



July 2012


**Government of the District of Columbia**  
 Vincent C. Gray, Mayor



# SPECIAL EDITION: 2012 RENEWAL ISSUE

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## FY 2012 MEETING DATES

November 13, 2012  
 January 8, 2013  
 March 12, 2013  
 May 14, 2013  
 July 9, 2013  
 September 10, 2013

The Board of Chiropractic meets on the second Tuesday every other month.

Open Session is 2:30 pm.

## DC BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC LICENSURE RENEWAL

RENEWAL BEGINS OCTOBER 1, 2012

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW TO RENEW IN 2012

- 1) All licensees will be required to undergo a state and federal Criminal Background Check (CBC). *If you were licensed after January 2011, and already underwent a CBC for DC licensure, you are exempt from this requirement.*
- 2) To access your renewal application beginning on October 1, go online at [www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc](http://www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc). **No CBCs will be done/accepted unless a renewal application has been completed and filed with our office.**
- 3) Answer **ALL** questions completely and truthfully to avoid delays in processing your application. If you are aware of an incident in your past that may result in a positive criminal background check, you must provide the supporting documentation (including court documents) that explains the outcome of the case.
- 4) If you are currently not in compliance with the Board, your ability to renew may be denied until you satisfy the request of the Board.
- 5) The licensure renewal fee is \$300 (and ancillary \$153). In addition, Criminal Background Check fee is \$50 (**varies by state**).
- 6) CE's—All licensees must have completed 24 hours of continuing education (CE) credits prior to renewal to be eligible for renewal. Random audits will be conducted in January 2013.
- 7) **All licenses will expire on December 31, 2012.** Please begin the renewal process early.

Any false statement on your renewal application will result in disciplinary action being taken against your license.

General Renewal Questions: **1 (877) 672-2174** / Website: [www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc](http://www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc)



**MISSION STATEMENT:** To serve and protect the public and ensure high standards of chiropractic care and professionalism through best-practices in regulation, education and outreach.

## FROM WHERE I SIT

by Jacqueline A. Watson, DO, MBA, Executive Director

It's the end of the summer and fall is officially here. We have approached the end of our fiscal year (September 30) and the beginning of our busy season as we get ready for renewal season in the new fiscal year (October 1). All licensees will be required to undergo a Criminal Background Check before being approved. To avoid any delays with processing your application, please file your application early. Our team is ready to make sure that your renewal experience is a seamless one. If you were licensed for the first time in 2011, and already underwent a CBC for DC licensure, you are exempt from this requirement.

### WHAT'S NEW?

Since our last issue in January, we have had a few changes to the DOH Executive leadership and our team.

- Interim Director of the Department of Health, Saul Levin, MD, MPA
- New Board member Sajeed Propat, JD, Statutory Member
- New Staff members
  - Health Licensing Specialist Deniz Soyer, MBA
  - Health Licensing Assistant Cheryl Harris
  - Interim Attorney Advisor Ajay Gohil, Esq.
- And, we welcomed 5 new chiropractors to the District, and 2 chiropractors were approved for Physiotherapy privileges. See page 4.

With the new team in place, the Board and staff have been working diligently to fulfill the goals they have set.

***"All licensees will be required to undergo a Criminal Background Check before being approved. To avoid any delays with processing your application, please file your application early. Our team is ready to make sure that your renewal experience is a seamless one."***



*Dr. Jacqueline A. Watson*

### POLICY:

The Board has been working on several key policy guidelines and work continues with the Board attorney to update the regulations affecting the practice of chiropractic.

- **Acupuncture privileges approval authority.** Currently the authority to grant approval for ancillary privileges rests with the Board of Medicine (BoMed). BoMed has voted to have the authority rest with the Board of Chiropractic. The Board attorney will add this to the list of regulatory changes that will be made in the new fiscal year.
- **Preceptorship** guidelines were finalized.
- Policy on failure of **jurisprudence exam** was established.

- **CE requests for approval** were reviewed by the Board and a list of CE courses approved are on page 8.
- **CE Violation** fine policy established.

CE audit will be conducted after the 2012 renewal cycle. All licensees found to be out of compliance with the CE requirement will be sanctioned and fined as appropriate.

### OUTREACH:

Plans for an event to educate the community about the role of the Board, the chiropractic profession, and its benefits, is being planned. If you are interested in participating please send an email to: **deniz.soyer@dc.gov**.

Work continues with the Mayor's Office of Boards and Commissions (OBC) to fill all vacant slots on the Board. A new director was recently appointed and we hope to have the slots filled by the end of the calendar year.

Board and staff remain focused on **our mission: To serve and protect the public and ensure high standards of chiropractic care and professionalism through best-practices in regulation, education and outreach.**

Our next issue will be in **January 2013**. Until then, Be Well!

And, remember to renew early.

## LETTER FROM THE INTERIM CHAIR

Greetings,

This has been a great summer. We hope you are staying healthy and hydrated! As we come to the closing of our fiscal year, we would like to update you on our progress.

### Accomplished Goals to Date:

- Continuing Education Audit
- Drafted language for preceptorship program
- Elimination of physiotherapy exam

### Ongoing Goals Include:

- Drafting language for Chiropractors as Medicaid Providers
- Drafting language for Chiropractors' participation in the Health Professional Loan Repayment Program
- Expanding outreach within DOH and public
- Fill board vacancies (1 Chiropractor, 1 Consumer)
- Increase access to quality healthcare
- Regulation update



**Above: Interim Chair of the DC Board of Chiropractic, Keita Vanterpool, DC, (standing at center), with Board Member Miya Bazley, DC, (standing second from the right), with colleagues at the FCLB's 86th Annual Educational Conference.**

May 2-6, 2012 marked the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards' (FCLB) 86th Annual Educational Conference, held in San Antonio Texas, where approximately 130 attendees from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom and the United States represented licensing boards, testing associations and chiropractic colleges. Dr. Bazley and I had the opportunity to attend from our district. Each year, the FCLB hosts an annual conference and district meetings to review, update and exchange ideas on how to improve bylaws and regulations in regard to protecting and educating the public.

Safety is becoming more of an issue with patients, and as the nation's capital, it is becoming more apparent that we have a duty to enforce measures that screen potential offenders of the public. That being said, the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners has made available to each board the "Ethics and Boundaries" examination, to which: if a Doctor of Chiropractic makes questionable decisions regarding the doctor-patient relationship, they will be reprimanded according to the offense.

Such penalties may include but are not limited to: additional CE requirements, ethics and boundaries course, fines imposed, revocation of license, suspension and or any combined. We admonish each of the District's licensees to respect your patients and treat them as you would like to be treated.

Lastly, if you or a Chiropractor that you know would like to volunteer to serve on the Board as a Chiropractic member, contact the Mayor's Office of Boards and Commissions.

### Board members must be:

- Age 18 or over
- A Resident of District of Columbia at time of appointment and while appointed to Board
- Practicing for a minimum of 3 years preceding appointment

Qualifying factors are different for Consumers who wish to volunteer.

For more information, or to apply to serve, please visit the DC Office of Boards and Commissions website at [www.obc.dc.gov](http://www.obc.dc.gov), or call **202-727-1372**.

Regards,

Keita Vanterpool, DC  
Interim Chairperson  
DC Board of Chiropractic

## STEPS TO OBTAIN A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK & FAQs

### WHERE CAN I GET MY CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK DONE?

Once a licensee has completed their online renewal application, they will be eligible to undergo a CBC. CBC services are provided by local metropolitan police departments or through the DC Department of Health vendor, MorphoTrust USA.

**MorphoTrust** utilizes advanced scanning technology to convert a traditional fingerprint card (hard card) into an electronic fingerprint record. Converting a "hard card" into an electronic record enables an applicant to have their fingerprint record processed as quickly as if they had traveled to an electronic fingerprint processing location. Applicants must go to the MorphoTrust website or call 1 (877) 783-4187.

### APPLICANTS COMPLETING CBC THROUGH MORPHOTRUST USA

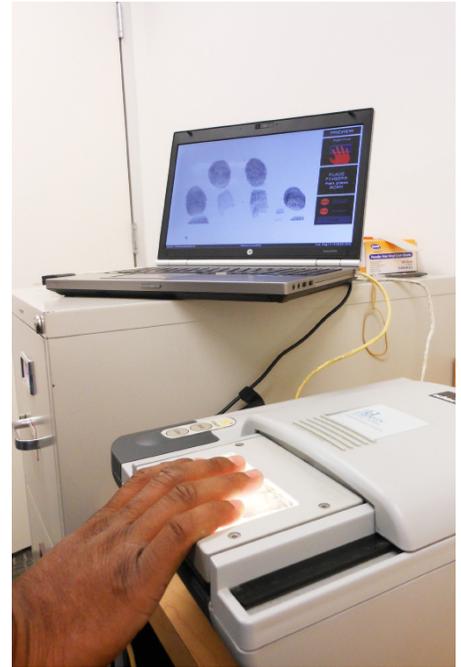
Applicants choosing to use MorphoTrust USA for CBC must pay MorphoTrust directly for this service. Applicants have the following options to schedule fingerprinting appointments with MorphoTrust USA.

#### 1. On-line Live-Scan Scheduling

- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
  1. Go to the MorphoTrust website: [www.L1enrollment.com](http://www.L1enrollment.com).
  2. Click on the map link to DC.
  3. Choose Online Scheduling and enter required information and select desired appointment.

#### 2. Call Center Scheduling

- Available Monday - Friday, 9am – 5pm EST.
- Call **(877) 783-4187** and speak to one of the operators.
  1. Operators will collect required information and schedule your appointment.
  2. Be sure to write down your appointment date, time and location provided by the operator.
  3. Out of State Applicants who reside out of the District of Columbia, or are physically unable to go to a location to be fingerprinted may use MorphoTrust USA's Card Scan Processing Program.



\* An FBI Name Search request will be requested by MorphoTrust (formerly called "L-1 Enrollment") on behalf of DOH if an applicant has received two fingerprint rejections based on quality. Once MorphoTrust personnel receive notice that an applicant has received a second rejection, a name search request form will be submitted by approved MorphoTrust personnel directly to the FBI.

Applicants completing the CBC through DC Metropolitan Police Department: District residents can (202) 442-9004 for further information.

## WELCOME NEW LICENSEES!

### 2012 Board of Chiropractic Licensees

Harold Crites, D.C.  
 Ilana Goldberg, D.C.  
 Hooman Hamidi, D.C.  
 Dominic A. Hatcher, D.C.  
 Cam Hong T. Truong, D.C.

Chiropractic & Physiotherapy  
 Chiropractic  
 Chiropractic & Physiotherapy  
 Chiropractic  
 Chiropractic & Physiotherapy

#### PHYSIOTHERAPY PRIVILEGES

David B. Fishkin, D.C.  
 Bryant C. Harris, D.C.

Physiotherapy privileges  
 Physiotherapy privileges

## Counsel's Column

# GUIDELINES ON PRECEPTORSHIPS ACUPUNCTURE AUTHORITY & OTHER REGULATORY CHANGES

By Ajay Gohil, Esq.,  
Acting Assistant Attorney General & Board Advisor

### ACUPUNCTURE

There is no designation in the D.C. Health Occupation Revision Act (HORA) regarding acupuncture for Chiropractors. The only mention of acupuncture in the HORA is in § 3-1205.04. As such, the D.C. Board of Medicine has approved Chiropractors licensed in D.C. for ancillary procedures in acupuncture. The Board of Chiropractic will promulgate guidelines or regulations regarding scope of practice for ancillary privileges.

### EXAM RETAKE POLICY

Pursuant to Chapter 17 Section 4805.1 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulation, to qualify for a license, an applicant, without exception, shall receive a passing score on the District Examination. The Examination shall consist of written and/or oral tests on scope of practice, medical ethics, and District of Columbia law. Pursuant to Chapter 17 Section 4805.6 of the District of Columbia Regulation passing score on the District Examination shall be seventy-five percent (75%) or above. The Board of Chiropractic has determined that the number or retakes allowed before intervention by the Board should be limited. The Board formulated policy for retakes of the District Examination will be as follows: All Applicants failing to successfully obtain a score of at least 75% on two successive examinations on the District of Columbia Jurisprudence Examination the applicant must appear before the Board before being permitted to retake the Examination a third time. In the event of a third failure, the applicant will not be permitted to sit for a fourth attempt for a period of one year. An applicant practicing under the supervision of a licensed Chiropractor while waiting to sit for the District Examination, who twice fails the examination, will have said preceptorship suspended for a period of ninety (90) days. An applicant in preceptorship may apply to the Board for a shorter period of suspension.

### CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

All licensees of the D.C. Department of Health whose license expires on or after December 31, 2012 will be required to undergo a Criminal Background Check as part of the renewal process. Licensees are advised not to wait until the last month of renewal to get this done. Licensees with a criminal history shall answer the questions on the renewal application regarding criminal arrests and convictions truthfully and provide supporting documentation for the Board to review while it is considering the renewal application.

## BOARD WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBER

Deniz Soyer, MBA, joined the BOC team in June 2012. Ms. Soyer is a recent graduate of The George Washington University (GWU) School of Business, graduating with a Master of Business Administration.

Before completing her studies at GWU, Ms. Soyer served as a Health Policy Fellow and was tasked with the design, implementation, and analysis of the 2012 D.C. Physician and Physician Assistant Workforce Surveys. Following graduation, Ms. Soyer began serving in a full-time capacity as a Health Licensing Specialist for the Health Regulation and Licensing Administration.

Ms. Soyer's background includes policy research and physician practice administration and operations. Ms. Soyer also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Theatre from the University of Mary Washington.



## CERTIFICATION/REGISTRATION OF CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANTS (CAs)

By Miya Bazley, DC, Board Member

In regards to doctors of chiropractic and their auxiliary staff, questions have come up such as:

- Who needs to be licensed, who needs to be registered, who needs to be certified?
- Who should have a criminal background check?
- When should there be minimum education and training requirements?
- Is there a difference between registered and certified?

After years of thought, analysis and debate the consensus of the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards is leaning towards

the position that chiropractic assistants (those engaged in patient care) should be certified and minimum education/training standards should be set.

This has been discussed for years and the more popular rationale for certifying chiropractic assistants (CAs) is because there is a movement to register/certify all individuals who work with patients in a care management setting—no matter the level of care. As the Board of Chiropractic, we are charged with keeping the public safe and setting standards that include creating an atmosphere of professionalism and integrity in delivering care. Giving chiropractic assistants more uniformed training could decrease mistakes with patient care and empower CAs to improve the care they provide patients and to take their responsibilities more seriously. Therefore, whether or not we fully agree with the rationale, it is probably best that we as a profession decide what certification of our assistants entails before the insurance

companies “decide” for us by enacting rules that make using uncertified assistants burdensome in third-party

paying systems. Multiple states (Nevada, Florida and Maryland, to name a few) have set a variety of criteria to register chiropractic assistants under all sorts of titles and subtitles. To improve uniformity, a basic criteria for a certified chiropractic assistant is included in the Model Practice Act, a non-binding guide developed by the FCLB to help implement best practice standards in regards to the regulation of the chiropractic profession.

Proactiveness will let chiropractors shape

their practices and the rules that govern them, where procrastination may lead to unnecessary hurdles when using auxiliary help in the care setting. So in the words of Havery Cox, “Not to decide is to decide.” With the mission of protecting the public at hand, how best can regulation of chiropractic assistants be implemented by the Board of Chiropractic? The District of Columbia regulations already govern what CAs cannot do and that they must have specialized training in certain cases (Title 17:4810.1). However, the regulations do not require individuals to register or certify set a general minimum education standard or in-training requirement. Change will come, whether this happens next year or in five years. Nobody knows for certain, but certification/registration will become more commonplace among states and jurisdictions that are apart of the FLCB, which includes the District of Columbia.

**Proactiveness will let chiropractors shape their practices and the rules that govern them, where procrastination may lead to unnecessary hurdles when using auxiliary help in the care setting.**

### BOARD ORDERS/ACTIONS

February 1, 2012 - August 31, 2012

The Board issued one Letter of Concern (LOC) to a licensee. A LOC is a confidential administrative matter meant to alert the licensee to areas in their practice that may need improving.

## MEET BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC STATUTORY MEMBER SAJEED POPAT, JD



Sajeed Popat, JD

### When were you appointed to the Board?

I was formally appointed to the Board on Tuesday, May 8, 2012.

### Why and how did you get involved with the Board? What sparked your interest in serving as a Board member?

Following the departure of my predecessor, Vance Farrow, from the Board, the DC Department of Health Chief of Staff, Colette Chichester, reached out to me with this special opportunity to serve the District residents by helping to guide and support the city's Chiropractors into the twenty-first (21st) century. Besides gaining a better understanding of the licensing and disciplinary components of the Chiropractic profession in DC, I'm also excited to be a part of the Board's new initiatives to review and revise the District's standards and regulations to comport with nationally-recognized best practices. As the nation's capital, the District is used to being the standard-bearer for other jurisdictions, and my hope is that the newly-revamped DC Board of Chiropractors will serve as the model for all similarly-situated communities.

### What unique perspective do you bring to the Board? (Tell us about your career.)

Over the last six years, I've been fortunate to hold a wide array of positions in both the private and public sectors. Upon graduating from law school and passing the Maryland State Bar Exam, I immediately began practicing as a Civil Litigator in Baltimore, MD. In this role, I handled a range of cases from personal injury to maritime to medical malpractice disputes, which often times meant addressing the negligence of professionals. This liability-driven perspective is vastly different than services-oriented attitude I've experienced working with the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) and DC Department of Health (DOH), but has helped me gain clarity on the purpose behind professional regulations.

Also, while working for the District government, I have: 1) helped plan the events surrounding the 56th Presidential Inauguration; 2) managed the District's Strategic National Stockpile and H1N1 Vaccine Campaign; 3) coordinated DOH's capitol projects connected with the Tobacco Settlement Fund; and 4) continue to oversee the HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD & TB Administration's \$90 million annual budget and helped DC prepare for the World AIDS 2012 Conference that was held at the District Convention Center this past July. In each of these roles, my main objective has been and continues to be ensuring the safety and well-being of the District's residents.

With a keen awareness of the motivations for success in both the public and private sectors, I believe

that I bring a well-rounded and diverse public health perspective to the Board.

### What issues, related to regulation of Chiropractic, interest you the most?

Although I am still familiarizing myself with all of the regulatory issues facing the Chiropractic profession, the one area that I look forward to tackling is increasing access to care to the District's residents. At the core of any medical service is the fundamental belief that all patients are entitled to the same standard of care; however, many of the District's poorest and under-insured residents, especially those residing in Wards 7 & 8, must go without Chiropractic care due to a gap in legislation precluding District Chiropractors from billing Medicaid for the services they provide to the financially less-capable. The Board has already begun investigating this issue and I remain optimistic that the District will see positive change in this area with the continuing implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

### Based on your familiarity with the Board, what do you think is the greatest challenge faced by the Board?

Among the primary concerns of any Board, should always be the satisfaction of the clients. From my limited experience with the Board, I have seen a need for greater consumer input and feedback. I strongly advocate for District Chiropractors to encourage their clients to consider attending one of the Board's Open Session Meetings, held the second Tuesday every other month. These Open Sessions allow for all clients to express their concerns and preferences for the practice that they will continue to consume. Moreover,

the Board is currently seeking a Consumer Board Member that would have an even greater opportunity to provide a unique perspective that will shape the services and standards the Board reviews and generates for District Chiropractors.

### What would you say to a licensee thinking about applying to serve on the Board?

For any licensee considering applying to serve on the Board, I would emphasize that they should have a strong personal desire to see their profession build in stature to the point of universal recognition for the benefits Chiropractic treatment can provide. Though duties associated with being on the Board may absorb only a few hours each week, the role of board member demands a level of dedication to understanding the trajectory of the profession and a willingness to adapt to an ever-changing clinical field.

### Any message you would like to convey to your Board's licensees?

Reach out! While the Board strives to institute new outreach initiatives geared toward supporting Chiropractors and their consumers, I encourage all licensees to attend upcoming outreach functions, to participate at the next Board Open Session, and to communicate more frequently with Board members. Through these channels, the Board can gain valuable insight on the matters that licensees feel are most pressing and warrant legislative revisions, while also building stronger connections between more experienced and newly admitted District Chiropractors.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION APPROVED BY BOC

The following courses have been approved by the Board of Chiropractic for continuing education (CE) credits.

### MARCH 13, 2012

- CE4U** Radiology in Practice (8 Hrs.)  
Low Tech Rehab in Whiplash (5 Hrs.)  
Spinal Trauma (12 Hrs.)  
Coding and Documentation in Practice (2 Hrs.)  
Extremity Adjustment (7 Hrs.)  
AIDS & Infectious Disease (3 Hrs.)  
Faulty Movement Patterns, Assessment/Rehabilitation/  
Athletic Development (10 Hrs.)

### American Chiropractic Board of Sports Medicine (ACBSP) Symposium

- Principles of Practice (5 Hrs.)  
Examination Procedures / diagnosis (5 Hrs.)  
Physical Therapy / Physiological Therapeutics (5 Hrs.)  
Nutrition (1.5 Hrs.)  
Practice Management (3.0 Hrs.)  
Risk Management (2.5 Hrs.)  
Research Trends (1.0 Hr.)  
Boundaries Issues (2.0 Hrs.)  
Scope of Practice (2.0 Hrs.)

### July 10, 2012

- CE4U** Rehabilitation of the Athlete (10 Hrs.)

## FILING A COMPLAINT WITH THE BOARD

To file a complaint against a licensed DC Chiropractor, go to [www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc](http://www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc) to download and complete the complaint form and mail to:

DC Board of Chiropractic  
899 North Capitol Street NE  
First Floor  
Washington, DC 20002

You can also fax the complaint to the Board at (202) 724-8677.

If your complaint alleges unlicensed activity, you should address your complaint to: Timothy Handy, Esq., Supervisory Investigator, Health Regulation and Licensing Administration, 899 North Capitol Street NE, First Floor, Washington, DC 20002. You can also fax the complaint to (202) 724-8677.

**Please Note: Complaints may take up to 120 business days (5 months) to be resolved.**

*Please be advised that the health professional licensing boards do not have jurisdiction over fee disputes, except for billing for services that were not provided. If you have a fee dispute with a health professional, you can seek redress through the civil courts.*

### Health Professional Licensing Administration

#### Address

DC Board of Chiropractic  
899 North Capitol Street, NE  
First Floor  
Washington, DC 20002

**Board phone number**  
(202) 724-8800

**Fax number**  
(202) 724-8677

Health Professional  
Licensing Administration  
[www.hpla.doh.dc.gov](http://www.hpla.doh.dc.gov)

**BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC  
WEB PAGE**  
[www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc](http://www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/boc)

### Current Members of The District of Columbia Board of Chiropractic

**Keita Vanterpool, DC**  
Interim Chairperson

**Miya Bazley, DC**  
Board Member

**Sajeed Popat, JD**  
Statutory Member

### Interim Director, Department of Health Saul Levin, MD, MPA

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