



Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission Newsletter September - December 2015 Edition

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Welcome to the Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission Newsletter

Our newsletter's purpose is to help inform the chiropractic community of issues related to Washington State chiropractic statutes and [rules](#), and the work of the [Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission](#) (commission).

Message from the Chair – Matthew Waldron, DC

Here's an important message for every chiropractor practicing in Washington State: The Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission (commission) wants to know what you think and how you feel. I personally want you to come to our meetings and tell us, because I believe that when the stakeholders are involved, that is the best form of government. It's why I became involved with the commission. We have included both a morning and afternoon public comment provision in all our meeting agendas, and if you come to one of our meetings, I assure you that you will have the opportunity to tell us what's on your mind. And there's even better news: Not just chiropractors can come to talk us, anybody can.

Here's what's important right now. We started conducting special meetings called rules workshops. We have them scheduled for November 12, 2015 and March 10, 2016, plus there will likely be more scheduled in 2016. So in addition to our six regular business meetings held on the even-numbered months, we've doubled our workload and have been meeting during the odd-numbered months too. Our mission: we are refining and improving the rules in [Chapter 246-808 WAC](#).

What this means is that officially, almost every rule is under review and open for changes. Each rule we open has to go through several steps in order for changes to become final and permanent. We are in the first phase right now, where we attend these special meetings, discussing the rules and offering up our individual ideas about changes, additions, and deletions. We are doing several types of things in our rules workshop, in that we are clearing up language, combining rules into single sections, updating language for technology, adding rules where needed and a lot more ... all in the mission of protecting the public. Toward the end of this first phase, the commission will have to vote on all of our changes, cementing them slightly so they can move forward through the bureaucratic machinations.

Governor

The Honorable Jay Inslee

Department of Health

John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH, Secretary

Bob Nicoloff

Executive Director

[Leann Yount](#)

Program Manager

Jessica Jorgensen

Program Representative

Commission Members

Matthew Waldron, DC

Chair

Winfield Hobbs, DC, Vice-Chair

Aaron Chan, DC, Vice-Chair

Maria Best, DC

David Folweiler, DC

Bryson Langel, DC

Douglas Long, DC

Ronwynn Pratt, DC

Robert Schmitt, DC

Kimberly Corbin-Waters, DC

Judy Colenso,

Public Member

James Slakey,

Public Member

Louise Stephens

Public Member

You can be part of this process in a very important way... and that is before we vote on all of the recommended initial changes to our [rules](#). Come tell us what rules you think need to be changed, updated, or added in order to protect the public in your community. Chiropractic is nothing if it's not unique and we all have unique experiences in practice, in our towns, and in our circles of influence. You may have experienced something with a chiropractor in your community but didn't want to file a complaint or you did not see a rule that applied. Please come tell us about that so that we can broaden our knowledge through your professional experiences.

Not only is it important to us now, but these rules will regulate our profession for the foreseeable future, so now is the time to be involved. It's true that later in the process, when a rule is closer to a final version, a public hearing process will take place. But remember, I said that the commission will soon vote on these initial changes in order to move them forward, and I want to hear from you before these votes happens. I want you to be part of the process now.

X-Ray Requirements for Chiropractors in Washington- *This article has been removed and the topic is under review.*

Washington State Chiropractic Jurisprudence Examination

By: Aaron Chan, DC

In order to receive a license to practice chiropractic in the State of Washington, the applicant must take and pass the commission-administered open-book jurisprudence (JP) examination with a minimum passing score of 95 percent (WAC 246-808-115 Examinations (2) and (3)). The purpose of the examination is to familiarize the applicant with the rules and statutes that govern the practice of chiropractic in the state.

The JP examination is also used in disciplinary cases where the commission believes the licensee may not fully understand the rules and statutes, and is provided as an opportunity to educate and inform the disciplined chiropractor. In the case of administering the JP examination to a disciplined licensee, the commission will charge a fee.

On August 8, 2013, the commission discussed the option of moving the JP examination online. In an effort to streamline the licensing process and meet performance measures set by the Department of Health, it was decided that moving the examination online would be the best choice. So began the process of working with the Department of Health and their programmers to create the website needed to securely deliver the examination. At the same time, the commission began reviewing all of the jurisprudence examination questions to update and correct questions before converting to online use.

By August 14, 2014 the first online draft was presented to the commission and a cost analysis was authorized in order to set the fee for the examination.

The commission will begin administering the examination online in the upcoming months. The JP examination is also used for disciplinary cases. The examination fee is \$100. The commission continues to review and improve upon the examination questions. The commission additionally anticipates another extensive review of the examination following completion of the current WAC chapter review.

Commission Member Spotlight Winfield Hobbs, DC

I have been practicing in Seattle for 26 years since graduating from Western States Chiropractic College, now the University of Western States. Those four years in Portland, Oregon, stimulated my desire to stay in the Pacific Northwest.

I grew up in the center of the U.S., living in several small towns of central Nebraska. I graduated from high school in Kearney. Long before I was living, there had been a dance hall just outside of town called – “The 1,733 Ranch.” It was located 1,733 miles from Boston and from San Francisco. While not living on farms, I worked on several in my teenage years. Cleaning hog sheds netted me a whopping 75 cents an hour.

Following college at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, I moved north and then east, eventually landing in New York, N.Y., the “place so nice they named it twice.” I taught yoga there in the early 80s, a time even before the popularity of gyms, much less “working out.” Among my other experiences “in the city” I helped build an off Broadway theater named the Douglas Fairbanks. Shows were produced on that stage for 25 years before it was torn down and replaced by a 63-story tower of luxury apartments. The yoga background led me to explore health care and eventually chiropractic as my career option.

I was appointed by Governor Gregoire to the Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission in November 2009. I extend my thanks to Governor Inslee for appointing me to a second term. Understanding the issues facing chiropractors from both the practitioner and the regulatory perspectives challenges me daily. I feel honored to be part of the process as this commission updates our governing regulations. Though the process is not always “fun,” it is very rewarding.

Outside of chiropractic, I have taught thousands of people to partner dance, mainly Lindy-hop and East Coast Swing. I play the ukulele in a Hawaiian band, “Na Hila Hila Boys,” and am working with a new ensemble, “Ukestar Seattle.” I continue to have the opportunity to bring joy, love, and whimsy to audiences with “Lucia Neare’s Theatrical Wonders.”

In sum, I enjoy the balance chiropractic brings me personally, the balance I see chiropractic brings to “patients” lives, and the balance of living in and serving the chiropractic community as a member of the Washington State Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission.

Disciplinary Actions

Information about healthcare providers is on the Department of Health's website. Select [Provider Credential Search](#) on the Department of Health home page (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a healthcare provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of his or her credential, disciplinary actions, and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. You may also get this information by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a healthcare provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their [complaint](#).

The Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission has taken the following disciplinary action.

Kitsap County:

June 2015: Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **Blake J. Wagner** (CH00003095) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly billed a patient for treatment for which he provided no corresponding records.

Welcome New Commissioner

Maria Best, DC was appointed to the commission on July 1, 2015. She replaces Dr. Harold Rasmussen, as he completed two terms on the commission. Dr. Best has been licensed for 30 years and practices in Freeland.

Commission Composition

The Commission is made up of 11 chiropractors and three public members all appointed by the governor. Commission members may serve a maximum of two four-year terms. If you are interested in [applying for a position](#) on the Commission, or learning more about commissioner duties, please read the information on the website <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Professions/Chiropractic/default.htm> or contact the program manager at 360-236-4856 or leann.yount@doh.wa.gov.

2016 Commission Meeting Dates and Locations

Date	City	Location
February 11, 2016 Business Meeting	To Be Determined (TBD)	TBD
March 11, 2016 Rules Workshop	TBD	TBD
April 14, 2016 Business Meeting	Tumwater	Department of Health 310 Israel Road S.E. Point Plaza East, Room 152/153
June 9, 2016 Business Meeting	Tumwater	Department of Health 310 Israel Road S.E. Point Plaza East, Room 152/153
August 11, 2016 Business Meeting	Tumwater	Department of Health 310 Israel Road S.E. Point Plaza East, Room 152/153
October 13, 2016 Business Meeting	Kent	TBD
December 8, 2016	Tumwater	TBD

Do you have ideas or suggestions for future Commission newsletters? Is there something specific that you think we should address or include? Please submit suggestions to leann.yount@doh.wa.gov or CQAC@doh.wa.gov