

THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO:

The Professional Practice Committee

FROM:

Douglas E. Lentivech

SUBJECT:

Professional Discipline Update

DATE:

October 2, 2012

AUTHORIZATION(S):

Issue for Discussion

Periodic update and discussion of the resolution of professional discipline cases, including the handling of complaints, adjudications, and illegal practice.

Reason(s) for Consideration

For information.

Proposed Handling

This discussion will take place at the October 2012 meeting of the Professional Practice Committee.

Procedural History

The Professional Practice Committee is responsible for reviewing all disciplinary actions and proceedings prior to their recommendation to the Board of Regents for final action. The Office of Professional Discipline (OPD) provides information on a regular basis regarding all activities of the office and seeks the Committee's guidance in establishing the priorities and goals of the office.

Background Information

The Director of the Office of Professional Discipline will share information and provide statistical data on all recent OPD activities including: the investigation of complaints, administrative warnings, violation committee settlements, corrective action letters, consents, discipline hearings, direct referrals, moral character proceedings, and

restorations of revoked licenses. OPD continues to address the illegal practice of the professions through its civil authority resulting in the issuance of Cease and Desist Orders and the investigation of potential criminal violations with referral to the Office of the Attorney General.

This update will inform the Committee with respect to the actions that occur in the discipline process. The update will outline the professional discipline processes and describe the handling of a variety of disciplinary matters, some of which do not ultimately reach the Committee. It is important to note that a significant number of cases do not result in a finding of chargeable conduct. Additionally, a number of minor and technical cases are appropriately resolved each year, using administrative warnings, violations committee actions, and corrective action letters. As a general rule, only the most serious cases require action by the Committee.