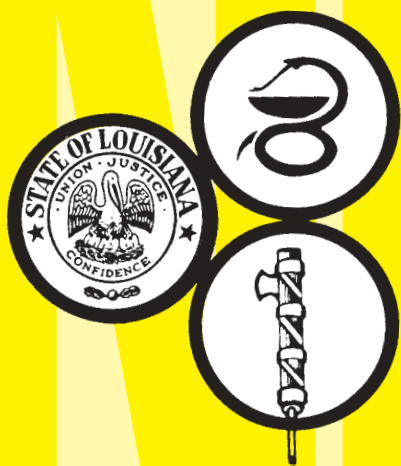


April 2002



# Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

5615 Corporate Blvd, Suite 8E, Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
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Published to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law.

## **Renewal of Pharmacy Technician Certificates (02-04-125)**

The Louisiana Board of Pharmacy office staff will begin printing pharmacy technician certificate renewal applications on April 15. Any address changes submitted to the office on or after April 14 will not be reflected on the renewal application. We will mail applications for renewal of pharmacy technician certificates on April 26.

If you do not receive your renewal application on or before May 15, it is your responsibility to pursue obtaining a renewal application. One source is the *Louisiana Pharmacy Law Book*, found in every pharmacy. A blank renewal form is provided on page 336.8; the current version of the form is dated October 2000 in the lower right corner of the page. We suggest you copy the form, return the original to the *Law Book* for future use, and use the copy to apply for your certificate renewal. Another source for a blank copy of the renewal form is the Board's Web site, [www.labp.com](http://www.labp.com).

All current pharmacy technician certificate renewals will expire June 30. If you need a renewal on or before July 1, we suggest you mail the properly completed application and fee of \$50 on or before May 30. Pharmacy technicians may not practice with an expired certificate. The renewal of an expired certificate will incur an additional \$200 reinstatement fee, resulting in a total charge of \$250. Applications bearing a postal service postmark of July 3 or later must be accompanied by the late fee, or it will be returned. The renewal application for expired pharmacy technician certificates may possibly be referred to the Board's Reinstatement Committee, depending on the date received in the Board office.

As a reminder, Act 689 of the 1990 Louisiana Legislature requires all professional licensing boards to refuse to issue or renew licenses or certificates to individuals found to be in default of any outstanding loan repayment agreements. When the Board receives certificate renewal applications, we are required to submit those names to the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) for clearance. Only after that agency certifies an individual to be in compliance can the Board then issue a certificate renewal.

In response to several questions received in the office, we would like to clarify that the new continuing education requirement for pharmacy technicians does not apply to newly licensed technicians, ie, those licensed on or after July 1, 2001. All other technicians shall have earned at least 10 hours of American Council on Pharmaceutical Education-approved continuing education in the 12-month period from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. Remember to keep copies of all continuing education certificates at your primary practice site for at least two years. The office will conduct an audit of a random sample of technicians to verify compliance with the regulation.

Finally, for those pharmacy technicians who practice in multiple sites, you should post the original copy of your certificate renewal in your primary work site. You should provide a copy of that renewal to the pharmacist-in-charge of any other site at which you may work. We also provide an identification card with the renewal; it is designed to fit in a wallet. You should carry that card at all times as evidence that you are currently certified as a pharmacy technician.

## **Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, and Pharmacy Interns (02-04-126)**

If you are a pharmacist-in-charge, you must at all times ensure that all personnel you allow to function in your prescription department performing pharmacist functions are properly licensed, certified, or in possession of a valid work permit (pharmacist intern or pharmacy technician trainee).

If you are a staff pharmacist or relief pharmacist, it is your obligation to ensure that the employees assisting you in the prescription dispensing process are legally authorized to perform their duties during your shift. If an inspection or investigation occurs while you are on duty and unqualified persons are performing duties under your supervision, then you will be responsible to the Board in the investigative report filed by the inspector.

## **Taking Care of Your Patient – Emergency Refills (02-04-127)**

Louisiana pharmacy regulations allow a pharmacist, using sound professional judgment, to dispense an adequate amount of medication for a 72-hour regimen whenever an emergency for medication has been demonstrated and the appropriate medical practitioner is not available. (LAC 46:LIII.2903.B.3 - page 214 of *Louisiana Pharmacy Law Book*)

## **Did You Know? (02-04-128)**

A pharmacist, intern, or technician who has knowledge that another pharmacist, intern, or technician is impaired is required to report the relevant confidential information to the Board. We suggest that an ethical or moral imperative also exist. Would you ignore someone having a heart attack? Addiction is a life-threatening disease, but help is available. If you know someone who needs help, please call the Board office for a confidential conversation.

## **Disciplinary Actions (02-04-129)**

During its February 21, 2002 administrative hearing, the Board took final action in the following matters. Although every effort is made to ensure that the information is correct, you should call the Board office at 225/925-6496 to verify the accuracy of the listing before making any decision based on this information.

*Continued on page 4*

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**Stephen Raymond Bajon (Pharmacist License No. 9080)**, Formal Hearing: License suspended indefinitely and assessed \$4,000, to be paid prior to making any application for reinstatement. **Charges:** (1) has had license disciplined by another state, (2) failure to report disciplinary action from another licensing jurisdiction.

**Janice Marie Heard (Technician Certificate No. 1002)**, Formal Hearing: Certificate revoked. **Charges:** (1) has assisted in practice of pharmacy in violation of pharmacy laws or regulations, (2) obtained renewal through fraudulent means.

**Bonvillain Pharmacy (Pharmacy Permit No. 3497)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: Permit reprimanded, and then assessed administrative and investigative costs. **Charges:** (1) has evaded local, state, or federal laws or regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy, (2) failed to timely submit the quarterly report or pay the appropriate prescription fee to the Louisiana Medical Assistance Trust Fund.

**Clinic Pharmacy [aka Bonvillain Pharmacy] (Pharmacy Permit No. 3234)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: Permit reprimanded, and then assessed administrative and investigative costs. **Charges:** (1) has evaded local, state, or federal laws or regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy, (2) failed to timely submit the quarterly report or pay the appropriate prescription fee to the Louisiana Medical Assistance Trust Fund.

**Glenda Ann Stevenson (Technician Certificate No. 3939)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: Certificate suspended for one year; suspension stayed, then placed on probation for one year, beginning December 15, 2001. Certificate also assessed administrative and investigative costs. **Charges:** (1) has assisted in practice of pharmacy in violation of pharmacy laws or regulations, (2) failure to apply for renewal of certificate.

**Alicia Marie Baty (Technician Certificate No. 3946)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: Certificate suspended indefinitely and assessed \$1,000 plus administrative and investigative costs. **Charges:** (1) unlawful possession of Schedule III controlled substance, (2) unlawful possession of Schedule IV controlled substance, and (3) unlawful possession of prescription drug.

**William Frank Lucas (Pharmacist License No. 8340)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: License suspended for five years; suspension stayed, then placed on probation for five years, beginning December 15, 2001. License also assessed \$1,000 plus administrative and investigative costs. **Charges:** (1) has practiced pharmacy in violation of pharmacy laws or regulations, (2) failure to ascertain authenticity of dispensed prescriptions, and (3) dispensing of fraudulent prescriptions.

**Evans Drug Mart No. 1 (Pharmacy Permit No. 2937)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: Permit assessed \$1,000 plus administrative and investigative costs. **Charges:** (1) has permitted anyone in his employ to practice pharmacy in violation of pharmacy laws or regulations, (2) registrant shall be accountable for audits of controlled substances, and (3) failure to maintain complete and accurate inventory records of controlled substances.

**Evans Drug Mart No. 2 (Pharmacy Permit No. 4118)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: Permit assessed \$1,000 plus administrative and investigative costs. **Charges:** (1) has permitted anyone in his employ to practice pharmacy in violation of pharmacy laws or regulations, (2) registrant shall be accountable for audits of controlled substances, and (3) failure to maintain complete and accurate inventory records of controlled substances.

In other actions, the Board accepted the voluntary surrender of four licenses from impaired pharmacists. The Board denied a petition for reinstatement from one pharmacist, then reinstated the licenses of three pharmacists without restriction and another four pharmacists on probation. A petition for modification of probationary terms was granted to one pharmacist. Finally, the Board issued a formal warning to one pharmacist and formal reprimands to three pharmacists and one pharmacy permit.

### **Calendar Notes (02-04-130)**

The next meeting of the Board will be held May 8-9 in the Board office in Baton Rouge. The office will be closed on May 27 in observance of Memorial Day as well as on July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

### **Special Note (02-04-131)**

The *Louisiana Board of Pharmacy News* is considered an official method of notification to pharmacists and pharmacy technicians licensed by the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy. **These Newsletters will be used in administrative hearings as proof of notification.** Please read them carefully and keep them in the back of the *Pharmacy Law Book* for future reference.

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Malcolm J. Broussard, RPh - State News Editor  
Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh - National News Editor  
& Executive Editor  
Courtney M. Karzen - Editorial Manager

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National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, Inc.  
700 Busse Highway  
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068  
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