



## OREGON HEALTH LICENSING AGENCY

# LICENSING LINE



November 30, 2006

Catch the Latest News from the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA)

### In this issue...

- Regulatory Collaboration Is Key, says OHLA Director Wilson
- OHLA Board/Council Video Focuses on Roles, Responsibilities
- In a Hurry? Grab a "Profession in Brief" on [www.oregon.gov/OHLA](http://www.oregon.gov/OHLA)
- OHLA Regulatory News At-A-Glance
- OHLA in the News: Nail Technology

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*REGULATORY COLLABORATION IS KEY AT OHLA . . .* At the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA), two (or more) regulatory heads are better than one. In 2006, OHLA continued to collaborate with a wide range of regulatory agencies, consumer advocacy organizations and stakeholder groups to address a number of regulatory issues.

"In today's health and wellness marketplace and regulatory environment, no one exists in a vacuum," says OHLA Director **Susan K. Wilson**. "Regulation, like business, should offer inclusive solutions to consumers, customers and stakeholders."

Highlights of OHLA regulatory collaborations include:

- **Department of Environmental Quality** – To determine if registration as an environmental health specialist or waste water specialist is required to provide onsite septic system evaluations, OHLA and the Environmental Health Registration Board are working with DEQ to review existing regulations.
- **Board of Massage Therapists** – To help resolve scope of practice issues and address common concerns of the professions, OHLA formed a working group consisting of members from the massage board and the Board of Cosmetology.
- **Board of Nursing** – OHLA served on a cosmetic procedures task force to draft policy guidelines for nurses providing cosmetic services.
- **U.S. Food & Drug Administration** – OHLA is working with the FDA to better integrate federal and state regulations, particularly as they relate to the use of equipment and devices in the practice of esthetics.
- **Hearing Loss Association of Oregon** – OHLA provides this consumer advocacy group with a direct line of communication at Advisory Council on Hearing Aids meetings and regularly consults with and provides outreach to member groups throughout the state.

OHLA also collaborated with professional associations such as the **Oregon State Denturist Association** on potential legislation to streamline the licensing process for qualified denturists from out of state, and provided the **Oregon Acupuncture Association** with information to assist the OAA in exploring the possibility of forming a licensing board

administered by OHLA.

*OHLA VIDEO FOCUSES ON ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES . . .*

Allied Video Productions of Salem conducted principal shooting for the OHLA volunteer citizen board and council member orientation video on 11/6/06.

Besides capturing footage of that day's Board of Cosmetology meeting, Allied filmed four members from OHLA boards and councils who described their roles and responsibilities. Allied also shot segments with OHLA staff, including OHLA Director **Susan K. Wilson**, on the central role OHLA plays in regulating multiple health and related professions.

**Chris Gustafson**, Chair of the Advisory Council on Hearing Aids, spoke on conflict of interest and recusal from deliberations as well as members' accountability to the people of Oregon as public officials.

**Betty Griffith**, Chair of the Board of Direct Entry Midwifery, spoke on the requirements of holding an executive session and other public meeting and public record issues, highlighting the need for members to hold themselves up to high standards.

**Joe Coss**, former Chair of the Board of Denture Technology, spoke on the finer points of parliamentary procedure, such as making motions, to keep the 20 regular board and council meetings held annually among eight different OHLA boards and councils running smoothly.

**Marilyn Barclay**, a member of the Respiratory Therapist Licensing Board and OHLA's Customer Connection Committee, spoke on the important work conducted on board and council sub-committees to address training, education, examinations, enforcement, professional standards and other regulatory issues.

Even after watching the orientation video, what if new board and council members have a question or concern?

"When in doubt, ask OHLA staff," answers OHLA Board Liaison **Samie Patnode** in a segment shot for the video, which is expected to premiere at board and council meetings in early 2007.

*IN A HURRY? GRAB A "PROFESSION IN BRIEF" . . .* Need a quick look at a particular OHLA-regulated profession? OHLA has updated and revised these popular fact sheets and made them easy to access with just a click of your computer mouse.

Under the *Current Topics* heading on the specific profession pages on [www.oregon.gov/OHLA](http://www.oregon.gov/OHLA), "Profession in Brief" fact sheets include information on what services regulated professionals may provide and where they practice, qualifications, continuing education requirements and authorizing state statutes and administrative rules.

**OREGON HEALTH  
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700 Summer Street NE  
Suite 320  
Salem, OR 97301-1287

*OHLA REGULATORY NEWS AT-A-GLANCE . . .* OHLA volunteer citizen boards and councils meet for regularly scheduled meetings as well as for numerous sub-committee and special ad-hoc, issue-oriented meetings, all open to the public. Here's a summary of the latest issues and actions:

- The **Board of Cosmetology** adopted the position statement, *OHLA, Board of Cosmetology Work to Resolve Scope of Practice Issues through Recognition, Collaboration*, on 11/6/06. To access the position statement, [click here](#).
- The **Advisory Council for Electrologists, Permanent Color Technicians and Tattoo Artists** on 11/21/06 discussed the safety of cutting used needles from needle bars and reusing the bars after council member **Judith Culp** raised concerns. OHLA will begin recommending that practitioners should dispose of the needle bar after use.
- The **Environmental Health Registration Board** adopted two position statements related to the evaluation of septic systems on 11/17/06, *EHRB Collaborating with DEQ to Clarify Regulation of New Residential Onsite Septic System Evaluations* and *EHRB Adopts DEQ Standards for Time of Transfer Evaluations*. To access the position statements, [click here](#).
- The **Board of Denture Technology** Examination Committee will meet in executive session on Monday, December 4, to review out-of-state educational institution examinations and licensing programs to determine if they are equivalent to Oregon standards for denturists.

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held at OHLA in Salem and are open to the public. For a complete listing of all board and council meetings, go to <http://www.oregon.gov/OHLA/BoardMeetings.shtml>.

Minutes to all board meetings can also be accessed by visiting the specific sections of OHLA-regulated professions and clicking on "Meetings" on the left navigation menu at [www.oregon.gov/OHLA](http://www.oregon.gov/OHLA).

*OHLA IN THE NEWS: NAIL TECHNOLOGY . . .* On 11/22/06, KOIN Channel 6 health reporter **Jenny Hansson** provided viewers with tips on what to look for at nail salons to prevent infections, such as making sure the salon has cleaned and disinfected its pedicure foot spa equipment by following state requirements. The segment also highlighted OHLA statistics on safety and infection control violations.

*WHERE TO FIND LICENSING LINE BACK ISSUES . . .* To read back issue of *Licensing Line*, visit [www.oregon.gov/OHLA](http://www.oregon.gov/OHLA) and click on the *Licensing Line* link under "News You Can Use."

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503-378-8667  
FAX 503-585-9114  
TTY 503-373-2114  
[ohla.info@state.or.us](mailto:ohla.info@state.or.us)  
[www.oregon.gov/OHLA](http://www.oregon.gov/OHLA)

and suggestions about *LICENSING LINE* are appreciated. Let OHLA Communications Officer **Kraig Bohot** know at ext. 4330 or at [kraig.bohot@state.or.us](mailto:kraig.bohot@state.or.us).

*Protecting Oregon's safety and health through uniform regulatory standards for health and related professions*

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