# BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE COMMITTEE 1300 National Drive, Suite 150, Sacramento, CA 95834 P (916) 928-4785 | F (916) 928-4787 | www.naturopathic.ca.gov



## MEMORANDUM

DATE	December 1, 2020
то	Committee Members
FROM	Rebecca Mitchell Executive Officer
SUBJECT	Executive Officer's Update – Agenda Item 7

This report provides the Committee Members with information on the following topics:

- Staffing
- Licensing Report
- Enforcement Report
- Oversight (Sunset) Review Information

#### **Licensing Statistics:**

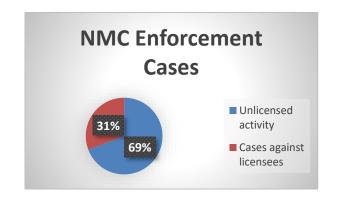
The table below shows the NMC's total licensee count as of November 23, 2020. The table shows the number of licensees practicing under the Committee's jurisdiction. The total number of licensees under the NMC's jurisdiction is 1,067.

License Status	Number of Licensees	
Active/Current	889	
Inactive/Current	23	
Delinquent	155	
Total:	1,067*	

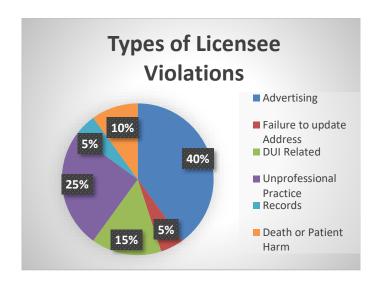
<sup>\*</sup> Total licensees under the NMC's jurisdiction

#### **Enforcement Statistics:**

	# of
Case Type	Cases
Unlicensed activity	45
Cases against	
licensees	20
Total cases	65



Types of Licensee Violations	QTY.
Advertising	8
Failure to update Address	1
DUI Related	3
Unprofessional Practice	5
Records	1
Death or Patient Harm	2
TOTAL	20



#### Staffing / Office:

The Committee was understaffed for an eight (8) month period while its sole analyst was out on an unplanned leave of absence. During this time period, all the Committee's workload was diverted to the Executive Officer. Everything was processed within normal timelines and there were no backlogs during staff absence. On 10/13/2020, staff was allowed to return to work and resume duties on a half-time basis. The Executive Officer still covers any duties not currently performed by the analyst.

All staff remain working within a hybrid-telework system without any issues. While all state agencies are being asked to reduce expenditures, the hybrid-telework option can assist with office space cost reductions in the future; in addition, we will continue to do our part in reducing carbon footprints and allowing staff a better home-work life balance.

#### COVID-19:

On March 30, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-39-20. This Executive Order authorized the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to waive any of the professional licensing requirements and amend scopes of practice in Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code and regulations. The following waivers were issued on March 31, 2020:

- <u>DCA 20-01 Continuing Education</u> Active licensees that expire between March 31, 2020 and June 30, 2020 are temporarily exempt from completing or demonstrating compliance with any continuing education requirements in order to renew a license. These licensees must satisfy any waived renewal requirements within six months, unless further extended. Additionally, these waivers do not apply to any continuing education required pursuant to a disciplinary order against a license.
- <u>DCA 20-02 Reinstatement of Licensure</u> Inactive licensees who are seeking to reactivate their license are temporarily exempt from completing or demonstrating compliance with any continuing

education requirements. Additionally, these licensees do not need to pay any fees in order to reactivate their license. These licenses are valid for a maximum of six months, or when the State of Emergency ceases to exist, whichever is sooner. Additionally, licenses that were surrendered or revoked pursuant to disciplinary proceedings or any licensee who entered an inactive status following an initiation of a disciplinary proceeding are not eligible for this waiver.

On September 23, 2020, Director Kirchmeyer issued an order waiving the restrictions on internet-based continuing education training for chiropractors and naturopathic doctors.

This waives California Business and Professions Code section 3635, subdivision (a)(2), to the extent it limits to 15 hours the maximum number of continuing education hours that may be completed through computer-assisted instruction, subject to the condition that such instruction consists of Internet- or web-based courses that allow participants to concurrently interact with instructors or presenters while they observe the courses.

### **Oversight (Sunset) Review Information:**

The Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee and the Assembly Business and Professions Committee have postponed sunset review oversight for a number of programs that would have otherwise been scheduled for review in 2020-2021.

SB 1474, Chaptered by Secretary of State on 09/29/2020, was amended to extend operations for the following entities for one year, until January 1, 2023:

- Naturopathic Medicine Committee
- Board of Chiropractic Examiners
- California Council for Interior Design Certification
- Occupational Therapy Board
- Physical Therapy Board of California
- Respiratory Care Board
- Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology, Hearing Aid Dispensers Board

The following entities will still be reviewed as scheduled in 2020-2021:

- Board of Registered Nursing
- Medical Board of California
- Board of Optometry
- Osteopathic Medical Board of California