



# Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure Newsletter

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Winter 2025

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## Board Files Amendments to 201 KAR 9:270

KRS 311.565(1)(a) authorizes the board to promulgate administrative regulations to regulate the conduct of its licensees. KRS 218A.205(3)(a) and (b) require the Board to establish mandatory prescribing and dispensing standards related to controlled substances. KRS 311.842(1)(b) requires that the Board promulgate administrative regulations establishing professional standards for prescribing and administering controlled substances by physician assistants. This administrative regulation, 201KAR 9:270 establishes the professional standards for any Board licensee who prescribes, dispenses, or administers Buprenorphine-Mono-Product or Buprenorphine-Combined-with-Naloxone in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The Board first promulgated 201 KAR 9:270 in 2015. In 2020, the Board completed a comprehensive review and update to the regulation – a protracted process of nearly two (2) years. In 2021, the regulation was updated to incorporate physician assistants after they were granted prescriptive authority by the Legislature. At its March 2024 meeting, the Board assigned a workgroup and tasked it with reviewing the current regulation and making amendment recommendations back to the Board. Following an initial section-by-section and line-by-line review, the workgroup identified a number of areas in which the regulation could be updated. Over the summer, the workgroup shared its preliminary recommendations with targeted stakeholder groups and asked for input. The workgroup completed its work in the Fall and presented its recommendations to the Board for consideration at its December 2024 meeting. After consideration, the Board accepted the recommendations and voted to direct staff to file the proposed amendments to the regulation. **Please note that a copy of the filed changes is available directly on the homepage of the Board's website, [www.kbml.ky.gov](http://www.kbml.ky.gov).**

As a result of the Board's actions, the amendments have been filed with the Legislative Research Commission. A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on March 26, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., at the offices of the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, 310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B, Louisville, Kentucky 40222. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing by five workdays prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing was received by that date, the hearing may be cancelled. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made. If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted through March 31, 2025. Please send written notifications of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person.

**CONTACT Person:** Leanne K. Diakov, General Counsel, Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, 310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B, Louisville, KY 40222, fax (502) 429-7118, email – [leanne.diakov@ky.gov](mailto:leanne.diakov@ky.gov).

Board Orders can be viewed under the Physician Profile/Verification of License link on the Board's website: [www.kbml.ky.gov](http://www.kbml.ky.gov)

**Board Action Report (actions taken since 10/01/2024)**

**Joseph Bark, M.D. Lexington, KY License #16820**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/29/2024

**Shannon P. Calhoun, D.O. Tulsa, OK License #02801**  
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 10/18/2024

**Iryna V. Chesnokova, M.D., Elizabethtown, KY License #60319**  
Agreed Order entered into 12/30/2024

**Dawn L. Falco, M.D. Peabody, MA License #28802**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Patricia L. Figert, M.D., Carrollton, KY License #31692**  
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 10/18/2024

**Ralph T. Fossett, M.D. Morehead, KY License #14451**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Richard K. Gaines, M.D. Boca Raton, FL License #43284**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/26/2024

**John K. Garner, M.D., Campbellsville, KY License #31140**  
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 10/18/2024

**Richard G. Gautraud, M.D. California, KY License #34767**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/23/2024

**Shawn Gorden, M.D. Manchester, KY License #39057**  
Order Terminating Sixth Amended Agreed Order issued 11/22/2024

**John M. Gordon, M.D. Richmond, KY License #16823**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Barry G. Hardison, M.D. Central City, KY License #23875**  
Final Order of Revocation issued 11/27/2024

**Ron K. Her, M.D., Wauchula, FL License #C2102**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 12/09/2024

**Ron K. Her, M.D., Wauchula, FL License #C2102**  
Order Reinstating Suspended License issued 12/11/2024

**Michael G. Hughes, M.D. Louisville, KY License #44016**  
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 11/22/2024

**Cassandra M. Kirkpatrick, M.D. Cross Lanes, WV License #43408**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Robert T. Longshore, M.D. Lakeside Park, KY License #12488**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Ricardo B. Maddela, M.D. Henderson, KY License #19313**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**John K. Miller, M.D., Naples, FL License #46681**  
Agreed Order entered into 12/30/2024

**David M. Moore, M.D. Clarksville, TN License #42984**  
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 11/22/2024

**Robert A. Padgett, M.D. Lancaster, KY License #13933**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Robert B. Palmer-Ball, M.D., Louisville, KY License #21470**  
Agreed Order entered into 12/12/2024

**Saagar K. Raju, M.D. Hesperia, CA License #56930**  
Order Termination Agreed Order issued 11/22/2024

**Daniel B. Ray, M.D., Liberty Township, OH License #26443**  
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 10/18/2024

**Nelson Rice, M.D. Lexington, KY License #19031**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Stacey S. Roussell, M.D. Louisville, KY License #35005**  
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 11/22/2024

**William A. Schwank, M.D. Bowling Green, KY License #18796**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/29/2024

**Michael E. Sekela, M.D. Lexington, KY License #24562**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Michael E. Sekela, M.D. Lexington, KY License #24562**  
Order Reinstating Suspended License issued 11/26/2024

**Abhilasha M. Singh, M.D. Bowling Green, KY License #36112**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/29/2024

**Abhilasha M. Singh, M.D. Bowling Green, KY License #36112**  
Order Reinstating Suspended License issued 12/02/2024

**Robert R. So, M.D. Union, KY License #42021**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Robert R. So, M.D., Union, KY License #42021**  
Order Reinstating Suspended License issued 12/05/2024

**Gregory L. Spears, M.D., Catlettsburg, KY License #34565**  
Agreed Order entered into 12/12/2024

**Zachary T. Sweatman, ATC, Prospect, KY License #AT1223**  
Agreed Order entered into 12/18/2024

**Daisy F. Urbano, M.D. Elizabethtown, KY License #30364**  
Order Suspending License Pursuant to 201 KAR 9:310 issued 11/20/2024, effective 11/22/2024

**Daisy F. Urbano, M.D., Elizabethtown, KY License #30364**  
Order Reinstating Suspended License issued 12/06/2024

**William K. Vincent, M.D. Central City, KY License #36099**  
Final Order of Revocation issued 11/27/2024

**Scott R. Welden, M.D., Covington, KY License #35308**  
Agreed Order entered into 12/20/2024

**Gary N. Wortz, M.D. Lexington, KY License #40650**  
Agreed Order entered into 11/04/2024

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Board Orders can be viewed under the Physician Profile/Verification of License link on the Board's website: [www.kbml.ky.gov](http://www.kbml.ky.gov)

Restrictions have also been placed on the following physicians' licenses pending resolution of charges brought against them.

**Subhash A. Vyas, M.D. Williamson, West Virginia License #20556**

Complaint and Emergency Order of Suspension issued 11/22/2024, effective 11/25/2024

**Board Recommends Review of KASPER Prescriber Report Cards**

KASPER Prescriber Report Cards have returned and are currently available! It is easier than ever to read, identify high-risk patients and view prescribing comparisons within your specialty. To view annual or quarterly report cards, log into your KASPER account through the Cabinet for Health and Family Services' secure Kentucky Online Gateway (KOG) portal. Access to the Prescriber Report Cards are available to Master Account Holders and Delegates under the Review Reports menu. In addition, an icon is on the Home Page under Additional Resources. Here is a link to the KASPER's website where you can find more information, helpful tips, and other resources: [KASPER - Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting - Cabinet for Health and Family Services.](#)

A link to the Prescriber Report Card user guide is available here: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oig/dai/deppb/Documents/KASPERPrescriberReportCardUserGuide.pdf>

The **Board strongly recommends** all licensees who are authorized to prescribe controlled substances in Kentucky to take a few moments and review your Prescriber Report Card at least on annual basis.

**Kentucky Office of Medical Cannabis Offering Virtual Webinars**

Physicians in Kentucky have two upcoming opportunities to learn about the authorization required for practitioners to provide medical cannabis certifications in the Commonwealth. The Office of Medical Cannabis is hosting virtual webinars on **Tuesday, February 4th** and **Tuesday, April 1st** from **12 p.m. to 1 p.m. ET** to provide licensed Kentucky physicians with guidance on the medical cannabis authorization and registration processes. Register here or using the links provided below:

- Tuesday, February 4th (12 pm-1 pm ET) – Register here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_28IIR1tLToi1kv4rGuPQZA#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_28IIR1tLToi1kv4rGuPQZA#/registration)
- Tuesday, April 1st (12 pm-1 pm ET) – Register here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_L-UIQwa-TGmuDEwWQUhOuA#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_L-UIQwa-TGmuDEwWQUhOuA#/registration)

**Board Consultant Appreciation**

The Board would like to take this opportunity to publicly offer its most sincere appreciation and thanks to each of the physicians throughout the Commonwealth who have agreed to serve as a Board consultant.

As physicians throughout the state are aware, the primary mission of the Board is public protection, and the services provided by our Board consultants are vital to the Board's ability to meet its statutory obligations. Board consultants are primarily asked to review medical records of physicians under investigation in order to make a determination whether the care rendered meets the acceptable and prevailing medical standards in the Commonwealth. Each of these reviews are specialty specific, which is part of the reason why the Board is always looking to recruit new consultants.

It is important to point out that physicians who serve in this capacity for the Board are not only protecting the citizens of Kentucky but are also providing a critical and valuable service to their fellow physicians and the practice of medicine. The Board recognizes these physicians for their dedicated service and again thanks each one for their contributions to the public safety of Kentuckians.

## **Renewal of Medical License For 2025**

The 2025 annual renewal notice was mailed to physicians in December 2024. Please note that state regulation requires all physicians currently practicing in the state to renew their license by March 1, 2025, pay the \$150.00 registration fee in order to keep their license active. Renewals paid after March 1, 2025, but prior to the April 1, 2025, deadline, may be made by paying an additional \$50.00 penalty fee. Failure to renew your license by the April 1, 2025, deadline will cause your license to automatically become inactive and subsequent practice in Kentucky will be considered the unauthorized practice of medicine.

To renew your Kentucky license, please go to the Board's website, [www.kbml.ky.gov](http://www.kbml.ky.gov), choose the physician renewal tab, click on the renewal link and log in using your Kentucky license number as your username and the last four digits of your social security number as your password. There is also a paper application on the website should you choose to renew your license by paper. There is an additional \$10.00 charge if you renew by paper application.

If you hold a Kentucky compact license, you are required to renew your license on the IMLCC website: <https://www.imlcc.org/renew/>. If you have any questions regarding your renewal or require assistance, please contact the Board at (502) 429-7150.

## **Reminder on Death Certificate Signatures**

The Board would like to remind its licensees of the statutory requirement regarding the timely signature of death certificates. Unfortunately, the untimely signing of death certificates continues to be one of the most frequent reasons why grievances are filed against physicians.

According to KRS 213.076. medical certification shall be completed, signed, and returned to the funeral director within five working days after presentation to the physician, dentist, or chiropractor in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death, except when inquiry is required by KRS 72.400 to 72.475. In such cases, the coroner shall complete and sign the certificate within five days after receiving results of the inquiry as required by KRS 72.400 to 72.475. In the absence of the physician, dentist, or chiropractor, or with such person's approval, the certificate may be completed and signed by his associate physician, dentist, or chiropractor; the chief medical officer of the institution in which death occurred; the physician who performed an autopsy upon the decedent; or a physician employed by the local health department, if the individual has access to the medical history of the case and death is due to natural causes.

It is important to note that certifying a death certificate is an important final step in completing a patient's care. Failure to comply with the statutory requirement often causes the involved patient family's additional hardships when it comes to issues such as probating estates, insurance claims, social security, along with Veteran's and retirement benefits. Unfortunately, all too often the primary excuse the Board receives from physicians regarding this issue centers on the fact they were not made aware of the signature request. With this in mind, the Board strongly encourages physicians to educate the members of their staff on the importance of bringing this matter to their attention.

Please remember, Kentucky has an electronic registry, Kentucky Electronic Death Registration System (KY-EDRS), which enables death records to be filed online with the Kentucky Office of Vital Statistics (OVS), creating a paperless option. The online KY-EDRS supports collaboration among multiple users including funeral homes, hospitals, nursing homes, physicians, coroners, advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants, dentists, or chiropractors and OVS. With KY-EDRS, funeral directors, physicians and medical certifiers can complete the death registration process faster with fewer errors and more efficiently. By visiting the following link: Electronic Death Registration System - Cabinet for Health and Family Services ([ky.gov](http://ky.gov)), you will find more information on how to register for KY-EDRS along with information on how to receive training on the system.

**Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure  
310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B  
Louisville, KY 40222**

**Change of Address Notice**

All information provided below is used to update the licensee's profile on the Board's website [www.kbml.ky.gov](http://www.kbml.ky.gov).

You may also change your address online by clicking [here](#).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Practice Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Practice County: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*The Board does not publish your email address.