

Colorado Acupuncturists

Registration News 2001

State of Colorado
Department of Regulatory Agencies
Bill Owens, Governor
M. Michael Cooke, Executive Director
Rosemary McCool, Division Director

Because two years go by between registration renewals for acupuncturists, we have quite a bit of catching up to do. You may know that Bruce Douglas is no longer Director of Registrations; he retired August 31 and was succeeded by Rosemary McCool, who was formerly Program Administrator of the Complaints and Investigations Section.

Linda Fleming, Program Administrator for Acupuncture Registration, also transferred to a new position within the Department on October 15. She is now the Business Process Specialist in the Office of the Executive Director. In this role she will continue to work with the Business Process Re-engineering Project for the Department of Regulatory Agencies. The new Program Administrator will be Kevin Heupel, currently an attorney with the Colorado Attorney General's Office. He will begin his duties as Program Administrator in November.

In the interim, Robert Longway, the Program Administrator for the Accountancy and Architects boards, is serving as Acting Program Administrator for acupuncture.

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New Licensees – Between January 1, 2000, and October 22, 2001, 151 individuals have received their first registration to practice acupuncture in Colorado. This brings the number of individuals with a current registration to 504.

Complaints and Discipline – A rather surprising increase in the number of complaints filed has taken place since the last newsletter publication: there were 19 complaints filed between November 1, 1999 and the date this newsletter was written, October 22, 2001. This compares with only one new complaint reported in the previous newsletter.

Twenty-two charges were filed under those 19 complaints. (A complaint may be filed with several charges against the same person.) Eight of those charges were for unlicensed practice, seven for substandard care, two each for practice beyond the scope, false information and sexual misconduct. There was one charge of failure to refer. In the same time period, there have been 14 complaints dismissed and one Letter of Admonition issued.

Website - Our website has recorded over 2,000 hits since we added a "counter" to the page. Also, it is now possible to go into the Division of Registrations website and look up disciplinary

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information on all licensees and registrants. This is the "RODD" section, or Registrations Online Disciplinary Documents. That address is <http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations>. Scroll toward the bottom of the home page and look for the arrows that point to RODD and to View Registrations Online Disciplinary Documents. Please also visit the Acupuncture website at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/acupuncturists>. You will find access to RODD here as well.

There is also a link to our e-mail so that you may report address changes or ask questions. You may check your registration record about two weeks after you mail in your renewal to see if it has updated. Your new registration card should go in the mail the same day that your renewal shows on line.

Eligibility for NCCAOM Testing – About a year ago we received information that as of January 1, 2001, the Professional Acupuncture Practice Route and Combination of Training and Experience Route are no longer acceptable credentials for sitting for the NCCAOM exam. Now, acupuncture students are only permitted to train through formal school education or apprenticeship.