

# Renewal of Pharmacy Technician Certificates (03-04-156)

The Louisiana Board of Pharmacy's office staff will begin printing pharmacy technician certificate renewal applications during the week of April 14, 2003. Any address changes received in the office after April 11 will not be reflected on the renewal application. We will mail the applications during the week of April 28.

If you do not receive your renewal application on or before May 15, it then becomes your responsibility to obtain a renewal application. One source is the *Louisiana Pharmacy Law Book*, which is found in every pharmacy. A blank renewal form is found on page 336.8; the current version is dated October 2000 in the lower right-hand corner of the page. We suggest you copy the form, return the original to the 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.

All current pharmacy technician certificate renewals will expire June 30, 2003. If you need a renewal 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 renewal. The renewal of an expired certificate will incur an additional \$200 reinstatement fee, resulting in a total charge of \$250. Applications bearing a postmark of July 1 or later must be accompanied by the late fee, or it will be returned. The renewal application for expired pharmacy technician certificates may also possibly be referred to the Board's Reinstatement Committee, depending on the date of receipt in the Board office.

As a reminder, Act 689 of the 1990 Louisiana Legislature requires the Board to either refuse to issue or refuse to renew licenses or certificates to individuals found to be in default of any outstanding loan payment agreements guaranteed by the State of Louisiana. When the Board receives renewal applications, we are required to submit those names to the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance 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 continuing education (CE) requirements for pharmacy technicians do apply to all technicians licensed before July 1, 2002; these technicians should have earned at least 10 hours of American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE)-approved CE between July 1, 2002, and June 30, 2003. Hours used for renewal of Pharmacy Technician Certification Board certification may be used as long as they are ACPE approved. Remember

to keep copies of all CE certificates at your primary practice site for at least two years. The Board's compliance officers may ask for copies of your certificates during their routine inspections, and the Board office will conduct an audit of a random sample of technicians shortly after the renewal cycle. Please respond with copies of certificates, not copies of summary documents, when requested to do so by the Board or its agents.

# Pharmacist-in-charge (03-04-157)

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 professional functions are properly licensed, certified, or in possession of a valid registration or work permit.

#### Forgery of Credentials (03-04-158)

We have recently been made aware of a person in the southeastern part of Louisiana who allegedly forged a pharmacist license. The name of the 36-year-old Vietnamese female is Ngoan Thi Tran Nguyen. She allegedly worked in at least two hospital pharmacies and one community pharmacy in the New Orleans area. The Board obtained a preliminary injunction by court order that prohibits Ms Nguyen from practicing or assisting in the practice of pharmacy in Louisiana. The Board is pursuing a permanent injunction against Ms Nguyen.

In a related but separate incident, the Board has recently received news from the Alabama Department of Corrections that a person charged with impersonating a pharmacist in both Alabama and Georgia recently escaped from a prison in Alabama. The name of the 29-year-old black female is Marcella Rolanda Madison; known aliases include Madison M. Roland and Rolanda Chapman.

We encourage pharmacy managers to always request and inspect an original copy of any credential issued by this Board, and then verify that credential using the licensure verification module on our Web site at <a href="https://www.labp.com">www.labp.com</a>. The data on the Web site is updated every night.

## Disciplinary Actions (03-04-159)

During its February 20, 2003 administrative hearing, the Board took final action in the following matters. Although every effort is made to ensure 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.

Dina Darlene Bennett (Technician Certificate No. 4110), Voluntary Consent Agreement: Certificate was suspended indefinitely.

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- *Charges*: (1) obtained a certificate through fraud or misrepresentation and (2) failed to earn required continuing education.
- Regina Patricia Brown (Technician Certificate No. 1801), Voluntary Consent Agreement: Respondent received Letter of Warning, then assessed administrative and investigative costs. *Charges*: (1) obtained a certificate through fraud or misrepresentation and (2) failed to earn required continuing education.
- Shirley Ann Citizen (Technician Certificate No. 3962), Voluntary Consent Agreement: Respondent received Letter of Warning, then assessed administrative costs. *Charges*: (1) obtained a certificate through fraud or misrepresentation and (2) failed to earn required continuing education.
- **Tori Yvette Dunn (Technician Certificate No. 2354)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: Respondent received Letter of Warning, then assessed administrative costs. *Charges*: (1) obtained a certificate through fraud or misrepresentation and (2) failed to earn required continuing education.
- **Dawn Michelle Johnston** (**Technician Certificate No. 1545**), Voluntary Consent Agreement: Certificate was suspended indefinitely. *Charges*: (1) obtained a certificate through fraud or misrepresentation and (2) failed to earn required continuing education.
- Laura Lynn Bordelon Winters (Technician Certificate No. 3579), Voluntary Consent Agreement: Respondent received Letter of Warning, then assessed administrative and investigative costs. *Charges*: (1) obtained a certificate through fraud or misrepresentation and (2) failed to earn required continuing education.
- Tameka LaShawn Ann Williams (Technician Certificate No. 4689), Voluntary Consent Agreement: Certificate was revoked, with permanent prohibition on application for reinstatement. *Charges*: (1) unlawful acquisition of controlled substances through prescription fraud, (2) unlawful possession of Schedule IV controlled substance, (3) unlawful possession of Schedule V controlled substance, and (4) unlawful possession of prescription drugs.
- Reachennel Moliere-Cosse (Pharmacist License No. 16287), Voluntary Consent Agreement: License was revoked. *Charges*: (1) unlawful acquisition of controlled substances through prescription fraud, (2) unlawful possession of Schedule II controlled substances, (3) unlawful possession of Schedule III controlled substances, (4) unlawful possession of prescription drugs, (5) commission of fraud including but not limited to Medicaid fraud and insurance fraud, and (6) failure to conform to minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing pharmacy practice.

- Carl P. Mayeaux, Jr (Technician Certificate No. 2932), Voluntary Consent Agreement: Certificate was revoked, with permanent prohibition on application for reinstatement. *Charges*: (1) unlawful acquisition of controlled substances through prescription fraud, (2) unlawful possession of Schedule III controlled substances, (3) unlawful possession of Schedule IV controlled substances, and (4) unlawful possession of prescription drugs.
- Frederick Ernest Dubois (Pharmacist License No. 9240), Voluntary Consent Agreement: License was suspended for one year, suspension stayed, then license placed on probation for one year, beginning January 1, 2003. License also assessed \$1,500 plus administrative costs. *Charges*: (1) repeated occasions of negligence or incompetence in the practice of pharmacy and (2) multiple violations of Louisiana Sanitary Code.
- **Dubois Pharmacy (Pharmacy Permit No. 256)**, Voluntary Consent Agreement: Permit was ordered to close permanently no later than December 31, 2002. Permit also assessed administrative and investigative costs. *Charges*: (1) repeated occasions of negligence or incompetence in the practice of pharmacy and (2) multiple violations of Louisiana Sanitary Code.

## Special Note (03-04-160)

The Louisiana Board of Pharmacy Newsletter is considered an official method of notification to pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians credentialed 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 Louisiana Pharmacy Law Book for future reference.

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