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## OFFICE OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY LICENSURE RULEMAKING

Respiratory Therapy Licensure will go through rulemaking this year. The rules will be updated and rules added regarding reporting of convictions and other adverse actions and the director's review of initial decisions. Notice of rulemaking along with the proposed changes will be posted on the website during the rulemaking process at [www.dora.state.co.us/respiratory-therapy](http://www.dora.state.co.us/respiratory-therapy). The new rules will be posted on the website once they become effective. Please watch for the notice of rulemaking.

**Contact us:**

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**Consumer protection  
is our mission**

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### RENEW YOUR LICENSE ON TIME!

Respiratory Therapy licenses are set to Lapse on August 31, 2010

You may renew your license online using Registrations Online Services. Renewals are generally made available 6 to 8 weeks prior to the license expiration date and there is a 60-day grace period after the deadline. So that means you typically have a timeframe of 16 weeks within which to renew your license!

Any license not renewed prior to the end of the grace period will be considered lapsed. Once a license is in lapsed status, a reinstatement application must be completed and returned to our office with the appropriate fee listed on the form.

If you do not renew your license prior to the end of the grace period and continue to practice, you will be practicing on a lapsed license and may be subject to disciplinary action. The Division sees a number of situations every year of individuals who have failed to renew their license on time and practiced without a license. The reasons that are offered boil down to some common themes: I forgot; I thought I renewed but I guess I didn't; I moved and I forgot to notify the Board so I never got the renewal notice; I thought that my assistant/secretary/spouse/boyfriend, et cetera, handled it; it's the Board's fault because I *did* renew my license...or I *thought* I renewed my license. The result is that depending on how long it takes for the individual to "remember" to renew, the Division often takes disciplinary action against the individual because it is against the law to practice without an active license.

So, here's where we need your help. And the steps are just 1-2-3 easy!

1. Go to the Division of Registrations website at [www.dora.state.co.us/registrations](http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations) and click on Registrations Online Services to renew your license.
2. Note the expiration date in your calendar to remind yourself of when it is time to renew your license the next time.
3. Make sure that the address listed on your record is accurate. If it is not, then update your address with the Division. Remember to update your address any-time that you move so that you do not miss out on any important notices from the Division.

Remember, it is each licensee's responsibility to renew his or her license on time. With our online system, you can handle all of this yourself, any time, day or night.

## PROOF OF LAWFUL PRESENCE



Effective January 1, 2007, all persons requesting original licensure, renewal of an active license or reinstatement of a lapsed license must verify lawful presence in the United States based on the passage of House Bill 06S-1009. This bill applies to all applicants and licensees in the Division of Registrations, with the exception of apprentices, interns, and businesses.

### Licenses will not be issued or renewed without completing the Affidavit of Eligibility form.

The good news is that you can complete this affidavit online when you renew using Registrations Online Services!

You must possess at least one secure and verifiable document and include information about that document on the Affidavit itself (or provide the information during online renewal). The list of secure and verifiable documents is available to you when you renew online.

More information regarding this law is available on our website at

<http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/Affidavit.htm>

## HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR MAILING OR EMAIL ADDRESS LATELY?

It is imperative that you keep your contact information updated with the Division. The Division mails renewal notices and other information to you at the last address furnished to us. Failure to receive a renewal notice does not relieve you of your obligation to timely renew.

Once you have logged into Registrations Online Services, check your mailing address and update it if it is not correct. If you received your renewal notice due to a forwarding order it is important that you change your address on file with us, since we cannot change the information based on the forwarding order.

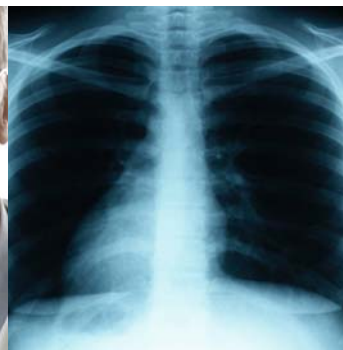
You should also add or update your email address. The Division wants to keep you abreast of legislation, events and other information that impact your profession. We have recently implemented "eUpdates" and look forward to providing more of these in the future.

## REGISTRATIONS ONLINE SERVICES

Registrations Online Services makes it easier for all licensed professionals to renew and update their contact information after a simple registration process. Check it out at [www.dora.state.co.us/registrations](http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations) and then click on Online Registrations Services. For detailed instructions on how to use the online system go to [www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/FAQs.htm](http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/FAQs.htm).

## WALL CERTIFICATES

For those of you that may be interested, the Division of Registrations is pleased to announce that it has outsourced the production of wall certificates to Wall Certificate Service (WCS) a division of Professional Credential Services, Inc. (PCS). The outsourcing of the certificates provides enhancements to the certificates that both new and existing licensees will find beneficial. Specifically, the certificate provided by WCS is a larger, professionally designed, better quality certificate than what the Division was able to provide. For more information regarding wall certificates, which license types are eligible, and how to obtain one, please visit our website at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/wallcert.html>. You will be able to order and pay the fee online. The fee for U.S. residents is \$25 and for international residents there is an additional international shipping fee.



## COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE

Between June 16, 2008 and May 26, 2010, 31 new complaints were filed against respiratory therapists in Colorado. The allegations included unlicensed practice, substandard patient care, failure to reveal discipline in another state, attempted to procure a license by deceit, excessive or habitual use of alcohol or habit forming drugs, habitual use of a controlled substance, felony conviction, false or omitted information on application, false entries in patient records and violation of Stipulation and Final Agency Order. In the same time period, 42 cases were finalized and 13 complaints were dismissed. The following individuals were disciplined:

Registrant's Name	Date	Conduct	Disciplinary Sanction
Matthew M. Brown	09/23/08	Failed to report felony conviction	Letter of Admonition
Joe H. Bush	09/22/08	Disciplined in another State	Letter of Admonition
Bruce C. Burns	05/13/09	Felony Conviction	Voluntary Surrender
Andrew V. Eslinger	03/16/09	Excessive or habitual use of alcohol	Probation
Deanna L. Holland	12/21/09	Excessive or habitual use of controlled substance	Probation
Korby J. Krueger	06/25/09	Failed to reveal discipline from another State	Application denied
Richard W. Lamerton	12/21/09	Felony Conviction	Voluntary Surrender
Joseph T. Locher	09/08/08	Disciplined in another State	Probation
Ralph E. Lucas	01/06/09	Unlicensed practice	Cease and Desist Order
Monae Martin	03/25/10	Falsified entry in patient record	Probation
Cindy Martinez	12/05/08	Practicing without a license	Letter of Admonition
Laura K. McCombs	08/25/08	Unlicensed practice	Application denied
Laura K. McCombs	11/18/08	Unlicensed practice	Cease and Desist Order
David M. McKay	01/19/09	Excessive or habitual use of drugs	Probation
Thomas L. Nieto	07/02/09	Attempted to procure a license by deceit	Application denied
Lenova K. Parchman	12/05/08	Failed to report felony conviction	Probation
Robert V. Parke Jr.	10/22/09	Mental disability rendered ability to practice	Probation
Ronald E. Roe	11/17/08	Failed to supervise unlicensed personnel	Probation
Tobias L. Stamm	01/05/09	Felony Conviction	Probation
Kristina L. Silvers	03/08/10	Felony Conviction	Revocation
Dennis A. Stapleton	06/04/09	Excessive or habitual use of controlled substance	Voluntary Surrender
Harry A. Westbrook	06/04/09	Excessive or habitual use of alcohol	Voluntary Surrender
Edmundo M. Ybarra	01/05/09	Failed to reveal criminal conviction on application	Application Denied
Virginia C. Zimmerman	03/04/10	Failed to meet generally accepted standards	Probation

To view disciplinary documents dating from January 1, 1999 to the present, please visit Registrations Online Documents (ROD) at [www.dora.state.co.us/doraimages](http://www.dora.state.co.us/doraimages)

[Click here](#) for more information about the types of documents provided by this online system and definitions of terms used within the disciplinary documents.

If you are interested in viewing these documents, please visit [www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/ROD.htm](http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/ROD.htm).

## DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS ONLINE DOCUMENTS

If you would like to view a board action you may use the **Registrations Online Documents (ROD)**. ROD is a website that makes certain scanned documents related to board actions taken on licensees available to the public via the Internet. The document may be found on ROD if a licensee had been disciplined or if the board has taken some other non-disciplinary action against the licensee that restricts or limits the individual's license.

The following documents are available via ROD:

- All Stipulations, Final Agency Orders, and Suspensions that were in effect in February 2000 plus any that became effective since that date. Child support suspensions are not available online but may be obtained by contacting the appropriate board/program.
- Any document Revoking or agreeing to a Voluntary Relinquishment/Surrender of license or registration, Cease and Desist Orders and Letters of Admonition from January 1, 1999 to the present.
- All Injunctions.