

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

MISSION STATEMENT

The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners serves the state of Nevada by ensuring that only well-qualified, competent physicians, physician assistants, respiratory therapists and perfusionists receive licenses to practice in Nevada. The Board responds with expediency to complaints against our licensees by conducting fair, complete investigations that result in appropriate action. In all Board activities, the Board will place the interests of the public before the interests of the medical profession and encourage public input and involvement to help educate the public as we improve the quality of medical practice in Nevada.

THE BOARD

The Board is the oldest occupational licensing board in the state, having recently celebrated 118 years of service to the patients of Nevada (March 15, 1899 – March 15, 2017). The Board is composed of nine members, six of whom are actively practicing physicians and three of whom are public members. By statute, all of the members of the Board must be selected without regard to their individual political beliefs. All members are appointed by the Governor for a period of four years, and may be removed by the Governor for good cause. Board members may be appointed by the Governor to a second four-year term.

The Board has two Investigative Committees. Each Committee is composed of two physician Board members and one public Board member. The committees are charged with administering the disciplinary program of the Board.

The Board is located at 1105 Terminal Way, Suite 301, in Reno, and has a satellite office at 6010 S. Rainbow Blvd., Building A, Suite 2, in Las Vegas.

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Michael J. Fischer, M.D., *President*

Dr. Fischer was appointed to the Board effective September 1, 2009, and was appointed to a second term commencing September 1, 2013. He has practiced Ophthalmology in Carson City since 1983, and holds a medical degree from the Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara in Mexico. Dr. Fischer is a past-President of the Carson Douglas Medical Society, was the 100th President of the Nevada State Medical Association and served for two years on the Council on Legislation of the American Medical Association. He is the President of the Board and previously served as a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D., *Vice President*

Dr. Prabhu was appointed to the Board effective October 1, 2013. He has been a practicing physician in Nevada for over three decades and founded Red Rock Medical Group, Eldorado Medical Center and Sleep Center of Nevada, specializing in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine.

Dr. Prabhu is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Pulmonary Medicine, Sleep Medicine and Critical Care Medicine, and is a graduate of the prestigious Calcutta University, Calcutta, India. He is currently serving as a Clinical Professor of Medicine with the University of Nevada School of Medicine. Dr. Prabhu has held several critical positions, such as Medical Director of the ICU at Valley Hospital and Medical Co-Director of the ICU at University Medical Center. He served as the Pulmonary Consultant to Veterans Services in Las Vegas and as the Medical Director of the Veterans Nursing Home in Boulder City. Dr. Prabhu is the Vice President of the Board and Chairman of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Wayne Hardwick, M.D., *Secretary-Treasurer*

Dr. Hardwick was appointed to the Board effective November 8, 2011, and was appointed to a second term commencing September 22, 2015. He has practiced Emergency Medicine in Reno since 1980, and holds a medical degree from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Hardwick is a past-President of both the Washoe County Medical Society and the Nevada State Medical Association, and is active in various civic and professional organizations. He is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board and Chairman of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Theodore B. Berndt, M.D.

Dr. Berndt was appointed to the Board effective July 1, 2009, and was appointed to a second term commencing July 1, 2013. He has practiced Cardiology in Reno since 1976, and holds a medical degree from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Dr. Berndt is a clinical staff member at the University of Nevada School of Medicine and was on the Board of Directors for Renown Health. He is currently a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees, having previously served as the Chairman of that Investigative Committee.

Sandy Peltyn, *Public Member*

Ms. Peltyn is a public member of the Board, appointed to the Board effective July 1, 2014. She is the principal in charge of Business Development/Marketing, Political Affairs and Community Relations for DeSimone Consulting Engineers. She serves on the Executive Board and the Foundation Board of St. Rose de Lima/Dignity Health and was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as one of 24 commissioners to perform feasibility studies to bring to life the first-ever museum of the American Latino under the umbrella of the Smithsonian Institute. With a nearly 35-year history of community service, cultural activities and humanitarian work, Ms. Peltyn has served Nevada and Las Vegas with distinction. Ms. Peltyn attended Inter American University in San Juan, Puerto Rico, majoring in Humanities, with a minor in Music. She is a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Victor M. Muro, M.D.

Dr. Muro was appointed to the Board effective September 28, 2015. He is the Medical Director of Optum Medical Partners in Henderson, and was previously with Jacobs & Modaber/CareMore Medical Group in Las Vegas. Dr. Muro holds a medical degree from the UCLA School of Medicine and is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. He is currently an appointee by the State Board of Health as a physician member of the Medical Laboratory Advisory Committee. Dr. Muro is a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

M. Neil Duxbury, *Public Member*

Mr. Duxbury is a public member of the Board, appointed to the Board effective December 11, 2015. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from the University of Nevada, Reno. During his college and post-college careers, he worked for the University of Nevada School of Medicine in Reno and the Veterans Administration Medical Center, assisting with various medical research projects. He later assisted in medical research at the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden. Mr. Duxbury is the Founder and Co-Owner of Metropawn, the largest chain of privately-owned pawn shops in the state. He is active in the community and supports such organizations as the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, the University of Nevada, Reno, Bishop Manogue Catholic High School and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. He has served as a member of the YMCA Capital Campaign Committee, completed the Reno Chamber of Commerce Executive Training Program and was an active member of the Executive Association of Reno. Mr. Duxbury is a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

April Mastroluca, *Public Member*

Ms. Mastroluca is a public member of the Board, appointed to the Board effective December 11, 2015. Ms. Mastroluca is currently the Executive Director for the ALS Association, Nevada Chapter. In 2002, she was hired by the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth to run the Safe Place Program. She expanded the program, taking it statewide, by connecting with the Children's Cabinet in Reno. Two years later, she became the Fund Development Director for the Southern Nevada Chapter of the American Red Cross. She then spent eight years as a National Service Representative for the National PTA. She served as a Nevada State Legislator from 2008 to 2012. Volunteerism has always been important to Ms. Mastroluca. She currently serves on the Advisory Board of Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth, she is the 2016 President of the Association of Fund Raising Professionals, Las Vegas Chapter, and a member of Leadership Henderson, class of 2016. She previously was a member of Junior League, served as a Girl Scout and Boy Scout Troop Leader, served as President of Kesterson Elementary PTA and was on the Nevada PTA State Board. She holds a Certificate of Nonprofit Board Education from Boardsource. Previously, she completed the Emerging State Leaders Program at the Darden School of Business and the Western Legislative Academy from the Council of State Governments, West.

Aury Nagy, M.D.

Dr. Nagy was appointed to the Board effective August 31, 2016. He is a neurosurgeon and is currently a partner in Nevada Brain & Spine Care. Dr. Nagy is a Las Vegas native, holds a medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine, and is certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery. He served as Spine Committee Chair and Neurosurgery Section Chief for Spring Valley Hospital, as well as an adjunct clinical faculty member for Touro University. He was a product development consultant and Speakers Bureau clinical lecturer and educator for Integra NeuroSciences, Inc. He is currently a speaker for LDR regarding its artificial cervical disc and Medtronic for its Deep Brain Stimulator technology. Dr. Nagy is a frequent author on the subject of back pain and has participated in several research programs regarding spine and brain injuries. He was the first neurosurgeon in Nevada to place an artificial cervical disc in a patient and his deep brain stimulation procedures for Parkinson's patients are well-regarded. He has served in the White House Medical Corps as a neurosurgeon and is a member of the Southern Nevada Medical Reserve Corps, as well as the Clark County Medical Society. Dr. Nagy is an active member of the Southern Nevada business community, a supporter of renewable energy, and has been involved in numerous medical and community organizations. He has also served on the Governor's Workforce Board Health Sector Committee, as well as the Federal Health Information Advisory Committee to U.S. Congress.

BOARD STAFF

Executive Staff:

Edward O. Cousineau, J.D., Executive Director
Todd C. Rich, Deputy Executive Director
Donya Jenkins, Finance Manager
Libi Anders, Research Analyst

Administrative Staff:

Laurie L. Munson, Chief of Administration and Information Systems
Helena J. Teeple, Administrative Coordinator
Julie M. Espinoza, Credentialing and Consumer Assistance Specialist

Legal Division Staff:

Robert Kilroy, J.D., General Counsel
Jasmine Mehta, J.D., Deputy General Counsel
Angelia L. Donohoe, Legal Assistant

Investigative Staff:

Pamela J. Castagnola, CMBI, Chief of Investigations
Mollie Miller, J.D., CMBI, Deputy Chief of Investigations
Donald A. Andreas, CMBI, Deputy Chief of Investigations, Las Vegas office
Trent S. Hiatt, CMBI, Investigator
Monica C. Gustafson, CMBI, Investigator
Kim Friedman, CMBI, Investigator, Las Vegas office
Johnna S. LaRue, CMBI, Investigator
Lara R. Ward, Investigator, Las Vegas office
Kati Payton, Investigator, Las Vegas office
Samantha M. Hendricks, Investigations Coordinator
Norma Perkins, Administrative Assistant
Jerry C. Calvanese, M.D., Medical Reviewer

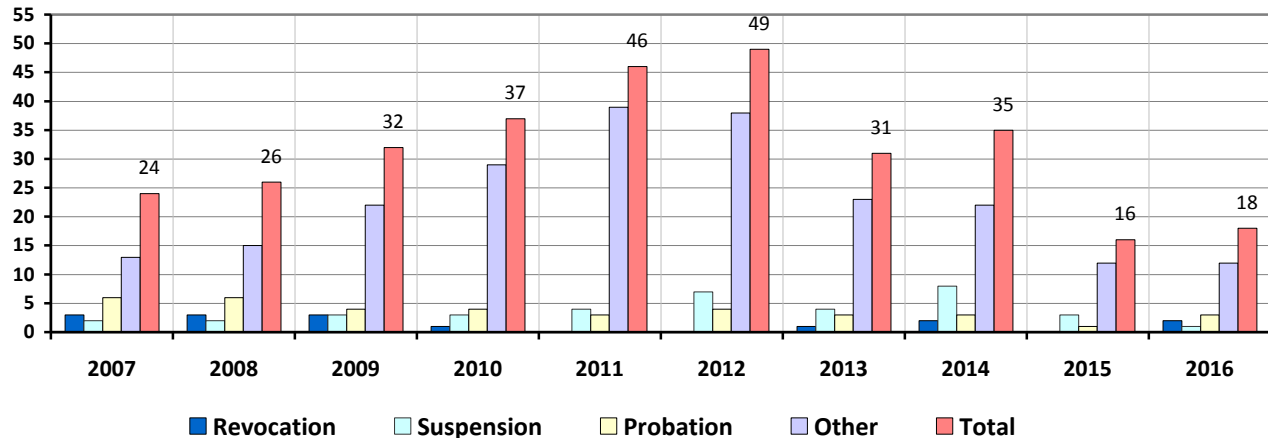
Licensing Staff:

Lynnette L. Daniels, Chief of Licensing
Carolyn H. Castleman, Deputy Chief of Licensing
Brandi M. Harris, License Specialist
Kristi L. Stewart, License Specialist
Jason Man, License Specialist
Stacey McCleery, License Specialist
Nancy Padilla, License Specialist
Aimee D. Dodge, License Specialist
Florlinda C. Grabek, Licensing Coordinator
Alexandra D. Hayworth, Administrative Assistant

COMPLAINTS, INVESTIGATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

In 2016, the Board opened 703 investigations, closed 578 investigations (many of which, of course, originated in preceding years) and imposed 18 disciplinary actions against physicians. The graph below shows the number and types of discipline imposed by the Board regarding physicians for the last ten years.

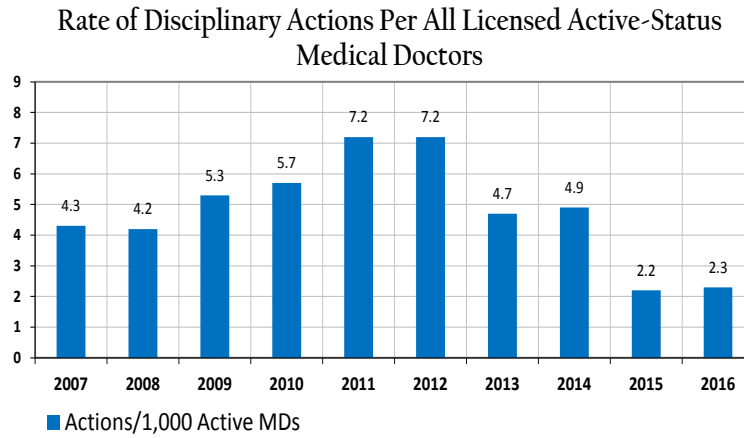
Disciplinary Actions Taken Against Medical Doctors*



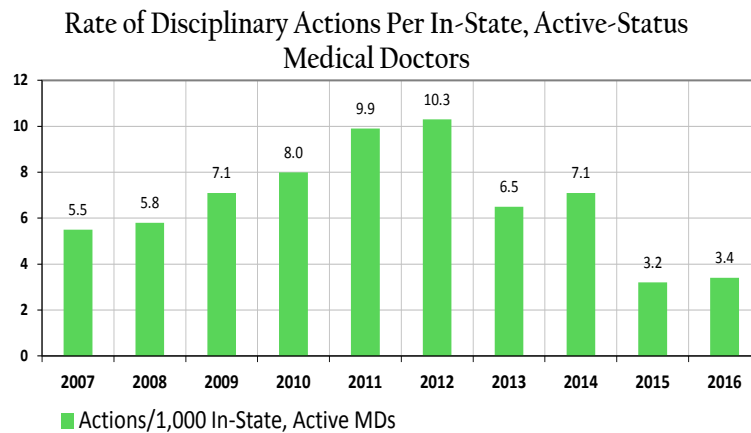
Note: "Other" actions include: Voluntary Surrender of License While Under Investigation, License Restriction, Public Reprimand, Licensure Denial, CME Ordered, Fine, Drug or Alcohol Treatment Program Ordered, and Competency Exam Ordered.

*Any discrepancy in these numbers from a report published by any other source is due to: (1) differences in verbiage or categorization; or (2) differences in the number of actions taken per practitioner.

The graph below shows the rate of disciplinary actions taken by the Board per 1,000 active-status licensed physicians for the last ten years.



The graph below shows the rate of disciplinary actions taken by the Board per 1,000 in-state, active-status licensed physicians for the last ten years.



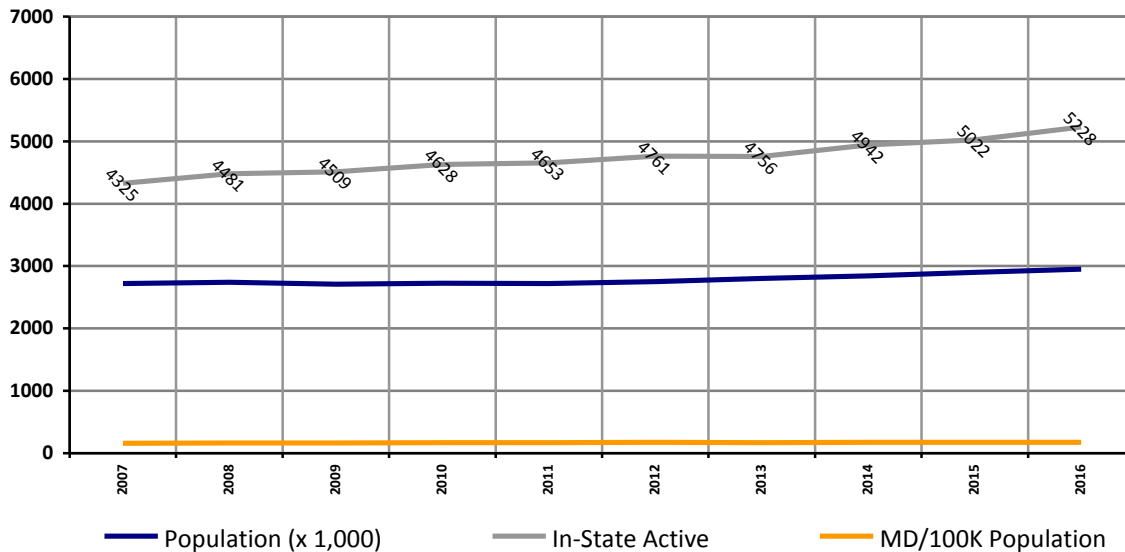
LICENSING

The Board licenses physicians, physician assistants, respiratory therapists and perfusionists. In 2016, the Board issued the following new licenses:

Practice	
Physicians	665
Physician Assistants	112
Respiratory Therapists	150
Perfusionists	15

In 2016, the ratio of physicians to 100,000 population* increased over the previous year. The following graph shows the growth of the state's population (measured in thousands so that the trend line will fit on the graph, and last reported at 2,953,375), the state's active, in-state physician population (in absolute numbers), and the ratio of physicians to population (measured as physicians per 100,000 population). In 2007, the ratio was 159 physicians per 100,000. From 2008 through 2012, the ratio increased, averaging between 164 and 173. In 2013, the ratio was 170; in 2014, the ratio increased to 174; in 2015, the ratio decreased to 173; and in 2016, the ratio increased to 177.

Comparison of Population With In-State, Active Physicians



*Population statistics provided by the Nevada State Demographer, Nevada Department of Taxation.

The physician licensure for active, in-state physicians increased by 4.1% in 2016. The following table is a county-by-county breakdown of physician licenses for the last ten years. In 2016, Carson City, Clark, Humboldt, Lyon and Washoe Counties showed growth in their physician populations; Elko, Lander, Mineral, Nye and White Pine Counties showed decreases; and the remaining seven counties remained static in their physician populations.

Physician Licensure Counts (2007-2016)

County	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Carson City	140	142	143	151	158	152	164	168	171	177
Churchill	21	23	22	20	22	23	27	29	24	24
Clark	2949	3060	3086	3186	3207	3305	3277	3403	3460	3605
Douglas	93	97	85	84	87	89	80	86	79	79
Elko	41	46	45	46	48	41	40	40	43	42
Esmeralda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Humboldt	9	9	10	9	10	11	12	11	11	12
Lander	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	2
Lincoln	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Lyon	13	11	14	13	15	16	15	16	12	13
Mineral	6	5	6	6	5	6	5	5	6	4
Nye	19	17	16	15	16	14	13	16	15	13
Pershing	2	2	2	3	2	1	0	0	1	1
Storey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washoe	1017	1056	1064	1081	1069	1088	1110	1155	1186	1246
White Pine	11	8	10	9	10	10	9	9	9	8
In-State Active Status	4325	4481	4509	4628	4653	4761	4756	4942	5022	5228
Out-of-State Active Status	1309	1655	1577	1888	1757	2084	1868	2251	2116	2561
TOTAL ACTIVE STATUS	5634	6136	6086	6516	6410	6845	6624	7193	7138	7789
Inactive & Retired Statuses	776	760	781	770	758	748	818	801	806	802
TOTAL LICENSED (Active, Inactive & Retired Statuses)	6410	6896	6867	7286	7168	7593	7442	7994	7944	8591

The number of physician assistants increased significantly by 10.5% in 2016. The locale of physician assistants trends similarly to the locale of physicians statewide, as is shown on the following table. In 2016, there was growth in Carson City, Churchill, Clark, Douglas, Elko, Lyon and Washoe Counties; Nye County showed a decrease; and the remaining nine counties remained static.

Physician Assistant Licensure Counts (2007-2016)

County	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Carson City	15	15	14	13	16	17	14	18	17	18
Churchill	6	7	6	4	6	9	10	9	9	10
Clark	271	307	310	332	342	386	398	452	479	533
Douglas	15	15	10	11	9	12	16	17	15	19
Elko	7	6	5	5	5	7	9	10	13	14
Esmeralda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Humboldt	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Lander	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1
Lincoln	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Lyon	2	4	5	6	6	4	5	6	7	9
Mineral	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3
Nye	6	10	6	7	4	4	2	2	5	4
Pershing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storey	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1
Washoe	76	83	82	91	91	104	109	121	138	149
White Pine	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL ACTIVE STATUS	407	455	446	476	488	553	574	645	694	767

The number of respiratory therapists increased by 8.2% in 2016. In 2016, there was growth in Carson City, Churchill, Clark, Elko, Mineral, Nye and Washoe Counties; Lyon County showed a decrease; and the remaining nine counties remained static.

Respiratory Therapist Licensure Counts (2007-2016)

County	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Carson City	9	10	12	12	12	13	12	13	11	14
Churchill	8	8	5	5	4	5	4	4	5	6
Clark	655	743	798	880	920	1006	982	1069	1079	1167
Douglas	16	18	20	20	18	15	16	16	13	13
Elko	7	7	5	6	8	9	7	8	9	10
Esmeralda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Humboldt	5	5	4	4	5	5	4	4	2	2
Lander	2	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
Lincoln	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyon	19	20	16	18	15	16	15	16	15	14
Mineral	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	4
Nye	11	8	10	11	13	12	13	15	13	14
Pershing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storey	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washoe	154	163	160	176	192	197	186	202	191	207
White Pine	2	2	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3
TOTAL ACTIVE STATUS	892	993	1037	1140	1193	1284	1246	1354	1346	1457

The number of perfusionists increased significantly by 16.7% in 2016 – that increase being in Clark County, with all other counties remaining static.

Perfusionist Licensure Counts (2010-2016)*

County	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Carson City	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
Churchill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clark	20	19	25	20	23	20	24
Douglas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elko	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Esmeralda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Humboldt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nye	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pershing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washoe	5	5	5	4	5	4	4
White Pine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ACTIVE STATUS	26	25	31	25	29	24	28

*In 2009, the Nevada State Legislature passed legislation requiring that all perfusionists must be licensed. No perfusionists were licensed by the Board prior to 2010.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions or comments regarding this Annual Report should be directed to:

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