



MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Jim Raines

DATE: January 8, 2020

SUBJECT: Article regarding application with criminal history

The Louisiana Physical Therapy Board (“LPTB”) has the duty of protecting the public health, safety and welfare, and provides for administrative control, supervision, licensing and regulation of the practice of physical therapy in Louisiana. In order to provide consistent decisions when reviewing licensure applications in which an applicant has a criminal history, the LPTB has adopted a set of guidelines based upon a number of factors, such as the severity and number of crimes. Upon receipt of information indicating that an applicant has a criminal history, the LPTB will typically request the applicant provide additional information for review, such as a personal statement from the applicant, court records, and evidence of completion of court-mandated programs.

Some crimes may not require an extensive evaluation by LPTB staff, while others may result in a permanent denial of licensure. For example, a single instance of a misdemeanor or DUI may, in many instances, be cleared by LPTB staff; however, a single instance of a crime of violence, such as cruelty to the infirmed, will result in a permanent denial of licensure. Those crimes that are not cleared by LPTB staff are reviewed by the LPTB licensure committee, which includes a board member, who carefully review the application and information provided by the applicant. When the licensure committee determines it necessary to deny an application for licensure based upon their review of the application, the applicant is notified and is provided a hearing before the LPTB at which they may present testimony and evidence.