

# Board of Dietitians And Nutritionists



## Newsletter

Fall 2010

A Regulatory Agency of the State of Tennessee

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The mission of the Department of Health is to promote, protect, and improve the health of persons living in, working in, or visiting the state of Tennessee.

227 French Landing, Suite 300, Heritage Place MetroCenter, Nashville, TN 37243 • <http://www.tn.gov/health> Fax: (615)253-8724  
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time (except State and Federal holidays) (615)532-5132 or 1-800-778-4123

### STATUTE CHANGES

**Public Chapter No. 83** The Tennessee Domestic Violence Act requires health care practitioners to report suspected domestic abuse to the Department of Health, division of Health Statistics. Health Care Practitioners, in Active status, can report suspected domestic abuse via this website:

[DomesticViolence.Health@state.tn.us](mailto:DomesticViolence.Health@state.tn.us) or contact the office at (615) 741-1954.

**Public Chapter No. 1084** Background Checks Required To Provide Patient Care

Before any person who will be providing direct patient care is hired, health care facilities and individual health professionals are required by law to conduct background checks using the state sex offenders registry, the state abuse registry and the abuse registries for states in which the prospective employee has lived in the previous 7 years, according to Public Chapter 1084, or Tenn. Code Ann. sec. 63-1-149.

Links to the following are online at the Department of Health website:

- Tennessee Sex Offender Registry
- National Sex Offender Registry
- Tennessee Abuse Registry
- Other Abuse Registries

### NEW BOARD MEMBER

The Board would like to introduce the new board member Abbie J. Derrick, RD, LDN. Ms. Derrick has a Bachelor of Science from Clemson University, 5/2002. She completed her internship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, 6/2003. She is currently working on her Masters in Health Communication from Boston University and the expected graduation date is 5/2012. Ms. Derrick was employed by Vanderbilt University Medical Center as a patient services manager for seven years. As of November 11, 2010, she is the southeast regional dietitian for Lyons Magnus.

### FILING A COMPLAINT

While the Department of Health hopes that you will never have to file a complaint against a health care practitioner, doing so is a simple matter. You may contact the Office of Investigations of the Department of Health at 1-800-852-2187 to request a complaint form.

The form must be completed in its entirety. All materials received in connection with the complaint will become property of the Department of Health and cannot be returned. Please return the complaint to:

**Office of Investigations**  
**227 French Landing, Suite 201**  
**Heritage Place Metro Center**  
**Nashville, TN 37243**

## LICENSE RENEWALS

Renewal applications are mailed six weeks prior to the licensee's expiration date. You must make sure the administrative office has your correct mailing address in order to receive all information regarding your license in a timely manner. Renew your license online at:

<https://apps.tn.gov/hlrs/begin.jsp>

If you no longer want to renew your license, you must submit a notarized Affidavit of Retirement form before your expiration date. This form can be obtained from the Board's website at <http://health.state.tn.us/boards/DN>.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESSES AND/OR NAME

### Rule 0470-1-.17 (1) & (2)

**Address change:** Each person holding a license who has had a change of address shall file, in writing, with the board his/her current mailing address, giving both old and new addresses. Such requests should be received in the board's administrative office no later than thirty (30) days after such change has occurred and must reference the individual's name, profession, and license number.

**Change of Name:** Any individual registered with the Board shall notify the board in writing within 30 days of a name change. The notice shall provide the old name and the new name and must reference the individual's profession, license number, Social Security number and a copy of the legal document that caused the name change. You can obtain a form for the name and address change at the board's website.

## DUPLICATE (REPLACEMENT) LICENSE

Rule 0470-1-.16 A licensee whose "artistically designed" license has been lost or destroyed may be issued a replacement document upon receipt of a written request in the board administrative office. Such request shall be accompanied by an affidavit (signed and notarized) stating the facts concerning the loss or destruction of the original document and the required fee pursuant to rule 0470-1-.06, \$25.

Board's of Dietitian/Nutritionist website is  
<http://health.state.tn.us/boards/DN>

## LAPSED LICENSE POLICY

The Board of Dietitian/Nutritionist Examiners recognizes that an individual may inadvertently allow his/her license to expire. However, statute prohibits an individual from working as a dietitian/nutritionist unless he/she has an active and unrestricted license. While the board does not condone an individual working on an expired license, recognition is given to the fact that the problem does exist. As such, the board has adopted the following procedures for reinstatement of an expired or administratively revoked license.

- Immediately upon recognition that his/her license has expired, the individual must stop practicing and contact the board's administrative office to request a reinstatement application.
- Upon receipt of the reinstatement application, the individuals are to complete the application in its entirety, providing a detailed work history since the license expiration date. The application is to be signed, notarized, and returned to the board's administrative office, along with any additional information and all fees specified in the instructions.
- Upon receipt of a completed reinstatement application, supporting documentation, including continuing education, and fees, the board administrator may immediately reinstate a license which has been in an expired status for less than three months.
- If the reinstatement application received reflects in the work history that the individual has worked in excess of three months on an expired license, the board will present to the licensee official notice which specifies payment of a fine in the amount of \$50 per month for every month in excess of three months from the expiration date, up to a maximum fine of \$300. Practice in excess of nine months on an expired license will result in the application for reinstatement being referred to the Office of Investigations. You can view the lapsed license policy at the board's website.

## Board of Dietitians and Nutritionists 2011 Board Meetings

**March 17, 2011 & September 22, 2011**

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### **Tennessee Board of Dietitians and Nutritionists**

Demetra “Dee” Pratt, Chair  
Collierville, TN  
Dietitian/Nutritionist

Kim E. Pryor  
Knoxville, TN  
Dietitian/Nutritionist

Janet Skates  
Kingsport, TN  
Dietitian/Nutritionist

Liang-Chu K. Daniel  
Eads, TN  
Dietitian/Nutritionist

Abbie J. Derrick  
Nashville, TN  
Dietitian/Nutritionist

Carol A. Miller  
Nashville, TN  
Consumer

#### **BOARD STAFF**

Karen Robinson  
Board Administrator

Madeline Snoddy  
Licensing Technician

Marva Swann  
Board Director