



**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS/DISASTER RESPONSE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA**

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Department of Consumer Affairs
Donner Lake Room, 2nd Floor
2005 Evergreen Street
Sacramento, CA 95815

For Directions Only
(916) 263-2294

Tuesday, January 24, 2012

3:00 pm – Disaster Preparedness/Disaster Response Committee Meeting

The public may provide comment on any issue before the committee at the time the matter is discussed.

- A. Call to order, roll call, establishment of a quorum.
- B. Review and discussion of Committee's Roles and Responsibilities and consideration of recommending changes to the Board.
- C. Approval of October 25, 2011, Committee Meeting Minutes.
- D. Review and discussion of legislation regarding limiting liability of occupational therapists providing services in emergency, disaster, or state of war.
- E. Reports from Committee Members.

*****MORE INFORMATION ON OTHER SIDE*****

- F. Discussion regarding advocating to the profession and partnering with other organizations to be available as responders in the event of a disaster or emergency.
- G. Discussion regarding establishing plan to mobilize occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants into action in the event of a disaster or emergency.
- H. Selection of 2012 meeting dates/times.
- I. Public comment on items not on agenda.
- J. Adjournment

ALL TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA
AND ITEMS MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF ORDER

Questions regarding this agenda should be directed to Heather Martin, Executive Officer, at the Board's office in Sacramento. Meetings of the California Board of Occupational Therapy are open to the public except when specifically noticed otherwise in accordance with the Open Meeting Act. A quorum of the board may be present at the committee meeting. Board members who are not members of the committee may observe but not participate or vote. Public comment is appropriate on any issue before the workshop at the time the issue is heard, but the chairperson may, at his or her discretion, apportion available time among those who wish to speak. The meeting is accessible to individuals with disabilities. A person who needs disability related accommodations or modifications in order to participate in the meeting shall make a request to Jeff Hanson at (916) 263-2294 or 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2050, Sacramento, California, 95815. Providing at least five working days notice before the meeting will help ensure the availability of accommodations or modifications.

AGENDA ITEM C



**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS/DISASTER RESPONSE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 25, 2011**

Committee Members Present

Mary Evert
Kathy Lovell
Mohammed Khalif

Board Staff Present

Heather Martin
Jeff Hanson

A. Call to order, roll call, establishment of a quorum

This is the first meeting of this committee. Contact was established at all teleconference locations. At 3:05 p.m. Ms. Evert called the meeting to order. Heather Martin called the role and a quorum of the Committee was established.

B. Introductions

Committee Members introduced themselves. There were no individuals from the public in attendance at any of the teleconference locations.

C. Review of Committee Member Roster/Information

Ms. Martin asked Committee Members to review the roster and contact information. Ms. Martin asked that any edits or changes be directed to her.

D. Review and discussion of Committee's Roles and Responsibilities and consideration of recommending changes to the Board

The Committee Members reviewed and discussed a draft document describing the roles and responsibilities of the committee. Committee members finalized item #3. The roles and responsibilities are as follows:

1. Identify and provide input into reducing barriers to occupational therapy roles in disaster preparedness.
2. Provide input into and work with stakeholders to reduce barriers to occupational therapist's and occupational therapy assistant's roles in disaster preparedness and response.
3. Review the laws and regulations to ensure consistency and to ensure that there are no conflicts with other laws or regulations in our policy.
4. Review the Board's Business Continuity Plan and suggest updates and/or improvements.

5. Review and provide recommendations to staff on revisions to various applications and forms used by the Board.

E. Review of the Board's Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) plan to continue operations and protect Board records in the event of a disaster or emergency.

The Committee Members reviewed the Board COOP/COG plan and were satisfied with its content.

F. Review of laws and regulations relating to licensees providing services in the event of an emergency.

Ms. Evert referenced a Power Point Presentation that she obtained from the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). Ms. Evert reported that North and South Carolina have developed action plans, laws, and regulations that provide and promote public protection in disaster situations.

G. Discussion regarding contacting the American Red cross and local disaster teams about occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants being trained for and recognized as first responders.

Committee Members were not certain if occupational therapy practitioners were categorized as first responders in disaster situations. Ms. Evert reported occupational therapy practitioners possess skills that could be of benefit in disaster situations. Committee Members referenced a copy of a pamphlet titled "Disaster Healthcare Healthcare Volunteers" published by California Emergency Medical Services Authority that was contained in the meeting materials.

H. Discussion regarding advocating to the profession and partnering with other organizations to be available as responders in the event of a disaster or emergency.

Committee Members indicated they would seek more information on disaster preparedness and how occupational therapists may contribute in disaster situations from their local law enforcement, other city, county, and/or national authorities, and report back at the next meeting. Committee Members considered the breadth of the roles and responsibilities and commented partnering organizations could be international, national, and more localized.

I. Discussion regarding establishing plan to mobilize occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants into action in the event of a disaster or emergency.

Committee Members indicated their initial efforts will be focused on gathering information. Once more information is obtained they will be able to develop a plan.

J. Selection of 2012 meeting dates/times.

The next meeting was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on January 24, 2012.

K. Public comment on items not on agenda.

There were no public comments.

L. Adjournment

At 4:45 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

DRAFT

AGENDA ITEM B

California Board of Occupational Therapy

**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS/
DISASTER RESPONSE
COMMITTEE**

Roles & Responsibilities

1. Identify and provide input into reducing barriers to occupational therapy roles in disaster preparedness;
2. Provide input into and work with stakeholders to reduce barriers to occupational therapist's and occupational therapy assistant's roles in disaster preparedness and response;
3. Review the laws and regulations to ensure consistency and to ensure that there are no conflicts with other laws and regulations in our policy.
4. Review the Board's Business continuity Plan and suggest updates and/or improvements;
5. Review and provide recommendations to Board staff on revisions to various applications and forms used by the Board.

Extract from Board ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL

The purpose of the Disaster Preparedness/Disaster Response Committee is to identify and provide input into reducing barriers to occupational therapy roles in disaster preparedness and response, review the current laws and regulations to ensure consistency, be responsible for the development and maintenance of the Board's Disaster Response plan, and provide input into updates of the Board's Continuity of Operations and Continuation of Government (COOP/COG) report.

AGENDA ITEM D

New Business and Professions Code Section

Any occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant who renders services during any state of war emergency, a state of emergency, disaster, or a local emergency at the express or implied request of any responsible state or local official or agency shall have no liability for an injury sustained by any person by reason of such services, regardless of how or under what circumstances or by what cause such injuries are sustained; provided, however, that the immunity herein granted shall not apply in the event of a willful act or omission, or when the person is grossly negligent.