



Board of Pharmacy

Executive Director Report April 2024

Licensing

License Type	Active	Detail	Renewal	Issued Last 30 Days
Pharmacist	22,682	Emeritus - 285		60
Pharmacy Intern	2,705			86
Pharmacy Technician	26,440	Trainee - 5,596 Registered - 7,311 Certified - 13,563 Conditional Approval Trainees - 3		738
Terminal Distributor	22,200			237
Drug Distributor	2,218			11
Home Medical Equipment	903	License - 202 Registration - 701	Renewal - 334 (40%)	20

*Counts as of 5/28/2024

Compliance

STATISTICS

In-Take Panel Statistics									
Cases Assigned	04/02	04/05	04/09	04/12	04/16	04/19	04/23	04/26	04/30
Consumer Complaint	5	7	3	6	3	5		4	6
Minimum Qualifications of TDDD/WDDD	2	2	2	2		3	5	1	1
MMJ Consumer Complaint		1	1		1		1		
Questionable Dispensing	1						2		
Working Conditions/Minimum Standards		1	2	1				2	1
Error in Dispensing			2		2	1	2	1	2
Questionable Prescribing							1		
Deception to Obtain	1				1	2			
Violation of Patient Confidentiality		1							1
Unprofessional Conduct	1		1	1			1		2
Illegal Processing of Drug Documents	1	2		1	1			1	
Drug Security	1					1			
Intelligence Information									2
Trafficking in Drugs						1			1
Adulterated Drugs									1
Theft of Drugs		1						1	
Questionable Administration		1	1		1				
Error in Administration						1			
Suspicious Purchases									1
Total	12	16	12	11	9	14	12	10	18

All Open Cases	New Cases Opened in Past 30 Days (April)	Number of Summary Suspensions in April	Cases Closed in Past 30 Days (April)
480	165	2	304

Top 10 Cases Opened in April 2024

Case Type	Cases Opened
Drug Security	31
Theft of Drugs	23
Suspicious Purchases	17
Minimum Qualifications of TDDD/WDDD	16
Background Investigation	14
Error in Dispensing	12
Unprofessional Conduct/Gross Immorality	8
Consumer Complaint	6
Working Conditions/Minimum Standards	4
Abusing, Addicted, and/or Unfit	3

Investigations Summary

Monthly Investigations Summary	Total
Current cases open (As of May 24, 2024)	480
Cases opened (April 2024)	165
Complaints received	114
Cases opened from complaints (Intake)	52
Cases opened in the field (Self-Initiated)	52
Admin. cases referred to SOBP Legal Department	30
Civil forfeitures received	-
Court orders received	-
Criminal convictions	-
Intervention in Lieu of Conviction (ILC)	3
Criminal indictments	8
Search warrants executed	-
Summary Suspension	2
Monthly Inspection Summary	Total
Inspections completed	263
Written warnings issued	73

Notable Investigative Events

- A Warren County jury convicted Ohio pharmacist Timothy Hopkins of possession of drugs (steroids). He is awaiting sentence.

- Franklin County physician Mark Fettman was indicted by a Franklin County Grand Jury on 147 felony counts including money laundering, engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, and drug trafficking. This matter was investigated by our OARRS Investigative Unit.

*** Sentencings in early May**

- Franklin County pharmacist and physician Eskender Getachew was convicted of unlawful distribution and dispensing of controlled substances in U.S. District Court Southern District of Ohio. He was sentenced to six months incarceration followed by three years of supervised release.
- A jury in US District Court Sothern District of Ohio convicted Belmont County pain management physician Thomas Romano of 24 counts of unlawful distribution of controlled substances. Romano was sentenced to 84 months incarceration. Board agents investigated this matter as part of the Appalachian Region Opioid Strike Force (ARPO).

Executive Director Report

FISCAL

Fund	Appropriation	Year-to-date Expenditures	Encumbered	Unexpended
OARRS Grants (3HD0)	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 1,302,231	\$ 52,025	\$ 345,744
Medicaid/OARRS Integration (3HH0)	\$ 1,392,000	\$ 599,827	\$ 11,038	\$ 781,135
Equitable Sharing Treasury (3HM0)	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000
Equitable Sharing Justice (3HN0)	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000
Law Enforcement Fund (4A50)	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 7,500	\$ 42,500
Operating (4K90)	\$ 13,277,300	\$ 10,653,399	\$ 524,017	\$ 2,099,884
Drug Database Fund (5SG0)	\$ 5,441,122	\$ 1,813,622	\$ 973,809	\$ 2,653,691
All Funds Total	\$ 21,895,422	\$14,369,079	\$ 1,568,389	\$ 5,957,954

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

- Executive Director Schierholt participated in the following:
 - The NABP Monthly Executive Officer Call.
 - BOP attended various meetings with the Governor’s office, including a RecoveryOhio Drug Trends meeting.
 - BOP Attended PDMP Administrators’ National Meeting in San Antonio.
 - BOP Attended NABP Annual Meeting in Fort Worth

Policy and Communications

HIGHLIGHTS

- HB73 AUTHORIZE PRESCRIBING OFF-LABEL DRUGS** (GROSS J, LOYCHIK M) To authorize the prescribing of off-label drugs and if prescribed, to require their dispensing and to name this act the Dave and Angie Patient and Health Provider Protection Act.
Current Status: 5/22/2024 – Senate Health, (Second Hearing)
- HB80 PHARMACIST CARE** (LIPPS S) Regarding pharmacist care.
Current Status: 2/28/2023 - Referred to Committee House Health Provider Services
- HB92 SAVE OHIO SAFE RX** (YOUNG T, SANTUCCI N) To establish the Canadian Prescription Drug Importation Program, to name this act the Save Ohio Safe Rx Act, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 5/15/2024 – **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Public Health Policy, (Second Hearing)
- HB136 REMOTE DISPENSING PHARMACIES** (HOLMES A, STEWART B) To authorize the operation of remote dispensing pharmacies.
Current Status: 12/5/2023 - House Health Provider Services, (Third Hearing)
- HB156 PHYSICIAN-ADMINISTERED DRUGS** (MANNING G, OELSLAGER S) To amend the law related to physician-administered drugs.
Current Status: 12/6/2023 – House Insurance, (First Hearing)
- SB95 REMOTE DISPENSING PHARMACY OPERATIONS** (REYNOLDS M) To authorize the operation of remote dispensing pharmacies.
Current Status: 5/22/2024 – **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 31-0
- SB103 REGARDING KRATOM PRODUCT SALES** (BLESSING III L) Regarding sales of kratom products.
Current Status: 11/15/2023 - Senate Health, (Third Hearing)
- SB144 REGARDING IMMUNIZATIONS BY PHARMACISTS** (ROMANCHUK M) Regarding immunizations administered by pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians.
Current Status: 5/21/2024 - House Health Provider Services, (Third Hearing)

Fentanyl Test Strip Distribution

Total Number of Strips Distributed	Number of FTS Training Handouts Distributed
175,250*	118,500**

(*Includes 20,000 strips distributed at the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Services Providers 2023 Conference; 20,000 strips distributed at the Ohio EMS Medical Director’s Conference; and 50 strips distributed at the 2024 ONIC Law Enforcement Drug Summit Networking Event.)

(**Some locations did not order handouts or ordered less than the strips they requested.)