



Arkansas

STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

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Board Conference Call

August 16, 2011
9:00 a.m.

Board Members **On Conference Call**

Naomi Hall, President
Audra Findley, Secretary
Gregg Benefiel, Member

Faye Weeks, Member
Mary Kay Wurm, Member

Board Staff

Marilyn L. Graham, Executive Director
Amy Wirges, Admin. Specialist III

Attorney General Representative

Amanda Gibson

Naomi calls meeting to order.

Emergency conference call involves a reported incident regarding inappropriate behavior of Massage Therapist.

Discussion of Rules and Regulations: Massaging breast/around the breast is not permissible. Relaxation massages should not include any type of rubbing around the breast.

The therapist's alleged comments during massage were inappropriate: words such as 'baby' and informing the patient '...if that hurt, you should get a breast exam.'

Gibson states that she cannot find in the law where it is allowable to do an emergency suspension without a hearing first.

Discussion of previous suspensions/procedures and actions previously taken based on similar reports.

Gibson states that the Board must give therapist at least twenty (20) days notice before an official hearing. Discussion that Board meeting will be moved to September 19, 2011 to give therapist proper time to prepare for hearing.

Motion made by Faye Weeks to move board meeting to September 19, 2011.

2nd: Mary Kay Wurm None Oppose.

Motion made by Gregg Benefiel to do Emergency Suspension of therapist's license until hearing.

2nd: Faye Weeks None Opposed.

The ASBMT office will mail him the proper documents notifying him of the license suspension due to the seriousness of the matter. The complaint and notice of hearing will also be included with the emergency suspension order.

Discussion that the office will not release whom the complaint is against until we receive confirmation back that he has had proper notification of the situation.

Motion made by Gregg Benefiel to adjourn.

2nd: Faye Weeks None Opposed.