



**Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
and Athletic Trainers Board
Occupational Therapy Section
November 19, 2024
12 PM
Vern Riffe Tower,
77 S. High St., 19th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215**

Members Present

Nichole Dearth, MOT, OTR/L, Chair
Sarah Heldmann, BS, COTA/L
Marnie Renda, OTD, OTR/L, Secretary
Anissa Siefert, MOT, OTR/L
Melissa Van Allen, OTR/L
Timothy Keck, Public Member

Staff

Melissa Anthony, Executive Director
David Day, Investigator
Jeffrey Duvall, Investigator Supervisor
Aariann Felix, Executive Assistant
Gail Noble, Investigator Assistant
Jaklyn Shucosky, Investigator

Members Absent

None

Guests

Cheryl Boop-OOTA

Legal Counsel

Alex Miller
Justin Radic

Call to Order

Nichole Dearth, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:14 AM.

The Section began by reading the vision statement:

The Occupational Therapy Section is committed to proactively:

- Provide Education to the Consumers of Occupational Therapy Services;
- Enforce Practice Standards for the Protection of the Consumer of Occupational Therapy Services;
- Regulate the Profession of Occupational Therapy in an Ever-Changing Environment;
- Regulate Ethical and Multicultural Competency in the Practice of Occupational Therapy;
- Regulate the Practice of Occupational Therapy in all Current and Emerging Areas of Service Delivery.

Approval of Minutes

Sarah Heldmann moved that the minutes from the September 19, 2024 meeting be approved as amended. Marnie Renda seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Executive Director Report

The Executive Director reported on licensure statistics, future upgrades in eLicense, Board outreach both on the state and national level, and legislative updates.

Discussion of Law and Rule Changes

Sarah Heldmann moved to send rules related to the OT Compact and fees for public comment. Melissa Van Allen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Occupational Therapist/Occupational Therapist Assistant Examination Applications

Anissa Siefert moved that the Occupational Therapy Section ratify, as submitted, the occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant licenses issued by examination, endorsement, reinstatement, and restoration by the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board from September 19, 2024 to November

19, 2024, taking into account those licenses subject to discipline, surrender, or non-renewal. Sarah Heldmann seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

OT License- Active Military Temporary

Alain Pierre Eloi

Occupational Therapy License by Endorsement-15

Kelsey Bowling	Daniel Robert Elliot
Lindsey Jane Brand	Chiamaka Ikefuna
Madison Coker	jasmine F Jenkins
Ann Bartman Cook	Joseph Alexander Juse
Alison Deitsch	Kathryn Ann Kneisel

Sara Lentz
Cameron Parker
Carli Jessica Schneider
Emily Villanueva
Emily Ann Whalen

Occupational Therapy License by Examination-44

Tiffany Ann Albany	Alexandra Grooms
Katherine Bliven	Diana Hasan
Hannah Brezinski	Katie Henderson
Julia Jennings Clapper	Britney Carol Hess
Mallory Compson	Jasmine Mae Hickey
Julia Gayle Cook	Kayla Jean Hovorka
Clara Jayne Davenport	Erin Hsu
Allen Alpha Davis	Taylor Logan Joseph
Hannah Grace Davis	Ashley Kehres
Johanna Katherine DeWolf	Madielyn Knaggs
Kayla Rene Doyle	Kayla Rose Knapp
Kelsey Marie Forrestal	Bri Ann Lee Kotecki
Evan Miles Fox	Julia Langhurst
Kayla Nicole Franks	Leah Latterner
Angela Franz-Colwell	Tonya Nichole Leu

Madison Taylor McElhinny
Megan Roene Miller
Madison Grace Palmer
Vanessa Ann Petranek
Maya Grace Purdie
Heather Anne Raible
Shealynn Marie Richards
Lauren Scheetz
Kendall Anne Schenz
Lindsey Allycia Smith
Alyson Nicole Snyder
Alyssa Nicole Teper
Hannah Welton
Taylor Marie Zelms

Occupational Therapy Assistant License by Endorsement-4

Mallory Christine Fiorucci	Mallory Jones
Eric Halavanja	Jenny Pontius

Occupational Therapy Assistant License by Examination-22

Deontay Anderson	Lydia Holmes
Baylee Renee Anstaett	Amber Charlotte Houston
Catherine Balcerak	Katie Jesenovec
Michaela Brooke BEEKMAN	Rebecca Anne Jones
Mariah Faith Bender	Jordyn Alivia Kaple
Karen Carter	Halle Leigey
Damaris Coreano	Haley Margaret M Barlow
Charlotte Culliton	Krista Marie McDowell

Emma Grace Peterson
Alexander Seibert
Jordan Riley Strawcutter
Mercedes Tabler
Nicole Trice
Olivia Williams

Application Withdrawals

Anissa Siefert recommended that the Section grant the application withdrawal request for OT/OTA examination/endorsement/reinstatement applications on file with the Board on November 19, 2024, based on the documentation provided. Sarah Heldmann made the motion and Melissa Van Allen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

OT

Michaela Brooke Beekman APP-000880255
Kelsey Marie Forrestal OT013097
Hannah Baughman APP-000885147
Amber Charlotte Houston APP-000887884
Mariah Faith Bender APP-000860922
Tiffany Ann Albany OT013118
Margaret Hummel APP-000894128

CE Request

Melissa Van Allen moved that the section approve 38 applications for contact hour approval, and deny one application. Seconded by Sarah Heldmann. All in favor. Motion carried.

AAG Report

None

Enforcement Division

Statistics

“New” cases opened since the last meeting: 24
Cases “closed” since the last meeting: 01
Cases “currently open”: 47
Active consent agreements: 05
Adjudication orders being monitored: 00

Goldman Hearing

Nichole Dearth called the proceedings to order at 12:53 PM on, November 19, 2024, at the Vern Riffe Center, 77 South High Street, Columbus, OH 43201. Members of the Board present for the proceeding are:

Nichole Dearth
Sarah Heldmann
Marnie Renda
Anissa Siefert
Melissa Van Allen
Timothy Keck

It will be noted for the record that a majority of the members of the Board are present. There will be two adjudication proceedings today. The proceedings are in the matters of Julie Closson, case number OT-LD-23-001, am Emily Hummer, case number OT-23-022.

These proceedings were affidavit-based adjudications relative to the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed to the respondents in the aforementioned cases and believed to have been properly served according to the Administrative Procedures Act (Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code).

As the respondents declined to have a hearing in the case, this proceeding was held before the Board pursuant to Goldman v. State Medical Board of Ohio. The individual named did not have the ability to present written or oral testimony today but may be present to hear the proceeding and outcome.

In lieu of a stenographic record being made, let the minutes reflect that the original sworn affidavits and exhibits are kept as the official record of the proceeding in the aforementioned matter in the Board office.

Assistant Attorney General, Justin Radic provided a brief synopsis of the cases, calling Board Investigation Supervisor, Jeffrey Duvall, as a sworn witness in the case of Julie Closson, and Board Investigator, David Day as a sworn witness in the case of Emily Hummer.

Sarah Heldmann moved to admit the facts and exhibits outlined in the sworn affidavits and testimony into evidence. Anissa Siefert seconded. Melissa Van Allen abstained. All in favor. Motion passes.

The proceedings closed at 1:32 PM. The procedural and jurisdictional matters having been satisfied, the OT Section proceeded by deliberation on the sworn affidavits and exhibits.

Sarah Heldmann moved to recess the meeting in order to go into private session for the purpose of quasi-judicial deliberation on Julie Closson, case number OT-LD-23-001, and Emile Hummer, case number OT-23-022; and to reconvene the meeting after deliberations are complete. Marnie Renda seconded. Roll Call.

Nichole Dearth-yes
Sarah Heldmann-yes
Marnie Renda-yes
Anissa Siefert-yes
Melissa Van Allen-yes
Timothy Keck-yes

Melissa Van Allen left the room and returned when the section reconvened after deliberations were complete. The meeting recessed at 1:34 PM and came back at 2:12 PM.

Based on a thorough review of the evidence, Sarah Heldmann moved that the OT Section finds the following findings of facts in the matter of Julie Closson items numbered as 1-15 as listed in the affidavit of Jeffrey Duvall. Anissa Siefert seconded. Melissa Van Allen abstained. All in favor. Motion passes.

Based on a thorough review of the evidence, Sarah Heldmann moved that the Board finds the following conclusions of law in the matter of Julie Closson, case number OT-LD-23-001. Anissa Siefert seconded. Melissa Van Allen abstained. All in favor. Motion passes.

Based upon a preponderance of the evidence and the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, Sarah Heldmann moved that the board revoke the Occupational Therapy license of Julie Closson. Marnie Renda seconded. Melissa Van Allen abstained. All in favor. Motion passes.

The Executive Director is hereby instructed to prepare an adjudication order to carry out the mandates of this Board and serve the order on, of Julie Closson, case number OT-LD-23-001.

Based on a thorough review of the evidence, Sarah Heldmann moved that the OT Section finds the following findings of facts in the matter of Emily Hummer items numbered as 1-18 as listed in the affidavit of David Day. Anissa Siefert seconded. Melissa Van Allen abstained. All in favor. Motion passes.

Based on a thorough review of the evidence, Sarah Heldmann moved that the Board finds the following conclusions of law in the matter of Emily Hummer, case number OT-23-022. Anissa Siefert seconded. Melissa Van Allen abstained. All in favor. Motion passes.

Based upon a preponderance of the evidence and the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, Sarah Heldmann moved that the board revoke the Occupational Therapy license of Emily Hummer. Anissa Siefert seconded. Melissa Van Allen abstained. All in favor. Motion passes.

The Executive Director is hereby instructed to prepare an adjudication order to carry out the mandates of this Board and serve the order on, Emily Hummer, case number OT-23-022.

This concludes the matters of Julie Closson, case number OT-LD-23-001 and Emily Hummer, case number OT-23-022.

Correspondence

The OT Section discussed questions regarding wheelchair evaluations, and supervision rules.

OOTA Report

Cheryl Boop reported on the Fall conference, and a student conclave that they are virtually hosting.

OT Compact/NBCOT

The OT Section discussed an issue with background checks.

Open Forum

The OT Section discussed Anissa Siefert's letter that she wrote regarding the lack of in-person CE offerings, and how it can impact OT/OTA practice.

Old Business

None

New Business

The OT Section discussed the recent HIPPA violations they have reviewed.

Adjournment

There being no further business and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Aariann Felix

Nichole Dearth MOT, OTR/L

Nichole Dearth, OT, Chair
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
And Athletic Trainers Board, OT Section

Marnie Renda

Marnie Renda, OT, Secretary
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
And Athletic Trainers Board, OT Section

Missy Anthony

Missy Anthony, Executive Director
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
And Athletic Trainers Board

