



Agenda Item 10

Osteopathic Medical Board of California

DATE REPORT ISSUED: August 25, 2026
ATTENTION: Members, Osteopathic Medical Board of California
SUBJECT: Executive Report
STAFF CONTACT: Erika Calderon, Executive Director

REQUESTED ACTION:

This report provides an update on personnel, administrative functions, and ongoing projects for the Osteopathic Medical Board of California (OMBC). No action is required from Board Members.

Personnel:

The OMBC currently maintains 15.9 authorized positions. At the previous Board meeting, it was noted that the receptionist had accepted a promotional opportunity with another department, external to the Department of Consumer Affairs. Due to a marked increase in consumer complaints, the Board has opted to postpone filling this vacancy. The resulting cost savings will be redirected toward hiring an office technician on a limited-term basis for one year to support the enforcement program. Currently, Board staff are collectively managing critical office functions including mail processing and telephone inquiries.

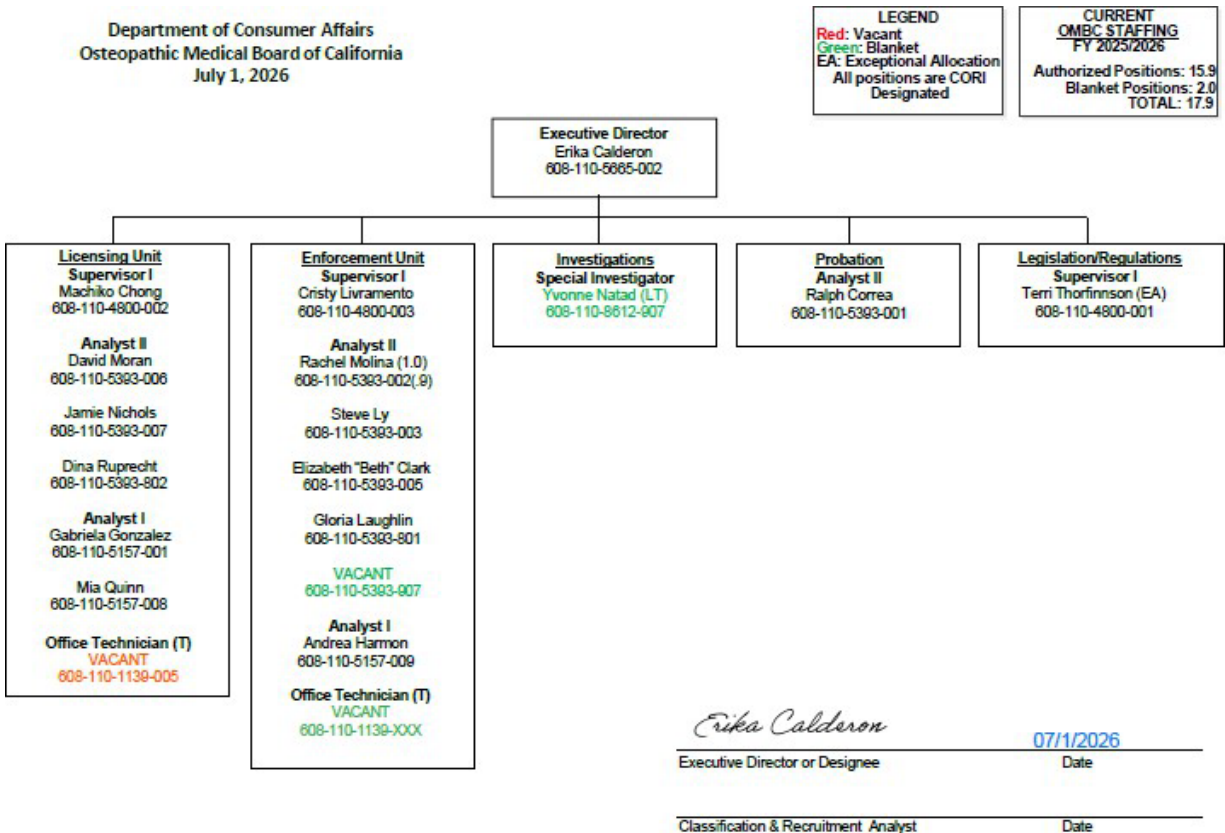
Additionally, the Board will exercise its blanket authority to temporarily fill the enforcement analyst position, which has been vacant due to an extended leave of absence exceeding one year, until the incumbent returns.

Interviews for both positions will be conducted, and the Board anticipates securing additional support soon.

Return to Office:

Effective July 1, 2026, the Board implemented the statewide return-to-office requirements established under Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-22-25. The Executive Order, issued March 3, 2025, established a statewide expectation that agencies and departments within the Governor's administration to transition employees participating in hybrid telework to a default minimum of four in-person workdays per week. The original implementation date of July 1, 2025, was subsequently delayed until July 1, 2026.

Please refer to the Board's Organizational Chart for detailed staffing information.



DCA Annual Report:

With the conclusion of fiscal year 2025–26, Board staff completed and submitted the Board's annual report information to DCA. The submission includes the Board's narrative report and program data highlighting the Board's activities and accomplishments throughout the fiscal year. The information will undergo DCA's review process before the statewide Annual Report is finalized and published. The Annual Report provides a comprehensive overview of the Board's operations, including Board membership and staffing; licensing requirements and fees; licensing and enforcement workload and performance data; continuing education requirements; and significant legislative and regulatory developments affecting the Board and the Osteopathic profession.

Administrative Functions/Projects:

- **Delinquent Physician and Surgeon Licenses:** The OMBC staff continue to address issues concerning delinquent physician and surgeon licenses. Upon further consultation with legal counsel, as it is determined that the Medical Practice Act (Chapter 5 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code) applies to the Osteopathic Medical Board of California so far as it remains consistent with the Osteopathic Act (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 2452), and as the Osteopathic Act does not specifically address the surrender of licenses, the OMBC is

authorized to accept voluntary surrenders in the same manner as the Medical Board of California, pursuant to B&P 2224. Accordingly, the Board has developed a surrender application form similar to that offered by the MBC, which has been made available on the Board's website. Please be advised that the OMBC form will be considered optional use until it is formally adopted through regulation, which we added to our list for promulgating future regulations. It is important to note that voluntary surrender of a license may not be permitted if the physician is currently under investigation by the Board or if disciplinary proceedings have already been initiated. This newly added application can help with the several physicians that we discovered have left California and have no plans of returning to the state and have let their license sit in a delinquent status prior to the license cancelling after five years.

- Copilot: DCA has authorized the use of Copilot and Copilot Chat for Board and Bureau activities. An AI council, which includes Director Calderon, has been established and is currently organizing dedicated workgroups to develop staff user guidelines. These groups will assess how Copilot may enhance departmental workflows and improve staff efficiency in daily operations, while carefully considering potential challenges associated with AI technology.
- Department of Justice Fingerprint Audit: On May 5, 2026, Board staff were contacted by the Department of Justice and notified that the Board had been selected for an audit. Staff participated in the audit and the final finding was that the Board “was found to be compliant in all areas assessed.”
- Sunset (aka oversight process): On July 13, 2026, DCA’s Boards and Bureaus undergoing sunset review in 2027 met with legislative staff to discuss the timeline for this upcoming review. As you may or may not be familiar with, the sunset process is designated to review the performance, operations, and the effectiveness of the Board. It helps identify issues, opportunities for improvement, and potential legislative changes. It also provides a platform for public and stakeholder input. Oversight is conducted jointly by the Assembly Business and Professions Committee and the Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee. They hold joint sunset review hearings where boards present updates, answer questions, and stakeholders can testify.

Timeline and Steps

- Spring/Summer – Boards receive a legislative template and draft their Sunset Review Report detailing operations, performance, and recommendations. Drafts are reviewed internally, with final reports due by December. Board staff have started drafting their report and plans to provide a copy to the Board’s Executive Committee prior to presenting the report to the full Board at its November Board meeting to approve the report.
- Late Winter/Early Spring – The Joint Oversight Committee issues a background paper summarizing findings and issues from the last review cycle.
- February–March – Sunset hearings are held; the board’s Executive Committee and staff testify, and stakeholders may speak.

- Post-Hearing – Boards have 30 days to submit written responses to the background paper and any additional requests.
- Legislative Action – If the board is operating satisfactorily, the Legislature typically proposes a four-year extension; otherwise, a shorter review period may be recommended.
- Governor’s Signature – Approved legislation is sent to the Governor for signature, renewing the board’s authority until the next sunset date.

Board Publications, Communication and Outreach Update:

- Newsletter: The Board’s fall 2026 newsletter has been released on the Board’s website.
- The OMBC continues to regularly disseminate content across its social media platforms, including Facebook, LinkedIn, and X. The Board's website is consistently updated with relevant legislation, frequently asked questions, publications, and enforcement actions.
- Director Calderon and enforcement staff attended the 5th Annual Latina Maternal Health Fair in Kern County on May 9, 2026. This event aimed to empower Latina mothers through advocacy and education to promote safe pregnancies and deliveries, addressing high maternal mortality and morbidity rates in regions like California's Central Valley.
- On September 24, 2026, Board staff plans to participate in the Placer Protect Senior Resource Fair in Roseville. The event is hosted by Placer Protect in partnership with the Placer County District Attorney’s Office and Placer County Health and Human Services and brings together organizations and service providers that support older adults, caregivers, and families. The event provides information and resources on senior health and wellness, community services, emergency preparedness, elder abuse prevention, and related topics. Board participation will provide an opportunity to educate consumers about the Board’s regulatory role, demonstrate how to verify a Physician’s license, provide information about the complaint process, and increase awareness of resources available to consumers.

Communication

- Director Calderon continues to represent the prescribing Boards on the CURES Executive Stakeholder Committee, the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) steering committee, and DCA’s AI council.
- Director Calderon has engaged in calls and email exchanges with Board President Denise Pines to discuss pending and ongoing projects and meeting agendas.
- In late April the Board received a new Attorney General Liaison. Attorney General Giovanni Mejia’s career spans decades in public service, with a strong background in law and public policy. We thank DAG Karolyn Westfall for her many years of service in

serving the Board up until April and welcome DAG Mejia.

- Director Calderon continues to meet periodically with representatives from the Consumer Watchdog group to solicit input on improving enforcement practices and procedures.
- Enforcement staff conduct monthly meetings with the DCA's Division of Investigations HQIU office to review the progress of pending investigations.
- Committee meetings have commenced, with Board leadership meeting frequently with designated committee members. Staff have also participated in meetings with various local, state, and national organizations to discuss and establish regulatory measures pertinent to the OMBC and other similar entities. These organizations include, but are not limited to, the Office of the Attorney General (AGO), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), other healing arts Boards (MBC, BRN, BOP, PAC, PTBC), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB), the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME), the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA), Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California (OPSC), the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians of California (ACOFPCA), and Premier Health (which now manages the Board's diversion program).