



Secretary Carol Aichele

PENNSYLVANIA STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS



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[Disciplinary Actions](#)

Continuing Education Information

Nursing home administrator licenses expire on June 30, 2014. Before renewing your license, be sure to review your continuing education documentation to ensure that you have met the requirement.

Continuing education courses must be approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators (PA Board) or the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB).

➔ All 48 hours of continuing education may be satisfied by lecture, college or university, computer interactive, distance learning or correspondence courses preapproved by NAB or the PA Board.

Documentation

Certificates of attendance/completion must contain the following information:

- Your name
- Date of course/program
- Number of continuing education hours earned
- A statement that the course/program was approved by the PA Board or NAB (NAB approval may also be reflected as NCERS)

➔ A maximum of 12 hours of continuing education may be earned by serving as an instructor of an NAB or PA Board approved

continuing education program or as an instructor of a college or university course approved by NAB or the Board. Instructors may earn 1 hour for each hour of instruction up to 12 hours.

Documentation

i) For serving as an instructor of an NAB or PA Board approved continuing education program, a certificate or letter from the approved sponsor identifying the following:

- Your name
- Course/program name
- Date of course/program
- Number of hours
- A statement that the course/program was approved by the PA Board or NAB (NAB approval may also be reflected as NCERS)

ii) For serving as an instructor of a college or university course, you must submit a copy of the approval letter received from the PA Board identifying the number of hours awarded (maximum of 12 hours).

➔ A maximum of 24 hours of continuing education may have been awarded by the PA Board for authoring an article on long-term care in a professional journal if you previously submitted an NHA Request for Continuing Education Approval application

and received an approval letter from the Board.

Documentation

Copy of the approval letter received from the PA Board identifying the number of hours awarded.

- ➔ A maximum of 24 hours of continuing education may be obtained by serving as a supervisor in a Board-approved AIT program when the AIT successfully completes the AIT program.

Documentation

Copy of the Completed Administrator In Training Program approval letter received from the PA Board identifying your name as the Supervising NHA.

- ➔ A maximum of 12 hours of continuing education may have be awarded retroactively by the PA Board for attending programs, to include lectures, and college or university courses, which were not been preapproved by NAB or the PA Board if you previously submitted an NHA Request for Continuing Education application and received an approval letter from the Board.

Documentation

Copy of the approval letter received from the PA Board identifying the number of hours awarded.

Board Welcomes New Commissioner

On November 8, 2013, Governor Corbett nominated Travis Gery to be the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs and appointed him Acting Commissioner. He was unanimously confirmed by the Senate on January 28, 2014. As Commissioner, he carries out the statutory duties set forth in the Administrative Code and is responsible for directing the staff of the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs charged with

providing administrative support and services to the 29 Licensing Boards and Commissions within the Bureau’s jurisdiction. He also serves as a full, voting member on 27 of the Boards.

Immediately prior to assuming the duties and responsibilities of Commissioner, Travis served as Executive Deputy Chief Counsel to the Department of State. In that role he provided legal advice to the Commissioner on all matters relating to the 29 Boards and Commissions administered by the Bureau. He was also the head of the Bureau’s Legal Office comprised of 38 attorneys assigned to the Prosecution Division, 15 attorneys assigned to the Counsel Division and 41 support staff. As such, he supervised and directed the investigations and prosecutions of licensees for violations of the applicable practice acts and regulations and the provision of legal advice and counsel to the 29 Boards and Commissions.

Prior to his appointment as Executive Deputy Chief Counsel, Travis was a member of a Philadelphia law firm where he litigated civil matters in State and Federal courts. He also has significant experience as a criminal prosecutor at Federal, State and County level. He was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of West Virginia, a Pennsylvania Deputy Attorney General, an Assistant District Attorney in Cumberland County, PA, rising to the position of Chief Deputy District Attorney, and an Assistant District Attorney in Dauphin County.

From 1990 to 1993, while on active duty in the United States Navy, Judge Advocate General's Corps, he served as Senior Trial Counsel, Senior Defense Counsel, and Head of Civil Law at the Naval Legal Service Office, New London, CT. He is currently a Commander in the United States Navy Reserve. He has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal twice, the Navy

Commendation Medal twice, and the Meritorious Service Medal twice. He has also been awarded the Naval War College Diploma in National Security and Strategy.

Travis received his J.D. from Widener University School of Law in 1989, graduating with honors. He received his B.A. from Dickinson College in 1986.

He lives in Pottstown, PA with his wife and four children. He has no free time because when not at the office he and his wife are always either at, going to or coming from some gymnastics arena, ball field or other sporting event.

Meet the Board's Newest Members

The State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators welcomes its newest members.

Sharon McDermond joined the Board on September 18, 2013. She is the current Administrator of Brandywine Hall, a Genesis HealthCare skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility. Prior to Brandywine Hall, Sharon was the Administrator of Naamans Creek Country Manor for 10 years. Sharon has over 15 years of experience in the healthcare industry. She has served in various other roles in health care including: Assistant Administrator, Marketing Director and Program Manager for ICF/MR and CLA Group Homes.

Sharon holds a Bachelor of Arts in Health Administration from Arcadia University, is a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator in Pennsylvania and is a Lean Six Sigma- Green Belt in Healthcare Performance. Sharon has received multiple awards throughout her career including: The Pennsylvania Health Care Association, Administrator of the Year in 2011; the American Health Care Association, Bronze Award for Quality Assurance in 2009; the

Outstanding Leadership Award through The Guardian Foundation, Inc. in 2008 and the Genesis HealthCare Operational Turnaround Award in 2005. Sharon is married with five children and lives Delaware County.

On September 16, 2013, **Jane Hepner** was appointed as the Department of Health designee on the Board. She is Assistant Director for the Department of Health, Division of Nursing Care Facilities. She is a Health Facility Quality Examiner and has eight years of experience with the Department. Prior to coming to the Department of Health, she spent over twenty five years in the long term care setting where she was a staff nurse, Director of Nursing and Administrator.

Anita J. Lahr joined the Board on October 24, 2013. Anita is a life-long resident of Clarion County. She obtained employment with the Clarion Area Greater Chamber of Commerce in March of 1983 and worked there for two and a half years. One of her main responsibilities was to coordinate various programs with the Autumn Leaf Festival. In 1985, she was hired by Clarion University where she continues to work.

Anita is very passionate about community service. She has participated in many organizations in Clarion County over the years. She was one of the founders for "I Love Clarion," which features beautiful fireworks displays and activities slated around or on the Fourth of July. Anita was a member of the Clarion Civic Club; chaired the Kiddies Parade for the Autumn Leaf Festival; and served as Treasurer, then President, of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Anita has participated in many fundraising activities to support charitable organizations and beautification efforts in Clarion County. In 2010, she began to serve on the advisory board and the Legislative Liaison Committee

for Pennsylvania Rural Leadership Program (RULE).

Anita was also the Chairperson of the Clarion County Drug and Alcohol Coalition. Furthermore, she enjoys being involved in different activities at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of which she and her family are members. This past year, Anita chaired a successful Dinner Theatre Fundraiser for her church.

Anita's involvement as a community activist has allowed her to attend several workshops and programs that helped her develop both professionally and socially. In October 2005, she began the RULE program Class XI, a two-year intensive leadership development program based out of Penn State University. Since completing this program, she has continued to develop her leadership skills by participating in such workshops as the American Federation of State County Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Leadership Development Programs for Officer Training, Officer and Steward Training, Penn State Leadership Institute, and Local Union Training Instructor (LUTI) Program. In addition, Anita participated in and graduated from the Anne B. Anstine Excellence in Public Services Series, an opportunity to assist with personal growth and outreach.

Anita is grateful to have been awarded numerous honors for her services in various organizations over the years. She received a Certificate of Recognition for "Hidden Heroism" at the "Excellence in Service" Recognition Reception at Clarion University and the Outstanding Supporter Equity Award from the Clarion University Senate in 2003. Later that same year, she received a Citation from the PA House of Representatives and the PA Senate in honor of the two awards from the University. In 2004, Anita received a Past Madam President award from the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. She received a second Citation from the PA House of Representatives for her participation in Class XI of the RULE Program in 2006. Anita has also received a Scalise Memorial Award from AFSCME District Council 85 for "Outstanding Member of the Year." Most recently, she was inducted into the Pennsylvania Association of Private School Administrators Hall of Fame. Governor Tom Corbett appointed Anita to this Board. Anita is honored and privileged to be included among many diverse people across the Commonwealth.

Anita enjoys being a coalition builder who brings people together to work towards a common goal. She is a resident of Shippenville, Pennsylvania, and lives with her husband Leonard and several cats. She loves spending time with her family and friends, and relishes traveling and scrapbooking.

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