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# STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

## ANNUAL REPORT

### 1977-78



Printed Under the Direction of the  
State Budget and Control Board

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STATE BOARD OF  
MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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**STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

Holds meetings, hearings, and examinations in June and December and at the discretion of the Board. Total number of physicians in the state as of June 30, 1978 = 3550.

(Composed of nine reputable physicians or surgeons: eight doctors of medicine, and one doctor of osteopathy. The medical doctors shall be selected one from each of the six Congressional Districts and two from the state-at-large, to be nominated by the State Medical Association, and the doctor of osteopathy to be nominated from the state-at-large, by the South Carolina Osteopathic Association and appointed and commissioned by the Governor for a four-year term. 1976 Code of Laws, Section 40-47-10, amended by Act 433, 1969).

**District.**

- 1st—A. Richard Johnston, M.D. (1981) ..... St George
- 2nd—Foster Marshall, II, M.D., Secy. (1979) ..... Columbia
- 3rd—William P. Turner, M.D., (1981) ..... Greenwood
- 4th—Frederick F. Adams, Jr., M.D. (1982) ..... Spartanburg
- 5th—Charles W. Brice, Jr., M.D., V. Pres. (1979) ..... Chester
- 6th—Harold S. Gilmore, M.D. (1980) ..... Nichols
- At-Large—Vernon E. Merchant, Jr., M.D., Pres. (1980) . Anderson
- At-Large—Ernest A. Johnson, D.O. (1981) ..... Summerville
- At-Large—J. Ernest Lathem, M.D., (1982) ..... Greenville
- Executive Director ..... Nathaniel B. Heyward



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**STAFF**

Executive Director, Mr. N. B. Heyward  
 Administrative Assistant III, Ms. Marian L. Coleman  
 Administrative Assistant I, Mrs. Sarah Simmons  
 Accountant II, Mr. Robert Broadwell  
 Staff Assistant II, Mrs. Patricia Coleman  
 Special Investigator, Mr. Richard Hodges  
 Special Investigator, Mr. George Tansil  
 Secretary II, Mrs. Annette Brannon  
 Secretary II, Mrs. Marlene Bryant  
 Law Clerk, Mr. Tom Traxler

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The State Board of Medical Examiners of South Carolina regulates the practice of medicine and osteopathy under the statutory authority of the *1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina*, Section 40-47-20.

Five basic programs function under the Board to insure the citizens of this state of the highest quality medical care. These programs are: Licensure, Disciplinary, Public Information, Internal Administration, and the Board.

The Licensure Program includes the processing of applications for South Carolina medical licensure by endorsement from other states and by examination as well as special consideration for foreign medical graduates and the certification of physicians' assistants. Careful compilation of all required documents for each of these categories is maintained to insure that competent, qualified physicians are licensed. The Licensure Program is responsible for annual re-registration of these health professionals. The need to update the record keeping and to assist in re-registration has been recognized by the State Board of Medical Examiners, and computerization of records has been added during this fiscal year. This computerization has been added so that accurate records are maintained and to make information available to the public and other state and federal agencies.

The Disciplinary Program consists of an eighteen- (18) member Disciplinary Commission from which three- (3) member panels are selected to hold Panel Hearings when a formal complaint is brought against a physician in South Carolina. These complaints originate from the general public, other state agencies, physicians, patients, etc. After an investigation has been made into a complaint and the complaint is determined to be valid, the panel hears the case and makes recommendations to the Board, which, in turn, hears the case and reaches a Final Order in the matter. The disciplinary system was established to safeguard and protect the public to insure that competent physicians are allowed to practice in the state.

The Public Information Program performs the duties related to the compilation of data to publish an annual directory of all physicians licensed by the State Board of Medical Examiners. The directory will include in the near future tables of statistics related to licensure, types of practice, and disciplinary actions. These tables will be added to the directory as a result of implementation of the

computer system. A copy of the current Medical Directory and a publication of the laws and rules of the Board are herein included.

The Internal Administration of the State Board of Medical Examiners comes under the nine-member Board. The Executive Director is responsible for seeing that all programs are carried out as designed. The Administrative Assistant III assists the Director in overseeing these programs and working with the heads of each program to insure communication between programs and the Executive Director. The Investigators and Law Clerks gather pertinent information to present to the Attorney General's Office in preparing for disciplinary hearings. The Administrative Assistant I is responsible for processing and maintenance of examination records on all Foreign Medical Graduates applying for licensure in South Carolina and certification of physicians. The Staff Assistant II is responsible for compilation of endorsement applicants' records and also works with the Accountant in carrying out the financial responsibilities of the Board of Medical Examiners and inventory of supplies. The Accountant II is responsible for the financial division of the Internal Administration, which includes the payment of bills and preparation of the annual budget as well as the preparation of requested reports. The Secretary II positions assist in clerical work in each of the programs and dispensing of general information. An organizational chart is attached.

The Board consists of nine (9) members. They are responsible for initiating rules and regulations and laws to insure that the state of South Carolina licenses qualified physicians and regulates these physicians after licensure has been granted.

By law, the Board of Medical Examiners must generate revenues at least equal to expenditures. A copy of the 1977-78 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures is attached.

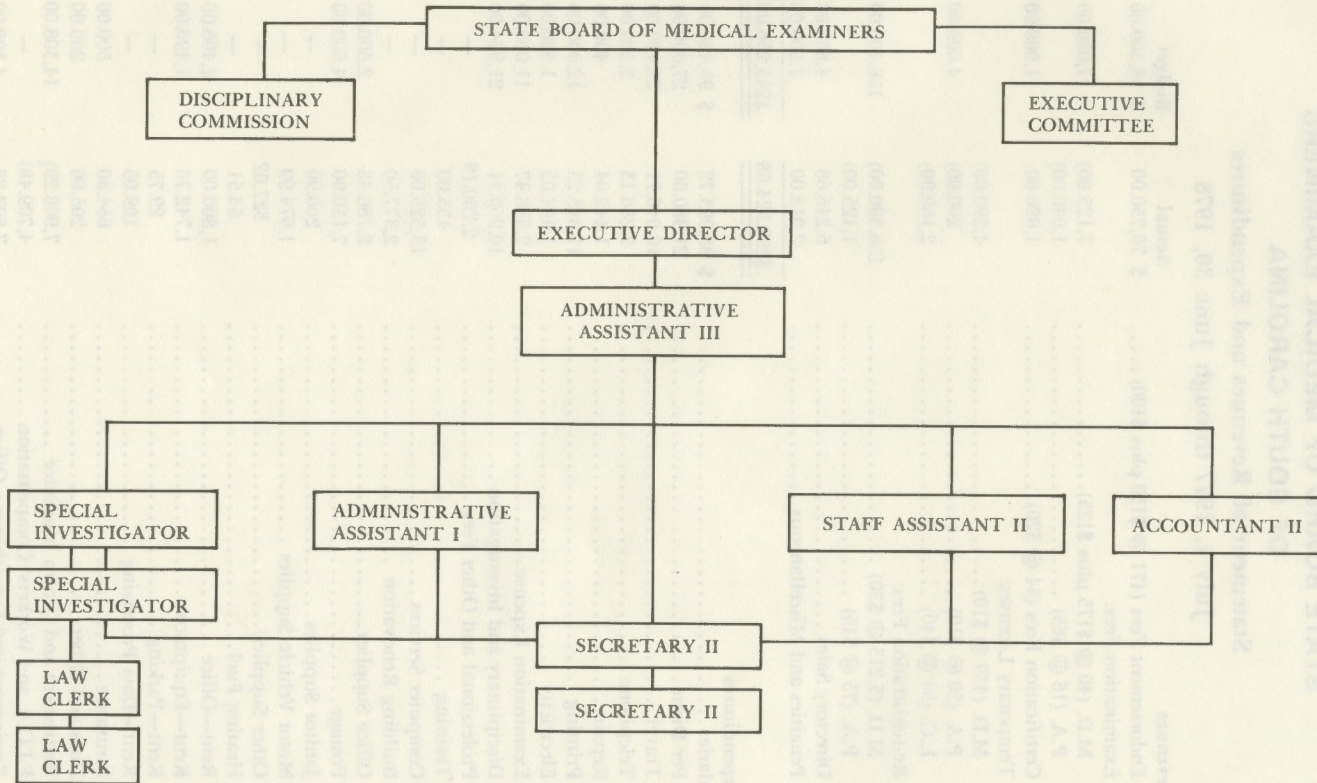
The State Board of Medical Examiners held full Board meetings during fiscal year 1977-78 on the following dates: October 26, 1977; December 5-8, 1977; April 28-29, 1978; and June 12-15, 1978. The April meeting also included a seminar with the Medical Disciplinary Commission and a guest speaker on medical discipline.

Two three-day examinations were held for physicians in the basic sciences, clinical sciences, and clinical competency testing. These exams were administered to forty-two (42) applicants. Two one-day examinations were administered to eighteen (18) physicians'

assistants applicants. As of June 30, 1978, there were fifty-five (55) physicians' assistants in the state.

During fiscal year 1977-78 the Board issued 442 permanent licenses to physicians. Thirty-five foreign medical graduates were permanently licensed. As of June 30, 1978, there were seventy-three (73) foreign medical graduates on permanent temporary licenses and fifty-one (51) on regular temporary licenses. During the year the Board issued a total of 439 temporary licenses and fifty-three (53) limited certificates to institutional staff physicians. A total of fifty-four (54) physicians were certified to other states. As of June 30, 1978, there was a total of 3,550 registered physicians in the state.

Six Disciplinary Panels were appointed by the Board from the Disciplinary Commission, and hearings were held on these cases. Of these, six Final Board Hearings were held and six Final Orders issued. As a result of these Final Orders, two physicians received private reprimands, one received a public reprimand, two received suspensions, and one received a revocation. A total of ten (10) physicians reported semiannually to the Board to give probationary reports. The Board received a total of twenty-seven (27) complaints from the public, other agencies, and physicians during fiscal year 1977-78. Each of these complaints was investigated and either dismissed because of lack of evidence or followed through with a full investigation.



**STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures  
July 1, 1977 through June 30, 1978**

Revenues	Actual	Budget
Endorsement Fees (471 @ \$150 plus \$100) . . . . .	\$ 70,750.00	\$ 58,500.00
Examination Fees:		
M.D. (40 @ \$175 plus \$125) . . . . .	7,125.00	17,050.00
P.A. (16 @ \$65) . . . . .	1,040.00	
Certification Fees (54 @ \$20) . . . . .	1,080.00	1,000.00
Temporary Licenses:		
M.D. (439 @ \$10) . . . . .	4,390.00	
P.A. (20 @ \$10) . . . . .	200.00	4,000.00
L.C. (54 @ \$40) . . . . .	2,160.00	
Re-registration Fees:		
M.D. (5,213 @ \$30) . . . . .	156,390.00	158,400.00
P.A. (75 @ \$15) . . . . .	1,125.00	
Directory Sales . . . . .	6,246.68	4,800.00
Penalties and Miscellaneous . . . . .	2,018.00	1,500.00
	<u>\$252,524.68</u>	<u>\$245,250.00</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Salaries . . . . .	\$ 83,993.72	\$ 95,420.00
Per Diem . . . . .	21,980.00	27,000.00
Travel . . . . .	10,046.71	28,100.00
Telephone . . . . .	2,286.13	3,400.00
Repairs . . . . .	1,442.04	400.00
Printing . . . . .	11,843.23	12,000.00
Electricity . . . . .	1,494.05	1,500.00
Examination Expense . . . . .	2,388.47	11,000.00
Disciplinary and Investigation . . . . .	10,963.11	21,924.00
Professional and Other Fees . . . . .	2,200.19	—
Training . . . . .	155.00	—
Computer Services . . . . .	13,525.00	—
Building Renovation . . . . .	2,377.50	—
Office Supplies . . . . .	2,786.48	2,600.00
Postage . . . . .	7,130.00	4,600.00
Janitor Supplies . . . . .	200.90	—
Motor Vehicle Supplies . . . . .	1,674.99	—
Other Supplies . . . . .	327.02	—
Heating Fuel . . . . .	64.51	—
Rent—Office . . . . .	1,800.00	2,400.00
Rent—Equipment . . . . .	1,742.76	1,496.00
Rent—Parking . . . . .	29.75	—
Rent—Data Processing . . . . .	109.05	—
Insurance . . . . .	654.80	500.00
Dues and Other . . . . .	205.00	200.00
Retirement and Group Insurance . . . . .	7,908.29	14,308.00
F.I.C.A. and Workers' Compensation . . . . .	4,709.48	—
Equipment and Furnishings—Office . . . . .	7,502.28	4,500.00
Equipment—Automobile . . . . .	4,470.63	—
Contingencies . . . . .	0	1,800.00
	<u>\$206,011.09</u>	<u>\$233,148.00</u>

**STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANTS**

Date of Exam	Total Applicants	Applicants of P. A. Program		Passed		Failed		%	Taken 2nd Time	Taken 3rd Time
		SCMX	Other	SCMX	Other	SCMX	Other			
6'75	44	36	8	22	8	14	0	31%	0	0
12'75	25	23	2	20	1	3	1	16%	3	0
6'76	16	14	2	8	1	6	1	43%	3	3
12'76	14	6	8	1	6	5	2	50%	3	1
6'77	10	7	3	5	2	2	1	30%	1	1
12'77	9	5	4	4	3	1	1	22%	0	0
6'78	9	5	4	4	4	1	0	11%	1	0

**STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
FLEX EXAMINATION**

Date	Total Applicants	Percent Failed	Applicants Medical School			Passed			Failed		
			SC	Other US Graduates	FMS	SC	Other US Graduates	FMS	SC	Other US Graduates	FMS
December 1969	12	33%	0	6	6	0	4	4	0	2	2
June 1970	45	29%	37	5	3	30	2	0	7	3	3
December 1970	14	50%	4	2	8	4	0	3	0	2	5
June 1971	35	28%	21	4	10	14	2	9	7	2	1
December 1971	14	57%	3	1	10	2	1	3	1	0	7
June 1972	33	27%	16	3	14	12	3	9	4	0	5
December 1972	52	46%	8	7	37	5	7	16	2	1	21
June 1973	60	28%	28	6	26	23	5	15	5	1	11
December 1973	30	60%	8	2	20	4	2	6	5	0	13
June 1974	64	32%	36	3	25	30	3	10	6	0	15
December 1974	33	69%	5	2	26	3	2	5	2	0	21
June 1975	80	45%	47	8	25	28	8	8	19	0	17
December 1975	43	48%	21	2	20	15	2	5	6	0	15
June 1976	53	28%	28	5	20	22	3	13	5	2	8
December 1976	27	33%	8	4	15	7	3	7	1	1	8
June 1977	31	23%	8	11	12	7	10	7	1	1	5
December 1977	15	50%	2	6	7	1	5	2	1	2	4
June 1978	27	29.6%	3	9	15	2	8	9	1	1	6

