

Colorado Podiatry Board Newsletter

Public protection through effective licensure and enforcement



Dora
Department of Regulatory Agencies

State of Colorado
Department of Regulatory Agencies
Division of Registrations

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor
D. Rico Munn, Executive Director
Cheryl Hara, Program Director

News Update 2008

* It is time to renew your professional license! *

You should renew your professional license **ONLINE** using
[Registrations Online Services](#).

IMPORTANT: Please be sure to print out and keep for your records a copy of your online renewal questionnaire. If you answer "yes" to any questions on the renewal questionnaire, you will need to send in your renewal questionnaire along with supporting documentation for your "yes" response to the attention of Sue Carroll, Colorado Podiatry Board, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1300, Denver, Colorado 80202. If you have any questions with regard to "yes" answers on your renewal questionnaire, please contact Sue directly at 303.894.7720.

In addition, it is not possible to change your licensure status online from active to inactive. If you wish to inactivate your license and renew your license status as inactive, you will need to call 303.894.2984. You will need to request that a renewal questionnaire for inactive status be mailed to you. Conversely, if you wish to reactivate your license you will first need to renew your inactive license and then file an application for reactivation.

Go to the Board's licensure website at www.dora.state.co.us/podiatrists to obtain a reactivation application and to review the reactivation requirements.

You may also use the Registration online services to change your mailing address.

Go to: www.doradls.state.co.us to access these services.

Board Members

G. Marcus Conner, DPM

Current Vice President

Irene E. Drewnicky

Public Member

Eugene M. Rosenthal, DPM

Board Member

Emily H. Webb, DPM

Board Member

Yvonne B. Weber, DPM

Board Member

Board Staff

Susan Miller

Healthcare Section Director

Cheryl Hara

Program Director

Susan Taylor

Enforcement Program

Manager

Sue Carroll

Program Assistant

and Newsletter Editor

Proof of Lawful Presence

In July 2006, the Colorado Legislature passed House Bill 06S-1009, which requires the Division of Registrations to verify that applicants for licensure and those renewing their licenses be lawfully present in the United States. This bill applies to all applicants for licensure and persons already licensed by various boards and programs of the Division of Registrations. You may find more information online at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/Affidavit.htm>.



Board Actions

January 2007 – December 2007

The Board maintains a list of Board actions taken by the Colorado Podiatry Board for previous years on its website at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/podiatrists>. Documentation of Board actions may also be obtained from the Internet at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/doraimages>, or by sending a written request to Sue Carroll at the Podiatry Board address, via e-mail (susan.carroll@dora.state.co.us), or by phone at 303.894-7720.

Board Action Definitions

The following Board action definitions are provided to assist you reviewing the information provided.

Letter of Admonition: A public reprimand issued to the podiatrist in the form of an actual letter or as part of a Stipulation. The letter or Stipulation is a public record and may be obtained from the Board office.

Stipulation and Final Agency Order: An order of the Board and an agreement between the Board and the podiatrist prior to a formal hearing. A stipulation resolves the case. In a stipulation, both parties agree to facts, sanctions and the terms and conditions for continued practice, if applicable.

Final Board Order: Final order issued by the Board after a formal hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) where evidence and testimony were presented. The ALJ prepares a written report of the findings, which a Hearing Panel of the Board reviews and then makes the final ruling regarding the appropriate sanction.

Summary Suspension pursuant to 24-4-104(4), C.R.S. is an immediate, temporary withdrawal of the podiatrist's license to practice pending prompt commencement of formal disciplinary proceedings. This type of suspension can only be ordered when the Board finds the public health, safety or welfare requires emergency action or that the podiatrist has willfully violated the law.

Suspension pursuant to 12-32-108.3(11)(a), C.R.S. is a suspension of a podiatrist's license for failure to comply with a Board order to submit to a physical or mental examination.

The following list does not represent all Board actions. Absent from this list are applicants denied initial licensure or reinstatement either before or after a hearing. The city listed is derived from the designated mailing address on file with the Board, and may not reflect the current city of practice.

Disciplinary Actions

James C. Dill, D.P.M., Denver, Colorado, License #351

On June 8, 2007, the Podiatry Board approved a Stipulation and Final Agency Order for Dr. Dill that includes admissions of unprofessional conduct in violation of C.R.S. Section 12-32-107(3)(v), CPEP documentation seminar to include pre-program and post-program and 20 hours of Board-approved continuing medical education courses in the areas of pre- and post-surgical follow-up care. The order is open for public inspection and reported as required by law.

John R. Swenson, D.P.M., Colorado Springs, Colorado, License #474

On November 30, 2007, the Podiatry Board approved a Second Stipulation and Final Agency Order for Dr. Swenson that includes continuation of supervision restriction, admissions of unprofessional conduct in violation of C.R.S. Sections 12-32-107(3)(i)(u) and (y), two years probation, practice monitoring, compliance plan and audit of patient treatment and billing records. The order is open for public inspection and reported as required by law. (Note: Dr. Swenson entered into his first Stipulation and Final Agency Order with the Board on June 10, 2005. That Order included a letter of admonition, documentation course and requirement that Dr. Swenson only engage in direct, on-site supervision of unlicensed personnel.)



Board Member Profiles

The Colorado Podiatry Board is a five-member Board comprised of four Doctors of Podiatric Medicine and one Public Member. The members are appointed by the Governor for a term of four years, and may be reappointed to subsequent terms at the Governor's discretion. There has been significant change in the Board composition over the past year. Last year Dr. Yvonne Weber was appointed to replace Dr. Peter Hartlove and just recently Dr. Eugene Rosenthal and Dr. Emily Webb were appointed to the Board to replace Lisa Sullivan, DPM and Douglas Kennedy, DPM.

We thank both Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Sullivan for their service. Dr. Sullivan is the outgoing President of the Board and served on the Board for 12 years. Her commitment to the Board's mission of public protection and to the concept of professional self-regulation is exemplary and her leadership will be greatly missed. New Board officers will be elected at the Board's next meeting on June 6, 2008.

The following is a brief biography of each current board member:

G. Marcus Conner, DPM, Colorado Springs. Dr. Conner was appointed to the Board in February 2005 and his term will expire March 17, 2009. He is a graduate of the California College of Podiatric Medicine and has been licensed in Colorado since March 2001. Dr. Conner completed his residency training at the Yale - New Haven Hospital / VA Connecticut Health Care System New Haven, Connecticut and is board certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery. Dr. Conner practices with Colorado Springs Health Partners.

Irene Drownicky, Public Member, Pueblo. Ms. Drownicky was appointed to the Board in March of 2006 and her term will expire March 17, 2010. She received her undergraduate degrees in sociology and education from Texas A & I University in Corpus Christi, Texas. Ms. Drownicky went on to obtain a Masters degree in Guidance and Counseling from Corpus Christi State University and a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Southern Colorado. She is a licensed Professional Counselor and a Certified Addictions Counselor. Currently, Ms Drownicky is the Assistant Superintendent for Clinical Services at the Colorado Mental Health Institute. She has been a resident of Colorado since 1980.

Eugene M. Rosenthal, DPM, Englewood. Dr. Rosenthal was appointed to the Board in March of 2008 and his term will expire March 17, 2012. He is a graduate of the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and completed his residency at Peninsula Hospital in Far Rockaway, New York. Dr. Rosenthal is board certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery and has been licensed in Colorado since April 2004. Dr. Rosenthal is in private practice in Englewood.

Emily Huang Webb, DPM, Fort Collins. Dr. Webb was also appointed to the Board by Governor Ritter in March of 2008 to a four year term that will expire in March of 2012. She is a graduate of the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and completed her residency training at Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego and at the Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Sacramento, California. She is board certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery and has been licensed in Colorado since July of 2000. Dr. Webb is in private practice in Fort Collins.

Yvonne B. Weber, DPM, Boulder. Dr. Weber was appointed to the Board in April of 2007 to a term that will expire in March 2011. Dr. Weber graduated from the William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine in Chicago, Illinois and completed her residency at Monrovia Community Hospital, Monrovia, California. Dr. Weber is board certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery. She has been licensed in Colorado since February 1994 and is in private practice with her sister, Christina, in Boulder.

A Reminder to Podiatrists Regarding Patient Education

The following letter was sent to the Colorado Podiatric Medical Association (CPMA) in September of 2005 as a result of a complaint filed with the Board. Recently, the Board again had a similar issue come before it and felt it was appropriate to remind practicing podiatrists of their responsibilities to education patients regarding symptoms and complications.

Dear Colleagues:

As you are aware, the role of the Colorado Podiatry Board (Board) is to provide a peer review for the purpose of public protection. The members of the Board do not take this responsibility lightly.

Recently, the Board reviewed a case that involved a "routine forefoot procedure." A month after the surgery, the patient began developing vague symptoms. A month or so after these symptoms became clinically apparent the patient suffered death from a pulmonary embolism. This was an unfortunate event that could happen to any who operate.

To the extent that doctors of podiatric medicine have ever expanding privileges and are performing increasingly complex procedures, it is **our responsibility** to educate the patient on symptoms that could result in complication.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Board that the Colorado Podiatric Medical Association (CPMA) increase the benchmark standard of care in our State by providing its members with a detailed list of potential surgical complications and their associated symptoms. This is to ensure surgeons provide their patients with tools to recognize potential complications and allow them to contact their surgeon before it results in morbidity or fatality.

Certainly, we do not feel that it is the responsibility of the CPMA to itemize every potential complication, but rather those symptoms that may lead to devastating consequences if gone untreated. Some of these may include: infection, deep venous thrombosis, over sedation with narcotics causing respiratory distress, and others. We feel very strongly that the onus of responsibility for asking the right question is that of the treating physician. The podiatric physician has training to solicit responses, to properly qualify and diagnose, and eventually treat those symptoms avoiding complication. It is **not** the responsibility of the patient to tell the surgeon that "they are experiencing pulmonary embolism symptoms" without being appropriately solicited by the treating surgeon. It is the Board's desire that we raise the standard of care in our State to reflect the increased responsibilities that we all share in performing these sometimes-complex surgical reconstructions.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact the Board in writing, as we want to work together to promote safety for our patients in this state.

Respectfully,

The Members of the Colorado Podiatry Board

Colorado Podiatry Board

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*This newsletter was created by the Colorado Podiatry Board
to improve communications between the
Board and its licensees.*

