



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS
P. O. BOX 2649
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17105

January 1, 2018

Professional Credentialing Office
VA Medical Center
Department of Veterans Affairs

The Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, Health Licensing Boards received your recent request for verification of licensure. Unfortunately, we cannot provide all of the requested information. All information that can be provided is available through our primary source PALS Internet verification at <http://www.pals.pa.gov>.

The Commonwealth's health licensing boards, including the State Board of Medicine, the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, the State Board of Dentistry, the State Board of Nursing, the State Board of Optometry, the State Board of Podiatry, the State Board of Chiropractic, the State Board of Physical Therapy, the State Board of Occupational Therapy, the State Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Psychology, the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists & Professional Counselors, State Board of Massage Therapy and the State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language and Hearing are all part of the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs and administratively housed within the Department of State. The Department maintains PALS, whose information cannot be modified by any outside sources. The site notes that it is considered to be a primary source verification of license credentials provided by the Department and that the data is derived directly from the licensure database and updated on a daily basis. PALS provides the licensee's name, license number, issue date, expiration date, and current status of the license and indicates whether or not there has been any disciplinary history, i.e., any adverse information. PALS also provides the date of last renewal and the licensee's city, state and zip code.

BPOA does not report any pending disciplinary or other adverse action until the action is final or unless the Board has actively suspended the license. BPOA does not disclose any current or pending investigation, including a closed investigation, other than as final licensure disciplinary action. Additionally, BPOA does not maintain information and cannot report whether a licensee has been the subject of a lawsuit or other civil claim for malpractice or negligence, other than licensure disciplinary action. Due to staffing limitations, BPOA does not provide standard written licensure verification upon request where use of PALS is available.

Sincerely,

State Board of Medicine
State Board of Osteopathic Medicine
State Board of Dentistry
State Board of Nursing
State Board of Optometry
State Board of Podiatry
State Board of Social Workers,
Marriage and Family Therapists
& Professional Counselors

State Board of Chiropractic
State Board of Pharmacy
State Board of Occupational Therapy
State Board of Physical Therapy
State Board of Psychology
State Board of Examiners in Speech-
Language and Hearing
State Board of Massage Therapy