

Maryland Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators

Newsletter—Issue 28

October, 2010



Attached is the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2010. This is the fourth annual report produced by this office, and if you wish, you may view the three previous reports by visiting the Board's website at www.dhmf.state.md.us/bonha/ and

clicking on the Newsletter/Annual report item on the list on the left.

Please feel free to share this report with anyone you think may be interested. If there are articles or questions you would like addressed, or if you would care to contribute to any future report, let us know.

Fines

As a reminder, there is a \$100 fine charged to any Nursing Home Administrator who fails to notify the office of any change in employment or home address within 30 days of this change. We are finding more and more administrators forgetting to notify the office when they step up as an administrator or when they step down. Please remember that this is your responsibility - don't assume that the facility is providing this notice. Also, even if the new administrator notifies the office of stepping up, you are responsible to notify us that you are stepping down.

Continuing Education

On January 25, 2010 the new regulations became effective, and the Board's involvement in the continuing education approval process was eliminated. All continuing education programs must be approved by the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB), and the approval number must be indicated on the certificate of attendance. The approval is indicated by the NAB number, or by the NCERS number (National Continuing Education Review Service). There are multiple onsite and online NAB approved programs available. To view the approved list, please visit NAB's website at www.nabweb.org, and view their continuing education page.

Unions

The Board requires all Administrators-In-Training to gain some exposure to unions while they are pursuing their programs. This unionization training usually takes about one day, and the trainee is asked to go to a unionized facility and speak to the Human Resources Director about the do's and don'ts of disciplining unionized employees, and to review the union contract. If your facility is unionized, and you wouldn't mind having a trainee stop by for a scheduled visit with your HR Director or Director of Nursing, please notify this office via telephone at (410) 764-4750, or email to einese@dhmf.state.md.us and let us know if we can pass on this contact information.

Changes in the Board Composition

The Board welcomes newly appointed member Jennifer Voorhaar, who fills the geriatric social worker seat. Ms. Voorhaar is the Director of Resident Services at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home—Assisted Living. She is also an on-call crisis line worker for the St. Mary’s County Department of Social Services. Ms. Voorhaar has been sworn in and plans to attend her first Board meeting on October 13, 2010.

With the addition of the geriatric social worker, the Board will lose one of the consumer seats on the Board as a result of law created by the passage of Senate Bill 471 in 2009. Ms. Gail Sigel has filled this role on the Board, and has been instrumental in creating the Nursing Home Administrator database that was required by the Department of Legislative Services in a Sunset Review Recommendation. Ms. Sigel has served on the Board since April 22, 2006.

Members of the Board

J. Brian Pabst, Chairman	Nursing Home Administrator
Nancy H. Ferrone, Vice Chair	Related Health Professional
ChanSu Chong	Consumer
Christina Gravina	Related Health Professional
Margie Heald	Office of Health Care Quality
Michelle F. Kraus	Nursing Home Administrator
Susan M. Levy, M.D.	Geriatric Physician
Jeffery T. Metz	Nursing Home Administrator
Christine L. Mour	Nursing Home Administrator
Lisa A. Stone	Nursing Home Administrator
Belinda R. Strayhorn	Consumer
Jennifer Voorhaar	Geriatric Social Worker
John L. White	Nursing Home Administrator

Obituaries

Nancy Krome Belle died suddenly on June 17, 2010. Ms. Belle served on the Board as a related health professional from 1992 - 2001. Nancy was a registered nurse and worked as Director of Client Services for NeighborCare Pharmacies during her assignment on the Board.

On August 8, 2010, Nancy Grimmel-Lawrence died. Ms. Grimmel-Lawrence was licensed as a Nursing Home Administrator in Maryland since June 15, 1994, and had been the Administrator of the Transitional Care Unit at Good Samaritan Hospital since 2001.

Disciplinary Actions

There have been no formal actions taken by the Board since the last newsletter. As information, all public disciplinary orders issued by the Board since 2008 have been posted to the Board’s website. All subsequent public disciplinary orders issued by the Board must be posted on the website in accordance with HB 114 (2010). Anyone may access this information from the “Consumer” tab at the top of the Board’s homepage.

Maryland Board of Examiners of
Nursing Home Administrators
4201 Patterson Avenue, Room 305
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Telephone: (410) 764-4750
Email: einese@dnhm.state.md.us or
hannigan@dnhm.state.md.us
Web: www.dnhm.state.md.us/bonha/

Patricia A. Hannigan, Executive Director
Eleanor L. Eines, Deputy Executive Director
David Wagner, Assistant Attorney General
J. Robert Thomas, Jr., Investigator