

3203



From: Sherri Dietz
To: ST. Regulatory Counsel
Subject: Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC #3203)
Date: Monday, July 2, 2018 4:04:52 PM

Jacqueline A Wolfgang and all others involved in this decision:

Thank you for allowing us to interject in this Proposed fee increase.

I have been in the massage field now for 10 years. It is a struggle making it for this long. We work in a very challenging industry where our income is not guaranteed. Most of us work extremely hard to serve our clients and to also make ends meet. I am a great licensed massage therapist that follows the rules set forth. I do my continuing education as required even though it is very costly to do so and sometimes for very limited returns. We don't get holiday pay, vacation or sick time (I've just lost 6 weeks of work due to a cancer diagnosis and surgery that followed with a \$10,000.00 deductible just to afford insurance and more than \$72000.00 in medical bills) I was not paid during this time, yet I continue to do the work because I love it and want to provide the best service I can for my clients.

This money is to be used to help defray the cost of investigating cases, to help make up for those who don't pay fines. So those of us that tow the line and legally do massage will now take the brunt of enforcement by paying even higher fees. The really frustrating thing on top of the money is that even when we go above and beyond and be whistle blowers for those practicing illegally have no support from the licensing board (I also have first hand experience on this as well.)

I really hope you take these things into consideration, by raising fees you are only forcing more people to go underground to do the work they love because they can't afford to do it legally. This in turn makes it bad for an already struggling industry.

Thank you again in reconsidering raising this fee so significantly.

Regards,

Sherri Dietz, LMT
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