

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY EXAMINERS
Board Meeting Teleconference Minutes
Friday, September 13, 2019 - 1:00 p.m.

The Georgia State Board of Podiatry Examiners met via teleconference on Friday, September 13, 2019. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Dr. Leonard La Russa, DPM, Chair
Dr. Joseph Giovinco, DPM, Vice Chair
Dr. Sarvepalli Johhai, DPM, Board Member

Administrative Staff Present

Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Amanda Califf, Licensing supervisor
Jessica Uzzo, Staff Attorney

Board Members Not Present

Ms. Judy Sanders, Consumer Board Member

Office of Attorney General

Betsy Cohen, Assistant Attorney General

Visitors Present

No visitors present.

Call to Order Dr. La Russa established that a quorum of the Board was present and the meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Board accepts the agenda as presented.

Open Session Minutes

1. June 28, 2019 Board Teleconference Minutes

Dr. La Russa motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the June 28, 2019 open session teleconference minutes as amended.

Licenses to Ratify June 21, 2019 – September 6, 2019

Dr. Giovinco motioned, Dr. La Russa seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to ratify the licenses by application and by reinstatement that were issued in accordance with Board Rules and Policies between Board meetings.

Jessica Uzzo joined the meeting at 1:07 p.m.

Discussion – Amendments to the Joint Secretary Rules on Late Renewal Periods, Jessica Uzzo, Staff Attorney

Ms. Uzzo presented the Board with information concerning proposed Joint Secretary of State Rule amendments regarding the late-lapsed renewal period. The current late-lapsed renewal period is 90 days and the proposed amendment will change this time limit to 30 days. If passed, the proposed change would go into effect for the next biennium and not apply towards the current renewal cycle.

The proposed rule amendment will encourage licensees to renew in a timely manner and avoid a more costly reinstatement fee. If passed, the amended rules will apply to all Boards who do not have statutory provisions to the contrary.

Dr. La Russa motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to support this change.

Jessica Uzzo left the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

Executive Director's Report – A. Price

Executive Director's report presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications, the number of licensees, complaints/compliance matters and the status of renewal applications, to include the number of licenses that were lapsed.

Dr. La Russa motioned, Dr. Jokhai seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director's Report as presented.

Board President's Report – L. La Russa, DPM

No report presented.

Dr. La Russa motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2 (k); 43-1-19 (h) and 50-14-2 (1) to receive and review information pertaining to applications, pending cases, investigative reports and enforcement matters and to receive the Assistant Attorney General's report. Voting in favor of the motion were those Board members present: Dr. La Russa, Dr. Giovinco and Dr. Jokhai.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Friday, September 13, 2019, Dr. La Russa declared the meeting to be "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

OPEN SESSION

Dr. Jokhai was disconnected from the call at 2:40 p.m. and was unable to reconnect. As a quorum of the Board was no longer present, the meeting continued as a Committee of the Board.

Executive Minutes

1. June 28, 2019 Executive Session Teleconference Minutes

The Committee recommended to approve the June 28, 2019 executive session teleconference minutes as amended.

Attorney General's Report – B. Cohen

The Committee recommended to accept the Attorney General's report as presented.

Cognizant Report – J. Giovinco, DPM

The Committee recommended to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session.

POD180009	Close the case.
POD180018	Close the case.
POD180020	Close the case.
POD190011	Close the case.
POD190012/POD190024	Rescind the previous motion. If attempts to renew the license, refer to the Attorney General's Office for a Private Consent Order to include five (5) hours continuing education in ethics. If no attempt is made to renew, close the cases.
POD190025	Close the case.
POD190026	Close the case.
POD190030	Close the case.
POD190031	Close the case.
POD190032	Close the case.
POD190033	Table discussion pending Cognizant review.
POD200001	Close the case.

Miscellaneous Executive Discussion

1. PDMP Registration Compliance Report Case Numbers

The Committee recommended to refer to Legal Services to issue an administrative reprimand with a fine of \$500 which must be paid within 90 days of the docket date of the order. If proof of PDMP registration is received, close

the case with a Letter of Concern regarding failure to register with PDMP by the deadline required by O.C.G.A. §16-13-57(c) and release information to the Georgia Department of Public Health.

2. POD170009 The Committee recommended to close the case.

Applications

The Committee recommended to accept the following recommendation made in Executive Session.

Applicant 2735326 Issue the license. The Board reserves the right to sanction the license based upon the outcome of case in another jurisdiction.

Adjournment With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed and edited by: Amanda Califf, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: September 18, 2019

LEONARD LA RUSSA
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR