

## Colorado Direct Entry Midwifery Registration

# **Registration News 2006**

*State of Colorado*

*Bill Owens, Governor*

*Department of Regulatory Agencies*

*Tambor Williams, Executive Director*

*Division of Registrations*

*Rosemary McCool, Division Director*

*Kevin D. Heupel, Section Director*

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### **HOUSE BILL 06-1048**

This year, the House introduced a bill that will make practicing without an active midwife registration a Class 2 misdemeanor for a first offense. A second or any subsequent offense for practicing without an active registration will be a Class 6 felony. Governor Owens signed the bill on March 27, 2006.

### **RULEMAKING HEARING**

On Friday, December 15, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., a rulemaking hearing will be held at the Department of Regulatory Agencies, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1380, Denver, Colorado 80202. The purpose of this rulemaking is to repeal unnecessary rules and enact new rules to provide greater public protection. One significant change will be the addition of a new rule requiring informed consent before providing care to VBAC mothers. The proposed rule changes and the procedure for providing oral and/or written testimony at the rulemaking hearing can be viewed on the website at [www.dora.state.co.us/midwives](http://www.dora.state.co.us/midwives) under "Rulemaking Notices."

### **2006 MIDWIFE STATISTICS**

Prior to renewing online, you will need to gather information in order to complete the 2006 Midwife Statistics Survey. You will notice the addition of three VBAC items. We are gathering statistics on the number of VBAC women who received midwifery care, delivered at home, and were transported during labor and/or delivery.

### **RECORDKEEPING IS IMPORTANT**

It is important to document everything that happens in the patient's record. If the information is not in the record, you cannot verify that the event occurred, information was provided, or that you followed up. Patient records should be comprehensive, accurate, and current. The midwife should record any factor – whether physical, psychological, or social – that affects the patient. Any problem that arises should be documented along with the actions taken in response. It is important to record not only the chronology of events but also the reasons behind decisions.

### **NEW STANDARD CERTIFICATES OF BIRTH**

The Office of State Registrar of Vital Statistics had planned to start using the revised certificate of birth on January 1, 2006. This new form was highlighted in our newsletter last year. Due to circumstances beyond their control, the start date was postponed to January 1, 2007. The Office of State Registrar of Vital Statistics is asking providers, including direct-entry midwives, to use the revised certificate of birth for all births on or after January 1, 2007. If you need the certificate of birth form or would like to submit certificates of birth electronically, please contact Michelle Cowell, Office of State Registrar of Vital Statistics, at (303) 692-2183 or via e-mail: [michelle.cowell@state.co.us](mailto:michelle.cowell@state.co.us).

## **NEWLY REGISTERED MIDWIVES**

We have five new registered midwives since the 2005 newsletter was mailed: Andrea Bachman, Kristin Bagiu, Jasmine Bissell, Laura Kawulok, and Shelley Rivera. Congratulations and welcome to the practice!

## **LAST YEAR'S STATISTICS**

The results of the 2005 statistical survey are as follows:

1. The number of women to whom midwifery care was provided: 736
2. The number of women receiving only midwifery care: 534
3. The number of deliveries performed: 516
4. The number of Apgar scores of delivered infants in the following groupings:

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| One Minute 0 – 3: 9    | Five Minutes 0 – 3: 0    |
| One Minute 3 – 6: 35   | Five Minutes 3 – 6: 6    |
| One Minute 7 – 10: 447 | Five Minutes 7 – 10: 517 |
5. The number of prenatal transfers: 56
6. The number of transfers during labor and/or delivery: 66
7. The number of transferred mothers immediately following birth within first 24 hours: 10
8. The number of transferred infants immediately following birth within first 24 hours: 12
9. The number of perinatal deaths: 1
10. The number of maternal deaths: 0

This is an increase in total numbers, as the 2004 stats were 732 women receiving midwifery care, 495 receiving only midwifery care, and 509 midwife deliveries.

## **COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE**

Between October 2005 and September 2006, 18 new complaints were filed against lay midwives in Colorado. The allegations include substandard care, failure to refer, failure to make essential entries in the patient's record, improperly completed birth certificate, infant death, improper emergency plan, failure to transport, and practicing without a registration. In the same time period, 12 complaints were dismissed, and two are still open. The following registrations were disciplined since last year's newsletter was printed:

| <b>Registrant's Name</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Conduct</b>                                      | <b>Disciplinary Sanction</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------|---|------------------------------|
| Dana Beardshear          | 08/02/06    | Failure to make essential entries in patient record | Letter of Admonition         |
| Amy Colo                 | 07/19/06    | Failure to refer                                    | Probation                    |
| Dorothy Kirkpatrick      | 08/03/06    | Failure to refer                                    | Letter of Admonition         |
| Wonshe                   | 09/25/06    | Unlicensed practice                                 | Injunction                   |

To view disciplinary documents dating from January 1, 1999 to the present, please visit Registrations Online Documents (ROD) at [www.dora.state.co.us/doraimages](http://www.dora.state.co.us/doraimages).