also lead to a withdrawn citation or the fine imposed. If you have questions regarding a citation, immediately respond to the citation package by mailing or emailing a request for informal conference. Noncompliance with a citation may result in formal disciplinary action. To avoid more serious consequences, respond to OMBC's citation package within the given time frames.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

CITATION PROCESS FLOWCHART

When a citation is issued, it is sent by certified mail to ensure receipt. Noncompliance with a citation may result in formal disciplinary action. To avoid more serious consequences, respond to the Board's citation package within the given time frames. The citation package itself contains:

1

A cover letter.

2

The citation order.
The imposed fine or order of abatement.
Compliance instructions.
Instructions for arranging an informal conference or appealing the citation and/or fine.

3

Copies of laws and regulations governing the citation and fine program and the specific code(s) violated.

4

A notice of appeal/request for informal conference general information sheet.



ACCEPT CITATION

Payment of the fine is considered successful resolution of a citation and/or fine for public disclosure purposes.

Note: Any compliance/abatement order must be completed as instructed to avoid additional discipline.



APPEAL CITATION

An informal conference is requested (a formal conference can be requested but not recommended) after which the Board's executive officer may affirm, modify, or withdraw the citation.

Note: A conference is not required to file an appeal but is recommended to expedite the matter.



SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION

Payment of the fine is considered successful resolution of a citation and/or fine for public disclosure purposes; however, any compliance/abatement order must be completed as instructed to avoid additional discipline.



UNSATISFACTORY RESOLUTION

The licensee may send a written request to the Board for an administrative hearing within 30 days of receiving an amended citation.

CITATIONS/DISCIPLINE

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS—CITATIONS

A citation is an administrative action by which OMBC may address relatively minor violations of the Osteopathic and Medical Practice Act or OMBC's regulations that would not necessarily warrant discipline to protect the public. Citations ARE NOT disciplinary actions but are matters of public record. Citations remain on a licensee's file for 10 years and are then purged. By law, payment of a fine is considered satisfactory resolution of all violations contained in the citation.

NAME	LICENSE NUMBER	CITATION DISPOSITION	CITATION EFFECTIVE DATE
Allen, Eugene	6802	Citation Issued	01/12/2023
Almonte, Anna	9160	Citation Issued	03/15/2023
Bade, Brittany N.	18691	Citation Issued	06/28/2023
Barczak, Jeffrey T.	12066	Citation Issued	09/06/2016
Bell, Herman B.	5193	Citation Issued	07/27/2020
Bell, Herman B.	5193	Citation Issued	01/16/2018
Birnbaum, Peter S.	7133	Citation Issued	08/01/2018
Chang, Lisa W.	12080	Citation Issued	09/07/2017
Dominguez, Jesse S.	8942	Citation Issued	02/17/2022
Greene, Ryan M.	15602	Citation Issued	11/12/2019
Hakkak, Fatima	10650	Citation Issued	05/18/2023
Hakkak, Fatima	10650	Citation Issued	02/08/2024
Hisscock, Russell G.	10268	Citation Issued	02/07/2024
Hoang, Le T.	7347	Citation Issued	08/18/2020
Hosack, Steven D.	13855	Citation Issued	03/04/2024
Kamalpour, Fari G.	11842	Citation Issued	12/21/2022

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NAME	LICENSE NUMBER	CITATION DISPOSITION	CITATION EFFECTIVE DATE
Kaufman, David J.	8799	Citation Issued	06/02/2023
Kerendian, Naghmeh	8544	Citation Issued	04/10/2024
Kerendian, Payam E.	8382	Citation Issued	03/14/2017
Laimer, Hannah	16590	Citation Issued	05/18/2023
Loftis, Brent	11845	Citation Issued	07/27/2017
Miller, Dennis K.	8981	Citation Issued	05/12/2022
Naito, Stacey K.	8154	Citation Issued	06/02/2023
Renna, Christian J.	6324	Citation Issued	10/21/2016
Repik, Michael R.	12768	Citation Issued	01/31/2020
Reyes-Bergano, Rachel A.	13104	Citation Issued	01/11/2019
Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System	Facility	Citation Issued	01/23/2019
Shadravan, Roeshan	Unlicensed	Citation Issued	01/25/2022
Shikiya, Cecil A.	12387	Citation Issued	12/21/2022
Skiba, Charles A. Jr.	9707	Citation Issued	08/08/2016
Spektor, Maxim	14822	Citation Issued	05/18/2023
Spidel, Michael E.	8492	Citation Issued	10/27/2023
Sucgang, Paul S.	9629	Citation Issued	05/18/2023
Tran, Huy T.	8795	Citation Issued	09/07/2023
Tran, Jennifer T.-D.	6643	Citation Issued	10/30/2018
Tran, Jennifer T.-D.	6643	Citation Issued	12/10/2018
Wang, Sambin	11738	Citation Issued	06/19/2017
Whitaker, David H.	8427	Citation Issued	09/12/2023
Wiggins, James J.	6833	Citation Issued	02/18/2020
Williams, Kenneth L.	5021	Citation Issued	11/02/2015

DISCIPLINE

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS–DISCIPLINE

OMBC regulates the profession of osteopathic physicians and surgeons through the enforcement of the Osteopathic and Medical Practice Act. The following summary indicates administrative actions taken by OMBC against licensees for violations of the Act. Although every effort is made to ensure the following details are correct, before you make any decision based on this information, obtain a copy of the action in its entirety, including terms and conditions. You can download the copy through the DCA license search tool at <https://search.dca.ca.gov/>.

2024 Administrative Discipline

January 1, 2024–March 31, 2024

LICENSEE/APPLICANT	LICENSE NUMBER	CITY	STATE	ACTION TYPE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Birlew, Nicholas R.	4979	Stockton	CA	Probation	03/08/2024
Caparso, Amanda M.	12874	Poway	CA	Public Letter of Reprimand	02/08/2024
Chung, Joseph S.	7223	Glendale	CA	Revocation	02/23/2024
Dasu, Vani T.	12890	Bakersfield	CA	Probation	03/06/2024
Eslinger, Robert A.	7826	Reno	NV	Accusation	03/25/2024
Fightlin, Stefanie J.	7879	Laguna Beach	CA	Accusation	02/07/2024
Gabbay, Robert J.	6451	Santa Rosa	CA	Public Letter of Reprimand	02/14/2024
Luna, Leland M.	7091	South San Francisco	CA	Public Reprimand	03/08/2024
Sanchez, Gabriel	12818	Upland	CA	Probation	03/06/2024
Sandhu, Karan S.	19197	Palmdale	CA	Accusation	03/28/2024
Sheppard, James E.	12325	Huntington Beach	CA	Amended Accusation	02/15/2024

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April 1, 2024–June 30, 2024

LICENSEE/APPLICANT	LICENSE NUMBER	CITY	STATE	ACTION TYPE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Berman, Michael J.	3728	Rancho Mirage	CA	Accusation	05/09/2024
Birlew, Nicholas R.	4979	Stockton	CA	Surrender	05/08/2024
Cerni, Joseph S.	4439	Newport Beach	CA	Accusation	04/18/2024
Garner, Jason A.	18340	Redding	CA	Accusation	06/06/2024
Khemthong, Apinunt A.	12675	Bakersfield	CA	Public Letter of Reprimand	04/18/2024
Oliver, Howard W.	5179	Long Beach	CA	Accusation	05/22/2024
Sheppard, James E.	12325	Huntington Beach	CA	Probation	04/15/2024
Thompson, Darren R.	13605	Moreno Valley	CA	Probation	05/29/2024
Villarroel, Michael L.	9374	San Diego	CA	Accusation	05/15/2024
Villarroel, Michael L.	9374	San Diego	CA	Automatic Suspension Order	06/26/2024
Yu, Hans C.	9689	Bakersfield	CA	Accusation	04/18/2024

July 1, 2024–September 30, 2024

LICENSEE/APPLICANT	LICENSE NUMBER	CITY	STATE	ACTION TYPE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Fightlin, Stefanie J.	7879	Laguna Beach	CA	Accusation Withdrawn	09/19/2024
Khatibi, Nikan H.	11914	Laguna Niguel	CA	Amended Accusation	07/11/2024
Lewis, Stuart T.	23424	Warminster	CA	Initial Probationary License	09/16/2024
McDowell, Mitchell A.	11652	Riverside	CA	Probation	07/5/2024
Roham, Timothy O.	8040	Santa Ana	CA	Cease Practice Order	07/19/2024

APPLYING FOR A FICTITIOUS NAME PERMIT?

BEFORE APPLYING FOR A FICTITIOUS NAME PERMIT (FNP), PLEASE READ AND DO THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. Consult the fictitious name permit frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the Board's website.** These FAQs were created to assist in the FNP application process. They answer commonly asked questions and in particular detail the requirements for business types and choosing a name. When deciding on a type of corporation, it is important to know that limited liability partnerships (LLPs) and limited liability corporations (LLCs) are not eligible business types for an FNP; it is also important to note that your corporation needs to be a professional corporation. The three types of businesses eligible for an FNP are: sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation. Each type of business will trigger different requirements for name style and information such as Federal Employer Identification number (FEIN), Social Security number (SSN), or corporate number.
- 2. Incomplete or incorrect applications.** Applicants should complete the entire application and submit accurate information. Incomplete or incorrect applications create deficiencies that cause delays in processing. Some of the more common mistakes are incorrect corporate numbers, Social Security numbers, or federal employee identification numbers.
- 3. Choosing the right name for your FNP.** It is important to follow the FNP name style requirements. The proposed name cannot be misleading, deceptive, confusing, or similar to a previously issued name. When considering a fictitious name, please reference the current California Code of Regulations provided below as a guide. The FNP name must satisfy all requirements to not be subject to rejection. The name style code is as follows:

16 CCR § 1676

- (a)** Any fictitious name shall contain the designation "medical group," "medical clinic," "medical corporation," "medical associates," "medical center," or "medical office." Such designation shall be contiguous in the name style and not separated by intervening words. This requirement also applies to those applicants who are sole practitioners.
- (b)** A group or clinic containing both a corporate and non-corporate entity or a partnership of corporations shall not use wording or abbreviations denoting corporate existence. When a professional corporation is an applicant, it shall use in its fictitious name style one of the word(s) or abbreviation(s) denoting corporate existence as required by these regulations.
- (c)** The Board shall not issue a fictitious name permit for a name style that is false or misleading or is so that similar to a name previously authorized in the same geographical area as to be deceptive, misleading, or subject an individual consumer to confusion with a previously permitted fictitious name.
- (d)** The use of word(s) or abbreviation(s) following a licensed person's name denoting affiliation with a professional medical society or association shall not create a fictitious name; however, the use of any word(s) or abbreviation(s) that denote a particular specialty in medical practice advertised or disseminated in public in connection with that practice shall require a fictitious name permit.

As such, the name must indicate the business type that provide medical services and whether it is a sole proprietorship or partnership or corporation.

One common mistake is simply ignoring the name style requirements that are listed on the application and the FAQs. A fictitious name must include reference to medical services, and if the type of business is a corporation, the name must include reference to "corporation, professional corporation (PC)." or simply "Inc." If in doubt, contact the Board for assistance on choosing names email OsteoAdminServices@dca.ca.gov.