

Disciplinary Matrix

Paralegal, Marilyn Zimmerman, joined the board to discuss the continuing education disciplinary matrix that has been in existence for several years. Ms. Zimmerman recommended there be consistency in the matrix and that fine amounts align with the severity of the discipline. Ms. Zimmerman also explained that as currently written, the level of effort to research non-compliance matters, communicate with the licensee, and draft reprimand and consent documentation, often exceeds the outcome discipline when it results in \$2,500 suspended and a fine of \$25.00. The board agreed and discussed potential amendments to this matrix.

Dr. Ruffridge believes that continuing education is an incredibly important aspect of being licensed to perform patient care at a high level; the requirement to obtain these hours is not unreasonable or a difficult task. Dr. Ruffridge further suggested setting a base fine amount, stating it may be a motivating factor for licensees to complete their hours because there will be the same fine regardless of whether they missed 2 hours or 9 hours. Mr. Henderson agreed, adding there should be an additional fine amount for each hour per unit missed. Dr. Schaber also agreed, emphasizing the importance of distinguishing fine amounts between pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Dr. Ruffridge suggested a base fine of \$500 for pharmacists, plus \$100 - \$200 per credit hour missed. Ms. Lindemuth and Ms. Long suggested lower, but proportionate amounts for pharmacy technicians.

On a motion duly made by Ashley Schaber to implement a continuing education base fine for pharmacists at \$500, \$100 for each credit hour missed, two mandatory audits, a consent agreement and reprimand, and for a pharmacy technician, a \$125 base fine, \$25 for each credit hour missed, two mandatory audits, a consent agreement and reprimand, seconded by James Henderson, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to amend the continuing education disciplinary matrix by implementing base fines, per credit hour fines, mandatory audits, consent agreements, and reprimands for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who fail to meet continuing education requirements.

| | APPROVE | DENY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| Justin Ruffridge | x | | | |
| Lana Bell | x | | | |
| Tammy Lindemuth | x | | | |
| James Henderson | x | | | |
| Ashley Schaber | x | | | |
| Leif Holm | | | | x |
| Sharon Long | x | | | |

The motion passed with no further discussion.

DRAFT