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Agenda Item 9

Osteopathic Medical Board of California

DATE REPORT ISSUED: November 13, 2025
ATTENTION: Members, Osteopathic Medical Board of California
SUBJECT: Executive Report
STAFF CONTACT: Erika Calderon, Executive Director

REQUESTED ACTION:

This report is intended to provide the Members of the Osteopathic Medical Board of California (OMBC) with an update on personnel, and other administrative functions/projects occurring at the OMBC.

No action is needed.

Board Member Fairwell and Appointment

The OMBC wishes to start by thanking public Board member Andrew Moreno for serving on the Board for over 7 years. Mr. Moreno was appointed by the governor's office on July 14, 2017, and completed his term on October 30, 2025. Mr. Moreno was a very dedicated member having served the Board as Board secretary and most recently as vice president. The OMBC wishes Andrew Moreno the very best in his future endeavors.

The OMBC is pleased to announce the appointment of Board member Negeen Mirreghabie, of La Jolla, who was appointed to the OMBC by the governor's office on October 30, 2025. Ms. Mirreghabie has been a Law Professor at University of San Diego School of Law since 2017 and an Attorney and Mediator at Mirreghabie Law Group since 2011. A Law Professor at California Western School of Law and The Colleges of Law in 2025. A Law Professor at Thomas Jefferson School of Law from 2011 to 2012 and Assistant Director of Deposition, Expert Deposition, and Trial Advocacy Programs at National Institute for Trial Advocacy from 2009 to 2011. She is an Arbitrator and Law School Council Officer for the State Bar of California. Ms. Mirreghabie earned a Juris Doctor degree from University of San Diego School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from University of California, San Diego.

Board Member Vacancies:

The Board currently has two vacant physician member positions. The OMBC has been experiencing some challenges in filling these positions. There was a shift with a new

secretary appointment at the Governors office and DCA had both of its Board and Bureau Relations positions vacant for a couple of months. DCA happily announced that these positions have since been filled. Lucia Saldivar will serve as BBR's Deputy Director and Shelly Jones as the Assistant Deputy Director.

Before joining DCA, Lucia served in the Office of Assemblymember Lisa Calderon, most recently as Chief of Staff and previously as Legislative Director. She also held multiple roles in the Office of Assembly member Jacqui Irwin, including a Legislative Assistant and an Assembly Fellow.

Shelly has served DCA in various roles, including Staff Services Manager and most recently as the SOLID Division Chief. She was also a Staff Services Manager with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Division of Juvenile Justice and held other roles at the CDCR Juvenile Parole Board.

OMBC welcomes our two new BBRs and hope that they will assist OMBC in getting our two vacancies filled soon.

Personnel:

The OMBC continues to have 15.9 authorized positions.

OMBC is happy to announce that it has backfilled its vacant enforcement analyst position reported at the last Board meeting. Ms. Rachel Molina joined the OMBC on September 22, 2025. Rachel has over 10 years of experience working for the State of California and comes to the OMBC from the Department of General Services, Office of Administrative Hearings. Rachel will be conducting desk investigations, working consumer complaints from intake all the way through discipline.

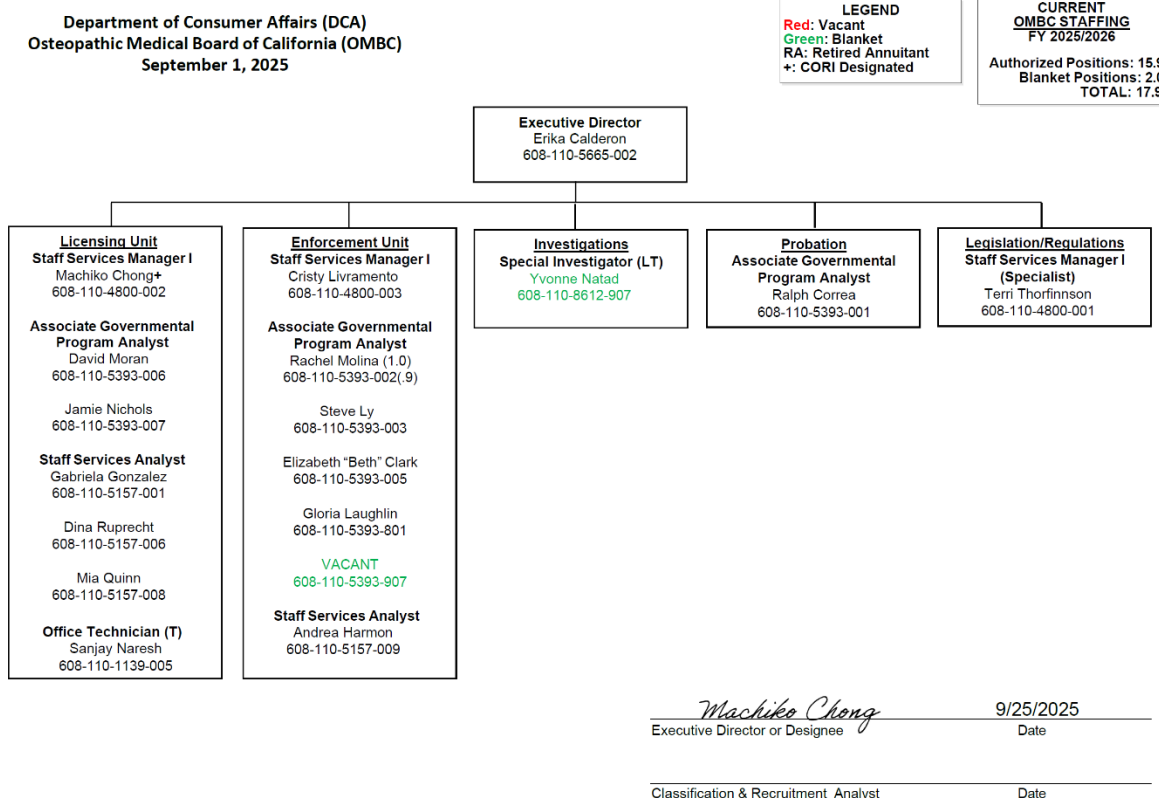
Update on Special Investigator (SI): Mrs. Yvonne Almazan (Natad) joined the OMBC on September 8, 2025. Yvonne currently has over 20 pending active investigations assigned and is monitoring another 12 cases awaiting criminal convictions. Just a reminder these are assigned to Mrs. Almazan on a case-by-case basis depending on the complexity of the allegations and at any point the case can be transferred to a sworn investigator to take over. Some examples of cases that the SI might handle are the following:

- Subsequent arrest notifications that do not require a suspension (Penal Code section 23 (PC23) action or interim suspension order (ISO) and DOI assistance
- Failure to release records, recordkeeping violations, contract violations
- False/misleading advertising – not unlicensed/not criminal
- Continuing education violations
- Some probation violations
- Non-jurisdictional issues
- General unprofessional conduct, negligence, incompetence resulting in minor/potential harm
- General work quality complaints, offensive behavior/conduct/speech (non-criminal)
- Practicing with a delinquent license/not requiring an in-person undercover operation
- Patient abandonment with no/minimal consumer harm (non-criminal, minor/potential consumer harm, no major financial loss, minor/potential patient harm)

DOI will continue to support the Board with complaints alleging the following:

- Practicing under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or mental or physical impairment of the licensee
- Unlicensed practice or practicing with a delinquent/revoked license resulting in great bodily injury/death and/or requiring an in-person undercover operation
- Aiding and abetting unlicensed practice resulting in great bodily injury/death and/or requiring an in-person undercover operation
- Acts of serious consumer harm, gross negligence, or incompetence by a licensee resulting in great bodily injury/death
- Obtaining licensure by selling/using fraudulent documents/transcripts
- Felony criminal violations
- Sexual misconduct

Please refer to the Board's Organizational Chart.



Executive Order (N-22-25) – Return to Office

The return to office as previously reported has been postponed to July 1, 2026. Director Calderon did identify a need to have enforcement staff return to the office at a minimum of three days to assist with the onboarding of new staff and collaboration between the unit.

Director Calderon has not identified a need to have anyone else come into the office more days apart from the OMBC receptionist who is in the office every day.

State Budget/ OMBC Budget and Travel Restrictions:

OMBC is still operating under the Department of Finances issued budget letters. OMBC must monitor overall expenses and limit out of state travel to essential operational needs. All out of state travel requests must be approved by the governor's office and approval will be limited to mission critical only. Discretionary trips will not be considered this year.

In terms of OMBC's Budget, the Board continues to work closely with DCA's Budget office to monitor the Board's expenditures and request budget augmentations in areas where these have been needed such as enforcement. Later today during our regulation update you will hear more about Board's staff efforts to help increase OMBC revenue through application fee increases and the petition fees.

Board Program and Board Committee Updates:

Enforcement Program: The Enforcement program recently underwent a two-week enforcement academy style refresher course conducted by the Executive Director. The program met for two hours daily for two weeks and received extensive training on how to handle all case types and perform all duties of the enforcement process. This allows for cross training between staff and a refresher course of what is considered a very complex caseload at the Board. In attendance was the Board's Enforcement Program Manager, the Board's Intake Analyst, the three Enforcement Analysts, the Board's Probation Monitor and the Board's Special Investigator.

Enforcement staff also continue to work extensively with the Executive Director and the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA's) regulatory counsel to draft the language for the Board's proposed disciplinary guidelines. Board staff will be meeting with the Board's Enforcement Committee in the next couple of weeks and eventually present the language to the full Board in January of 2026.

Licensing and Administrative Services Program: Implementation is under full force right now to establish the Board's CME self-certification and audit program. So far the Board has been working with the BreEze team to turn on the switch of the self-certification renewal application and establish our annual random CME audit list. In addition, the unit has completed all audit templates and had them approved by legal counsel. The Board hopes to have this process fully implemented at the next Board meeting.

Education Committee Update: Board staff continue to work with DCA's communication Team on its "How to File a Consumer Complaint" video. Production of the video has started, and we hope to introduce the video at our upcoming Board meeting in January. Soon after the Board will be working on its application services educational video.

Legislative Committee Update: Board staff will be joining a couple of our Board members on Hill Day which will be on January 21st, 2026. This is a milestone opportunity for the Board to introduce OMBC to legislators, highlight the unique value of our Doctor of Osteopathic licensees, and strengthen our voice in state policy conversations.

Communication

Director Calderon represents the prescribing Boards as part of the CURES Executive Stakeholder Committee and continues to meet regularly with DCA's leadership staff and the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Director Calderon had calls and email exchanges with Board President Denise Pines to discuss pending and ongoing projects and meeting agendas.

Director Calderon continues to meet periodically with the Board's Attorney General Liaison Ms. Karolyn Westfall and communicates frequently with Senior Assistant Attorney General Ms. Gloria Castro.

Director Calderon continues to meet periodically with members of the Consumer Watchdog group to gather their input on improving enforcement practices and procedures.

Enforcement staff continue to meet monthly with the DCA's Division of Investigations HQIU office to discuss progress of pending investigations.

Lastly for communications, our committee meetings have started, and Board leadership will continue to meet frequently with our designated committee members, additionally staff participated in meetings with other local, state, and national organizations in discussing and deciding regulatory measures common to OMBC and others. These organizations include but are not limited to; Office of Attorney General (AGO), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), other healing art Boards such as (MBC, BRN, BOP, PAC, PTBC), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), the Federation of State Medical Board (FSMB), the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME), International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA), Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California (OPSC), American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians of California (ACOFPCA), and lastly Premier Health who is now handling the Board's diversion program.

Outreach Update:

The OMBC continues to post Board content regularly on all of its social media platforms such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and X. The Board continues to keep its website current which includes positing relevant legislation, frequently ask questions, publications, and enforcement actions.

This past quarter OMBC did not attend any outreach events, as previously mentioned due to concerns with the overall state budget travel has been limited to mission critical.

This concludes the Executive Director's update.