

OHIO BOARD OF PHARMACY

*Newsletter to Promote Pharmacy
and Drug Law Compliance.*

From the Director's Desk

Dear Ohio Pharmacists,
Please join the Ohio Board of Pharmacy for its Law and Responsible Person Review virtual presentations throughout the rest of 2024 to learn about the latest developments in pharmacy laws and rules. Pharmacy jurisprudence continuing education (CE) is being offered to presentation attendees during 2024.

The Board has the following two types of presentations for licensees to choose from:

The **Law Review** and **Responsible Person Roundtables** can be attended by pharmacists, pharmacy interns, registered or certified pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy compliance staff employed by outpatient/community-based pharmacies. Topics for these presentations include minimum standard rules for outpatient

pharmacies, updates on state and federal laws and rules, and scam and drug diversion trends.

The **Responsible Person 101** presentations can be attended by anyone who is or will be a responsible person for a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs (TDDD). Topics for these presentations include the duties and responsibilities of a responsible person, general requirements of a TDDD, and overviews of resources available for a responsible person.

For pharmacists and registered technicians, these presentations qualify for one hour (0.1 CEU) of Board-approved jurisprudence CE. Attendees must attend the entire presentation for full credit. Partial credit will not be issued. Licensees should note this is not an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education program.

Access the National Pharmacy Compliance News

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From the Director's Desk

(continued)

To review the presentation dates and register, visit <https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/webinar>. For any questions, please email roundtable@pharmacy.ohio.gov or call 614/466-4143 and ask for the Compliance and Enforcement department.

Thank you for all you do to keep Ohioans safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Schierholt, Esq
Executive Director
Ohio Board of Pharmacy

Amended Rules Adopted July 1, 2024

The Board amended the following rules for pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and TDDDs. These rules went into effect on July 1, 2024. See the rules listed below with their number and a link to the rule text.

- [4729-4-01](#) – Definitions - Confidential personal information.
- [4729-4-02](#) – Confidential personal information.
- [4729:1-5-03](#) – Veteran and military family provisions related to continuing education.
- [4729:2-2-05](#) – Internship credit.
- [4729:2-3-01](#) – Practice as a pharmacy intern.
- [4729:2-3-02](#) – Therapeutic diabetic shoes.
- [4729:5-1-02](#) – Licensed health professional authorized to prescribe drugs.
- [4729:5-3-01](#) – Disposal of controlled substances.
- [4729:5-3-03](#) – Inspections and corrective actions.
- [4729:5-3-05](#) – Confidentiality of patient records.
- [4729:5-3-06](#) – Storage of adulterated drugs.
- [4729:5-3-08](#) – Sales of dangerous drugs on-line.
- [4729:5-3-10](#) – Employment of individuals with felony convictions.
- [4729:5-7-02](#) – Licensure, compliance, and support personnel.
- [4729:5-7-03](#) – Persons eligible to transfer sample drugs to a charitable pharmacy.
- [4729:5-12-01](#) – Medication therapy management - definitions.
- [4729:5-12-02](#) – Medication therapy management.

Minimum Standards Rules Reminder

Effective May 1, 2024, Ohio's new rules on outpatient pharmacy minimum standards went into effect. To ensure compliance with the new rules, the Board issued a guidance document (updated as of May 1, 2024), which can be accessed [here](#). If you have

any questions or need additional information after reviewing this document, the quickest way to have your questions answered will be to email the Board office by visiting <http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/contact.aspx>.

Any violations of these rules should be reported using the Board's online complaint form [here](#). Remember, under Section 4729.23 of the Ohio Revised Code, the identity of an individual submitting a complaint to the Board is confidential.

Minimum Standards Rules Reminder

(continued)

Ohio rules also prohibit a licensed pharmacy from retaliating against or disciplining an employee for filing a complaint with the Board or other licensing body, or for reporting a violation of state or federal statute or any ordinance or regulation of a political subdivision that the employee's employer has the authority to correct. Retaliation or discipline of an employee includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Removing or suspending the employee from employment;
- Withholding from the employee salary increases or employee benefits to which the employee is otherwise entitled;
- Transferring or reassigning the employee;
- Denying the employee a promotion that otherwise would have been received; and
- Reducing the employee in pay or position.

These rules are the result of the work of the Ohio Pharmacist Workload Advisory Committee and feedback provided by pharmacy professionals through various surveys that were conducted. For more information on the Pharmacist Workload Advisory Committee, you can visit www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/PWAC.



Board Releases Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report

The Board has released its Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report. This report includes updates and statistics from the Board's Licensing, Compliance

and Enforcement, Policy and Communications, and Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System departments. It can be accessed [here](#).

Reminder: Board Offering Free Fentanyl Test Strips and Educational Handouts to All Ohio Licensees

The Board continues to offer all licensees no-cost fentanyl test strips and educational handouts in partnership with the Office of Governor Mike DeWine, RecoveryOhio, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and the Ohio Department of Health. Each licensee can request up to two boxes of fentanyl strips per order (100 strips per box), and the Board's educational handouts

are also available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) (100 handouts per pack). Strips will be available until supplies last and may be reordered by the same location if running low.

Licensees should place orders for fentanyl test strips and handouts online by using the following link: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/FTSorder.

In addition to test strips, licensees may request naloxone overdose

and recognition brochures while supplies last. Use the following link to order: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/nalbrochure.

Note: Due to grant funding restrictions, the Board is only able to offer strips to licensees located in the state of Ohio. Please allow seven to 10 business days for brochure and test strip delivery.

Licensee Scam Warning

The Board continues to learn that licensees are being targeted by scammers who claim to work for various governmental agencies (Board of Pharmacy, Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, etc) to obtain money. The Board strongly encourages licensees to be alert to avoid scammers.

USA Today recently published an [article](#) detailing an elaborate scam targeting a pharmacist from Ohio:

Scammers may try to initiate contact via phone calls, emails, faxes, and letters purporting to originate from various state and federal agencies that include allegations of drug trafficking and threats of suspension against the target's license.

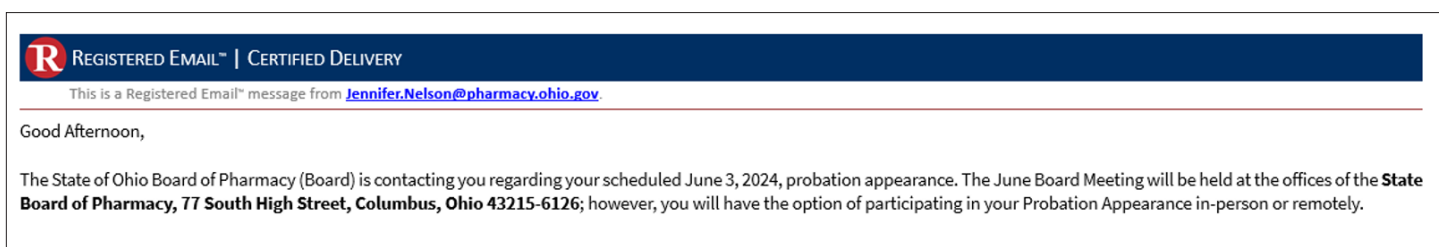
Board investigators will not ask for fine payment or personal/sensitive information over the phone and will never contact licensees via fax. As a reminder, administrative fines issued by the Board are not paid via gift cards or cryptocurrency. If the Board is conducting an investigation and that individual faces action against their license, they will receive an official notice of opportunity for a hearing either via certified mail or by personal service.

If you are contacted by a scammer, please report this information using the Board's online [complaint form](#). Additionally, reports should be made to your local law enforcement agency.

If you receive any suspicious calls or correspondence purporting to be from the Board of Pharmacy, you are

encouraged to call (614/466-4143) or email (contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov) the Board to confirm its legitimacy.

As licensees become more vigilant about looking out for scams, the Board would like to remind all licensees that official electronic registered mail from the Board will sometimes have a **Registered Email | Certified Delivery** banner across the top, like in the image below. Emails with this banner are official correspondence from the Ohio Board of Pharmacy.



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