



INSIDER

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Message from President Sonya Earley, Ed.D., PA-C

For over a decade, it has been a privilege and an honor to serve as a member of the Physician Assistant Board of California (PAB). Benefiting from great leadership throughout the years, one constant for the Board has been its commitment to protect and serve consumers through licensing, education, and objective enforcement

of the Physician Assistant Practice Act and the Board’s regulations. Our board members, staff, and legal team remain mission-minded and purpose-driven as we endeavor to be the most efficient board in California and a model for professional boards across the nation. I am privileged by their collective wisdom and genuine compassion for California consumers.

Time has passed so quickly since 2013, when there were only 173 physician assistant (PA) schools in the U.S. Today, we have approximately 309 PA programs, with over 20 in California. With these numbers, the accelerated growth of our profession is evident. As a medical practitioner, PA program faculty member, and president of the Board, I am excited about the future opportunities we have to continue the Board’s mission of public protection, while assisting the next generation of physician assistants destined to positively impact and change the landscape of the medical profession.

This passion to serve is common for PAs and I am often reminded that although our profession has evolved over the years, it is the dedication of PAs and the tremendous need for the work we do as health care providers that remains constant. As PAs, we are servant leaders, always ready to help others in need whether it be a fellow passenger in distress on a plane or while shopping when a customer needs medical assistance. PAs are always willing to jump into action to help. It is a beautiful sight to see humanitarianism on display by being ready and willing to help someone. I hope we are all challenged to pay back the individual debt of gratitude as we use the gifts that we have been blessed with and pay it forward wherever and whenever we can. The desire and personal commitment to help others does not stop at our jobs but goes far beyond our doorsteps.

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— MISSION —

Protect and serve consumers through licensing, education, and objective enforcement of the physician assistant laws and regulations.

— VISION —

Assure that health care needs for all people are met in a compassionate, competent, and culturally sensitive manner.

— JURISDICTION —

The Physician Assistant Board’s jurisdiction includes physician assistants.

The Board’s jurisdiction does not include physicians (M.D.s), licensed midwives, polysomnographic trainees, technicians and technologists, and research psychoanalysts and student research psychoanalysts, chiropractors, dentists, health maintenance organizations, hospitals, insurance companies, malpractice actions/civil lawsuits, Medi-Cal, Medicare, nurses (R.N., N.P., FNP), optometrists, or osteopathic physicians (DOs).

The Board also has no authority over a medical provider’s attitude, bedside manner, demeanor, office staff, prices charged, or refund disputes with a medical provider unless there is a double payment by the insurance company. The Board cannot assist consumers in obtaining medical care or financial compensation for medical malpractice.

Annual Report

The California Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Fiscal Year 2022–2023 Annual Report is now available online [here](#).



Name and Address Changes

It is crucial that the Board has current and accurate name and address information on file should the Board need to contact its licensees or applicants. Instructions for submitting name and address changes are available on the PAB website.

Address change: https://pab.ca.gov/licensees/address_change.shtml

Name change: https://pab.ca.gov/licensees/name_change.shtml

Licensees are required by law to notify PAB within 30 days if they change their name or address of record. It is very important that we have current and complete records so licensees receive timely renewal notices and other important information, and applicants receive messages regarding application status.

Become a Board Member

Board members collectively provide oversight and direction. Board members make important decisions on agency policies and on disciplinary actions against professionals who violate state consumer protection laws. Board members approve regulations and help guide licensing, enforcement, public education, and consumer protection activities. Some board members are licensed professionals themselves, while many others are public members. The governor appoints many board members, but the Legislature makes appointments as well. For more information and how to apply, view our [informational bulletin](#).

Upcoming Board Meetings

Friday, August 9 **Southern California**

Monday, November 8 **Sacramento**

Attend a Board meeting to learn about the Board's administrative and disciplinary processes. The Board encourages everyone to attend a Board meeting to enhance the learning of the Board's processes and the work the Board conducts. Meetings are held four times a year in various locations throughout California.

See the Board's [website](#) for updates and more information.

Expedited Licensure

The Board will expedite the application review process for applicants who meet one of the follow criteria:

Military veteran—honorably discharged

Refugee, asylee, or special immigrant visa holder

Active-duty military—spouses or partners

Intent to provide abortion services

Please click on the links above to visit our website and view the specific requirements for expedited licensure.



Join the Board Subscriber List

Please join the Board's **email subscriber list**, an online subscription service, to receive notices of changes in laws and regulations, enforcement actions taken against licensees, and information related to the Physician Assistant Practice Act.

Do We Have Your Email Address?



Licensees are encouraged to provide PAB with an email address if the licensee has one. Email is an efficient channel for sharing information between PAB and its applicants and licensees. PAB will be able to communicate the status of applications, renewals, and requests for various PAB services; provide law and regulation updates; and disseminate important PAB news directly to each applicant and licensee. It doesn't get much easier! PAB hopes this accelerated delivery and exchange of information will decrease processing times in all aspects of PAB's programs, and facilitate licensees keeping apprised of laws, regulations, and PAB activities. You can submit/update your email address using your BREEZE account, submit it in writing, or simply by emailing PAB at paboard@dca.ca.gov—please include your name and license number.

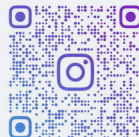
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PA Spotlight: Ramneet Basra, PA-C

1. How long have you been a PA?

7 years

2. What made you decide to enter the physician assistant profession?

From a young age, I always knew I wanted to work in medicine. Ultimately, I wanted to work in a profession where I could help people feel better and so medicine was always it for me. My path to the PA profession and dermatology began as a patient. I experienced distressing acne in my teenage years and so I went to see the dermatologist who happened to be a PA. He listened to my concerns and sat with me as he handwrote a skin care routine for me with prescriptions to help my acne improve. My skin cleared and my confidence started peeking through. It was that encounter where I decided the PA profession was for me. I wanted to be able to practice medicine, spend time with patients and build relationships, help people feel better, and balance a career and family life. Happy to report that it has checked all those boxes.

3. What has your career path been?

I graduated from PA school in 2017 and decided to start my career in emergency medicine. I worked at my local community hospital as an ER PA for 4 years. This experience really gave me a foundation to medicine and exposed me to so many different medical conditions. I learned to diagnose, treat, and manage a variety of medical conditions in a fast-paced environment. I started to feel burned out and was looking for a shift in my career where I could practice medicine, but have a better work-life balance. I was lucky to be offered an opportunity in dermatology and haven't looked back. I have been a dermatology PA for 2.5 years now and absolutely love this specialty.

4. Why the dermatology industry?

You can have an immediate impact in patients' lives. I can perform skin checks, biopsy suspicious lesions, and then ultimately be able to treat and remove the malignancy. Being able to detect conditions patients have been suffering with for a long time and treating and seeing improvement in months is so impactful. It has the perfect mix of medicine, procedures, and creativity. The most rewarding part of dermatology is truly restoring someone's confidence. I want my patients to feel strong, beautiful, and powerful in the skin they are in. Being able to clear someone's severe cystic acne or psoriasis and get that smile at the end of the visit is the best feeling as a provider. I also love the relationships I have created with my patients and enjoy building lifelong connections with them.

5. Are there expectations you had about this career path that you have found differed from reality, in both a good or bad way?

There is quite the learning curve when you start out your career as a PA. I would say the first three years is a mini residency in a way where you are just learning how to practice medicine and build confidence. Burnout is real and luckily as a PA you have the flexibility to switch specialties. Switching from emergency medicine to dermatology has been the best career change for me. It has given me the work-life balance I was looking for and has decreased my work-related stress tremendously.

6. What is some advice you have for someone looking to move into this area?

Make sure you are in it for the right reasons. Taking care of patients' lives is a huge responsibility and not something I take lightly. If you are passionate about helping people and love medicine this will be an extremely rewarding career for you. Dermatology is a competitive specialty. My emergency medicine experience was very valuable and made the transition seamless since I was comfortable stitching and doing procedures in the ER. I would recommend getting experience in a specialty where you are doing procedures such as ER, urgent care, surgery, or plastics as that will translate well into dermatology and help you get your foot in the door.

School Presentations

The Physician Assistant Board (PAB) regularly conducts presentations at schools to provide information and guidance on the initial licensing process. PAB can also cover topics, including but not limited to, PAB's history, licensing process (applications and renewals), continuing competency, consumer protection (complaint process and/or probation process), and online services including BREEZE, etc.

For more information on outreach or to have PAB present at your next event, contact Jasmine Dhillon at jasmine.dhillon@dca.ca.gov or (916) 561-8780. If you would like a PAB representative to present at your school or organization, you can complete the application found here: https://pab.ca.gov/forms_pubs/school_presentation_application.pdf. You can also find the application by clicking "Forms" on the PAB homepage, and a link to the application is located under "Outreach."



Citation Process: What to Expect

The Board uses the citation and fine program as an alternative method to impose a sanction and take an administrative action against a PA found in minor violation of a law or regulation governing the practice of physician assistants. The Board has authority to issue citations and fines for specified violations of law per Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 125.9 and the California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 1399.570–1399.574.

Receiving a citation or having to pay a fine is not desirable. If you do receive a citation package, what can you expect?

When a citation is issued, it is sent by certified mail to ensure receipt. The citation package itself contains:

1. A cover letter.
2. The citation order itself (explains the violation of law; states the imposed fine or order of abatement with any compliance instructions; provides instructions for arranging an informal conference or appealing the citation and/or fine).
3. Copies of laws and regulations governing the citation and fine program and the specific code(s) violated.
4. A notice of appeal/request for informal conference general information sheet.

If a licensee wishes to appeal all or part of a citation, an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing may be requested. To request an informal conference, you must submit a written request by email or mail to the Board's office within 15 calendar days after service of the citation. Staff will arrange the conference with the Board's executive officer (EO), after which the EO may affirm, modify, or withdraw the citation. Following an informal conference, if a satisfactory resolution has not been obtained, the licensee may send a written request to the Board for an administrative hearing within 30 days of receiving an amended citation. In addition, the licensee may ask for a formal administrative hearing from the outset; an informal conference is not required to file an appeal but is recommended to expedite the matter.

Citations are not considered formal disciplinary action, although they are public record. The citation record is posted on the Board's website, and a copy of the citation must be provided to the public upon request for five years from the date of resolution. Payment of the fine is

considered successful resolution of a citation and/or fine for public disclosure purposes; however, any compliance/abatement order must be completed as instructed to avoid additional discipline.

How many citations get issued and what are the most common violations?

The Board has issued 41 citations over the past five fiscal years for violations of the following:

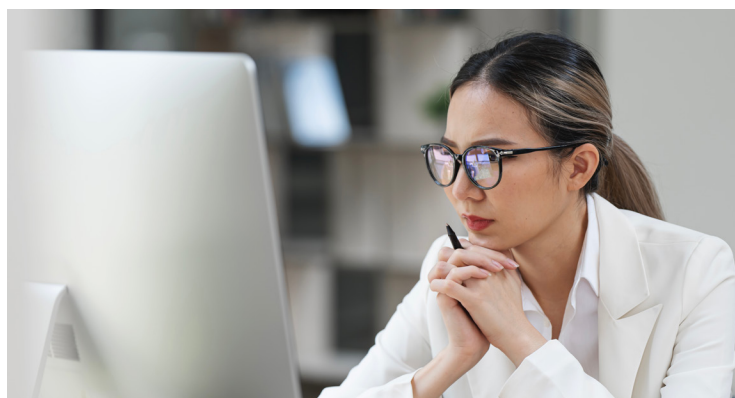
- BPC section 2052—Unlicensed practice of medicine.
- BPC section 2234—*Unprofessional conduct.
- BPC section 2236—Conviction of a crime.
- BPC section 2266—Failure to maintain adequate medical records.
- BPC section 2286—Violation of Moscone-Knox Corporation Laws.
- BPC section 2234(g)—Failure to attend and participate in an interview by the Board.
- Health and Safety Code section 11165.4(a)(1)(A)(i)—Duty to consult CURES database: Liability for failure to consult.

**Examples of unprofessional conduct violations include: simple quality of care violations, and failure to respond to CME audits.*

The Board wishes to work with licensees to gain compliance. A good-faith effort to immediately correct a deficiency in a minor violation case may also lead to a withdrawn citation or the fine imposed. If you have questions regarding a citation, immediately respond to the citation package by mailing or emailing a Request for Informal Conference.

Noncompliance with a citation may result in formal disciplinary action. To avoid more serious consequences, respond to the Board's citation package within the given time frames.

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CITATION PROCESS FLOWCHART

When a citation is issued, it is sent by certified mail to ensure receipt. Noncompliance with a citation may result in formal disciplinary action. To avoid more serious consequences, respond to the Board's citation package within the given time frames. The citation package itself contains:



A cover letter.



The citation order.
The imposed fine or order of abatement.
Compliance instructions.
Instructions for arranging an informal conference or appealing the citation and/or fine.



Copies of laws and regulations governing the citation and fine program and the specific code(s) violated.



A notice of appeal/request for informal conference general information sheet.



ACCEPT CITATION

Payment of the fine is considered successful resolution of a citation and/or fine for public disclosure purposes.

Note: Any compliance/abatement order must be completed as instructed to avoid additional discipline.



APPEAL CITATION

An informal conference is requested (a formal conference can be requested but not recommended) after which the Board's executive officer with may affirm, modify, or withdraw the citation.

Note: A conference is not required to file an appeal but is recommended to expedite the matter.



SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION

Payment of the fine is considered successful resolution of a citation and/or fine for public disclosure purposes; however, any compliance/abatement order must be completed as instructed to avoid additional discipline.



UNSATISFACTORY RESOLUTION

The licensee may send a written request to the Board for an administrative hearing within 30 days of receiving an amended citation.



Licensing Activity

The Board processes applications in the order they are received. **Please allow 30 days to complete initial review of the application before contacting the Board for an update.** To view current processing times for applications submitted to the Board, visit <https://pab.ca.gov/applicants/timeframes.shtml>. Here is a summary of initial license applications and renewal of license applications approved from **October 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024.**

INITIAL LICENSES APPROVED	LICENSE RENEWALS APPROVED
1,132	5,603

As a friendly reminder, please do not wait until the time of renewal to update your address of record (mailing address). Pursuant to Title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1399.511, licensees are required to report in writing to the Board any and all changes of their mailing address within 30 days from the date the change occurred. Failure to update the mailing address may result in the licensing system to mail correspondence to an inaccurate mailing address and cause a delay in renewal.

Legislation Impacting the Physician Assistant Board

These bills have been chaptered and became effective on January 1, 2024, unless stated otherwise. Detailed bill information may be found by selecting the links in the "Bill" column below.

Bill	Author, Chapter, Statute Year	Statutory Reference	Summary
AB 360 Excited delirium	Gipson, Chapter 431, Statutes of 2023	Health and Safety Code sections 24400, 24401, 24402, and 24403	This bill prohibits "excited delirium," as defined, from being recognized as a valid medical diagnosis or cause of death in this state. The bill prohibits a coroner, medical examiner, physician, or physician assistant from stating on the certificate of death or in any report that the cause of death was excited delirium.
AB 883 Business licenses: United States Department of Defense SkillBridge program	Mathis, Chapter 348, Statutes of 2023	Business and Professions Code section 115.4	This bill requires boards and bureaus within the Department of Consumer Affairs, beginning July 1, 2024, to expedite license applications from active-duty military members participating in the Department of Defense's SkillBridge program.
AB 1021 Controlled substances: rescheduling	Wicks, Chapter 274, Statutes of 2023	Health and Safety Code section 11150.3	If federal law removes a controlled substance from Schedule I, allowing the substance to be prescribed under federal law, this bill authorizes the substance to be prescribed in California. This does not apply to cannabis or cannabis products.

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Bill	Author, Chapter, Statute Year	Statutory Reference	Summary
<p>AB 1070</p> <p>Physician assistants: physician supervision: exceptions.</p>	<p>Low, Chapter 827, Statutes of 2023</p>	<p>Business and Professions Code section 3516</p>	<p>This bill increases the number of physician assistants a physician can supervise when the physician assistant is performing an in-home health evaluation or annual wellness visit. Currently, physicians may only supervise four physician assistants at a time, regardless of the physician assistant's duties. This bill allows physicians to supervise up to eight physician assistants performing specified tasks.</p>
<p>AB 1707</p> <p>Health professionals and facilities: adverse actions based on another state's law</p>	<p>Pacheco, Chapter 258, Statutes of 2023</p>	<p>Business and Professions Code sections 805.9 and 850.1</p>	<p>This bill prohibits a healing arts board from denying an application for license or imposing discipline upon a licensee solely on the basis of a civil judgment, criminal conviction, or disciplinary action in another state that is based on the application of another state's law that interferes with a person's right to receive sensitive services that would be lawful in this state, regardless of the patient's location. The bill similarly prohibits a health facility from denying staff privileges to, removing from medical staff, or restricting the staff privileges of a licensed health professional on the basis of such a civil judgment, criminal conviction, or disciplinary action imposed by another state.</p>
<p>AB 1731</p> <p>CURES database: buprenorphine</p>	<p>Santiago, Chapter 144, Statutes of 2023</p>	<p>Health and Safety Code section 11165.4</p>	<p>This bill exempts a health care practitioner from the duty to consult the CURES database when prescribing buprenorphine in the emergency department of a general acute care hospital.</p>
<p>SB 345</p> <p>Health care services: legally protected health care activities</p>	<p>Skinner, Chapter 260, Statutes of 2023</p>	<p>Business and Professions Code sections 850.1 and 852</p>	<p>This bill safeguards reproductive and gender-affirming care by protecting health care licensees from criminal or disciplinary action solely for providing that care. This bill also protects consumers by prohibiting the collection, use, disclosure, or retention of the personal information of someone in the vicinity of a family planning center. Additionally, this bill allows unemancipated minors to obtain an abortion without the consent of a parent or guardian and makes updates to statutory terminology regarding fetuses.</p>
<p>SB 372</p> <p>Department of Consumer Affairs: licensee and registrant records: name and gender changes</p>	<p>Menjivar, Chapter 225, Statutes of 2023</p>	<p>Business and Professions Code section 27.5</p>	<p>This bill requires licensing entities within the Department of Consumer Affairs to update license records if that licensing entity receives government-issued documentation demonstrating a legal change of name or gender, as specified. This bill also allows licensees to request for their prior name to be removed from online license verification systems operated by the licensing entities and establishes a process for individuals to access a licensee's enforcement records under their prior name.</p>
<p>SB 385</p> <p>Physician Assistant Practice Act: abortion by aspiration: training</p>	<p>Atkins, Chapter 178, Statutes of 2023</p>	<p>Business and Professions Code sections 3502.4 and 3527.5</p>	<p>This bill revises and recasts the statutory authority for physician assistants to perform abortions by aspiration. It allows physician assistants who have completed the required education and training to perform abortions by aspiration on patients without the presence of a physician, except as provided, and expands available training options. The bill requires a physician assistant to practice abortion by aspiration techniques consistent with applicable standards of care, within the scope of their clinical and professional education and training, and pursuant to their practice agreement. It also prohibits physician assistants from being punished or held liable for damages solely for performing an abortion by aspiration.</p>

Specific statutory language can be found at leginfo.legislature.ca.gov.



Administrative Actions–Citations

A citation is an administrative action by which the Physician Assistant Board may address relatively minor violations of the Physician Assistant Practice Act or the Board's regulations that would not necessarily warrant discipline to protect the public. Citations ARE NOT disciplinary actions but are matters of public record. Citations remain on a licensee's file for five years and are then purged. By law, payment of a fine is considered satisfactory resolution of all violations contained in the citation.

NAME AND CITY	LICENSE NO.	ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Kyla Wolff Ehrenreich <i>Sebastopol</i>	20387	Citation Issued	02/28/2024
Chad Andrew Sheesley <i>Granite Bay</i>	17211	Citation Issued	02/28/2024
Mykeisha Alzaatra <i>Lynwood</i>	21530	Citation Issued	02/28/2024
Sururat Ajoke Coulibaly <i>Henderson, NV</i>	21484	Citation Issued	02/28/2024
Katherine Janel King <i>Irvine</i>	20587	Citation Issued	02/28/2024
Matthew Gaire Keane <i>Palm Springs</i>	20525	Citation Issued	03/01/2024
Amy Melissa Supernaw <i>San Diego</i>	53038	Citation Issued	03/01/2024
Heera Waqar <i>Elk Grove</i>	61040	Citation Issued	03/05/2024
Melissa R. Bustos <i>Redlands</i>	52883	Citation Issued	03/06/2024
Darryl Lamont Davenport <i>Murrieta</i>	54451	Citation Issued	03/07/2024
Julie Gorshe <i>Santa Cruz</i>	19833	Citation Issued	03/14/2024
Christina Rombouts <i>Arlington, VA</i>	56973	Citation Issued	03/27/2024
Felecia Green <i>Santa Fee Springs</i>	17795	Citation Issued	03/28/2024
Maryam Moslemi <i>Sacramento</i>	57527	Citation Issued	03/29/2024
Meagan Alexandra Allard <i>Auburn, NH</i>	56652	Citation Issued	03/29/2024
Jonah Celestino <i>Bakersfield</i>	56769	Citation Issued	04/04/2024
Jessica A. Myers <i>Corona</i>	54821	Citation Issued	04/04/2024

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NAME AND CITY	LICENSE NO.	ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE
David Cain Meadow Valley	55023	Citation Issued	04/05/2024
Jesse Michael Perkins Spanish Fork, UT	55149	Citation Issued	04/05/2024
Samantha Blair Sergay Berk Los Angeles	56430	Citation Issued	04/05/2024
Sarah Brooke Karpen San Diego	56517	Citation Issued	04/05/2024
Andrew Lahai Josiah Tulare	12701	Citation Issued	04/05/2024
Sidney Hamilton Payne Los Angeles	13979	Citation Issued	04/17/224
Jennifer Sue Hoyt Ventura	13063	Citation Issued	04/25/2024
James Ray Martin Jr. Los Angeles	11973	Citation Issued	04/25/2024
Robert Phillip Ritchey Yuba City	16785	Citation Issued	04/25/2024
Annette Delilah Pizano San Francisco	17034	Citation Issued	05/24/2024
Michele Ayans Westlake Village	14834	Citation Issued	05/24/2024
Michele Ayans Westlake Village	14834	Citation Issued	05/24/2024
Jun Goeku Westlake Village	14834	Citation Issued	05/24/2024
Sofia Henderson Moreno Valley	51407	Citation Issued	05/31/2024
Sima Patel Chino Hills	21547	Citation Issued	05/31/2024
Sandra Jennifer Del Valle Hemet	21800	Citation Issued	05/31/2024
Daniel Christopher Nunez Temecula	19118	Citation Issued	05/31/2024
Melissa Rossi Sacramento	17852	Citation Issued	05/31/2024



Administrative Actions–Discipline

The Physician Assistant Board regulates the profession of physician assistants through the enforcement of the Physician Assistant Practice Act. The following summary indicates administrative actions taken by the PAB against licensees for violations of the Act.

Although every effort is made to ensure the following details are correct, before you make any decision based on this information, obtain a copy of the action in its entirety, including terms and conditions. You can download the copy through the Department of Consumer Affairs License Search tool at <https://search.dca.ca.gov>.

NAME AND CITY	LICENSE NO.	ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Erin E. Thurman Paso Robles	19341	License Surrendered	10/24/2023
Raafat S. Rokes Glendale	17119	License Surrendered	11/02/2023
Lisa Marie Gail Missoula	21808	License Surrendered	12/04/2023
Craig Lee Chase Walnut	13105	Three Years' Probation	12/29/2023
Thomas Helms Jacksonville, FL	52483	License Revoked	01/05/2024
Jason Alan Berryhill Orangevale	22877	Five Years' Probation	03/07/2024
Ashkhan Nicholas Kaviani La Crescenta	51300	Four Years' Probation	03/07/2024
Christopher Cody Blanchfield Rancho Cucamonga	16066	License Surrendered	03/14/2024
Griffin Benjamin Bailey Fresno	21688	Remain on Probation for an Additional Two Years'	04/04/2024
Corinne Sona Beniasians Tujunga	20301	Public Repeval	04/05/2024
Christopher M. Smith Fontana	17262	Five Years' Probation	04/19/2024
Glenn S. Morrison Los Olivos	13631	Five Years' Probation	05/10/2024
Bradford Lively Irvine	64537	One Year Probationary License	05/24/2024