

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2016

BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS



**DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**

This annual performance report is presented in accordance with
Alaska statute AS 08.01.070(10).

Its purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the
past and present needs of the licensing program.

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Identification of the Board

Board Member	Date Appointed	Term Expires
Amanda Unser Chairperson	Nov 25, 2014	Mar 01, 2018
David Edwards-Smith LMT – Board member	Nov 25, 2014	Mar 01, 2018
Ron Gibbs LMT – Board Member	Nov 25, 2014	Mar 01, 2020
Traci Gilmour LMT – Board Member	Nov 25, 2014	Mar 01, 2017
Shirley Nelson Public Member – Board Member	Nov 25, 2014	Mar 01, 2017

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Identification of Staff

Randy Brown – Licensing Examiner

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Post Office Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

Susan Johnson – Licensing Examiner (Departed Aug 2015)

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Post Office Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

Sonia Lipker – Investigator (July 1, 2015 – May 31, 2016)

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Post Office Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

Jasmin Bautista – Investigator (June 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016)

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Post Office Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

Karen Hudson – Records and Licensing Supervisor (Departed Dec 2015)

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Post Office Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

Dawn Hannasch – Records and Licensing Supervisor

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
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Narrative Statement

The State of Alaska Board of Massage Therapists met a total of five times in 2016. The main objective in meetings was to form and adopt regulation, approve applications for licensure and discuss the future of the Board, enforcement and disciplinary sanctions for the newly formed board. Knowing this was a new board, board members carefully reviewed statute to discuss any changes that may need to take place in FY2017.

The Board was able to successfully adopt a code of ethics and standards of practice among other regulations. The board is able to report a good financial standing with a surplus and anticipates discussion of lowering the fees for licensure. The public was able to give constructive feedback on a variety of topics ranging from reciprocity with other states, educational requirements and fees.

One of the things the board has been focusing on is developing regulations for massage therapy establishments in an effort to minimize human trafficking within the industry. Overall the first year of implementation has been a success and we look forward to the challenges the coming year presents as we move forward with this program.

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2017

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
Sep 15, 2016	Anchorage, AK	5	1
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:		\$655.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:		\$1,596.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:		\$292.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:		\$608.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$3,151.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
DEC	Tele/Video Conference	5	1
	<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:		\$0.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:		\$0.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:		\$0.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:		\$100.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$100.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
FEB	Juneau, AK	5	1
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:		\$1,620.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:		\$1,465.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:		\$200.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:		\$544.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$3,829.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
JUNE	Tele/Video Conference	5	1
	<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:		\$0.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:		\$0.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:		\$0.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:		\$100.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$100.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2017 (continued)

Travel Required to Perform Examinations

Not applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	\$0.00

Total Estimated Cost: **\$0.00**

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

Not Applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
Oct 07, 2016	Cleveland, OH	1	1

Annual FSMTB conference, essential for new staff and training for new board

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$1,810.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$960.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$80.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$350.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct Third-Party Offset:	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursed Third-Party Offset:	\$0.00

Net Total Estimated Cost: **\$3,200.00**

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2017 (continued)

Non-Travel Budget Requests

- Not Applicable Resources Examinations
 Membership Training Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Annual Membership	FSMTB	\$500.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

Necessary to maintain membership as profession evolves and to serve as a regulatory guide as the board develops.

Other Items with a Fiscal Impact

- Not Applicable

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
		\$0.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

Summary of FY 2017 Fiscal Requests

Board Meetings	\$7,180.00
Travel for Exams	\$0.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel	\$3,200.00
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training, Teleconferences	\$500.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets	\$0.00
Other:	\$0.00
Total Requested:	\$10,880.00

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Recommendations for Proposed Legislation for FY 2017

- No Recommendations**
The Board has no recommendations for proposed legislation at this time.

- Recommendations**
The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

The Board intends to ask for authority to regulate massage therapy establishments to assist efforts in combating human trafficking within the industry. We are supported by the FBI, Wage and Hour Division, State and Local Law Enforcement as well as several public and private groups that aid victims of human/sex trafficking. In initial discussions with legislators, we anticipate full support from the legislature on this statutory change.

The Board is also considering a change in the statutes to close loopholes in the licensure process, and to increase the number of hours of initial education for licensure which will match the national standard. These changes would be submitted concurrently.

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Regulation Recommendations for FY 2017

- No Recommendations**
The Board has no recommendations for proposed regulations at this time.

- Recommendations**
The Board has the following recommendations for proposed regulations:

As a new board, we anticipate to continue drafting, adopting and enforcing regulations to uphold statute and clarify statute objectives. Two main topics will include scope of practice and reciprocity with other states.

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Goals and Objectives

Part I

FY 2016's goals and objectives, and how they were met:

The Board was able to exceed our 2016 goals and objectives. As a new program, there have been several hurdles to overcome (mainly the process of approving applications). Most of our struggles came from background checks requirement for licensure when we determined we were over-referring infractions to Investigations. The Board resolved this issue by creating guidelines to define "moral turpitude", and to also determine which acts the Board wanted investigated, and which ones would be deemed too minor for a referral. When Investigations received our revised lists the process became much more efficient and we now anticipate to end FY2016 with close to 1,000 licenses issued.

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Goals and Objectives

Part II

FY 2017's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

As the Board grows from its infancy and enters into the toddler stage, our goals and objectives will continue to be drafting and adopting regulations, as well as the new task of enforcement.

So far we have not had any major investigations, but as we progress into our second year we anticipate the need for investigations as consumers submit complaints. If our proposed legislation on governing massage therapy establishments is adopted, then we will be enacting a new chapter of enforcements and regulations. We are excited to see this program grow and thrive from the success of its first year.

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Sunset Audit Recommendations

Date of Last Legislative Audit:
Board Sunset Date:

Audit Recommendation: N/A (New Board)

Action Taken:

Next Steps:

Date Completed: