

## Clarifying Inactive Status

If you are unable to practice and earn continuing education hours for a period of time, it may be useful to apply for inactive status. It is unnecessary to state a reason for moving to inactive status. There are several important points between active and inactive licenses that you should know.

A licensee must hold an active license in order to apply for inactive status so it is important to make the decision to apply for inactive status prior to your renewal date. If your active license has expired, your application cannot be approved.

An individual who holds an inactive license is NOT entitled to use the title licensed massage therapist and may not engage in the practice of massage therapy.

Inactive licensees must renew annually, instead of biannually. The fee for renewing an inactive license is \$35.00 per year. There are increased fees for late renewals.

There are no annual requirements for continuing education while you hold an inactive license. However, in order to regain active status, you must show evidence of completing one (1) hour of continuing education for each month the license has been inactive, not to exceed five years (60 months).

Waivers or extensions of continuing education requirements may be approved at the discretion of the Board.

You may hold an inactive license for up to five years. Beyond five (5) years the licensee shall meet the require-

ments for an initial license in order to secure an active license.

The anniversary renewal date, established at the time your original license was issued, will remain the licensee's renewal date.

Before returning to active status, the licensee must:

- Provide proof of continuing education as required by KRS 309 362(3);
- Complete the Application for Return to Active Status
- Pay the fee for active status fee as prescribed in KAR 42:020, Section 2(7)
- Receive Board approval through the normal application approval process.

Kentucky Board of Licensure for Massage Therapy  
911 Leewood Drive  
Frankfort, KY 40601



### BOARD MEMBERS

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# Unbridled Touch

December 3, 2012

## Important Announcement Concerning Online Renewals

The Office of Occupations and Professions (O&P), which provides our administrative and technology support, has been working with the state Commonwealth Office of Technology (COT) to find a suitable solution to the on-going online problems associated with our online renewals. Unfortunately,

it may be some time before that solution is found and implemented. Until then, the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Massage Therapists is discontinuing the ability for our licensees to renew online effective January 1, 2013. We have made changes to the paper forms to bring them into

compliance with state laws and regulations. You can obtain those forms at <http://bmt.ky.gov> under the Resources Tab. Once O&P and COT have upgraded the renewal system, we will let you know so that you can once again renew your licenses online.

## HOW YOUR BOARD IS IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS

### FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND OUR WEBSITE

While some of you are real whizzes at using a computer, many of you are not. Just enter <http://bmt.gov> to go to our website. To simplify finding information, we created "Quick Links" to the most frequently used webpages such as on-line renewals and license verification and added them on the Homepage to make it easier for you to find what you are looking for. Of course, you can still use the Navigation Bar with its drop-down menus.

### ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

You need to get answers quickly and accurately so we posted answers to your most Frequently Asked Questions on the KBLMT website. Frequently Asked Questions aim to make finding answers easy without outside assistance and without waiting. Learn about the process of licensure and renewal, how to change your status from active to inactive and back again, how

to apply for a Kentucky license from another state, how to file complaints, and much, much more. Now many of your answers are right at your fingertips, either at home, on your phone, or using the computer at your local public library. Find [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the Homepage at <http://bmt.ky.gov>.

### HELP WITH THE ONLINE RENEWAL PROCESS

On the first screen you see when you select Online Renewal, we have added three things that you should find quite helpful. We have added information on how to get around those "glitches" that frustrate many of you when you attempt to renew online. We added a link for a free software download that can make your online renewal easier. As a temporary measure, to get information to you more quickly, we added instructions to the first screen you see when you select Online Renewal.

### A NEW LIBRARY OF FORMS IS BEING CREATED

Your Board has begun the process of creating new forms for use in the application process and we hope to have them available in spring 2013. The intent is to a) make all forms consistent with requirements stated in the regulations, b) provide clear directions for completion of each form, and c) create a new design that will provide more space for writing and clearer identification of where you need to enter information. An entirely new form has been created for Inactive and to return to Active Status which should clarify requirements for those processes. To help schools with their application process, several new forms have been created. There is now a renewal short form for the annual renewal of a Certificate of Good Standing, a new form for Summary of Instructor Qualifications, and a Curriculum Verification Form which will establish a school's compliance with our laws and regulations.

### Chair's Report



**"We are not exclusive but inclusive embracing the voices of individuals, schools, and our professional associations..."**

First, I would like to acknowledge the legacy of leadership, hard work, diligence, and outstanding service of our former Chair, Theresa Crisler. She served over seven years and along with others blazed an awesome trail before us. Theresa's commitment is recognized and honored. To those who have recently left the Board since our last newsletter, we thank you Holly Barnhill and Michael Mansfield for your expertise, dedication and service. We welcome our new arrivals, Katherine Warner, Tom Hansen and Eric Byrd and applaud their willingness to participate. Secondly, I am truly honored and excited to serve as Chair with such a passionate, connected and committed Board. Collectively, we bring to the table strong talents, gifts, wisdom, experience and knowledge from all angles of the Massage arena. We are passionate and purposeful about upholding the laws and regulations governing Massage Therapists and protecting the public. We support the positive growth and de-

velopment of massage programs and schools as they meet the requirements and standards guided by our statutes. Striving to make information clear and accessible for licensees is the goal of our website. It remains under positive construction due to technological upgrades and vital support personnel. Many improvements are underway. It necessitates time and patience of all of us. Applications for licensure, renewals, educational programs, and school status are reviewed carefully and consistently by our Applications Committee to ensure all requirements of the statute are met. Our Complaints Committee reviews grievances from the public regarding unlicensed practices and questionable behavior of licensees. This process is overseen by our attorney Michael West who diligently guides us within the legal boundaries to ensure fairness to all parties involved. Your Board is a connected and committed group that interrelates with the Office of Licenses and Professions.

We are always striving for more efficient methods of communication, clear patterns to follow and quality control of necessary functions of our Board. Our Board Administrator multitasks beyond words. There are not enough words to share with you our gratitude for the job she does. So many quality people serve in the background to ensure the tasks are completed from the IT to fiscal departments and other State government entities. We are not exclusive but inclusive embracing the voices of individuals, schools, and our professional associations (AMTA, ABMP, NCBTMB, FARB, etc.) Overall, we work together for a common goal. We are a regulatory board, focused on protecting the public, licensing and renewing massage therapists that have met the standards, support schools in good standing and upholding the laws and regulations of Massage Therapy.

Cheryl A. Turner  
Board Chair

### HOW YOU CAN IMPROVE COMMUNICATION WITH THE BOARD

- Print out and use the most recent and correct form. Some folks keep copies of forms and use them without realizing that they are using an out-of-date form. When the new forms are finalized, old forms will no longer be accepted.
- Make sure your contact information is up to date in the KBLMT database. That includes any name change, home address, email address and phone number/s.
- Plan to apply for renewal at least 60 days in advance of your license expiration date, just to be sure that there is time to provide more information if it is requested, without risking termination of your license.
- Attempt to find answers to your questions on our website before sending a letter or email. It will speed up the process with less frustration.
- If you really need to contact the Board Administrator, do it in writing. You can keep a record of your query and you will be sure to get a response. With thousands of licensees, answering phone calls is understandably difficult.
- Let us know how we are doing. If you have unmet needs, send us suggestions on how we can serve you better.



### KBLMT Requests Your Comments on Upcoming Regulation Changes

Your Licensure Board (KBLMT) has proposed regulation changes and wants to make you aware of the upcoming Legislative Review Committee (LRC) hearing where you can express your comments. The recommended changes have been formulated by the Board attorney and submitted to the Legislative Review Committee (LRC.) The documents should be available for review around December 1, 2012.

First, a new library of application forms has been created that will replace the current forms. The new 2013 forms should streamline all application processes. The intent is to a) make all forms consistent with the regulations, b) provide clear directions for completion of each form, and c) provide more space for writing and clearer identification of where you need to enter information.

Second, an entirely new form has been created for Inactive/Active Status which should clarify requirements for these processes and reduce frustration.

Third, "Regulation 201 KAR 42:070. Endorsement" references a form called Application of License via Endorsement. This form is no longer used and all references to that form will be struck from the regulation. The intent is to eliminate confusion.

The fourth change relates only to schools and the process of applying for and renewing a Certificate of Good Standing. Currently the regulation has no specific measurable criteria. The recommended change requires a school holding a Certificate of Good Standing to show evidence that 70% of their graduates who took a licensing exam passed it.

There will be a public comment period during the month of December, ending January 3, 2013. You can comment either in writing or in person. You can send your comments in writing to:

Carolyn Benedict, KBLMT Board Administrator, Division of Occupations and Professions, 911 Leawood Dr., Frankfort, KY 40602.

A public hearing is scheduled for December 21 at 10:00 am. If you wish to speak, you must notify the Board at least five days in advance of the hearing that you wish to speak. If no one requests to speak, the hearing will be cancelled.

To review the recommendations, you can go to <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/TITLE201.HTM>. The website shows links to all of the 201 KAR's and the proposed edits will be in green under the MT Regulations.

All of your comments will be carefully reviewed by the KBLMT and recommendations will be considered. We hope that you will take the time to provide feedback. The new changes are designed to help you so let us know if we have succeeded. Hopefully, you will agree that the changes are appropriate and needed.

### Report of Legal Proceedings Undertaken by the Board in 2011-2012 By: Michael West, Assistant Attorney General

The Kentucky Board of Licensure for Massage Therapy is charged by the General Assembly with protecting the citizens of the Commonwealth by ensuring that massage therapists are qualified to practice and that those massage therapists conduct their practices in an ethical manner. In furtherance of this mission, the Board routinely seeks relief in the Courts and in Administrative Hearings. Over the past year, the Board has filed numerous cases alleging illegal practices by both licensed and unlicensed individuals. The following is a representative sample of the cases pursued by the Board over the last year.

*Cases where the Board was awarded an injunction by the Circuit Court prohibiting unlicensed practice:*  
Boone Circuit Court, Case No. 11-CI-1933, Board v. Teresa Gregory  
Jessamine Circuit Court, Case No. 11-CI-

916, Board v. Tabitha Kirschbaum  
Jefferson Circuit Court, Case No. 12-CI-2657, Board v. Terria Monay  
Jefferson Circuit Court, Case No. 11-CI-2363, Board v. Barbara Jean Embry  
Calloway Circuit Court, Case No. 11-CI-129, Board v. Theresa Lawrence

*Cases that did not result in an injunction being issued by the Court but, nonetheless, resulted in prospective compliance by the accused:*  
Boone Circuit Court, Case No. 11-CI-1933, Board v. Bob Arrasmith  
Hardin Circuit Court, Case No. 11-CI-1871, Board v. Kelli Hicks

*Cases where the Board took disciplinary action against a licensee:*  
Administrative Action No. 11-KBMT-0068, Board v. Xiang Boajian  
Administrative Action No. 11-KBMT-0112, Board v. D.J. Bowers

Administrative Action No. 11-KBMT-0168, Board v. Lisa O'Bryan  
Administrative Action No. 11-KBMT-0069, Board v. Evelyn Pitsenbarger  
Administrative Action No. 11-KBMT-0069, Board v. Darcy Sowers  
Administrative Action No. 11-KBMT-0161, Board v. Ashley Thurman

The Board is committed to ensuring that massage therapy is performed in an ethical manner in the Commonwealth. Please visit the Board's website and submit the appropriate forms if you know of unlicensed or unethical practice. The Board will do its part to make certain that those individuals are held accountable according to the law.



### Max A. Maxwell, Member at Large



Max is a Program Specialist for the Bingham Fellows Program an advanced leadership program of the Leadership Louisville Center and President of Maximum Results, a PR/Marketing/Advertising consulting agency specializing in building images, brand awareness, commercial production and media placement. He is also Executive Producer of Urban Lifestylez, a locally produced TV show on the CW that focuses on African American Lifestyles. Other accomplishments include past member of the National Executive Committee of 100 Black Men of America as Co-chair of

Conventions and Meeting Planning, past President of 100 Black Men of Louisville and a current board member, adjunct faculty member at the University of Louisville, JCC, and Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in communication. He is author of "Equally Yoked" a fictional exploration of the African American males' quest to find his soul mate. Max received a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and a Master of Arts in Broadcast Communication and Advertising from Western Kentucky University. Mem-

berships include Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Ye Ole Esquires, YMCA Black Achievers Communication Cluster, Louisville Enterprise Group Board of Directors, Mayor's Healthy Hometown Advisory Committee, 2000 All American Cities Planning Team, He is a Christian, a native of Hopkinsville, Kentucky, married to Denyce and the father of two daughters Courtnei and Tialer.

### On The Road...

Visit the KBLMT Website

On the KBLMT website Homepage <http://bmt.ky.gov>, you will find links to two simple PowerPoint presentations, The Road to Licensure and The Road to Renewal, that explain

how the application process works. Although they were originally created as part of an oral presentation, the Board quickly realized that they could be used as stand-alone presentations to easily explain the

application process to students and therapists alike. You can watch them at the website or download them for use in your own classroom or professional presentations.

### ETHICS: A RENEWAL REQUIREMENT by Cheryl Turner

Did you know that failure to report the completion of 3 hours of ethics is the NUMBER 1 reason or rejecting renewal applications? Statute 201 KAR 42:110 states that three hours of the required continuing education "shall be accrued in the field of professional ethics." Yet each month the Applications Committee reviews many applications that do not list the ethics course

requirement and, sadly, those applicants must be notified that their renewal has been delayed. Our profession is tarnished regularly because of unlicensed individuals who practice unethically. It is crucial that we demonstrate that we massage therapists understand and adhere to high ethical standards. Our license must reflect that we not only have developed a high degree of skill, but that we also operate

with clear, healthy and appropriate boundaries. Clarity in the practice of ethical standards leaves no room for question. We must operate professionally in every aspect of our careers. Ethics education is the key to demonstrating our understanding of the importance of the values and principles that set us apart from "massage parlors" in the public's eye.

### Wallet Cards Retired: Print Your Own Online Verification!

Go to <http://bmt.ky.gov>. Select Online Services. Click [Online License Verification](#). Click dropdown box to select The Kentucky Board of Licensure for Massage Therapy. Type your license number. Click search. If you search by name, other licensees with similar names will also appear on the screen.

### SURVEY: Do you think that online continuing education should be limited in Kentucky?

Since Kentucky began massage therapy licensure in 2004, continuing education opportunities have increased dramatically. Today many of Kentucky's massage therapy schools offer continuing education programming; the Kentucky Chapter of AMTA offers education opportunities and independent educators hold "hands-on" classes in various cities in the state. Both ABMP and AMTA offer online courses and webinars and many other individuals and companies are also offering online study opportunities.

Some states have limited the number of hours that can be earned online; Kentucky has not. Some of the pros and cons of earning continuing education online are listed below. **Let us know your opinion before March 1, 2013, by emailing our Board Administrator, Carolyn Benedict, at [Carolyn.Benedict@ky.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Benedict@ky.gov).**

#### Pros

Can be done at home without taking time away from your job, business, and/or family.

Online classes are affordable and save you the expense of travel and lost wages.

Many classes and webinars are AMTA, ABMP, NCBTMB approved! However, always double check that the provider you choose is approved.

Most online classes are taught by Massage Experts!

You can take an online class on your schedule! You can watch when it is convenient for you or re-watch to catch something you've missed.

Online classes are simple and easy to use - visual and audio are streamed through your computer.

#### Cons

You do not receive hands-on instruction or evaluation.

You cannot receive certification.

You cannot participate in live Q&A.

You learn in isolation; there is no opportunity for networking or socialization with other therapists.

Space may be limited in a massage continuing education webinar.

You must be self-directed—you need to make the time to watch and practice these techniques without the structure of being in a classroom setting.

Some online classes have not been approved by NCBTMB or by our state.



**"Both ABMP and AMTA offer online courses and webinars..."**

### Multiple Exams Accepted for Licensure

KBLMT was authorized by the legislature last year to approve examinations for licensure in addition to those offered by NCBTMB. 201 KAR 42:035 Section 3(1) and (2) list the standards the board has set for approval, and states that approvals will be listed in the meeting minutes and on the board website.

- The Board researched a number of exams according to the standards. 201 KAR 42:035 Section 3 (3) lists the exams the board will accept for licensure, in addition to the NCETM and NCETMB:
- MBLEx
- State of Ohio Massage Therapy Licensing Exam
- State of New York Massage Therapy Licensing Exam

In addition, in April, 2012, the board approved the American Medical Massage Association (AMMA) examination if taken after 2006, when the agency administering this exam became "a certifying agency that has been approved by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies" as required in KRS 309.538(5).

### Licensure Status Report

#### Current Statistics

Total Licenses issued 01/01/11 – 10/29/2012	816
Total Active Licenses:	2572
Total Inactive Licenses:	81
Total Expired / Terminated Licenses:	1300

Meet your Board Members...

Cheryl Turner, L.M.T.— Board Chair

Cheryl A. Turner, Chair of the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Massage Therapy is a Licensed Massage Therapist in Kentucky, certified in Neuro-muscular Therapy, nationally certified by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork, and Lead Therapist at Massage Envy -St. Matthews in Louisville. Cheryl graduated from Clayton College of Natural Health in Natural Health Studies where she has earned her

N.D. in Natural Health Studies. She desires to serve others as a link between Alternative Health and Western Medicine bridging the gap through bodywork and education. She has crossed many geographic borders throughout the world serving in the field of bodywork. Cheryl has worked throughout the country in industrial medicine, chiropractic offices, and salons, also independently stateside and overseas. She maintains a passion in the field

of holistic health and wellbeing for all individuals. She considers her experiences and knowledge gifts to be shared. She has an appetite for learning and growing holistically and teaching others along the way. Cheryl has also published her first book.

Denise Logsdon, L.M.T.—Board Vice Chair & Secretary

Denise Logsdon is Director of Massage Therapy at Spencerian College in Louisville. She began practicing massage therapy in 1987 in Virginia Beach, VA. She has practiced in chiropractic offices, a wellness center, a hospital, and 3 salon/spas. She maintains a small private practice, specializing in myofascial trigger point and myofascial release. She holds an MA from University of Louisville in Exercise Physiology, a BA in PE

from Cal State Long Beach, with a Specialist in Adapted PE certificate.

Ms. Logsdon has been a member of the American Massage Therapy Association for 20 years, serving as a national vice president, national government relations chair, and national finance committee chair, chapter president of Virginia and Kentucky chapters, and Virginia chapter education and legisla-

tive committee chair. She organized the coalition of massage therapists in Kentucky who collectively wrote the massage licensing bill passed in 2003 and served as the activist representing MT's to get it passed. She has served on the board complaints and applications committees in the past, but now focuses on special projects involving research on board policies.

Thomas Hansen, L.M.T.—Member

Tom Hansen is a licensed, nationally certified, massage therapist working in Northern Kentucky. He received his massage training at Gateway Community and Technical College. He received is AS in Massage Therapy in 2006, more than thirty years after receiving his Master's Degree. Tom holds both a BA and MA in English Education from Jersey City State College, Jersey City, New Jersey.

He held positions with the Hud-

son County Welfare Board, taught school and, perhaps his greatest accomplishment, retired from the Internal Revenue Service after thirty years of Service.

As a massage therapist he has worked for various chiropractors and Massage Envy in Florence, Kentucky as well as a self-employed therapist making house calls. He has held volunteer positions with the American Massage Therapy Association and the National Certification Board

for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork.

He lives in Petersburg, Kentucky with his wife of nearly thirty years and both their children followed them to the area so, after years of roaming, Kentucky is where they will stay.

Tom was appointed to the KBLMT in January, 2012.



Katherine Warner, L.M.T.—Member

Katherine Warner is a licensed massage therapist from Fort Thomas, Kentucky where she maintains a private practice. She received her massage therapy training at SHI in Lebanon, Ohio is licensed in two states – 20 years in Ohio and 7 years in Kentucky. Katherine attended the University of Kentucky where she earned a bachelor's degree in Health Science Education and a Master's degree in Education with an emphasis in clinical and college teaching. Prior to becoming a massage therapist she

taught at Northern Kentucky University where she was an associate professor in allied health. Serving her profession has always been a passion for Katherine, particularly in the area of continuing education. She has been active in the American Massage Therapy Association in both Ohio and Kentucky and has held positions at the local, state and national levels. Her work has earned many honors, including three national service awards. Her favorite saying is, "I am only one person; I can't

do everything. But I can do something." Katherine is a wife, mother and grandmother who delights in her family. Her favorite title is "Nana." She was appointed to the KBLMT in January, 2012.

Eric Byrd, L.M.T.—Member

Eric Byrd is a licensed and nationally certified massage therapist. He graduated from Lexington Healing Arts Academy and practices in Lexington, Kentucky. He is trained in cranio-sacral therapy through the Upledger Institute, visceral manipulation with the Barral Institute and is certified in medical massage therapy.

Prior to working in the health care industry, Eric worked in several industry sectors. Eric

holds an M.S. and a B.S. in Forestry from the University of Kentucky as well as a graduate certificate in Environmental Systems. He holds an A.A.S. in Manufacturing Engineering from Florida Atlantic University.

Eric is an active member of the American Massage Therapy Association, a Member of the Gamma Sigma Delta Agriculture Honor Society and the Golden Key National Honor

Society. He was appointed to the KBLMT in October, 2012.

Laurie Bond Horsford, Member at Large

Laurie Bond Horsford is a lifelong resident of Kentucky. She earned a B.A. in communications from the University of Kentucky and has worked in both sales and human resources. Before becoming a stay-at-home mom Laurie worked at Toyota Motor Manufacturing where she conducted assessments and interviews of production applicants. She was a recruiter for salaried positions, the co-op program and the skilled maintenance

program. She currently lives in Northern Kentucky with her husband and two children. Laurie is a member-at-large on the board and serves as a member of the Applications Committee. She was appointed to the board in 2009.

Board Meeting Dates

Unless otherwise noted, all board meetings are held at the Office of Occupations and Professions, 911 Leawood Drive, Frankfort, Ky., at 10 a.m. ET. Individuals wishing to speak at the board meeting must submit a written request to the board office at P.O. Box 1360, Frankfort, KY 40602 no later than five business days prior to the meeting in order to be placed on the agenda.

12/17/12 Regular Board Meeting

01/28/13 Regular Board Meeting

02/25/13 Regular Board Meeting

Application Review Committee

All committee meetings will begin at 10:00am. To insure consideration, all application documents, such as test results and transcripts, must be received ten (10) business days prior to the Application Review Committee meeting to be considered at that month's committee meeting.

12/12/12 Application Committee Meeting

01/23/13 Application Committee Meeting

02/20/13 Application Committee Meeting