

Agenda Item #9.



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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DATE: February 15, 2013

TO: Board Members

FROM:  Teresa Bello-Jones
Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Presentation of 2012 Annual Report

Attached is the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians' 2012 Annual Report.

Attachment A – 2012 Annual Report

BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



February 22, 2013

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I. HIGHLIGHTS

- A. Investigations Unit** – During 2012, the Board continued its development of the new Investigations Unit within the Enforcement Division. Since its inception on July 1, 2011, the Board has significantly reduced the number of cases referred to the Division of Investigation (DOI). Only rare cases, such as those with safety concerns that require investigators who are sworn peace officers, will be referred to DOI for assistance.

There are seven investigators currently assigned to work cases in the Unit. Each investigator has an average caseload of 130 cases. All investigators are now traveling to conduct field work. The more experienced investigators travel approximately 40-50% of the time while the investigators still in training travel approximately 10-20% of the time.

The new investigators have completed approximately 100 cases with recommendations to transmit to the Attorney General's (AG's) Office for the filing of an accusation and 55 cases with recommendations to issue a citation and fine. Although many of the cases transmitted to the AG's Office are waiting review by the AG, one case has gone through a formal hearing and is pending a proposed decision by the administrative law judge (ALJ). That case is the first accusation filed and heard by an ALJ as a result of the Board's own field investigation.

- B. Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative (CPEI)** – Due to the State Hiring Freeze, none of the health care boards' limited term (LT) positions could be filled to implement elements of CPEI. The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) submitted a budget change proposal (BCP) to request a two-year extension on all CPEI LT positions. The BCP was denied. Therefore, 3.5 Associate Governmental Program Analyst positions that the Board never filled expired on September 30, 2012.

- C. Budget Letter (BL) 12-03** – On March 12, 2012, BL 12-03 was issued directing departments to eliminate budgeted salary savings and allocate that amount to accurately reflect how state operation funds are being expended. On March 27, 2012, the Board was asked by the DCA to analyze its authorized positions and identify, for elimination, positions that have historically been held vacant. The Board's budgeted salary savings for the VN program is 3.0 positions and .8 position for the PT program.

On April 17, 2012, the Board was notified by the DCA Budget Office that the Department of Finance (DOF) approved a plan for the Board to achieve a reduction of 3.8 positions (3.0 VN and .8 PT) for fiscal year (FY) 2012/13.

The Board was required to eliminate the following positions:

VN Program: 2.0 Program Technicians
1.0 Office Technician

PT Program: 0.5 Office Technician
0.2 Special Investigator
(Note: The remaining 0.1 position reduction was achieved through the use of a “blanket” allocation)

D. Retention of Mission Critical Retired Annuitant (RA) Positions - On July 10, 2012, the DCA notified the Board that the State must eliminate, by September 1, 2012, all RA positions that are not mission critical. The Board was required to submit justifications to retain its eleven retired annuitant positions. The justifications were submitted to the State and Consumer Services Agency (SCSA) for approval. On August 10, 2012, the SCSA requested additional information to justify the mission critical RA employees.

On August 21, 2012, the Board received notification that the SCSA had approved retention of only four of the eleven RA positions (2.0 Nursing Education Consultants; 1.0 Management Services Technician; and 1.0 Office Technician).

On August 23, 2012, the EO and AEO met with the SCSA Secretary, Anna Caballero, and DCA Deputy Director Sandra Mayorga to appeal for the retention of the remaining seven RA positions until December 31, 2012, so that the Board could recruit to fill those positions with non-RA temporary help before the RA positions are eliminated.

On August 31, 2012, the SCSA approved an additional four RA positions for a total of eight (2.0 Nursing Education Consultants (Education Division); 1.0 Management Services Technician (Enforcement Division); 1.0 Office Technician (Enforcement Division); 4.0 Office Technician (Licensing Division). Four Office Technician RAs had to be separated from service by August 31, 2012.

All RA positions except the two Nursing Education Consultant RA positions in the Education Division expired on December 31, 2012.

E. BreEZe (Information Technology Project) – During 2012, Board staff worked extensively with the DCA to help develop the new information system called BreEZe. The Board is included in the “Release 2” group to convert to BreEZe. The current estimated time for Release 2 rollout is October 2013. However, the project has been delayed multiple times and a new rollout date for Release 1 has not been determined.

Some staff received basic training in 2012 on the system. Additional training will be made available to all staff as the Board’s rollout date approaches. Staff will continue to meet with DCA and the vendors to communicate our business requirements and processes. Extensive work and meetings related to data conversion and system testing will be required to complete this project.

F. Legislative Actions

1. AB 1588 Professions and Vocations: Reservist Licensees (Atkins, Chapter 742, Statutes of 2012) – This bill requires boards within the DCA to waive renewal fees, continuing education, and other renewal requirements as determined by the board, of any licensee or registrant who is a reservist called to active duty as a member of the Military Reserve or the California National Guard if certain requirements are met. It also requires a licensee or registrant to meet certain renewal requirements within a specified period after discharge and prior to engaging in activity requiring a license.
2. AB 1904 Professions and Vocations: Military Spouses (Block, Butler, and Cook, Chapter 399, Statutes of 2012) – This bill relates to the issuance of reciprocal licenses, regulated by the DCA, in certain fields. It also requires a board within the department to expedite the licensure process for an applicant who holds a license in the same profession or vocation in another jurisdiction and who is married to or in a legal union with an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station in the state under official active duty military orders.
3. AB 2570 Licensees: Settlement Agreements (Hill, Chapter 564, Statutes of 2012) – This bill prohibits a licensee who is regulated by the DCA or various boards, bureaus, or programs from including a provision in an agreement to settle a civil dispute that prohibits the other party in that dispute from contacting, filing a complaint with, or cooperating with the department, board, bureau or program. It also authorizes any entity within the department to adopt related regulations exempting such agreements for causes of action.

G. Regulatory Actions:

1. AB 2699 Temporary Licensure Exemption for Out-of-State Licensed Healthcare Practitioners Participating in Free Healthcare Events (Bass, Chapter 270, Statutes of 2010) – This new legislation temporarily exempts, until January 1, 2014, out-of-state licensed healthcare practitioners from California licensure requirements while participating in a free healthcare event in this state sponsored by an approved nonprofit organization. The law requires the sponsoring entity and all participating out-of-state healthcare practitioners to register in advance with the appropriate licensing boards, pay a temporary license fee, and comply with California law during the event. On February 7, 2012, the Board submitted the rulemaking file to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review and approval. On May 10, 2012, the Board approved proposed modified language for this rulemaking file and directed staff to submit the rulemaking file to the DCA and the OAL for final approval. On August 31, 2012, the OAL approved the proposed regulations, which became effective September 29, 2012.
2. Uniform Standards for Substance-Abusing Licensees & Disciplinary Guidelines – Business & Professions Code section 315 (Senate Bill 1441, Chapter 548, Statutes of 2008) established a Substance Abuse Coordination Committee (SACC) to develop uniform standards for substance-abusing healing arts

licensees. All healing arts boards are required to use those standards and to develop applicable regulations. The Board's Disciplinary Guidelines needed revision to implement the uniform standards. At the May 11, 2012 Board meeting, the Board approved the proposed regulations and directed staff to submit the rulemaking file to the DCA and the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for final approval. On June 6, 2012, the rulemaking file was submitted to the DCA. On July 19, 2012, the DCA recommended changes to the proposed regulatory language and granted a 90-day extension to October 17, 2012, for submission of the final rulemaking file to the OAL. On July 30, 2012, the Board noticed the modified text. On September 24, 2012, the rulemaking file was re-submitted to DCA for approval and the file was submitted to OAL for final approval on October 15, 2012. The OAL approved the regulations on November 29, 2012, with an effective date of December 29, 2012. The revised Disciplinary Guidelines were distributed to the Office of Administrative Law, the Attorney General's Office and posted on the Board's Website.

3. Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative (CPEI) Regulations – On September 16, 2010, the Board approved proposed regulatory language to implement elements of CPEI and directed staff to prepare a rulemaking file for notice and comment. On September 9, 2011, the proposed regulations were adopted by the Board contingent on no comments being received during a 15 day public comment period commencing September 6, 2011 and ending on September 21, 2011. No comments were received. The Rulemaking File was submitted to DCA for review on October 26, 2011; to the OAL on March 23, 2012 for approval; and approved by the OAL on May 7, 2012. The effective date of the regulations was June 3, 2012.
4. Mandatory Reporting Requirements – On May 11, 2012, the Board approved proposed regulatory language to implement elements of SB 539 related to Mandatory Reporting Requirements and directed staff to prepare a rulemaking file for notice and comment. The notice of proposed regulations was published on August 17, 2012 and a public hearing was held on October 2, 2012. During the public comment period, written comments were received in support of these regulations. No oral or written comments were received during the October 2, 2012 public hearing. On November 9, 2012, the Board approved the regulatory proposal and directed staff to submit the rulemaking file to DCA for review and the OAL for approval. The Board anticipates submitting the rulemaking file to DCA for approval by March 2012.
5. Permissive Site Visits – On May 11, 2012 Board Meeting, the Board approved proposed regulatory language to implement elements of SB 539 related to permissive site visits and directed staff to prepare a rulemaking file for notice and comment. The proposed regulations will implement permissive site visits authorizing the Board to conduct an inspection or review of an approved program prior to graduation of the initial class. The Board anticipates noticing the proposed regulations in early 2013 and submitting the rulemaking file to DCA and OAL for approval by the end of 2013.

6. Accredited versus Approved Terminology – The Board must amend all of its regulations and forms to reflect new terminology mandated by SB 539 (Price, Chapter 338, Statutes of 2011). This new legislation requires the Board to use the term “approve” rather than “accredit” relative to the VN and PT programs it regulates. These proposed changes can be completed by following the requirements under Section 100 of the California Code of Regulations. A Section 100 filing provides a simple procedure for “changes without regulatory effect.” The rulemaking file was prepared and submitted to DCA for approval. The Board anticipates submission of the proposed regulations to OAL in early 2013.

II. ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

- A. Citation and Fine Program – The Board issued a total of 156 citations in 2012. Of that total, 133 were issued to VNs, and 23 were issued to PTs. The dollar amount assessed in fines was \$71,834 and \$10,400 respectively; and the dollar amount collected in fines was \$79,967 and \$13,581 respectively (some fines collected during 2012 were payments for fines assessed in prior years). Licensees are informed they may not renew VN or PT licenses until all fines are paid in full. Citations were issued for a variety of violations including unprofessional conduct, unlicensed activity, failure to disclose a conviction on the application for licensure, and falsification of continuing education hours.
- B. Complaints – Table #1 shows the number of complaints by “calendar year” (not fiscal year*). In 2012, the Board received 5,337 complaints.

Table #1: Complaints Received	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Vocational Nurses:					
Applicant Complaints	1,417	1,483	1,954	1,979	2,809
Regular Complaints	1,311	2,146	2,266	2,375	1,871
VN Total:	2,728	3,629	4,220	4,354	4,680
Psychiatric Technicians:					
Applicant Complaints	160	204	189	206	258
Regular Complaints	265	542	561	425	399
PT Total:	425	746	750	631	657
Grand Total:	3,153*	4,375*	4,970*	4,985	5,337
*The amounts shown in this table reflect statistics for each “calendar year”. The amounts shown in Chart A reflect “fiscal year” statistics (not calendar year data). Therefore, these figures will not match exactly.					

C. Criminal Conviction Reporting

1. Fingerprint Program – The Board requires all applicants, prior to licensure, to submit fingerprints to obtain a criminal history report from the DOJ and the FBI. Interim permits, temporary licenses, and actual licenses are only issued upon receipt of a clearance report from the DOJ.

Applicants are also required to self-certify on a “Record of Conviction” (ROC) form if they have a conviction history. In 2012, 754 VN applicants and 79 PT

applicants with criminal convictions were referred to the Enforcement Division by the Board's Licensing Division for review. During that same time period, the Board received and reviewed criminal history reports (i.e., RAP Sheets from the DOJ and the FBI) indicating prior convictions for 708 VN and 87 PT applicants. The ROC data and RAP Sheet data do not match exactly because applicants could have multiple RAP sheets, the Board receives RAP Sheets from applicants who decide not to file an application, and for various other reasons.

2. Report of Criminal Convictions on License Renewals – In 2012, 395 licensees (333 LVNs; and 62 PTs) reported they had been convicted of a criminal offense during the two years immediately preceding their license renewal date. At present, 18 licensees were issued warning letters; 139 cases are pending criminal conviction documents and additional information from the licensees; 2 cases were transmitted to the Attorney General's (AG's) Office for formal discipline; and 0 cases resulted in a citation and fine being issued. 236 cases (200 LVN and 36 PT) were closed because the convictions were not substantially related to the license or other reasons.

3. Retroactive Fingerprinting –In 2012, the Board received 83 criminal history reports (68 LVNs; and 15 PTs) against licensees who were required to submit retroactive fingerprints. At present, 10 licensees were issued warning letters; 29 cases are pending criminal conviction documents and additional information from the licensees; and 1 case was transmitted to the AG's Office for formal discipline. 43 cases (38 LVN and 5 PT) were closed because the convictions were not substantially related to the license or other reasons.

D. Disciplinary Actions – The Board took the following disciplinary actions against LVNs and PTs in 2012:

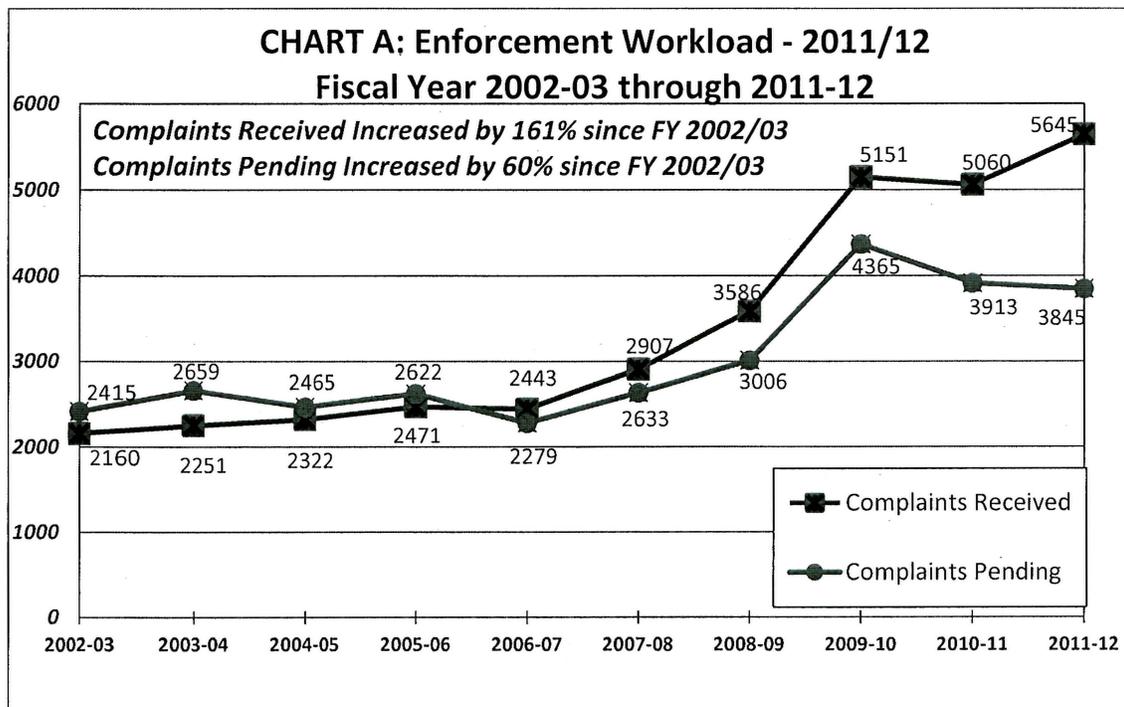
Table #2: Disciplinary Actions	LVNs		PTs		Totals	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Revocations	65	106	23	23	88	129
Suspensions	1	0	0	0	1	0
Probation	53	63	15	18	68	81
Voluntary Surrender	26	30	9	5	35	35
Reinstatement Granted	3	9	2	1	5	10
Reinstatement Denied	6	14	5	1	11	15
Early Termination & Modification of Probation Granted	4	1	2	0	6	1
Early Termination & Modification of Probation Denied	3	4	0	0	3	4
Licenses Denied (In-house)	52	92	4	9	56	101
Licenses Denied (Adjudicated)	10	14	0	1	10	15
Advisement Letters	746	504	190	98	936	602
Probation Compliance Meetings	63	70	15	23	78	93
Citations and Fines	398	133	89	23	487	156
# Ordered to Pay Cost Recovery	68	85	24	22	92	107
Total Actions:	1,480	1,125	377	224	1,857	1,349
Total Cost Recovery Ordered	\$310,213	\$381,746	\$89,121	\$103,715	\$399,334	\$485,461

E. Drug Testing Contract with Phamatech, Inc. – Since September 1, 2010, the Board has been using Phamatech for its drug testing requirements. This is a DCA department-wide drug testing contract

The contract was scheduled to expire on June 30, 2012, but it was extended through December 31, 2012, to allow DCA to complete the bidding process. Phamatech was awarded the contract. It is a two-year contract, effective January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015. Most provisions of the contract remain the same as the original contract with a slight increase to the licensee in the cost of testing from \$29.00 to \$33.00 per test, plus a collection site fee which ranges from \$20.00 to \$60.00.

F. Probation Monitoring Program – A total of 216 licensees (164 LVN and 52 PT) are on probation including 58 probationers (52 LVNs and 6 PT) whose probation terms are on tolled status. During 2012, 67 probation meetings (49 VN and 18 PT) were conducted. Over the year, 32 licensees (22 LVNs and 10 PTs) were found to be out of compliance with the terms and conditions of probation, and the cases were forwarded to the AG’s Office for initiation of revocation proceedings. During 2012, 24 probationers’ licenses (17 LVNs and 7 PTs) were revoked or their probation extended for violation of probation (some cases were transmitted to the AG’s Office in prior years).

G. Workload Increase & Resultant Backlogs – Chart A shows the increase in the enforcement workload for the past nine years (i.e., FY 2002/03 through 2011/12). The number of complaints received increased by 161% and the number of complaints pending increased by 60%. The Board continues to address existing backlogs to reduce case aging.



III. EDUCATION DIVISION

A. **Approved Programs** – Currently, 183 VN Programs and 16 PT Programs are pre-approved and approved by the Board. The table below delineates a decline in the number of VN Programs and a sustained growth in the number of PT Programs approved by the Board over the past 7½ years.

TABLE #3: Growth in the Number of VN & PT Programs							
Programs	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13 (eff. 12/31/12)	%Change from 2005/06
# of VN Programs	203	210	205	203	200	183	(8.5%)
# of PT Programs	16	17	16	16	16	16	7%
Totals:	219	227	221	219	216	199	5%

The table below details the progressive growth in the number of “new and additional” student admissions requested and approved by the Board for admission to its VN and PT Programs statewide.

Table #4: New & Additional Students Admissions Approved Per Year					
VN Programs	Actual FY 07/08	Actual FY 08/09	Actual FY 09/10	Actual FY 10/11	FY 12/13 (Eff. 12/31/12)
#Students Requested for “New” Programs	533	264	150	120	20
#Additional Students Requested for “Existing” Programs	3269	3,885	4,694	7,087	3,143
Total # of <u>New & Additional</u> Student Admissions	3,802	4,149	4,844	7,207	3,163
% Growth of <u>New & Additional</u> Student Admissions					81%

Table #5: PT Programs						
	Actual FY 07/08	Actual FY 08/09	Actual FY 09/10	Actual FY 10/11	Actual FY 11/12	FY 11/12 (Eff. 12/31/11)
#Students Requested for “New” Programs	30	30	30	0	0	15
#Additional Students Requested for “Existing” Programs	15	30	100	225	195	90
Total # of <u>New & Additional</u> Student Admissions	45	60	130	225	195	105
% Growth of <u>New & Additional</u> Student Admissions						333%

B. Program Actions

Table #6: Program Actions in 2012			
	VN Program	PT Program	Totals
A. Denial & Revocation of Approval	3	0	3
B. New Programs Approved to Commence Initial Class	0	2	2
C. Placement on Provisional Approval	16	0	16
D. Program Closures	8	0	8
E. School Survey Visits for Initial Approval	2	1	3
F. School Surveys for Continued Approval	44	3	47

C. Nursing Education Consultants (NECs) Recruitment & Retention Pay Request

Since 2007, the Board and the Board of Registered Nursing have submitted formal requests to the DCA requesting a pay differential for its current and future NECs. The Board was informed that the pay differential is a bargaining unit issue. Nevertheless, on October 5, 2012, Board President Todd D'Braunstein and Board member John Vertido met with DCA director Denise Brown and her executive staff to discuss this issue. Although DCA supports this request, attempts to pursue this issue are delayed due to the economic situation. The Board will continue to pursue this request.

IV. LICENSING DIVISION

A. Interim Online License Renewal – In 2012, the Board renewed the licenses of 7,378 vocational nurses and 1,165 psychiatric technicians using the Online License Renewal Application. The Board must pay 2% of the credit card payment transactions (\$3-\$4.50 for VN Renewals and \$6-\$9 for PT Renewals) and the licensee must pay a \$1 convenience fee. The credit card payment is strictly limited to license renewals that are paid online. It cannot be used for any other payments.

B. PT Program

1. Examination Administration – The Board contracted with Psychological Services, LLC (PSI) to administer its computerized PT licensure examination for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. PSI has 12 test sites throughout California.
2. Examination Development – The Board contracted with the DCA Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) for the period of January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. The following examination development activities occurred in 2012:
 - a. Clinical Facility Survey -- In October 2012, the Board conducted a survey of California clinical facilities. Facilities were canvassed relative to the following areas: Numbers of employees, including RNs, LVNs, PTs, CNAs, MAs, etc; Numbers of vacancies, including RNs, LVNs, PTs, CNAs, MAs, etc; Utilization of LVNs and PTs; Identification of knowledge, skills, and abilities

impacting utilization of LVNs and PTs. Data from the study assists the Board in the development of future examination programs. Additionally, this information assists the Board in addressing pertinent issues related to examination, licensure, and practice.

- b. Examination Administration Reports – The Board disseminated Rank of Schools Reports to each accredited and approved program electronically in May, September and December 2012. Additionally, a Program Summary by Content Area Report specific to each program was disseminated. These reports assist the Board and programs in the evaluation of enrolled students.
- c. Item Development Conference – On December 3, 2012, Board convened an Item Development Conference. The primary conference objective was the development of sufficient quality examination items consistent with the needs of the PT Licensure Examination Item Bank to facilitate publication of new examination items in January 2014. Conference participants included seven (7) Subject Matter Experts from education and practice arenas.
- d. Item Review Conference – On January 14, 2013, the Board convened an Item Review Conference. The primary conference objective was the review and revision of sufficient quality examination items consistent with the needs of the PT Licensure Examination Item Bank to facilitate publication of new examination items in January 2014. Conference participants included five (5) Subject Matter Experts from education and practice arenas.
- e. Planning Meeting -- On June 21, 2012, the Board convened the Annual PT Planning Meeting with the OPES. The purpose of the meeting was the review and analysis of the PT Licensure Examination program and the development of additional program requirements. Additionally, a schedule for finalization and dissemination of quarterly statistical reports to all programs was established.
- f. Program Survey -- In October 2012, the Board conducted a survey of all psychiatric technician programs. Programs were canvassed relative to the following areas: Numbers of program graduates; Projected applicant and student populations; Utilization of technological innovations in education and clinical practice; Trends in healthcare; Utilization of psychiatric technicians in healthcare; Strategies to increase employability of psychiatric technicians. Data from the study assists the Board in the development of future examination programs. Additionally, this information assists the Board in addressing pertinent issues related to examination, licensure, and practice.

3. Examination Statistics: Calendar Year 2012 (1/1/2012 – 12/31/2012) – The table below shows that a total of 784 applicants sat for the PT Licensure Examination in 2012. The pass percentage rate for first-time applicants was 81%.

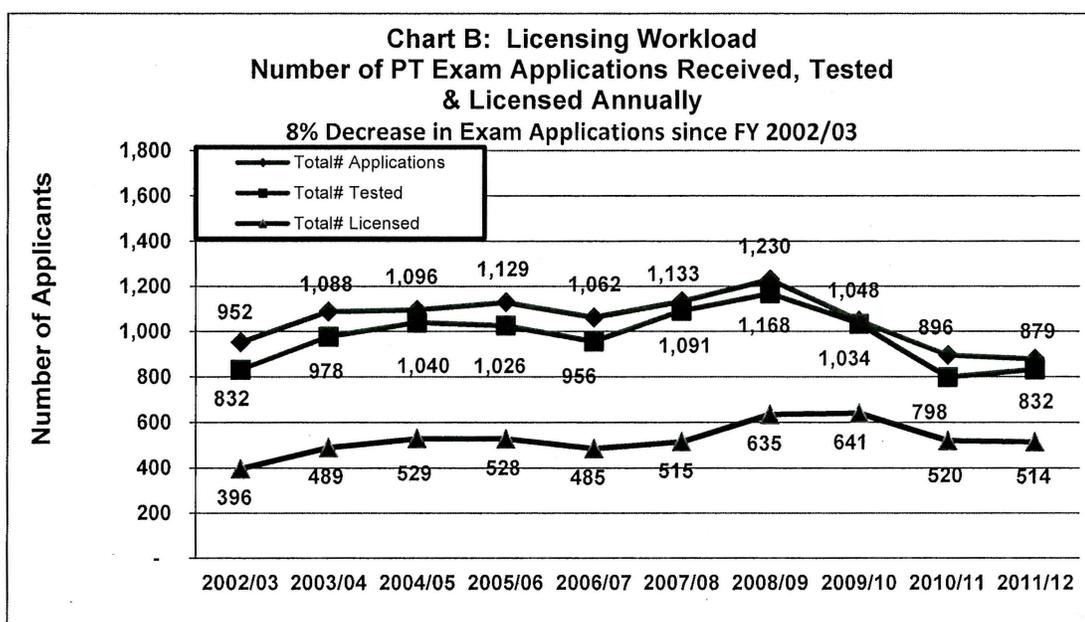
PT Applicants	PT Applicants Tested	#Pass	%Pass	#Fail	%Fail
First-Time Applicants	530	427	81%	103	19%
Repeat Applicants	254	81	32%	173	68%
Overall Totals:	784	508	65%	276	35%

*The amounts shown in this table reflect statistics for each "calendar year". The amounts shown in Chart B reflect "fiscal year" statistics (not calendar year data). Therefore, these figures will not match exactly.

4. PT Occupational Analysis – In September 2012, the Board and OPES commenced the PT Occupational Analysis. The occupational analysis is a comprehensive research study of the professional practice of PTs in California. The purpose of the analysis is identification of all tasks performed by PTs in current professional practice and the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. All practice and geographical settings are studied.

Based on research findings and current psychometric standards, the Board will adopt a new Psychiatric Technician Examination Outline. This document serves as the blueprint for development of the California Psychiatric Technician Licensure Examination. It is anticipated this project will be completed in May, 2014.

5. Workload – Chart B shows the progression of the PT Program's licensing workload for the past ten years (i.e., FY 2002/03 through FY 2011/12). The number of examination applications received annually decreased by 8%.

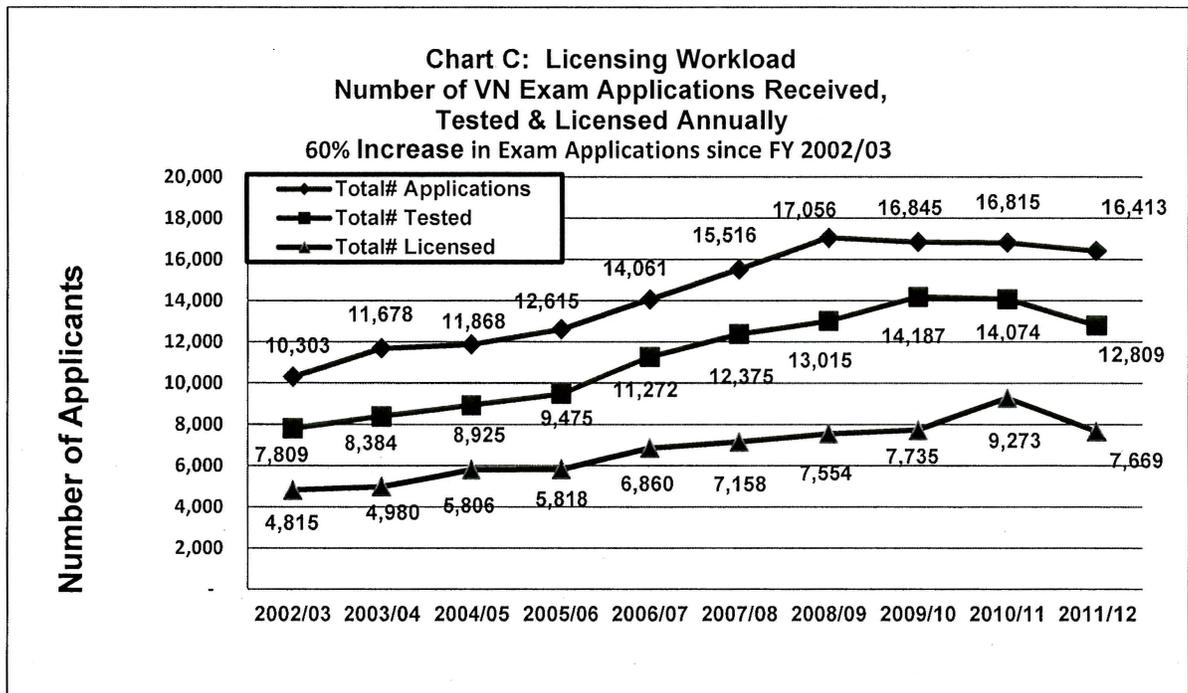


C. VN Program

1. Examination Administration -- The Board contracts with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) for the development and administration of the VN licensure examination, the NCLEX-PN®. As the number of NCLEX® candidates' increases, Pearson VUE, NCSBN's testing vendor, continues to assess capacity needs at the Pearson Professional Centers where the NCLEX® examinations are given. Pearson VUE currently has more than 4,400 Pearson VUE Authorized Test Centers and over 230 company-owned and operated Pearson Professional Centers worldwide.
2. Examination Statistics: Calendar Year 2012 (1/1/2012 – 12/31/2012) – The table below shows a total of 12,851 candidates sat for the VN Licensure Examination in 2012. The pass percentage rate for first-time applicants was 71% for the VN Program. The NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Statistics for 2012 are as follows:

Table #8: VN Applicants	VN Applicants Tested	#Pass	%Pass	#Fail	%Fail
First-Time Applicants	8,389	5,915	71%	2,464	29%
Repeat Applicants	4,462	1,047	23%	3,407	77%
Overall Totals:	12,851	6,962	54%	5,871	46%
*The amounts shown in this table reflect statistics for each "calendar year". The amounts shown in Chart C reflect "fiscal year" statistics (not calendar year data). Therefore, these figures will not match exactly.					

3. NCSBN NURSYS Agreement – On December 23, 2012, the Board became a NURSYS licensure participating Member Board. The Board entered into a NURSYS Participation Agreement, on October 21, 2011, to begin submission of nurse licensure data to NURSYS in addition to the disciplinary data the Board already submits. Member Boards will have access to reports including: NURSYS discipline reports; licensure statistics; participation in national aggregate licensure statistics; Federal Social Security Master Death Index; Sex Offenders Registry; data integrity; and other ad hoc reports. This agreement allows Member Boards to participate in the Emergency Response Organization license look-up service which relieves boards from the burden of providing their nurse database to local emergency response organizations during a declared all hazards event. The Board worked with the DCA Office of Information Systems to prepare the data for testing before it was transferred to NURSYS.
4. Workload – Chart C shows the progressive increase in the VN Program's licensing workload for the past ten years (i.e., FY 2002/03 through FY 2011/12). The number of examination applications received annually increased by 64%.



V. CONSUMER OUTREACH

- A. Customer Service Surveys** – In 2012, the Board distributed and/or mailed out approximately 4,100 Customer Service Surveys (i.e., distributed at Board Meeting and the Board’s Public Counter; and e-mailed to the Board’s Accredited Schools and to Examination Result recipients). Approximately 727 survey responses were received. A summary of the survey results revealed that 96% of the respondents were either *very* satisfied or satisfied with the Board’s performance; 3% were marginally satisfied with the Board’s performance; and less than 1% were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the Board’s performance.
- B. Director Forums** – On September 5, 2012, the Board presented a Director Forum in Los Angeles. The forum provided directors and faculty of VN and PT programs information about legislation, use of predictor tests, purpose and utilization of clinical simulation in nursing education, and strategies for improving program pass rates.
- C. Stakeholder Surveys** – In October 2012, the Board conducted a survey of all pre-approved and approved programs. Surveys were disseminated to 199 active programs (183 VN programs and 16 PT programs). The goal of the survey was identification of issues and trends effecting the education of LVNs and PTs.

Programs were canvassed relative to the following areas: numbers of program graduates; projected applicant and student populations; utilization of technological innovations in education and clinical practice; trends in healthcare; utilization of psychiatric technicians in healthcare; strategies to increase employability of psychiatric technicians.

Data from the surveys assists the Board in the development of future examinations. Additionally, this information assists the Board in addressing pertinent issues related to examination, licensure, and practice.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE & LIAISON ACTIVITIES

A. Board Meetings – Four (4) Board Meetings were held in 2012.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. February 22-24, 2012 | Los Angeles, CA |
| 2. May 10-11, 2012 | Milpitas, CA |
| 3. September 5-6, 2012 | Los Angeles, CA |
| 4. November 8-9, 2012 | Sacramento, CA |

B. Board Members – The following Board Member actions occurred:

1. Appointments & Reappointments – No new appointments occurred in 2012. The following Board members were re-appointed: Todd D’Braunstein, Jessica Leavitt, Eric Mah, John Vertido. Their terms will expire on June 1, 2016.
2. Appointment Expirations – Kevin Baucom’s one-year grace period expired on 6/1/2012. He was not re-appointed to the Board. Mark Stanfield’s appointment expired 6/1/12; he is now serving his one-year grace period.
3. Election of 2012 Officers – On February 24, 2012, Todd D’Braunstein, PT, was elected as President of the Board and Kevin Baucom, PT, was elected Vice President of the Board. On September 6, 2012, Mark Stanfield, LVN, was elected Vice President of the Board to replace Mr. Baucom.

C. Liaison Activities & National Committees

1. Assembly Member Dan Logue – On January 20, 2012, Cheryl Anderson, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant, and Lynne Shively, Manager, Licensing Division attended a meeting with representatives of Assembly Member Dan Logue, 3rd District. The purpose of the meeting was discussion of the evaluation of military courses as a condition of licensure for VNs and PTs.
2. Division of Investigation (DOI) – On March 29, 2012, Teresa Bello-Jones, Executive Officer (EO), Angelina Martin, Assistant Executive Officer (AEO), and Karen Newquist, Enforcement Division Chief, met with Daryl Walker, Chief of DOI, and David Chriss, Deputy Chief of DOI. Discussion topics included the Board’s new Investigations Unit; the Board’s concerns with investigation cases assigned to DOI; investigation training; and DOI’s rates.
3. Psychiatric Technician Professional Organization – On April 10, 2012, Vice President Kevin Baucom spoke to the Psychiatric Technician Professional Organization at Atascadero State Hospital on the subject of “Protecting Your License.”
4. LVN League of California - On April 19, 2012, Board Member John Vertido gave the keynote speech at the Licensed Vocational Nurses League of California’s 59th Annual Convention. The topic of the presentation was “There Is A Need For Our Service.”

5. California VN Educators - On April 28, 2012, Board Member John Vertido addressed the California Vocational Nurse Educators' Spring Conference. His topic was "Improving Vocational Nursing Education and Enhancing Integrity in Vocational Nursing Education."
6. Meeting with State and Consumer Services Secretary - On May 16, 2012, the EO met with State and Consumer Services Secretary Anna Caballero.
7. Curam College of Nursing - On May 25, 2012, Board Member John Vertido spoke at the Curam College of Nursing on the topic of "Challenges for New Graduates."
8. Commencement Ceremony for Stanbridge College VN Program - On July 16, 2012, Board President Todd D'Braunstein spoke at the Commencement Ceremony for Stanbridge College Vocational Nursing Program on the subject "Role of the LVN in Healthcare."
9. BreEZe Kickoff Meeting - On July 18, 2012, the EO, Enforcement Analyst Amy Wyckoff, Licensing Analyst Mark Ito, and Systems Analyst Shawn Nibbelink attended a BreEZe kickoff meeting at the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA).
10. Commencement Ceremony for Advanced College VN Program - On August 4, 2012, Board President Todd D'Braunstein spoke at the Commencement Ceremony for Advanced College's Vocational Nursing Program on the topic of "Careers in the Healthcare Environment."
11. Executive Officers' Quarterly Board Meeting - On August 30, 2012, the EO attended an Executive Officers' Quarterly Board Meeting in the Governor's Council Room.
12. Administrative Liaison Quarterly Meeting - On September 12, 2012, the EO and the AEO attended the Administrative Liaison Quarterly Meeting with Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Director Denise Brown.
13. Meeting with DCA Director - On October 5, 2012, Board President Todd D'Braunstein and Board Member John Vertido met with DCA Director Denise Brown.
14. Meeting of Executive Officers - On October 9, 2012, the EO and the AEO attended an Executive Officers' Meeting with other Board and Bureau EOs at DCA.
15. Recruitment of Nursing Education Consultants - On October 15, 2012, the EO and the AEO met with DCA Director Denise Brown, Deputy Director Sandra Mayorga, Personnel Officer Jeff Sears, and BRN EO Louise Bailey to discuss recruitment of Nursing Education Consultants.
16. Meet and Greet - On October 17, 2012, the EO, the AEO, Enforcement Division Chief Karen Newquist, Enforcement Manager Alice Delvey-Williams,

Enforcement Manager Marilyn Kimble, Licensing Analyst Mark Ito, and Administrative Analyst Linda Ruyters met with Deputy Director Tracy Rhine, Assistant Deputy Director Tomasa Duenas, and Legislative Analyst Scott Allen from DCA's Legislation and Policy Review division.

D. Personnel Update

Table #9: BVNPT Personnel Update		
New Hires	In-House Transfers	Departures
Margie Benedetto	Dannetta Garcia	Carole Campbell
Marita Espiritu	Hon Wong	Marita Espiritu
Karen Newquist		Diane Oran
Susan Bullock		Summer Look
Dani Garrett		Nicole Ricks
Summer Look		Napoleon Cristobal
Derrell Stevenson		Samantha Carter
Cynthia Weyuker		Cynthia Weyuker
Morgan Gallardo		Melinda Collins
Dannetta Garcia		Sigrid Lintag
		Retirement
		Georganna Smith
		Lynne Shively
		Karen Newquist

VII. GENERAL STATISTICS

Table #10: Fast Facts	VN Program	PT Program	Totals
Budget Authority (FY 2012/13)	\$10,655,000	\$2,190,000	\$12,845,000
Staff Authority (FY 2012/13)	58.0	11.5	69.5
Total# of Licensees (eff. 12/31/2012)*	125,405	13,534	138,939

*This figure includes active, inactive and delinquent licenses.

Table #11: Workload Activity	2011	2012	%Change
Telephone Calls Received	356,618	347,546	-3%
Mail Received	83,960	70,399	-19%
Internet Inquiries	17,316	14,546	-19%
Website Hits	2,177,488	673,641	+11%

Table #12: Licensing Workload	VN Program		PT Program	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
Public Counter Inquiries	2,618	2,418	514	509
Applications Evaluated and Processed	19,195	18,494	873	861
Applicants Approved to Test	9,160	6,054	427	227
Applicants Tested	13,550	12,833	791	784
Out-of-State License Applications Processed	586	562	0	0
Interim Permits Issued	0	0	0	0
Temporary Licenses Issued	694	552	42	31
Initial Licenses Issued	8,301	7,728	491	501
Licenses Renewed (in-house)	8,178	5,537	1,225	779
Intravenous Therapy and Blood Withdrawal Certificates Issued*	5,139	5,531	39	21
Continuing Education Course Providers Approved	25	30	4	7
Endorsements Processed	1,299	1,442	13	11
Continuing Education Audits Completed	1,058	1,222	200	249
Fingerprints Processed **	38,116	32,223	3,605	1,761
Important Note: The data shown in this table reflect statistics for each "Calendar Year". The amounts shown in Charts B & C reflect "Fiscal Year" statistics (not calendar year data). Therefore, these figures will not match exactly.				
* PTs are only allowed post-licensure certification in Blood Withdrawal.				

(2/18/13)