

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY EXAMINERS
Board WebEx Meeting Minutes
Friday, July 11, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.

The Georgia State Board of Podiatry Examiners met via WebEx on Friday, July 11, 2025. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Dr. Gregory Kramer, DPM, Chairman
Dr. Joseph Giovinco, DPM, Vice Chair
Dr. Rupal Gupta, DPM, Board Member

Administrative Staff Present

Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Sherry Strong, Complaints/Compliance Analyst

Board Members Absent

No Members absent.

Office of Attorney General

Craig Pake, Assistant Attorney General

Administrative Staff Absent

Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor

Visitors Present

Amanda Allen, Executive Director, Healthcare 1
Terry Mathews, Georgia Podiatric Medical Association (GPMA)
Dr. Susan Blank, MD, LFAPA, DFASAM, Medical Director, Georgia PHP
Robin McCown, Executive Director, Georgia Physicians Health Program (Georgia PHP)
Rita Rocker, Government Relations Liaison, Georgia Podiatric Medical Association (GPMA)

Call to Order

Dr. Kramer established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the Board meeting to order at 1:14 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda

Dr. Giovinco motioned, Dr. Kramer seconded, seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to adopt the agenda as amended.

Welcome to New Board Member, Dr. Rupal Gupta, DPM

Dr. Gupta introduced herself and the Board welcomed her as their newest member.

1:15 p.m. Presentation – Georgia Professional Health Program (Georgia PHP) – Dr. Susan Blank, MD, DFAPA, DFASAM Medical Director, & Robin McCown, Executive Director

Dr. Blank provided an overview of the services offered by Georgia PHP and Ms. Price shared how the process currently works. Ms. Price continued that in light of the opioid problem in the nation, previous Board members wanted to consider offering the Georgia PHP as an option to those with mental, emotional, and/or physical issues so that they may seek treatment without the fear of being disciplined by the Board. The service will help to prevent unsafe practices. She proffered that there does need to be a legislative change for the Board to engage the services on behalf of the licensees.

Dr. Kramer motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer a request to the Georgia Podiatric Medical Association (GPMA) to consider proposing legislation that will allow the Board to offer Georgia PHP as an alternative to discipline pathway.

Open Session Minutes – May 30, 2025 Board WebEx Meeting Minutes

Dr. Giovinco motioned, Dr. Kramer seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the May 30, 2025 Open Session Board WebEx Meeting minutes as presented.

Licenses to Ratify: April 17, 2025 – July 1, 2025

Dr. Giovinco motioned, Dr. Kramer 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.

Discussion – Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME)

1. **May 2025 CPME Report**
2. **Specialty Board Documents Adopted**
3. **Summary of Substantive Changes to CPME 220 and 230**
4. **Specialty Board Standards and Requirements**
5. **Specialty Board Procedures**
6. **Specialty Board Eligibility Application Requirements**
7. **Specialty Board Initial Recognition Application**
8. **New Subspecialty Certification Application and Requirements**

The Board accepts the correspondence regarding CPME as information.

Discussion – Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards (FPMB) – Board Attends FSMB Annual Meeting

The Board accepts the correspondence regarding FPMB as information.

Executive Director’s Report – A. Price

The Executive Director’s Report presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications, the number of licensees, and complaints/compliance matters. Other relevant topics included:

- Vacant Board Seat
- PLB Updates

Dr. Kramer salutes the new GOALS renewal process. He stated that he experienced a small issue and he contacted the service line where he received a call back within 10 minutes. He feels the process was easy and seamless.

Dr. Kramer motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director’s Report as presented.

Board President’s Report

No report presented.

Dr. Kramer motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion 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. Kramer, Dr. Giovinco, and Dr. Gupta.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Friday, July 11, 2025, Dr. Kramer 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

Executive Session Minutes – May 30, 2025 Executive Session WebEx Meeting Minutes

Dr. Kramer motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the May 30, 2025 Executive Session Board WebEx Meeting Minutes as presented.

Attorney General’s Report – C. Pake

Dr. Kramer motioned, Dr. Gupta seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Attorney General’s report and advice as presented.

Cognizant Summary Report – J. Giovinco, DPM – POD250015

Dr. Kramer motioned, Dr. Gupta seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to close the case and place a hold on license regarding renewal.

Application for Board Review – POD210015

Dr. Kramer motioned, Dr. Gupta seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the request for Inactive Status. The Board reserves the right to request additional information upon receipt of a petition for reactivation or reinstatement of the license.

Adjournment With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed and edited by: Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: October 17, 2025

GREGORY KRAMER, DPM
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF GEORGIA

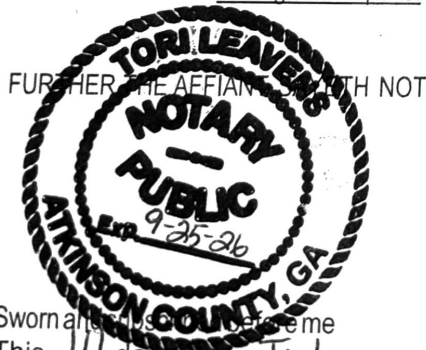
COUNTY OF BIBB

AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 *et seq.*, requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question.

Comes now Gregory J. Leavers DPM the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia Podiatry Lisc Board.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On, July 11th 2025 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was:
O.C.G.A. §43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h)
5. The subject(s) discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are:
To deliberate applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications and investigative reports.



[Signature]
Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 14 day of July 2025

[Signature]
Notary Public