

The mission of the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board is to actively promote and protect the health of Ohioans through effective regulation of the professions of occupational therapy, physical therapy, athletic training, orthotics, prosthetics, and pedorthics.

"Regulation is intended to offer some assurance to the public that the regulated individual is competent to provide certain services in a safe and effective manner."
-Schmitt & Shimberg



Your Duty to Report

Take action to protect the public, your work environment, and the reputation of your profession.





Professional and Legal Responsibility

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants work with vulnerable people. Every licensee has a responsibility to act in a professional manner. Licensees also have a responsibility, a duty, to report practitioners that are incompetent, unprofessional, or unlawful. When health care practitioners act outside of normal professional standards, the public loses trust in that person or potentially the profession as a whole.

The Ohio OTPTAT Board's priority is protecting the public. When PTs, PTAs, or employers report incidents to the Board, the complaint is investigated, and, if substantiated, appropriate action is taken. The Board will work to correct the practitioner's behavior and increase understanding of the issue.

"Physical therapists shall discourage misconduct by health care professionals and report illegal or unethical acts to the relevant authority, when appropriate."

-APTA Code of Ethics

If a problem is never reported, the practitioner can be fired or resign and seek employment at another facility with no consequence, potentially putting others at risk.

See Ohio Administrative Code 4755-27-05 (A)(10): "A licensee shall report to the physical therapy section any unprofessional, incompetent, or illegal behavior of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant of which the licensee has knowledge."

When Should I Report?

It is your duty to report another practitioner when you believe that person is unable to practice safely, has engaged in unprofessional conduct, violated laws or rules, or committed unethical practices. Ohio rules require such reporting, including self-report. Failure to report could result in professional disciplinary action by the Board.

What You Need to Know

- The OTPTAT Board has the ability and responsibility to discipline its licensees.
- It's your responsibility to know the law.
- Each complaint is investigated to determine if there's reason to move forward with a case.

What You Need to Do

- Look-up a licensed individual directly from the eLicense Ohio website.
<http://elicense.ohio.gov>
- Submit a complaint to the Board with as much detail as possible.
- Provide your name and contact information to allow the Board to follow up with you.
- File your report accurately and completely, including all content the agency report requires.

Contact Us

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