EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Executive Officer's report is attached for review:

Date: June 25, 2012

To: CBOT Members

From: Heather Martin

Subject: Executive Officer Report – March 2012 Board Meeting

Attached to this report are the following:

1. Revenue and Expenditure reports through May 31, 2011;
2. Attorney General Expenditure report through March 31, 2011;
3. Performance Measurements for the period January 1 - March 31, 2012

Future Board meeting dates/locations are as follow:

Date	Location
October 11, 2012	TBD
October 12, 2012	Conference Room, San Jose State University

Budget

Our budget for fiscal year (FY) 2011/12 is $1.4m and our estimated revenue is $980k. Through May 31, 2012, we have spent slightly over $1.1m, approximately 81% of our budget and earned $971k, nearly 99% of our projected revenue. *(See attachment 1)*

Of particular interest is the Office of the Attorney General (AGO) expenditure through March 31, 2011. *(See attachment 2)* The AGO budget is only $133,243, however, we verbally authorized the AGO to spend up to $206k as we plan to 'underspend' enough money to cover the increased costs. This also applies to OAH, expert/consultant fees, and court reporter costs. However, should there be insufficient monies left over, we will prepare a deficiency request asking the Department of Finance (DOF) to augment our budget to cover the AG and OAH line items.

Our YTD total enforcement expenditure (AGO costs has one month lag time) through May 31st is $258k, nearly 24% above the budget. The only reason we were able to redirect funds to cover the underfunded enforcement costs *and* still revert money, is due to leaving 2 limited term positions vacant. The funding for these positions ends September 30th; therefore, we won't have that cushion next year and on-going. These line items must be addressed. More about revenue/expenditures under Agenda Item 12.

Staff

The Board currently has 10 permanent staff, and 2 limited term positions that will be left unfilled; funding expires September 30, 2012. All permanent positions are filled. Due to revenue concerns, we are unable to request additional staff, despite the fact that workload supports the need for additional staff.

BreEZe Project:
The BrEZe project is on schedule; our May 2013 deployment remains unchanged.

On-line Benefits to Licensees:

- Apply for or renew license
- Pay with a major credit card in a secure environment
- Track the status of an application or licensing request
- Submit address changes
- Obtain proof of renewal status

On-line Benefits to Consumers:

- Real-time licensee information
- File a complaint
- Track the status of a complaint

Benefits to Staff:

- Integrated system for both licensing and enforcement
- Establishes a 'record' from applicant to licensee
- Automated fill-in-the-blank template letters (30+)

Other Informational Items
Memo from Legal Office re: Uniform Standards
Article re: electronic health records
Autism Advisory Task Force

DEPT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS - REGULATORY BOARDS
RECEIPTS BY ORGANIZATION AND SOURCE
AS OF 05/31/12

ENY: 11 FFY: 11
SECTION: 11 CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
SUB-SECTION: 00
UNIT: 00
SUB-UNIT: 00
SUB-SUB-UNIT: 00
INDEX: 1475 CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

PROGRAM PG EL CMP TSK	PCA	DESCRIPTION				
REF	SOURCE	ASRC	DESCRIPTION	PLANNED RECEIPTS	ACTUAL RECEIPTS CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL RECEIPTS YEAR-TO-DATE	BALANCE
67 00 000 000 73017			REIMB - CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY				
001	991937	01	FINGERPRINT REPORTS	22,000.00	1,274.00	13,660.00	8,340.00
001	991937	02	EXTERNAL/PRIVATE/GRANT	0.00	1,391.00	10,697.00	10,697.00-
*TOTAL SOURCE 991937				22,000.00	2,665.00	24,357.00	2,357.00-
*TOTAL PROG 67				22,000.00	2,665.00	24,357.00	2,357.00-
*TOTAL REFERENCE 001				22,000.00	2,665.00	24,357.00	2,357.00-
67 00 000 000 83017			REVENUE CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY				
980	125600	CU	OTA DUP LIC FEE-$15.00	0.00	165.00	1,905.00	1,905.00-
980	125600	CV	OTA DUP CERT FEES-$15.00	0.00	30.00	405.00	405.00-
980	125600	FT	CITATION/FINE FTB COLLECTION	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00-
980	125600	00	OTHER REGULATORY FEES	34,000.00	0.00	0.00	34,000.00
980	125600	18	CITATION & FINE FEE COLLECTED-VAR	0.00	2,773.00	18,562.00	18,562.00-
*TOTAL SOURCE 125600				34,000.00	2,968.00	21,122.00	12,878.00
980	125700	OC	OT INITIAL LIC FEE-$VAR	0.00	6,353.00	82,386.00	82,386.00-
980	125700	OD	OTA INITIAL CERT FEE-$VAR	0.00	3,778.00	20,494.00	20,494.00-
980	125700	OE	OT LIMITED PERMIT-$75.00	0.00	675.00	4,800.00	4,800.00-
980	125700	OJ	OTA LIMITED PERMIT $75.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00-
980	125700	00	OTHER REGULATORY LICENSES AND PER	128,000.00	0.00	0.00	128,000.00
980	125700	90	OVER/SHORT FEES	0.00	132.00	515.00	515.00-
980	125700	91	SUSPENDED REVENUE	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00-
980	125700	92	PRIOR YEAR REVENUE ADJUSTMENT	0.00	0.00	287.00-	287.00
*TOTAL SOURCE 125700				128,000.00	10,938.00	109,658.00	18,342.00
980	125800	BM	OT ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE- $150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	150.00-
980	125800	BN	OTA ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE- $150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00-	150.00
980	125800	BP	OT INACTIVE RENEWAL LIC FEE-$25.0	0.00	300.00	6,725.00	6,725.00-
980	125800	BQ	OTA INACTIVE RENEWAL CERT FEE-$25	0.00	200.00	1,400.00	1,400.00-

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PROGRAM
PG EL CMP TSK PCA DESCRIPTION

REF	SOURCE	ASRC	DESCRIPTION	PLANNED RECEIPTS	ACTUAL RECEIPTS CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL RECEIPTS YEAR-TO-DATE	BALANCE
980	125800	C1	AUTOMATED REVENUE REFUND CLAIM	0.00	487.00	900.00	900.00-
980	125800	00	RENEWAL FEES	756,000.00	0.00	0.00	756,000.00
980	125800	2U	OTA 1YEAR RENEWAL FEE(1/2 BIENN R	0.00	0.00	75.00	75.00-
980	125800	2W	BIENNIAL RENEWAL-OT $150	0.00	23,840.00	657,140.00	657,140.00-
980	125800	2X	BIENNIAL RENEWAL-OTA $150	0.00	3,300.00	108,750.00	108,750.00-
980	125800	90	OVER/SHORT FEES	0.00	0.00	5.00	5.00-
*TOTAL SOURCE 125800				756,000.00	28,127.00	774,995.00	18,995.00-
980	125900	A4	OT DELINQ RENEWAL FEE-$75.00	0.00	0.00	75.00	75.00-
980	125900	TM	DELINQ BIENNIAL-OT $75	0.00	960.00	10,485.00	10,485.00-
980	125900	TN	DELINQ BIENNIAL-OTA $75	0.00	225.00	1,425.00	1,425.00-
980	125900	00	DELINQUENT FEES	16,000.00	0.00	0.00	16,000.00
*TOTAL SOURCE 125900				16,000.00	1,185.00	11,985.00	4,015.00
980	142500	00	MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES TO THE PUB	7,000.00	0.00	0.00	7,000.00
980	142500	90	MISC. SER TO PUBLIC - GENERAL	0.00	990.00	6,810.00	6,810.00-
*TOTAL SOURCE 142500				7,000.00	990.00	6,810.00	190.00
980	150300	00	INCOME FROM SURPLUS MONEY INVESTM	4,000.00	0.00	2,606.82	1,393.18
*TOTAL SOURCE 150300				4,000.00	0.00	2,606.82	1,393.18
980	161000	00	ESCHEAT OF UNCLAIMED CHECKS,WARRA	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
980	161000	02	REVENUE CANCELLED WARRANTS	0.00	0.00	497.00	497.00-
*TOTAL SOURCE 161000				1,000.00	0.00	497.00	503.00
980	161400	91	DISHONORED CHECK FEE-VAR	0.00	100.00	450.00	450.00-

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PROGRAM
PG EL CMP TSK PCA DESCRIPTION

REF	SOURCE	ASRC	DESCRIPTION	PLANNED RECEIPTS	ACTUAL RECEIPTS CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL RECEIPTS YEAR-TO-DATE	BALANCE
*TOTAL	SOURCE 161400			0.00	100.00	450.00	450.00-
980	164300	00	PENALTY ASSESSMENTS	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	12,000.00
980	164300	99	PENALTY ASSESSMENTS	0.00	2,136.58	18,898.37	18,898.37-
*TOTAL	SOURCE 164300			12,000.00	2,136.58	18,898.37	6,898.37-
*TOTAL	PROG 67			958,000.00	46,444.58	947,022.19	10,977.81
*TOTAL	REFERENCE 980			958,000.00	46,444.58	947,022.19	10,977.81
*TOTAL	INDEX 1475			980,000.00	49,109.58	971,379.19	8,620.81
*TOTAL	SEC 11			980,000.00	49,109.58	971,379.19	8,620.81

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

BUDGET REPORT

AS OF 5/31/2012

FM 11

CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	CURR. MONTH	YR-TO-DATE	ENCUMBRANCE	YTD + ENCUMBRANCE	BALANCE	PCNT REMAIN
PERSONAL SERVICES								
SALARIES AND WAGES								
003 00	CIVIL SERVICE-PERM	462,563	29,226	275,653	0	275,653	186,910	
033 04	TEMP HELP (907)	4,000	3,980	51,347	0	51,347	(47,347)	
063 00	STATUTORY-EXEMPT	72,571	6,496	67,689	0	67,689	4,882	
063 01	BD/COMMSN (901,920	20,000	0	0	0	0	20,000	
TOTAL SALARIES AND WAGES		**559,134**	**39,703**	**394,689**	**0**	**394,689**	**164,445**	**29.41%**
STAFF BENEFITS								
103 00	OASDI	44,719	2,353	22,888	0	22,888	21,831	
104 00	DENTAL INSURANCE	206	172	1,856	0	1,856	(1,650)	
105 00	HEALTH/WELFARE INS	112,913	2,825	30,045	0	30,045	82,868	
106 01	RETIREMENT	91,022	6,596	63,499	0	63,499	27,524	
125 00	WORKERS' COMPENSAT	15,013	0	0	0	0	15,013	
125 15	SCIF ALLOCATION CO	0	279	3,108	0	3,108	(3,108)	
133 00	UNEMPLOYMENT INSUR	0	0	5,401	0	5,401	(5,401)	
134 00	OTHER-STAFF BENEFI	0	2,463	25,408	0	25,408	(25,408)	
134 01	TRANSIT DISCOUNT	0	0	65	0	65	(65)	
135 00	LIFE INSURANCE	0	13	140	0	140	(140)	
136 00	VISION CARE	44	69	622	0	622	(578)	
137 00	MEDICARE TAXATION	160	561	5,601	0	5,601	(5,441)	
TOTAL STAFF BENEFITS		**264,077**	**15,332**	**158,633**	**0**	**158,633**	**105,444**	**39.93%**
SALARY SAVINGS								
141 00	SALARY SAVINGS	(33,769)	0	0	0	0	(33,769)	
TOTAL SALARY SAVINGS		**(33,769)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(33,769)**	**100.00%**
TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES		**789,442**	**55,035**	**553,322**	**0**	**553,322**	**236,120**	**29.91%**
OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT								
FINGERPRINTS								
213 04	FINGERPRINT REPORT	22,000	1,018	13,368	0	13,368	8,632	
TOTAL FINGERPRINTS		**22,000**	**1,018**	**13,368**	**0**	**13,368**	**8,632**	**39.24%**
GENERAL EXPENSE								
201 00	GENERAL EXPENSE	29,622	0	0	0	0	29,622	
206 00	MISC OFFICE SUPPLI	0	19	3,121	0	3,121	(3,121)	
207 00	FREIGHT & DRAYAGE	0	0	797	0	797	(797)	

CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	CURR. MONTH	YR-TO-DATE	ENCUMBRANCE	YTD + ENCUMBRANCE	BALANCE	PCNT REMAIN
213 02	ADMIN OVERHEAD-OTH	0	9	1,622	0	1,622	(1,622)	
223 00	LIBRARY PURCH/SUBS	0	0	1,411	0	1,411	(1,411)	
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSE		**29,622**	**28**	**6,950**	**0**	**6,950**	**22,672**	**76.54%**
PRINTING								
241 00	PRINTING	12,187	0	0	0	0	12,187	
242 02	REPRODUCTION SVS	0	0	261	0	261	(261)	
242 03	ALLOCATED COPY COS	0	0	1,730	0	1,730	(1,730)	
242 04	EDD PRODUCTIONS	0	1,811	1,811	0	1,811	(1,811)	
244 00	OFFICE COPIER EXP	0	141	1,272	942	2,214	(2,214)	
TOTAL PRINTING		**12,187**	**1,952**	**5,074**	**942**	**6,017**	**6,170**	**50.63%**
COMMUNICATIONS								
251 00	COMMUNICATIONS	13,582	0	0	0	0	13,582	
252 00	CELL PHONES,PDA,PA	0	37	373	0	373	(373)	
255 00	DELIVER SERV (MESS	0	71	71	0	71	(71)	
257 01	TELEPHONE EXCHANGE	0	3	2,626	0	2,626	(2,626)	
TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS		**13,582**	**111**	**3,069**	**0**	**3,069**	**10,513**	**77.40%**
POSTAGE								
261 00	POSTAGE	27,908	0	0	0	0	27,908	
262 00	STAMPS, STAMP ENVE	0	55	1,733	0	1,733	(1,733)	
263 05	ALLOCATED POSTAGE-	0	771	8,117	0	8,117	(8,117)	
263 06	ALLOCATED POSTAGE-	0	1,048	5,589	0	5,589	(5,589)	
TOTAL POSTAGE		**27,908**	**1,874**	**15,438**	**0**	**15,438**	**12,470**	**44.68%**
TRAVEL: IN-STATE								
291 00	TRAVEL: IN-STATE	21,581	0	0	0	0	21,581	
292 00	PER DIEM-I/S	0	467	4,045	0	4,045	(4,045)	
294 00	COMMERCIAL AIR-I/S	0	1,140	6,375	0	6,375	(6,375)	
296 00	PRIVATE CAR-I/S	0	383	1,626	0	1,626	(1,626)	
297 00	RENTAL CAR-I/S	0	4	434	0	434	(434)	
301 00	TAXI & SHUTTLE SER	0	0	79	0	79	(79)	
305 00	MGMT/TRANS FEE-I/S	0	10	10	0	10	(10)	
TOTAL TRAVEL: IN-STATE		**21,581**	**2,004**	**12,569**	**0**	**12,569**	**9,012**	**41.76%**
TRAINING								
331 00	TRAINING	13,159	0	0	0	0	13,159	
332 00	TUITN/REGISTRATN F	0	620	1,160	0	1,160	(1,160)	
TOTAL TRAINING		**13,159**	**620**	**1,160**	**0**	**1,160**	**11,999**	**91.18%**

CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

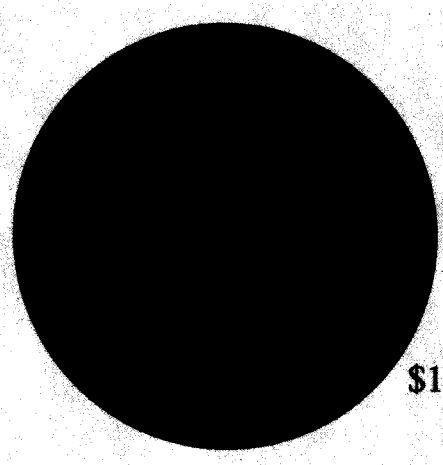
	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	CURR. MONTH	YR-TO-DATE	ENCUMBRANCE	YTD + ENCUMBRANCE	BALANCE	PCNT REMAIN
FACILITIES OPERATIONS								
341 00	FACILITIES OPERATI	50,942	0	0	0	0	50,942	
343 00	RENT-BLDG/GRND(NON	0	4,457	48,730	4,457	53,187	(53,187)	
347 00	FACILITY PLNG-DGS	0	86	833	0	833	(833)	
TOTAL FACILITIES OPERATIONS		**50,942**	**4,542**	**49,563**	**4,457**	**54,020**	**(3,078)**	**-6.04%**
DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES								
424 03	OIS PRO RATA	80,359	13,698	82,196	0	82,196	(1,837)	
427 00	INDIRECT DISTRB CO	94,602	15,462	92,765	0	92,765	1,837	
427 01	INTERAGENCY SERVS	105	0	0	0	0	105	
427 30	DOI - PRO RATA	3,816	636	3,816	0	3,816	0	
427 34	PUBLIC AFFAIRS PRO	6,477	1,077	6,476	0	6,476	1	
427 35	CCED PRO RATA	6,749	1,126	6,748	0	6,748	1	
TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES		**192,108**	**31,999**	**192,001**	**0**	**192,001**	**107**	**0.06%**
CONSOLIDATED DATA CENTERS								
428 00	CONSOLIDATED DATA	0	21	333	0	333	(333)	
TOTAL CONSOLIDATED DATA CENTERS		**0**	**21**	**333**	**0**	**333**	**(333)**	**0.00%**
DATA PROCESSING								
431 00	INFORMATION TECHNO	5,125	0	0	0	0	5,125	
436 00	SUPPLIES-IT (PAPER	0	0	559	0	559	(559)	
445 00	SOFTWARE-IT PURCH,	0	2,717	2,717	0	2,717	(2,717)	
TOTAL DATA PROCESSING		**5,125**	**2,717**	**3,277**	**0**	**3,277**	**1,848**	**36.06%**
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES								
438 00	PRO RATA	72,357	18,089	72,357	0	72,357	0	
TOTAL CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		**72,357**	**18,089**	**72,357**	**0**	**72,357**	**0**	**0.00%**
EXAMINATIONS								
404 03	C/P SVS - EXT SUB	0	0	1,074	0	1,074	(1,074)	
TOTAL EXAMINATIONS		**0**	**0**	**1,074**	**0**	**1,074**	**(1,074)**	**0.00%**
ENFORCEMENT								
396 00	ATTORNEY GENL-INTE	133,243	9,910	150,593	0	150,593	(17,350)	
397 00	OFC ADMIN HEARNG-I	1,000	1,138	26,272	0	26,272	(25,272)	
414 31	EVIDENCE/WITNESS F	0	0	5,530	0	5,530	(5,530)	
414 34	EVIDENCE	0	0	50	0	50	(50)	
418 97	COURT REPORTER SER	0	0	2,923	0	2,923	(2,923)	
427 31	DOI - INVESTIGATIO	73,221	12,201	73,220	0	73,220	1	

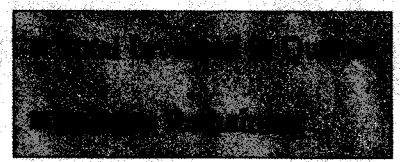
CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	CURR. MONTH	YR-TO-DATE	ENCUMBRANCE	YTD + ENCUMBRANCE	BALANCE	PCNT REMAIN
TOTAL ENFORCEMENT		207,464	23,249	258,588	0	258,588	(51,124)	-24.64%
MINOR EQUIPMENT								
226 00	MINOR EQUIPMENT	3,250	0	0	0	0	3,250	
226 70	MIN EQPMT-CELL PHO	0	0	0	95	95	(95)	
226 75	MIN EQPMT-CELL PHO	0	0	0	131	131	(131)	
TOTAL MINOR EQUIPMENT		3,250	0	0	226	226	3,024	93.05%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMEN		671,285	88,225	634,821	5,625	640,445	30,840	4.59%
CA BD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY		1,460,727	143,259	1,188,143	5,625	1,193,767	266,960	18.28%
		1,460,727	143,259	1,188,143	5,625	1,193,767	266,960	18.28%

3rd Quarter FY 11-12

Agency Code	Agency Name	DCA Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget Amount	Total Invoiced in Quarter	Balance Remaining	Average Quarter Monthly Invoiced
3506	BD of Occupational Therapy	$133,243.00	$0.00	$133,243.00	$67,587.50	$65,655.50	$22,529.17
	2nd Quarter	$133,243.00	$0.00	$133,243.00	$32,217.50	$106,195.00	$10,739.17
	3rd Quarter	$133,243.00	$72,757.00	$206,000.00	$40,877.50	$65,317.50	$13,625.83
	SUBTOTAL Y-T-D	$133,243.00	$72,757.00	$206,000.00	$140,682.50	$65,317.50	$15,631.39





$140,682.50 ,
68%

Department of Consumer Affairs

Board of Occupational Therapy

Performance Measures

Q3 Report *(January - March 2012)*

To ensure stakeholders can review the Board's progress toward meeting its enforcement goals and targets, we have developed a transparent system of performance measurement. These measures will be posted publicly on a quarterly basis.

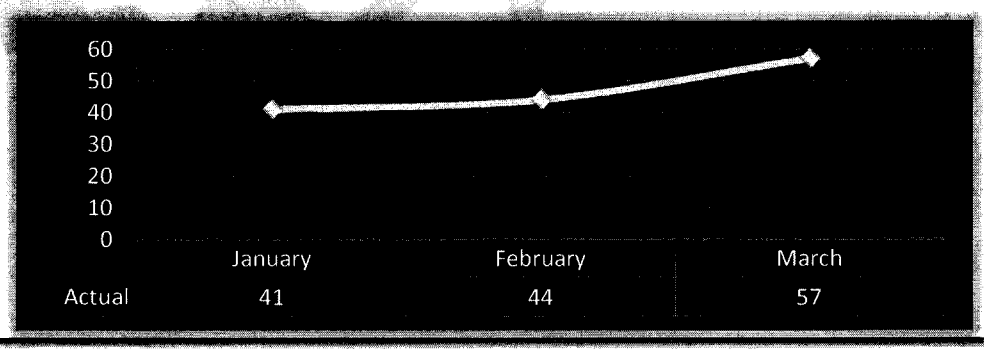
Volume

Number of complaints and convictions received.

Q3 Total: 142

Complaints: 114 Convictions: 28

Q3 Monthly Average: 47

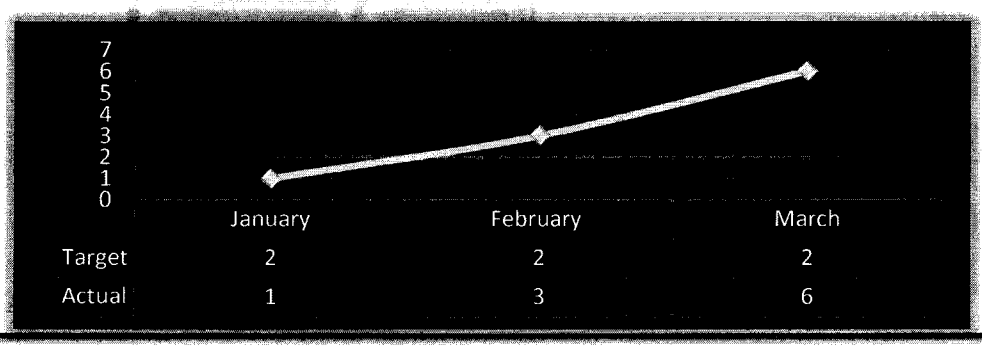


Intake

Average cycle time from complaint receipt, to the date the complaint was assigned to an investigator.

Target: 2 Days

Q3 Average: 3 Days

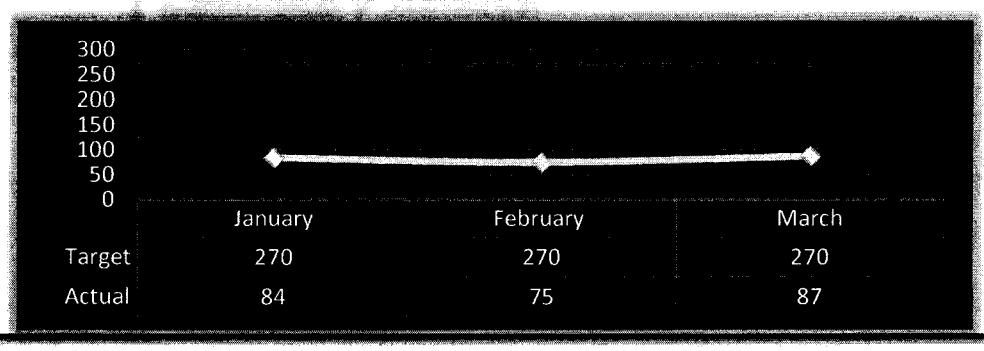


Intake & Investigation

Average cycle time from complaint receipt to closure of the investigation process. Does not include cases sent to the Attorney General or other forms of formal discipline.

Target: 270 Days

Q3 Average: 80 Days



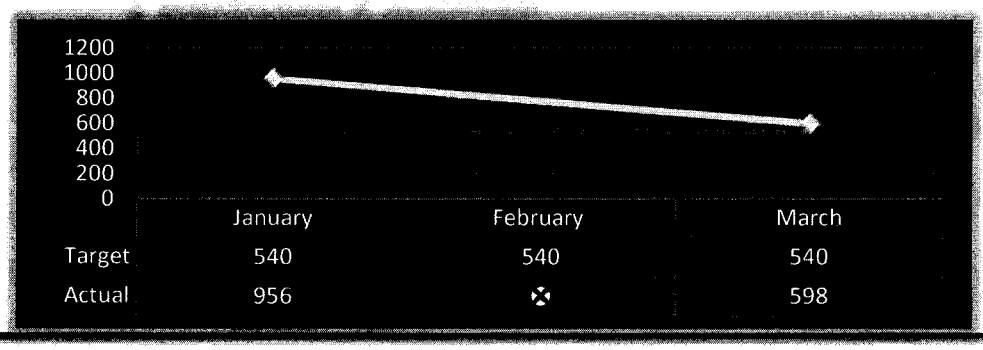
	January	February	March
Target	270	270	270
Actual	84	75	87

Formal Discipline

Average number of days to complete the entire enforcement process for cases resulting in formal discipline. (Includes intake and investigation by the Board, and prosecution by the AG)

Target: 540 Days

Q3 Average: 777 Days



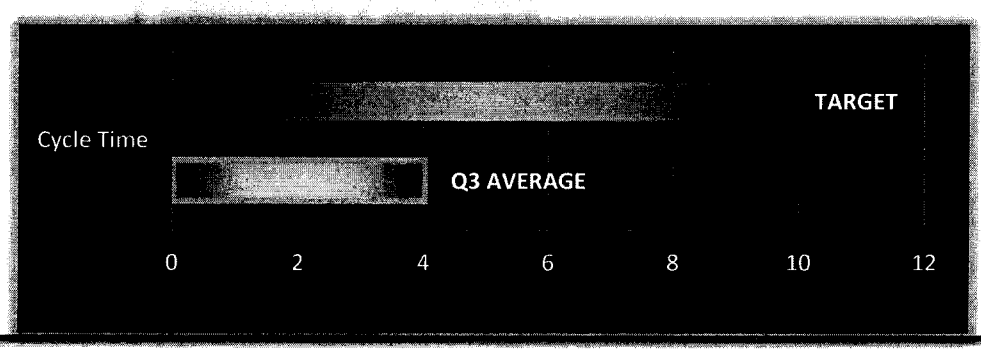
	January	February	March
Target	540	540	540
Actual	956		598

Probation Intake

Average number of days from monitor assignment, to the date the monitor makes first contact with the probationer.

Target: 10 Days

Q3 Average: 4 Days



Probation Violation Response

Average number of days from the date a violation of probation is reported, to the date the assigned monitor initiates appropriate action.

Target: 10 Days

Q3 Average: 2 Days

	January	February	March
Target	10	10	10
Actual	1	2	2

California physicians unprepared for electronic health record regulations: report

June 15th, 2012 in Health

(Medical Xpress) -- Electronic health records (EHRs) are used widely by California physicians, but many of their systems are not designed to meet new federal standards aimed at improving the quality of health care, according to a report from UCSF researchers.

While 71 percent of California physicians have an EHR system, only 30 percent have one with the functionalities needed to achieve "meaningful use" requirements from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS), the team reports. These requirements include, for example, the ability to communicate electronically with other health care providers, such as pharmacies, labs, other clinicians, and hospitals, to whom physicians refer patients.

Medicare payments to physicians will be reduced in 2015 if they do not meet these requirements.

The report, available online, summarizes findings from a 2011 survey conducted by UCSF, in collaboration with the California Medical Board, for the California HealthCare Foundation and the California Department of Health Care Services.

EHRs capture patients' health information, such as medical history, allergies, laboratory test results, radiology images, and payment, in an electronic form that enables clinicians and other providers to access and share the information across medical specialties or facilities. Exchanging electronic records among physician practices and between physician practices and hospitals can improve coordination of care because all providers can have access to the same information.

"We found that physicians are more likely to have electronic health records with functions that support individual patient visits rather than functions that support overall quality improvement," said lead author Janet M. Coffman, PhD, assistant professor at the UCSF Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies and UCSF Department of Family and Community Medicine.

For example, Coffman said that 61 percent of physicians have EHRs that enable them to record clinical notes electronically but only 45 percent have the capacity to generate routine reports of quality indicators, such as the percentage of patients with diabetes who receive recommended lab tests, foot exams, and eye exams.

The research team also found that the size of a physician's practice is the strongest predictor of having an EHR. Physicians who practice in Kaiser Permanente, other large medical groups, the Department of Veteran Affairs, or the military are much more likely to have EHRs than physicians in smaller practices.

Federal regulations identify three categories of objectives aimed at achieving meaningful use of the technology: core objectives, such as the collection of basic medical information; menu objectives, such as submitting electronic immunization data to immunization registries; and electronic reporting on the quality of care. In 2011 and 2012, clinicians are required to report three quality measures: blood pressure, tobacco status, and adult weight status, as well as three additional clinical quality measures of the clinician's choice.

To further increase the adoption and use of electronic health records, the federal government will provide incentive payments to hospitals and providers that achieve meaningful use of the technology.

The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act incentive payments could total up to $27 billion over 10 years, or as much as $44,000 (through Medicare) and $63,750 (through Medicaid, called Medi-Cal in California) per clinician. This funding also will provide the basis for the creation of a nationwide network of EHRs.

"The Medicare and Medicaid incentive payments will provide valuable resources to physician practices that do not yet have EHRs that will meet meaningful use standards," said Coffman. "Medicaid payments especially are important since we found that community health centers, rural health clinics, and other practices that primarily serve Medicaid beneficiaries and uninsured persons are less likely to have EHRs. Many of these practices are struggling to keep their doors open. Medicaid incentive payments give these practices an opportunity to purchase EHRs."

When fully implemented, EHRs can improve care in a variety of ways, said Coffman. "Reminder systems can alert physicians and other health professionals when patients are due for screening tests, and electronic prescribing systems can incorporate alerts to warn providers if they attempt to prescribe a non-standard dose of a medication or a medication to which a patient is allergic," she said.

For the report, a questionnaire was sent to 10,353 physicians with MD degree license renewals that were due to the California Medical Board between June 1 and July 31, 2011. The questionnaire asked physicians if they had an EHR at their

main practice location, and assessed eight of the 15 core objectives and four of the 10 menu objectives that CMS established for meaningful use of EHRs.

The survey was limited to the 7,931 physicians in the sample who reported that they practiced in California and provided at least one hour of patient care per week; 5,384 of these physicians (68 percent) completed the survey.

Co-authors are Kevin Grumbach, MD, chair of the UCSF Department of Family and Community Medicine; Margaret Fix, MPH, research associate at the UCSF Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies; Leon Trainer, programmer/analyst at the UCSF Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies; and Andrew B. Bindman, MD, professor at the UCSF Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies and UCSF Department of Medicine.

Provided by University of California, San Francisco

"California physicians unprepared for electronic health record regulations: report." June 15th, 2012.
http://medicalxpress.com/news/2012-06-california-physicians-unprepared-electronic-health.html