

**WEST VIRGINIA MEDICAL IMAGING & RADIATION  
THERAPY TECHNOLOGY BOARD OF EXAMINERS**

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## **NEWSLETTER 2010**

This newsletter is published annually so that the licensees may be better informed of the operations of the Board. We encourage you to submit your comments and recommendations to the address above.

### **UPCOMING LEGISLATION**

In 2007, the Board attempted to be the first state in the United States to license Sonography, but the legislature refused to authorize the legislation. Since that time, two states, New Mexico & Oregon, have passed legislation to license Sonography. During 2010, a legislative committee began working to write legislation to be submitted to the 2011 legislative session to license this discipline. The committee sought and received comments and suggestions from the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS), the WV Hospital Association, American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT), the WV Registered Nurses Board and several individuals associated with Sonography. After several meetings and discussions, legislation was pulled together and will be submitted to the legislature in January, 2011. A complete version of the proposed legislation can be found on the Board's web page, [www.wvrtboard.org](http://www.wvrtboard.org) under the heading PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

### **APPRENTICE LICENSES**

In 2007 when the law was passed authorizing the Board to regulate the operators of nuclear medicine and MRI, individuals not credentialed in those disciplines were issued Apprentice licenses to enable them to continue working in those fields. Also, persons wanting to cross-train in nuclear medicine or MRI would be issued an Apprentice license so they could work in the discipline until they obtained their credentials. All Apprentice licenses have an expiration of five (5) years from date of issue, which must be renewed annually.

If you were issued an Apprentice license in 2007 and have not obtained credentials in nuclear medicine or MRI, 50% of your grace period remains. In other words, ½ of the period to obtain credentials is over. All individuals issued an Apprentice license in July, 2007 will be required to obtain credentials in their chosen discipline prior to July 1, 2012. If you are not credentialed prior to 2012, you will not be permitted to work in nuclear medicine or MRI as a technologist.

The Board is pleased to announce that two individuals, Debra Stoner and David Dial, have taken and passed the state examination in nuclear medicine. Therefore, these two individuals are recognized in WV as being properly trained and authorized to perform nuclear medicine procedures in the state.

## **CT FOR NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST**

The Board's laws require that a nuclear medicine technologist performing CT for fusion be credentialed in CT or take and pass an examination administered by the Board for CT fusion. The Board, under an arrangement with Medical Imaging Consultants, have procured an examination for individuals to take which, if passed, would allow the individual to perform the CT fusion examinations in WV. Passing this test **does not** permit the individuals to perform diagnostic CT examinations.

## **RENEWAL CHANGES**

Due to some questions concerning a faxed signature on an application and the time to process the application, the Board will no longer be accepting a faxed application in the office for renewal. In the past, you could fax your application to the office and then call with your credit card information. This practice has been stopped. You will either need to mail your application and check to the office or go on-line and renew.

The office is working with the WV Treasurer's office to implement a process where you can renew your license with an electronic check instead of a credit card. When you renew on-line, you will have the option of using a credit card or electronic check. Also, when implemented, the office will start entering checks into this system so that they are deposited immediately into the Board's account with the Treasurer. Once implemented, when you send the office a check, you will not receive a copy of your cancelled check from your bank. The check will be electronically deposited and shredded. A copy of the check will be kept on file in the office but will be stamped with "ELECTRONICALLY DEPOSITED" across the front so that it cannot be re-issued or cashed. It is anticipated that the Electronic Checking will be implemented around the first of March, 2011.

## **IMPORTANT CE INFORMATION FOR LICENSE RENEWAL**

All licensed technologists are required to submit evidence of twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education earned in the previous two (2) years before licenses are renewed. To determine what is required, please read the statements below.

If you are **ACTIVE ARRT or NMTCB**, and you mail your application to the office, make a copy of your **active ARRT or NMTCB card** showing continuing education requirements have been met. Submit the copy of the card with your application for renewal and fee. If you have lost your ARRT card, you can go to the ARRT web page ([www.arrt.org](http://www.arrt.org)) and print out and submit your credential information. This is the only documentation you will need to submit for continuing education. If this documentation is not submitted, our application and check will be returned to you as **INCOMPLETE**. If this causes your license to expire, this will cause you to be charged an additional fee of \$ 25.00 and your employer will be notified that you do not have a valid license and cannot legally work as a medical imaging or radiation therapy technologist in West Virginia.

If you are **ACTIVE ARRT OR NMTCB AND RENEW ON-LINE**, your CE biennium will be checked by the Board's staff on the ARRT or NMTCB web page. If you are not listed on these web pages, you will need to submit documentation of twelve (12) hours of continuing education immediately to the office. Your license will not be issued until CE documentation is verified. The CE's must have been earned since your previous renewal or twenty-four

(24) hours earned in the previous two (2) years before your annual license can be mailed to you. There are no exceptions to this - **DOCUMENTATION OF CE COMPLIANCE IS REQUIRED**. This CE documentation cannot be hand written information but must be provider certificates or some other official document.

If you are a **NON-ACTIVE ARRT OR A GRANDFATHERED LICENSEE**, you must submit documentation that you have obtained twelve (12) hours of continuing education earned since your previous license renewal or twenty-four (24) hours earned in the previous two (2) years. **DOCUMENTATION OF CE COMPLIANCE IS REQUIRED**. This CE documentation cannot be hand written information but must be provider certificates or some other official document.

If the appropriate CE documentation is not submitted or verified, the application and fee will be returned to you, or, in the case of on-line renewals, will be credited back to your credit card. A renewal license will not be issued until the requirements are met.

### **BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2010**

YOU CAN OBTAIN THE MINUTES FROM THE BOARD MEETINGS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER FROM OUR WEB PAGE'S "**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**" SECTION

### **SCHOOL INSPECTIONS HELD 2010**

The following schools of Radiologic Technology were evaluated during 2010 in conjunction with the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology:

University of Charleston - granted eight (8) years accreditation

Southern WV Community & Technical College - granted eight (8) years accreditation

Ohio Valley Medical Center - granted eight (8) years accreditation

### **ETHICS COMMITTEE**

The ethics committee is a committee appointed from within the board to review all complaints in regard to professional issues that have been reported to the board of examiners. The purpose of this committee is to review all issues and make recommendations to the full board of examiners about what course of action should be taken concerning the complaint or, if the complaint does not warrant any actions, recommend it be dismissed. **ALL** final decisions are made by the full board upon this recommendation, and they can be either agreed with the recommendation of the committee or other recommendations may be decided upon after discussion. After this is completed by the board, the executive director and board's attorney follow the procedure to present the consequences to the technologist per the rules of the board.

It is required that each technologist in the State of West Virginia follow the ethics of the profession and to ultimately provide the very best patient care to all patients that we serve. Also, all students are urged to learn about ethics and to model them for fellow students and technologists in the clinical education settings in which they are assigned. Ethics is a professional responsibility of all technologists and should be followed. Ethics defined states that it is a "*system of moral principles: the ethics of a culture*"; "*the rules of conduct recognized in respect to a particular class of human actions or a particular group, culture,*

*etc.: medical ethics...*” As professionals, we all are encouraged to follow the ASRT Code of Ethics for the Imaging Sciences. Imaging managers, program directors and faculty stress the importance of following these codes to promote professionalism and to ensure optimum patient care.

### **COMPLAINT INFORMATION**

The Board’s Executive Director actively investigates any and all complaints reported to the office. These complaints can range from a simple misunderstanding of the law to a blatant violation of the law. As licensed technologists, everyone has an obligation to police your chosen profession. If you are aware of a violation of the WV Code or any of the rules, it is your legal, moral and ethical responsibility to report these violations to the proper authorities. Reporting the infractions does not stop with a simple letter, but a willingness to stand up for your profession and be willing to testify, if needed. All efforts will be taken to try and maintain your confidentiality, however, you may be required to testify at a Board hearing or even appear in court. Regardless, you must be willing to fight for your jobs and professionalism.

### **SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS/INVESTIGATIONS FY 2010**

YOU CAN OBTAIN THE COMPLAINT SUMMARY IN THE MINUTES FROM THE BOARD MEETINGS OR FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THIS NEWSLETTER FROM OUR WEB PAGE’S IN THE “**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**” SECTION

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Alice Belmont, Chairperson	Radiologic Technologist
Melissa Haye, Secretary	Radiologic Technologist
Nancy Godby	Radiologic Technologist
Vacant	Nuclear Medicine
Nancy Oughton	MRI
I. Elaine Moore, M.D.	Licensed Physician
Robert Smith, M.D.	Radiologist
Fred Gabriele, M.D.	Radiologist
Jamie Browning	Department of Health Representative
Jeanne Morris	Lay Member
Grace L. Peters	Lay Member

### **STAFF**

Grady M. Bowyer, R.T. (R)	Executive Director
Randy Fink	Administrative Secretary

### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Beginning Balance as of July 1, 2009	\$ 97,634.18
Income Received FY 2009	\$ 202,191.50
Total Revenue for FY 2009	\$ 299,825.68
Disbursements for FY 2009	\$ 183,697.58
Balance in account as of June 30, 2010	\$ 116,128.10

## **LICENSES ISSUED FY 2010**

Permanent Licenses:	230 issued
Renewal Licenses:	2,604 issued
Podiatry Permits:	8 issued
Probationary Licenses:	1 issued
Reinstatement:	169 issued
Temporary Licenses:	44 issued
Duplicate Licenses:	15 issued
Name change Fees:	4 issued

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Be sure to go to our web page for on-line renewal of your license, important information, license searches, pending legislation, FAQ's, etc. The address is:

[HTTP://WWW.WVRTBOARD.ORG](http://www.wvrtboard.org)