FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
MEDICAL SPA REGISTRY

1. **QUESTION:** What is a medical spa?
   ANSWER: A medical spa is any entity, however named or organized, which offers or performs cosmetic medical services as defined in T.C.A. §63-1-153, provided that a medical spa shall not include an individual physician's office or practice owned by a physician unless that physician's office or practice either (1) advertises or hold itself out as a medical spa or (2) primarily engages in the performance of elective cosmetic medical services such that more than 50% of the patients seen by the office or practice during the preceding twelve months receive an elective cosmetic medical service.

2. **QUESTION:** What if I am a physician who offers cosmetic medical services in my office? Is my office a medical spa?
   ANSWER: Your office is considered a medical spa if you and your staff engage primarily in the performance of cosmetic medical services or if you advertise or hold your office out as a medical spa. Physicians' offices that do not advertise as or primarily engage in the provision of cosmetic medical services are not considered medical spas under Tennessee law and do not have to register as such.

3. **QUESTION:** What is a cosmetic medical service?
   ANSWER: A cosmetic medical service is any service that uses biologic or synthetic material, a chemical application, a mechanical device, or a displaced energy form of any kind that alters or damages, or is capable of altering or damaging, living tissue to improve the patient's appearance or achieve an aesthetic result.

4. **QUESTION:** How do I register my medical spa?
   ANSWER: The spa's medical director is responsible for submitting the registration form to the Board of Medical Examiners. The form should be mailed to:

   Board of Medical Examiners
   ATTN: Medical Spa Registration
   665 Mainstream Drive, 2nd Floor
   Nashville, TN 37243 (37228 for courier service only)

5. **QUESTION:** Is the registration form available online?
   ANSWER: Yes, you may access the registration form online at http://www.tn.gov/health/topic/medical-spa-registry. You may request a paper registration form by email TN.Health@tn.gov.

6. **QUESTION:** Is there a fee to register my medical spa?
   ANSWER: Yes. The fee is $185 and is also collected annually with renewal of registration.

7. **QUESTION:** Do I have to renew my registration?
   ANSWER: Yes, registration must be renewed annually. An online renewal system is being developed and will be available soon. Operation without current registration constitutes

unprofessional conduct on the part of the medical director or any supervising physician providing services, including supervision services, at such unregistered medical spa and is grounds for disciplinary action by the licensing board of such physician.

8. **QUESTION:** What is the difference between a medical director and supervising physician?
   ANSWER: These terms are synonymous and are used to describe the physician responsible for the provision of cosmetic medical services provided in a medical spa.

9. **QUESTION:** What are the requirements for a medical director or supervising physician?
   ANSWER: A medical director or supervising physician must be a medical doctor or osteopathic physician with an active Tennessee license and an active medical practice in Tennessee. Active medical practice means practicing medicine at a physical location in Tennessee and does not mean a solely telemedicine practice in Tennessee.

10. **QUESTION:** How many medical spas can a medical director or supervising physician supervise at one time?
    ANSWER: There is no maximum number of medical spas that a medical director or supervising physician may supervise. This should be determined by the physician, consistent with good medical practice.

11. **QUESTION:** If I register my business as a med spa, does that mean I do not need a license as a massage establishment, salon or cosmetology business, etc. if I provide those services as well?
    ANSWER: No. Please contact the appropriate licensing board for more information on separate licensing or registration requirements.

12. **QUESTION:** Do I have to register multiple locations of my medical spa?
    ANSWER: Yes, each medical spa address must be registered separately.

13. **QUESTION:** Who can use a laser in a medical spa?
    ANSWER: Any procedure encompassed within the definition of the practice of medicine contained in T.C.A. § 63-6-204 that is to be performed by use of a laser shall be considered, except as provided in T.C.A. §§ 63-26-102(5) and 63-9-106, to be the practice of medicine and any person performing such procedure must be under the supervision of a licensed physician.

14. **QUESTION:** Are pop up parties or door to door concierge services allowed?
    ANSWER: No. All medical spa services must be performed at the practice site which is the address provided on the medical spa registration.