

# Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board



# Newsletter



Fall 2013

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Division of Health Licensure and Regulation • Health Related Boards • 665 Mainstream Drive, MetroCenter, Nashville, TN 37243  
Phone: (615) 532-5128 - Toll Free: (800) 778-4123 ext. 5325128 - Fax: (615) 741-7698 - <http://tn.gov/health>

## BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2014

The 2014 Board Meetings will be held at  
665 Mainstream Drive, Metro Center,  
Nashville, TN, 37243, in the Iris Conference Room

### Personnel and Education Committee Meetings

Personnel and Education Committee meetings will  
convene at 1:00P.M. CST/CDT on the following dates in  
2014:

January 15, 2014  
April 16, 2014  
July 16, 2014  
October 15, 2014

### Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board Meetings

Full Board meetings will convene at 9:00A.M. CST/CDT on  
the following dates in 2014:

January 16, 2014  
April 17, 2014  
July 17, 2014  
October 16, 2014



## BOARD MEMBER ACTIVITY

### A Farewell and Thanks to Former Board Members

Diane Robbins	Livingston	Medical Technologist
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### Welcome These Board Appointees

Patti J. Walton	Franklin	Laboratory Administrator
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## ON THE MOVE

### Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Health Related Boards, Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board is on the move.

The Department of Health's Division of Health Licensure and Regulation, Office of Health Related Boards will be transitioning from leased space at Heritage Place Metro Center to a newly renovated state-owned space. Our new address will be 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243. Our move is currently scheduled for the last week of September 2013.

All individual employee phone numbers and e-mail addresses will remain the same. You are encouraged to stay in contact with our office by using existing phones numbers and email addresses. However, if you plan to write or visit the Health Related Boards after September 30, 2013, please use our new address at:

**Tennessee Department of Health  
Division of Health, Licensure and Regulation  
Office of Health Related Boards  
ATTN: Medical Laboratory Board  
665 Mainstream Drive, MetroCenter  
Nashville, Tenn. 37243**

While the department has prepared diligently to minimize downtime, maintain accessibility and sustain productivity throughout this relatively complex move, we do appreciate your understanding and patience as personnel and material move into our new space. We look forward to working with you and providing outstanding customer service from our new location.

## PUBLIC CHAPTER 213

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 29, relative to medical laboratories.

(SECTION 1) Tennessee Code Annotated Section §68.29.138, is amended by deleting the current section in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

(a) Notwithstanding any provisions of official compilation Rules and Regulations of the State of Tennessee, Rule 1200-06-01, or any other rule promulgated by the medical laboratory board to the contrary, a Tennessee medical laboratory shall be licensed in accordance with the rules promulgated under authority of this chapter and as provided in this section if the laboratory:

- (1). Is engaged in advanced esoteric applied toxicological, forensic, or biochemical analysis utilizing emerging technologies, such as chromatographic and non-chromatographic techniques coupled with mass spectrometer based detector systems and molecular diagnostic techniques; and
- (2). Is licensed, certified, or accredited by the United States department of health and human resources substance abuse and mental health service administrations (SAMHSA), THE American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB), the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT), the College of American Pathologists Accreditation Program (CAP LAP), or a state that has been determined to be exempt in accordance with Section 353(p) of the Public Health Services Act, 42 U.S.C. § 263a, as having enacted laboratory requirements of the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA).

(b) A laboratory licensed under subsection (a) shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter, including any rules promulgated under this chapter, that require persons who accept specimens for laboratory examination and perform analytical testing or report the results of a laboratory examination, be licensed as a technologist, technician, laboratory trainee, or special analyst.

(c) In such medical laboratories, laboratory personnel who analyze or report laboratory results shall possess a baccalaureate or advanced degree in the appropriate sciences with at least sixteen (16) semester hours of chemistry and/or biological science courses. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit licensed personnel from performing the tasks for which they are appropriately licensed and trained in such medical laboratories.

(d) Except as provided in subsection (b), such laboratories shall be subject to all other provisions of this chapter, including any rules promulgated under this chapter.

(Section 2) This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.

## PUBLIC CHAPTER 952

On January 1, 2013, a new law, became effective requiring your licensing board to provide electronic notices to you. The law gives you the **option** of being notified electronically of the following: (1) Renewals of license, certification or registration; (2) Any fee increases; (3) Any changes in state law that impact the license holder; and (4) Any board meeting where changes in rules or fees are on the agenda. If you “opt in”, the Department of Health will also be able to alert you of critical public health matters impacting the State of Tennessee.

Please visit <https://apps.tn.gov/hlrs/begin.jsp> and complete the registration process to opt in. Once you opt in and provide a current email address, you will begin to receive **ALL** notices electronically rather than through the United States mail. Please note that opting in means your renewal notification will be delivered electronically approximately 45 days in advance of your expiration. The e-notice will direct you to the appropriate webpage to renew. If your profession does not permit you to renew your license online, a paper renewal will continue to be provided.



The Tennessee Open Meetings Act passed by the General Assembly in 1974 requires that meetings of state, city and county government bodies be open to the public and that any such governmental body give adequate notice of such meeting. Open meeting notices can also be accessed at

<http://health.state.tn.us/boards/calendar.htm>

This form is also available on the bulletin board in the reception area of the Health Related Boards located at 227 French Landing, Suite 300, Heritage Place Metro Center, Nashville, TN 37243. A copy may also be requested by calling the Board office.





## ACCESSING THE BOARD'S WEB SITE

- Log on to <http://tn.gov/health>
- In the title bar: Click on For Health Care Professionals
- Under Health Related Boards: Click on Medical Laboratory

There are many resources on our web site including, but not limited to, the rules, statutes, applications, policy statements and a list of approved educational schools/programs and licensed facilities. License renewal and licensure verification may also be utilized on this web site. This is a valuable resource. Please use it. You will find it to be very friendly.



## NEW TRAINING PROGRAMS APPROVED BY THE TENNESSEE MEDICAL LABORATORY BOARD

At the July, 2013, Board Meeting the following school was approved as a training facility:

**Concorde Career College**  
**Medical Laboratory Technician Training Program**  
**5100 Poplar Avenue, #132**  
**Memphis, TN 38137**

## BOARD DISCIPLINARY ACTION REPORT AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Tennessee Department of Health issues a monthly media release listing all disciplinary actions taken by the health related boards during the prior month. All action taken by the Medical Laboratory Board is viewable online at:

<http://health.state.tn.us/Boards/disciplinary.htm>

## APPROVED VENDOR NAME CHANGE FOR CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

The approved vendor for the performance of Criminal Background Checks for the State of Tennessee was formally L1 Identity Solutions.

L1 Identity Solutions is now known as MorphoTrust USA. The new name change will show Identogo by MorphoTrust USA.

The web-site access will now be [www.identogo.com](http://www.identogo.com)

At this time, these are the only changes to the Criminal Background Check process. Fees, Locations, Personnel remain the same.

## BOARD REVISION OF CE POLICY

### POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING LICENSEES WHO FAIL TO OBTAIN CONTINUING EDUCATION

During the July, 2013 Board Meeting, the policy statement regarding continuing education was discussed and revised. The revision addresses those who may still hold an active license but are not working due to disability, retirement or other circumstances.

Since all active licensees are mandated to complete continuing education, it was decided to revise the continuing education policy to allow those who may still hold an active license but are not working the opportunity to either retire their license or complete the continuing education requirement. The following revision was made to section one of the policy:

When it is discovered by the Board or its staff that a licensee has failed to obtain CE hours in a timely manner, the licensee shall **have the option to retire the license within thirty (30) days or** have ninety (90) days from the date that appears on the deficiency letter from the Board Director in which to obtain the CE hours that are still deficient and to submit proof of completion of those hours to the Board's staff.



# Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board Members

Royce E. Joyner, MD  
Memphis, TN  
Pathologist-Educator

Board Vice-Chair

Jerry Lee Miller, M.D.  
Kingsport, TN  
Non-Pathologist  
Physician

Cheryl Arnott, CT  
Nolensville, TN  
S.A.-Cytotechnologist

Gloria Jenkins  
Brentwood, TN  
Citizen Representative

Annie Washington, MT  
Memphis, TN  
Medical Technologist Generalist

Board Chairman

Pamela Bullock, M.D.  
Knoxville, TN  
Pathologist, Non-Educator

Regina L. Bartlett, RN  
Hendersonville, TN  
Hospital Administrator

VACANT  
Independent Laboratory Representative

VACANT  
Medical Technologist - Generalist

Kathleen Kenwright, MT  
Cordova, TN  
Medical Technologist-Educator

Chairman, Personnel and Education  
Committee

Patti J. Walton, MT  
Franklin, TN  
Hospital /Laboratory Manager  
Administrator Director

Stephanie Dolsen, MT  
Knoxville, TN  
Medical Technologist/Laboratory  
Supervisor

VACANT  
Pathologist Non-Educator

## Board Staff

Lynda England, BS MT (ASCP)  
Director

Jerry A. Gowen, BS MT (ASCP)  
Medical Technologist Consultant 1

Roberta Tolliver  
Licensing Tech

K. Denise Burton  
Administrative Assistant 1

## Surveyors

### West Tennessee Regional Office

Mary Hamblen, MT  
Medical Technologist Consultant 2

Karon Hathcoat, MT  
Medical Technologist Consultant 1

### Middle Tennessee Regional Office

Onezean Otey, MPH, BSMT(ASCP)  
Medical Technologist Consultant 2

Richard Carroll, MT  
Medical Technologist Consultant 1

### East Tennessee Regional Office

Julia Daniels, MT  
Medical Technologist Consultant 2

Taylor Carpenter, MT  
Medical Technologist Consultant 1