



**Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,  
and Athletic Trainers Board**

*Occupational Therapy Section  
September 15, 2022  
9:30AM*

**Vern Riffe Center, 77 S. High Street Columbus, OH 43215**

**Members Present**

Nichole Dearth, MOT, OTR/L  
Joanne Estes, OTR/L, PhD  
Sarah Heldmann, BS, COTA/L  
Timothy Keck, Public Member  
Anissa Siefert, MOT, OTR/L  
Melissa Van Allen, OTR/L, Chair

**Legal Counsel**

Lindsay Miller, AAG

**Staff**

Missy Anthony, Executive Director  
David Day, Paralegal

**Guests**

None

**Members Absent**

None

**Call to Order**

Melissa Van Allen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:39am.

The Section began by reading the vision statement:

The Occupational Therapy Section is committed to proactively:

- Provide Education to the Consumers of Occupational Therapy Services;
- Enforce Practice Standards for the Protection of the Consumer of Occupational Therapy Services;
- Regulate the Profession of Occupational Therapy in an Ever-Changing Environment;
- Regulate Ethical and Multicultural Competency in the Practice of Occupational Therapy;
- Regulate the Practice of Occupational Therapy in all Current and Emerging Areas of Service Delivery.

**Approval of Minutes**

Joanne Estes moved that the minutes from the July 21, 2022 meeting be approved as amended. Anissa Siefert seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Executive Director Report**

The Executive Director gave the report during the joint board meeting.

**Special Orders**

Melissa Van Allen moved to nominate Anissa Siefert to serve as Chair of the OT Section from September 15, 2022 until the September 2023 meeting of the OT Section. Anissa Siefert seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Liaison Appointments**

- Enforcement Division Liaison-Melissa Van Allen
- Licensure Liaison-Anissa Siefert and new appointment
- Continuing Education Liaison-Nichole Dearth
- Correspondence Liaison-Sarah Heldmann

Melissa Van Allen moved to nominate Sarah Heldmann to serve as Secretary of the OT Section from September 15, 2022 until the September 2023 OT Section meeting. Anissa Siefert seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Anissa Siefert moved to authorize the Executive Director or Agency Designee to accept or reject consent agreements on the Section's behalf for the period beginning September 15, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023. Seconded by Melissa Van Allen. All in favor. Motion passed.

Joanne Estes moved to authorize the use of signature stamps or electronic signatures by the Section Chairperson, Section Secretary, Executive Director or Agency Designee for the period beginning September 15, 2022 and ending September 15, 2022. Seconded by Melissa Van Allen. All in favor. Motion passed.

Nichole Dearth moved to authorize the Executive Director or Agency Designee to make editorial changes to motion for the period beginning September 15, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023. Seconded by Joanne Estes. All in favor. Motion passed.

Melissa Van Allen moved to authorize the staff to issue licenses to applicants with completed applications and that the Section ratify the licenses issued by the staff at the Section meeting following the issuance of the license for the period beginning September 15, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023. Seconded by Sarah Heldmann. All in favor. Motion passed.

### **Discussion of Law and Rule Changes**

Anissa Siefert moved to authorize the Executive Director to file rules related to the Safe Haven Program with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review, pending recommendation from the Common Sense Initiative. Seconded by Joanne Estes. All in favor. Motion passed.

Joanne Estes moved to authorize the Executive Director to file rules related to Ethics with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review, pending recommendation from the Common Sense Initiative. Seconded by Melissa Van Allen. All in favor. Motion passed.

Sarah Heldmann moved to authorize the Executive Director to file rules related to initial license changes for foreign trained therapists with the Common Sense Initiative. Nichole Dearth seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

### **Limited License Approval**

Anissa Siefert moved that Rachel Wysong Ward, OTA008821, be released from her limited license agreement having completed supervised practice requirements. Seconded by Joanne Estes. All in favor. Motion passed.

Anissa Siefert moved that Dbeorah Schuerger, OT00820LTD be granted a fifth extension on limited license in order to obtain the required supervision hours by December 31, 2022. Seconded by Joanne Estes. All in favor. Motion passed.

### **Occupational Therapist/Occupational Therapist Assistant Examination Applications**

Anissa Siefert moved that the Occupational Therapy Section ratify, as submitted, the occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant licenses issued by examination, endorsement, reinstatement, and restoration by the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board from July 14, 2022 to September 15, 2022, taking into account those licenses subject to discipline, surrender, or non-renewal. Melissa Van Allen seconded. Nichole Dearth abstained from Sierra Murray, Katherine Ann Gagnon, and Shawna Nye. Sarah Heldmann abstained from Gargie Sanjay Pathak, and Shawna Nye. Melissa Van Allen abstained from Cassandra Phillips All in favor. Motion passed.

### **Occupational Therapist by Examination-83**

Shawna L Augustson

Emily Ann Back

Spenser Augusta Bassett

Hannah Marie Batsche

Sydney Morgan Bennington

Nicole Bertke

Natalie N Bertram

Heather Nicole Biltz

Audrey A Brack

Olivia Ann Briscoe

Carolyn Brown

Alexandria Calic

Margaret Rae Carr

Melanie Jaclyn Century

Britney Michaele Conover

Emily Ann Crtalic  
Payton Jo Currier  
Halle Dlugolinski  
McKenzie Rae Erne  
Danielle Marie Farnlacher  
Olivia Fisher  
Anna Kate Frey  
April Kimmel Gottfried  
Paige Graham  
Jessica Rene Harper  
Liana Marie Hawkins  
Caroline Elizabeth Haworth  
Julia Houk  
Abigail Jane Huggenberger  
Rachel Jackson  
Neesha Elizabeth Johnston  
Lisa Marie Kennedy  
Marissa Ann King  
Anna Marie Kotansky  
Paris Andre'a LaCella  
Adriana Christine Lasky  
Treyton Lavy  
Claire LeGendre

Kayla Lemaster  
Madeline Grace Loew  
Christina LoParo  
Sarah Lozier  
Drake Lukwago  
Jessie M McCoy  
Cassie Marie McLean  
Theresa Mikolay  
Samantha Miller  
Gabrielle Elise Mosiniak  
Sierra Murray  
Mary Rose O'Neill  
Alexandra Palmer  
Nicole Eve Paterniti  
Gargie Sanjay Pathak  
Jennifer Lee Paullin  
Grace Lynnsey Pence  
Kayla Ann Raybuck  
Emily Elizabeth Reed  
Marisa Amber Rittenberger  
Kassidy Lyn Roe  
Samantha Mae Ruhe  
Nechama Pearl Safrin

Geneva Sandridge  
Faith N Saunders  
Anna Schabell  
Kelly Nicole Schmitz  
Daria Seccurro  
Mia Katherine Shaw  
Zachary Miller Shope  
Holly Louise Snyder  
Rachel Elena Spohr  
Madison Hines Stone  
Amanda Strouse  
Alaina Tarr  
Abigail Jane Thomas  
Samantha Ann Veihdeffer  
Shasta Jane Vernon  
Allison J Wigham  
Sarah E Willson  
Shelby Wilson  
Haley Wudke  
Megan Jeanette Yates  
Laurel Yohn

#### **Occupational Therapy Assistant by Examination-44**

Hannah Raye Baldwin  
Macee Bartok  
Anndrea Josephine Bertke  
Samantha Marie Blovsky  
Tara Darlene Brenneman  
Brittany Marie Briney  
Clorissa Ann Brown  
Brittan Candela  
Nicole Kathleen Coffee  
Cassandra MacKenzie Coffman  
Holly Lynn Crissman

Abby Catherine Dollings  
Leigha Donaghue  
Molly Donahue  
Sierra Jade Forman  
Katherine Ann Gagnon  
Joshua Hunt  
Cassie Keller  
Sherri Kennedy  
Sydney Kilburn  
Alysia Lealand  
Scottie Anne Long  
Claire elizabeth Miller

Anastasia Dior Neiding  
SHAWNA RENEE NYE  
Kaitlyn Michelle O'Neal  
Paige Martine Oswalt  
Amanda J Page  
Justina Marie Patterson  
Lindsay Peterson  
Gretchen Schafer  
Emily Anna Schmitz  
Jane Staufer

#### **Occupational Therapist by Endorsement-16**

Meneely DeGarmo  
Angelin Devanand  
Alaina Dimitriou  
Cheryl Mae L Granada  
Zoe Elizabeth Holden  
Natalie Lois Horrigan

Rebecca Kemen  
Charity Lynn Mack  
Shea McCann  
Alexa Mohr  
Angeline Musunga  
Cassandra Marie Phillips

Sarah Nicole Riddell  
Elizabeth Hope Schuler  
Sonya Elizabeth Steckler  
Maria Danielle Surface

#### **Occupational Therapy Assistant by Endorsement-4**

Khusbu Desai  
Kathleen Kelly  
Kirstina May Riveria-Connick

Shannon M Sisson

**Withdrawals**

Anissa Siefert recommended that the Section grant the application withdrawal request for OT/OTA examination/endorsement/reinstatement applications on file with the Board on July 14, 2022, based on the documentation provided. Joanne Estes made the motion, and Melissa Van Allen seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Elizabeth Schuler	APP-000617724
Payton Whitt	APP-000618753
Sarah Yeager	APP-000619658
Meneely DeGarmo	APP-000511832
Alysia Lealand	APP-000605591
Samuel Gyampoh	APP-000556163
Halle Dlugolinski	APP-000624056
Samantha Ruhe	OT012178
Nicole Morrison	APP-000535666
Hannah Batsche	APP-000630175
Chloe Miller	APP-000614815
Julia Hardy	APP-000507491

**CE Request**

Nichole Dearth moved that the section approve 36 applications for contact hour approval, deny one application and send and send two back for more information. Seconded by Joanne Estes. All in favor. Motion carried.

The OT Section paused the meeting for Joint Board at 10:13AM and reconvened at 12:20PM

**Enforcement Division**

**Statistics**

“New” cases opened since the last meeting: 05  
Cases “closed” since the last meeting: 02  
Cases “currently open”: 24  
Active consent agreements: 05  
Adjudication orders being monitored: 0

Melissa Van Allen recommended that a motion be made to release Ann Johnson, OTA from his consent agreement as she as complied with all terms and conditions. Sarah Heldmann moved, and Anissa Siefert seconded. Joanne Estes abstained. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Goldman Hearing**

Melissa Van Allen called the proceedings to order at 1:42 PM on September 15, 2022 at the Vern Riffe Center, 77 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Members of the Board present for the proceeding are:

Nichole Dearth  
Sarah Heldmann  
Anissa Siefert  
Joanne Estes-Absent

It will be noted for the record that a majority of the members of the Board are present. There will be one (1) adjudication proceeding today. The proceeding is in the matter of Meleeia McKean, case number OT-22-001.

This proceeding was affidavit-based adjudication relative to the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed to the respondent in the aforementioned case and believed to have been properly served according to the Administrative Procedures Act (Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code).

As the respondent declined to have a hearing in the case, this proceeding was held before the Board pursuant to Goldman v. State Medical Board of Ohio. The individual named did not have the ability to present written or oral testimony today but may be present to hear the proceeding and outcome.

In lieu of a stenographic record being made, let the minutes reflect that the original sworn affidavit and exhibits are kept as the official record of the proceeding in the aforementioned matter in the Board office.

Assistant Attorney General, Lindsay Miller provided a brief synopsis of the case, calling Board investigator, David Day, as a sworn witness.

Sarah Heldmann moved to admit the facts and exhibits outlined in the sworn affidavit and testimony into evidence. Anissa Siefert seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

The proceeding closed at 1:50 PM . The procedural and jurisdictional matters having been satisfied, the OT Section proceeded by deliberation on the sworn affidavit and exhibits.

Anissa Siefert moved to recess the meeting in order to go into private session for the purpose of quasi-judicial deliberation on Meleeia McKean, case number OT-22-001, and to reconvene the meeting after deliberations are complete. Sarah Heldmann seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Roll call.

Nichole Dearth-yes  
Sarah Heldmann-yes  
Anissa Siefert-yes  
Melissa Van Allen- yes  
Joanne Estes-Absent

The meeting recessed at 1:55PM to enter private session for the purpose of quasi-judicial deliberation.

The section came out of private session and reconvened the Board meeting at 2:02 PM.

Based on a thorough review of the evidence, Anissa Siefert moved that the OT Section finds the following findings of facts in the matter of case number OT-22-001, Meleeia McKean. Ms. McKean is a licensed OTA and received a request for a CE audit. During the CE audit for OTA's for the 2018-2020 renewal period, Ms. McKean failed to provide evidence of her CE completion and failed to respond to the notices for opportunity of hearing. The Board has jurisdiction based on Chapter 4755 of the Ohio Revised Code. Melissa Van Allen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Based on a thorough review of the evidence, Anissa Siefert moved that the OT Section finds the following conclusions of law in the matter of case number OT-22-001, Meleeia McKean. The respondent has violated Ohio Revised Code section 4755-9-01. Melissa Van Allen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Based upon a preponderance of the evidence and the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law Anissa Siefert moved that the board revoke the OTA license of Meleeia McKean. Melissa Van Allen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

The OTA license of Meleeia McKean is revoked immediately.

### **Correspondence**

The OT Section discussed questions regarding evaluations, and home care services.

**AAG Report**

N/A

**OTA Report**

N/A

**Open Forum**

N/A

**Old Business**

N/A

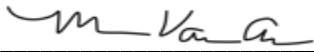
**New Business**

The OT section reviewed the OT CE application and their ethics presentation for an upcoming conference.

**Adjournment**


There being no further business and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
*Aariann Felix*



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Melissa Van Allen, OTR/L, Chair  
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,  
And Athletic Trainers Board, OT Section



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Sarah Heldmann, OTA  
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,  
And Athletic Trainers Board, OT Section



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Missy Anthony, Executive Director  
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,  
And Athletic Trainers Board