



Executive Offices:

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April 7, 2006

To: NBCE Delegates & Alternate Delegates/State Board Members/
State Board Executive Directors/Chiropractic College Presidents
«Address 1»
«Address 2»
«City», «State» «ZIPPostal_Code»

Dear Dr./Mr./Ms. <Last Name>:

I know your time is precious and that reading a long letter is a daunting task. Yet, I believe that if you will give me just 10 minutes that you will have a better understanding of the issues surrounding my re-election as District V Director (in Portland in May). To most of you reading this letter, I wish to thank you for your past support, and I trust that the points discussed below will convince you to support me for an additional three years.

Let me start by saying that I want to be re-elected as District V Director. Since I was not reappointed to the Mississippi State Board in 2005, this will be my last opportunity to run for the District Director position. Even though the new term limits are not yet in place, I am only eligible for one more three-year term.

My first election to serve on the board of the NBCE took place in 2000. So when the election takes place in May 2006, I will have served only SIX years. Another term will bring me to nine years, which is allowable under past and future definitions of term limits.

On the issue of term limits, you should know that term limits would have passed previously, however a few wanted term limits to be implemented retroactively. That demand has since been dropped, so it was possible for the Bylaws Committee (which I chair) to recommend term limits to the full Board of Directors. These new limits will be voted on by the delegate body in Portland.

During my time on the Board, I have served on the Executive Committee (as Secretary for two years and as Vice President for two years). I have also been the Chair of the Bylaws Committee—elected unanimously by the other District Directors, including Dr. Jerry Blanchard, District I Director; Dr. Frank Hideg, District II Director; Dr. Vernon Temple, District III Director and Dr. Ted Scott, District IV Director. Other committee memberships include:

Officers and Directors:

Frank G. Hideg, D.C.
Chairman of the Board

Peter D. Ferguson, D.C.
President

Rick C. Murphree, D.C.
Vice President

Kenneth W. Padgett, D.C.
Treasurer

Donna L. Craft, D.C.
Secretary

Jerry D. Blanchard, D.C.

Frank S. Lizzio, D.C.

Theodore J. Scott, D.C.

Oliver R. Smith Jr., D.C.

Vernon R. Temple, D.C.

N. Edwin Weathershy, D.C.

Horace C. Elliott

Executive Vice President

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- Investment
- International Affairs
- Human Resources

The years from 2000 to present have been productive and I am extremely proud to have been involved in the following:

2000

Printed *Job Analysis of Chiropractic and Studies on Chiropractic* (1999)

Provides description of chiropractic as it is practiced as a full-time profession. Data gathered used to assure content validity of the Part III and Part IV Examinations.

Established National Board Day program at chiropractic colleges

Initiative to improve communications with students. Provides students with in-depth information about examinations and gives them firsthand opportunity to ask questions.

Established Computerization Committee

Keeping up with changing technology--assessed potential costs and advantages of scheduling flexibility and faster score reporting.

2001

Offered first computerized SPEC

Makes the test of greater value to the profession. More frequent and convenient administrations necessary to reduce the time that a candidate waits for the next test administration. Computerization has created a cost savings to examinees who can take the exam within his or her own state.

Cut budget by 15 percent

Operational cuts included reducing per diem and travel expenses. Reduced number of days for meetings.

Maintained financial stability of NBCE in the face of declining student enrollments.

2002

Delivered final computerization report

Recommended against computerized tests because they would result in higher cost to examinees and increased security concerns.

Established VA benefits

Fee reimbursement program to benefit examinees eligible for VA GI Bill.



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Introduced Acupuncture Examination

Optional exam, offered along with other NBCE written exams. Exam will enhance the credibility of the practice of acupuncture within chiropractic offices.

Offered online sample tests for written exams

2003

Established monthly report

Replaced *NBCE Journal*, which was published on a quarterly basis

Formed International Board of Chiropractic Examiners

The IBCE seeks to aid chiropractic associations, organizations and schools in addressing the concerns of regulatory authorities and the public

Delivered score reports online

Unofficial score report allows examinees to view scores about a week earlier than official, mailed score report

2004

Introduced Ethics and Boundaries Examination

Developed for use by state chiropractic boards to help address disciplinary cases involving professional ethics and boundaries violations by licensed practitioners.

It is administered only at the request or requirement of state licensing boards as a measure of knowledge in applied ethics and boundaries.

Produced online application

Allows examinees to complete application and/or download applications.

Received very positive feedback from students.

2005

I proposed and the Board accepted my suggestion that fees for taking SPEC and E&B for doctors displaced after Hurricane Katrina be waived.

Printed *Job Analysis of Chiropractic 2005* and *Studies on Chiropractic 2005*

Also available online

Increased security at Part IV test sites

The NBCE has always been vigilant about exam security and views prevention as the best way to combat cheating. The new security measures are aimed at keeping electronic items completely out of testing areas.

Reestablished Computerization Committee

Ongoing budgetary concerns and potential improvements in exam administration caused Dr. Ferguson to reconvene committee.

Reduced student fees for the first time in NBCE history.

One factor that made this decision possible is the commitment by the Board of Directors to cut costs following its annual meeting in May. The NBCE has worked to reduce the cost of administering its exams by making exam applications and brochures available online. This has resulted in substantial savings on printing costs.



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2006

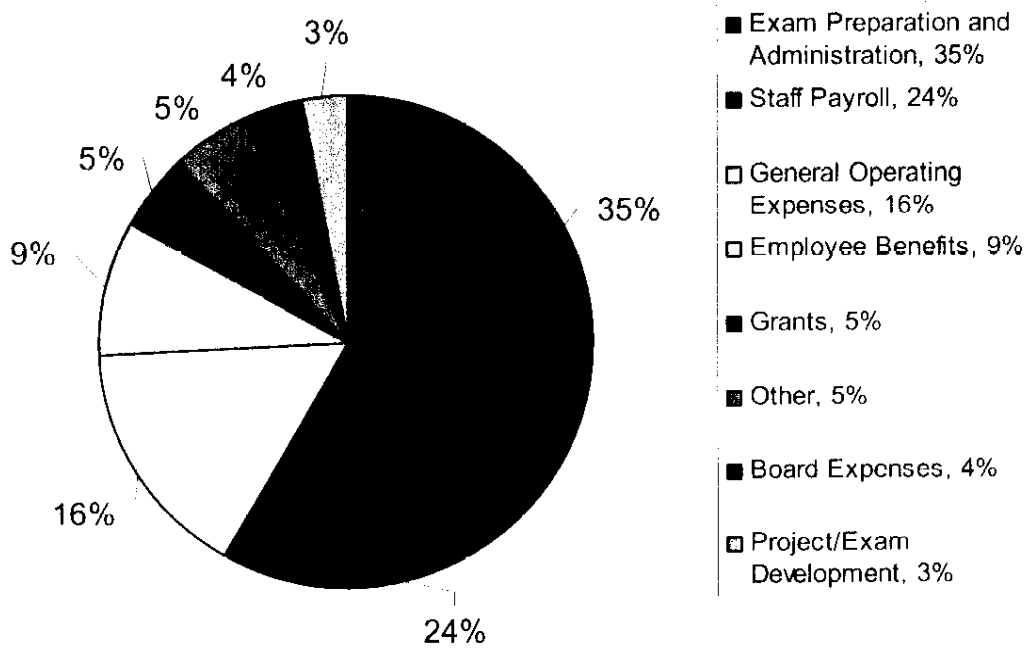
Computerized E&B to provide easier access

Will finalize computerization of CCAT to provide assessment exam for those wishing to enter field of chiropractic

Of course, these are only a few of the many milestones achieved at the NBCE. I am very proud of the work of the NBCE and have always taken my position seriously; I am honored to have served District V.

To my knowledge, I have been criticized only twice. The first is that I am part of the "old boys club." This has no merit because, as you know, I have served six years and my re-election will mean that I will serve (by 2009) a total of nine years.

Another accusation about the Board is that we squander the precious cash assets of the NBCE. First, let me say that my 1099 is available for you to view. I prefer not to publicly post it because 1099s are confidential, but on a personal basis, I am pleased to let you view it and to answer any questions. Secondly, please review the chart below—certainly from it you will see that the Board of Directors is not guilty of the financial negligence we are accused of. The data for these charts is also available if you have more questions.



NBCE EXPENSES 2005



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Over the last several months, thinking independently, following one's own conscience and doing the right thing seems to hold little value. Let me explain. In May 2005, I was asked at the FCLB breakfast to vote for Dr. Richard Cole as an At-Large Director to the National Board. Dr. Cole had served four years on the NBCE Board (two as FCLB Vice President and two as FCLB President). My response at that time was, "I will do what my district desires me to do." Following that breakfast, however, several people approached me and encouraged me to do whatever I felt I had to do so I spent the rest of the day seeking input from the delegates and alternates of my district.

Later that same day it was brought to my attention that Dr. Cole, during his time on the NBCE board, did not participate in 14 of the 16 exam oversight functions. This is our most important job—to insure exam security and to fulfill legal requirements that exams are being conducted fairly—this is the NBCE commitment to students, colleges and state licensing boards. To re-emphasize, this was critical information in my decision because one of the primary functions of an NBCE board member is to verify that correct processes are followed during each exam administration. I also learned that Dr. Cole was not available for nearly half of the conference call meetings. These facts definitely persuaded me that Dr. Cole did not have the dedication and commitment to serve as a director of the NBCE. A chart reflecting Dr. Cole's participation is attached.

In closing, we're down to the wire, the election is near. I have tried to anticipate and answer your questions and I am available to answer any additional questions. I hope that I have demonstrated to you that I am more than a nice guy and that I have the integrity and commitment to serve in any capacity that maintains and builds upon the excellence of the NBCE. I humbly and respectfully ask for your support in Portland in May and I look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely yours,



Rick C. Murphree, D.C.
NBCE Vice President and District V Director

Attachment

cc NBCE Board of Directors
Horace C. Elliott, NBCE Executive Vice President



DR. RICHARD COLE
BOARD OBSERVER AND CONFERENCE CALL PARTICIPATION

BOARD CONFERENCE CALLS			
1	April 2001	Board conference call	Present
2	September 2001	Board conference call	Present
3	June 17, 2002	Board conference call	Present
4	June 23, 2002	Board conference call	Absent
5	February 2004	Board conference call	Present
6	February 2005	Board conference call	Absent
7	March 2005	Board conference call	Absent
EXAM OBSERVER/OVERSIGHT			
1	May 2001	Spring Practical	Absent
2	September 2001	Fall Written	Absent
3	November 2001	Fall Practical	Present
4	March 2002	Spring Written	Absent
5	May 2002	Spring Practical	Present
6	September 2002	Fall Written	Absent
7	November 2002	Fall Practical	Absent
8	March 2003	Spring Written	Absent
9	May 2003	Spring Practical	Absent
10	September 2003	Fall Written	Absent
11	November 2003	Fall Practical	Absent
12	March 2004	Spring Written	Absent
13	May 2004	Spring Practical	Absent
14	September 2004	Fall Written	Absent
15	November 2004	Fall Practical	Absent
16	March 2005	Spring Written	Absent