

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND REGULATION

MASSAGE/BODYWORK THERAPY PANEL

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



May 2016

Welcome to a new endeavor by your South Carolina Massage/Bodywork Panel. As your new Chairperson, I will strive to write a brief newsletter following each quarterly Panel meeting. Your Panel wants to keep you informed of topics that come before the Panel and what we're doing to maintain and improve the massage industry in South Carolina. You will find reminders of upcoming license renewal deadlines and information relative to your practice.

I will keep this newsletter to one page to encourage you to take the brief few minutes to read it.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our past Chair, Mrs. Carolyn Talley-Porter, LMT, for her tireless work in the massage industry, both in South Carolina and across the nation. Mrs. Talley-Porter almost single-handedly wrote the Massage/Bodywork legislation for South Carolina over twenty (20) years ago, obtained licensing for massage/bodywork therapists, and has participated in most of our professional organizations to develop the industry. She has received many awards of appreciation and recognition as a top notch therapist in the upstate region. The Panel wants to recognize her for acting as Panel Chair until her retirement this past December. We are grateful to take up the torch and lead the South Carolina Massage/Bodywork profession forward.

Your Panel has established two (2) task forces to examine the current Panel and South Carolina massage industry practices. They were established to examine how we handle formal complaints that are made against massage therapists to LLR, and to look at how we practice massage/bodywork therapy in South Carolina.

Ongoing results of these meetings will be presented at the quarterly Panel Meetings until the tasks are complete. These meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend.

You should have received your license renewals by now. The deadline for renewing your South Carolina Massage/Bodywork license is June 30th. Following that deadline, the Panel will conduct a random audit of all renewals to make sure continuing education credits are complete and accurate. Be sure to keep your certifications as proof of continuing education in case we call on you.

When you receive your new 2016 license, you will notice a 2" x 2" square in the bottom corner where you can place a valid, professional, photo of yourself. As your Panel Chair, I have requested that we move towards requiring photos on our licenses to provide validation to the public that the license and the person performing the licensed service, are the same. As you know, many other industries require this for validity and security to the public. Please take advantage of this opportunity to distinguish yourself as a legitimate, professional South Carolina Massage/Bodywork Therapist.

The next Massage/Bodywork Panel Meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2016, in the Kingtree Building of Synergy Business Park, 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, at 10:00 am. You can read minutes of past meetings on the LLR website.

Until then, I wish you truth and success in your life and your Massage/Bodywork profession.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Shaw".

JAN SHAW, M.S., LMT

S.C. MASSAGE/BODYWORK THERAPY CHAIRPERSON