



# Georgia Board of Pharmacy *NEWS*

December 2022

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### *President's Message*

As we approach the end of 2022 and with the holidays upon us, I can't help but reflect on what an amazing year we have just experienced. We are certainly blessed to work in such a wonderful profession. As I have mentioned before, Pharmacy has taken on a much greater and integral part of our patient's total healthcare plan directly related to the outstanding care each of you provide on a daily basis. From my perspective, pharmacy will continue to grow and provide a diverse set of services in the future.

It's been an absolute privilege to serve as the President of the Board this year and I would like to thank our entire team for their role in making us successful. It's been a very busy year for the Board as we have very active in updating many rules and regulations that will certainly enhance our ability to provide the best possible patient care as we move forward. I sincerely believe that 2023 will be equally rewarding. Thank you again for all the support and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Dean Stone

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

### **1- RECORD RETENTION**

One of the frequent inquiries received by the Board office is directed toward the rules surrounding records and the retention of those records. The timeline for specific areas of our business such as retail, hospital, etc... are located in different parts of the rules so we will not list them here but please be reminded that in general, records are intended to be kept and readily retrievable for a period of 2 years. I urge each of you to review the rules related to your specific business and update your files as needed.

## **2- PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

One of the most important aspects of our business is to maintain a strict code of professional conduct at all times. The Board takes this responsibility very seriously and works hard to maintain the integrity of the guidelines. These rules are not only meant to protect our patients but are also aimed at protecting pharmacy staff associates as well. The Code of Professional conduct can be found Rule 480-5-.03 this Code is expressly adopted by the Board and shall govern the conduct of all those admitted to the practice of pharmacy in their capacities as pharmacists, all those issued licenses as a pharmacy in their capacities as licensees and all pharmacy interns/externs in their capacities as pharmacy interns/externs. A license to practice pharmacy or a permit to operate a licensed pharmacy confers to vested right to the holder thereof but is a conditional privilege revocable for cause.

## **3- GRITS REPORTING**

The Georgia Board of Pharmacy (“Board”) seeks to remind pharmacy licensees of their obligation under O.C.G.A. § 31-12-3.1(b) to report certain vaccine information to the Georgia Immunization Registry (GRITS).

O.C.G.A. § 31-12-3.1(b) states: Any person who administers a vaccine or vaccines licensed for use by the United States Food and Drug Administration to a person shall for each such vaccination provide to the department such data as are deemed by the department to be necessary and appropriate for purposes of the vaccination registry established pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section, including, without limitation: 1) The name of the person; 2) The person’s date and place of birth, including the name of the hospital where delivered, if possible; 3) The names and addresses of the person’s parents or guardians if the person is 18 years of age or younger; 4) The date of the vaccination and the specific type or types of vaccine or vaccines administered to the person on that date; and 5) Complications or side effects resulting from a vaccination, if any. For more information about the Georgia Immunization Registry (GRITS), statutory text, frequently asked questions and related forms, please click Georgia Immunization Registry (GRITS) | Georgia Department of Public Health or visit <https://dph.georgia.gov/immunizationsection/georgia-immunization-registry-grits>

### **Upcoming Board Meeting:**

Date: December 14, 2022

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual Teams Meeting

### **Board Members**

President: Dean Stone

Vice President: Michael Azzolin

Michael Brinson

Young Chang

Cecil Cordle

Chuck Page

Bill Prather

Consumer Member: Jim Bracewell

### **2023 Public Board Meetings**

January 18, 2023

February 15, 2023

March 8, 2023

April 12 & 13, 2023

May 24, 2023

June 14, 2023

July 19, 2023

August 16, 2023

September 13, 2023

October 18, 2023

November 15 & 16, 2023

December 13, 2023