1 **PA Compact Commission** 2 Title of Rule: State of Qualifying License Process **History of Rule:** 3 4 Reason for Rule: To establish the process for a PA to select the participating state where a 5 qualifying license is held and to be used to qualify for a compact privilege 6 in a remote state. 7 **Effective Date:** 8 Chapter 2: State of Qualifying License 9 **Authority:** Section 5: Designation of the State from Which Licensee is Applying for a 10 Compact Privilege 11 Section 7: Establishment of PA Compact Commission 12 Section 9: Rulemaking 13 2.0 Purpose: 14 Pursuant to Section 5, the PA Compact Commission shall promulgate applicable rules for a 15 Licensee to identify the Participating State which the Licensee has selected to use as their 16 Qualifying License. This Rule will become effective upon adoption by the PA Compact Commission as provided in Section 9 of the PA Compact. 17 18 2.1 Definitions: 19 As used in this chapter: 20 (a) "Compact" means the PA Licensure Compact. 21 (b) "Compact Privilege" means the authorization granted by a Remote State to allow a 22 Licensee from another Participating State to practice as a PA to provide Medical Services and 23 other licensed activity to a patient located in the Remote State under the Remote State's laws 24 and regulations. 25 (c) "Employer" means a person, business, or organization located in a PA's designated state of principal licensure that employs or contracts with a PA to provide medical services. Excluding: 26 27 (1) an employer that only maintains a registration with the Secretary of State of a 28 participating state, 29 (2) an employer that only has the presence of a registered agent who is located in a 30 participating state. 31 (d) "Licensee" means an individual who holds a License from a State to provide Medical 32 Services as a PA.

- 33 (e) "Medical Services" means health care services provided for the diagnosis, prevention,
- treatment, cure or relief of a health condition, injury, or disease, as defined by a State's laws and
- 35 regulations.
- 36 (f) "Participating State" means a State that has enacted this Compact.
- 37 (g) "PA" means an individual who is licensed as a physician assistant in a State. For purposes
- 38 of this Compact, any other title or status adopted by a State to replace the term "physician
- 39 assistant" shall be deemed synonymous with "physician assistant" and shall confer the same
- 40 rights and responsibilities to the Licensee under the provisions of this Compact at the time of its
- 41 enactment.

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- 42 (h) "PA Licensure Compact Commission," "Compact Commission," or "Commission"
- 43 mean the national administrative body created pursuant to Section 7.A of this Compact.
- 44 (i) "Qualifying License" means an unrestricted License issued by a Participating State to
- 45 provide Medical Services as a PA.
- 46 (i) "Remote State" means a Participating State where a Licensee who is not licensed as a PA is
- 47 exercising or seeking to exercise the Compact Privilege.
- 48 (k) "State of Qualifying License" means a Participating State where a PA holds a qualifying
- 49 license and which has been designated as such by the PA for purposes of registration and
- 50 participation in the Compact.

2.1 State of qualifying license designation:

- (a) The PA shall designate a Participating State as the state of qualifying license for purposes of registration for a compact privilege through the Compact if the PA possesses a full and unrestricted license to conduct medical services in that state, and the state is:
 - (1) The state of primary residence for the PA, or
 - (2) The state where at least twenty-five percent of the medical services occurs, or
 - (3) The location of the PA's current employer, or
 - (4) If no state qualifies under subparagraph (1), subparagraph (2), or subparagraph (3), the state designated as state of residence for purposes of federal income tax.
- (b) Regardless of the designation qualification under subsection (a), the PA shall provide the Commission the primary residence address and consent to service of process by mail at the primary residence address under Section 5(A)(2) of the Compact. A change of primary residence address shall be reported to the Commission within thirty (30) days.
- (c) The PA shall submit with any designation or redesignation request proof of the requirements in subparagraph (a) as determined by the Commission. The designated

69 State of Qualifying License may, at any time, require the PA to submit additional 70 documents to verify subparagraph (a) requirements. 71 72 2.2 Redesignation of the state of qualifying license: 73 (a) If the PA voluntarily terminates their qualifying license through which they applied for 74 their current compact privilege(s) and that qualifying license has not yet expired, the PA shall redesignate their state of qualifying license by following this process: 75 76 (1) Complete a state of qualifying license redesignation form at the Commission's 77 website, (2) Pay a non-refundable fee of \$50 to the Commission, 78 79 (3) Meet the requirements of paragraph 2.1 with the new state of qualifying 80 license, and (4) Have no pending investigation of the current qualifying license at the time of 81 the redesignation request. 82 83 (b) Upon approval of a redesignation form and confirmation from the current state of qualifying license that there is no pending investigation, the PA and the Commission 84 85 shall notify the new state of qualifying license and current state of qualifying license of the applicant's redesignation. 86 (c) Any PA information collected by the Commission during the process to redesignate a 87 state of qualifying license shall be available to all participating states. 88 89 (d) Any compact privilege(s) held prior to redesignation shall expire when the original qualifying license expires or terminates. 90

PA Compact Commission

2 Title of Rule: Compact Privilege

History of Rule: 3

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4 Reason for Rule: To establish the eligibility for a compact privilege and create the process

for a PA to apply for a compact privilege in a remote state.

6 **Effective Date:**

7 Chapter 3: Compact Privilege

8 Section 4: Compact Privilege **Authority:**

9 Section 7: Establishment of PA Compact Commission

10 Section 9: Rulemaking

11 3.0 Purpose:

- 12 Pursuant to Section 4, the PA Compact Commission shall promulgate applicable rules for a
- 13 Licensee to exercise a Compact Privilege. This Rule will become effective upon adoption by the
- 14 PA Compact Commission as provided in Section 9 of the PA Compact.

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16 3.1 Definitions:

- (a) "Adverse Action" means any administrative, civil, equitable, or criminal action permitted by a State's laws which is imposed by a Licensing Board or other authority against a PA License or License application or Compact Privilege such as License denial, censure, revocation, suspension, probation, monitoring of the Licensee, or restriction on the Licensee's practice.
- (b) "Compact" means the PA Licensure Compact.
- (c) "Compact Privilege" means the authorization granted by a Remote State to allow a Licensee from another Participating State to practice as a PA to provide Medical Services and other licensed activity to a patient located in the Remote State under the Remote State's laws and regulations.
- (d) "Criminal Background Check" means the submission of fingerprints or other biometric based information for a License applicant for the purpose of obtaining that applicant's criminal history record information, as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(d), from the State's criminal history record repository as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(f).
- (e) "Data System" means the repository of information about Licensees, including but not limited to License status and Adverse Actions, which is created and administered under the 33 terms of this Compact.
- 34 (f) "Jurisprudence Requirement" means the assessment of an individual's knowledge of the 35 laws and Rules governing the practice of a PA in a State.
- (g) "Licensee" means an individual who holds a License from a State to provide Medical 36 37 Services as a PA.

- 38 (h) "Medical Services" means health care services provided for the diagnosis, prevention, 39 treatment, cure or relief of a health condition, injury, or disease, as defined by a State's laws and regulations.
- (i) "Non-participating State" means a State that has not enacted this Compact. 41
 - (j) "Participating State" means a State that has enacted this Compact.

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- (k) "PA" means an individual who is licensed as a physician assistant in a State. For purposes of this Compact, any other title or status adopted by a State to replace the term "physician assistant" shall be deemed synonymous with "physician assistant" and shall confer the same rights and responsibilities to the Licensee under the provisions of this Compact at the time of its enactment.
- (I) "PA Licensure Compact Commission," "Compact Commission," or "Commission" mean the national administrative body created pursuant to Section 7.A of this Compact.
- (m) "Qualifying License" means an unrestricted License issued by a Participating State to provide Medical Services as a PA.
- (n) "Remote State" means a Participating State where a Licensee who is not licensed as a PA is exercising or seeking to exercise the Compact Privilege.
- (o) "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United States.
- (p) "State of Qualifying License" means a Participating State where a PA holds a qualifying license and which has been designated as such by the PA for purposes of registration and participation in the Compact.

3.2 Delegation of compact privilege responsibilities

- (a) Participating states are deemed to have delegated and assigned to the Compact Commission the following responsibilities in the compact privilege process:
 - (1) The Compact Commission shall provide participating states an online application for use by PAs seeking compact privileges through their designated state of qualifying license.
 - (2) The Compact Commission shall use information from its data system to facilitate an application for review by the PA's designated state of qualifying license.
 - (3) The Compact Commission shall provide and administer a process to collect service fees and state fees from the PA and remit these fees to the participating state boards and the Compact Commission.

3.3 Eligibility for compact privilege

- (a) A PA must meet the following requirements to receive a compact privilege under the terms and provisions of the Compact:
 - (1) Graduated from a PA program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc.
 - (2) Holds a current certification from the national commission on certification of physician assistants.

- (3) Has never been found guilty by a court of a felony or misdemeanor offense through an adjudication or by an entry of a plea of guilt or no contest to the charge.
- (4) Has never had a controlled substance license, permit, or registration suspended or revoked by a State or by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.
- (5) Has a unique identifier that is a social security number.
- (6) Holds an unrestricted License issued by a participating state to provide medical services as a PA.
- (7) Has had no revocation of any License or limitation or restriction on any License currently held due to an adverse action.
 - i. If a PA has had a limitation or restriction on a License or Compact Privilege due to an Adverse Action, two years must have elapsed from the date on which the License or Compact Privilege is no longer limited or restricted due to the Adverse Action.
- (8) Notifies the Compact Commission that the PA is seeking the Compact Privilege in a Remote State.
- (9) Meets any Jurisprudence Requirement of a Remote State in which the PA is seeking to practice under a Compact Privilege and pay any fees applicable to satisfying the Jurisprudence Requirement.
- (10) Complies with each remote states' laws and regulations related to supervision by or collaboration with a physician.
- (11) Complies with each remote states' laws and regulations related to authority to prescribe controlled substances for each remote state in which the PA seeks authority to prescribe controlled substances.
- (12) Reports to the Commission any Adverse Action taken by a non-participating State within thirty (30) days after the action is taken.

3.4 Compact privilege process

(a) A PA shall:

- (1) Submit an online application through the Compact Commission's data system along with a sworn statement attesting to the truthfulness and accuracy of all information provided by the applicant.
- (2) During the application process designate a state of qualifying license. The PA must meet one of the state of qualifying license eligibility requirements in Rule 2 at the time of application. A member state shall apply Rule 2 requirements contemporaneously when evaluating a licensee's compact privilege eligibility under Compact Section 4 and this Rule.
- (3) Submit to a criminal background check through the process designated by the state of qualifying license which will include the submission of fingerprints or other biometric based information.
- (4) Submit any other information requested by the state of qualifying license necessary to confirm eligibility.
- (5) Pay the nonrefundable fees required by the state of qualifying license and the Compact Commission.

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- (b) When the state of qualifying license receives the application through the Compact Commission that state shall:
 - (1) Evaluate the PA's eligibility for participating in the compact privilege process;
 - (2) Perform a criminal background check pursuant to Public Law 92-544 as required by the terms and provisions of the Compact;
 - (3) Determine whether the PA meets one of the state of qualifying license eligibility requirements in Rule 2 at the time of application; and
 - (4) Issue notice to the Compact Commission verifying or denying the PA's eligibility to participate in the Compact and confirming that the state will serve as the state of qualifying license.
- (c) Upon notice from the Compact Commission of eligibility approval by the state of qualifying license, the PA shall:
 - (1) Complete the registration process established by the Compact Commission.
 - (2) Identify the remote state(s) for which a compact privilege is requested.
 - (3) Submit any additional information required by the remote state(s).
 - (4) Submit satisfactory proof that the PA has entered into a supervision or collaborative agreement with a physician licensed in the remote state which the PA is applying for a compact privilege, if such agreement is required by the remote state's laws and regulations. An agreement must meet all requirements of the remote state's laws and regulations and be submitted for each remote state where the PA has applied for a compact privilege.
 - (5) Submit satisfactory proof as required by each remote state where the PA has applied for prescriptive authority with their compact privilege showing that the PA meets all requirements imposed by such remote state in granting physician-delegated prescriptive authority.
 - (6) Submit proof that the PA has successfully taken and passed any jurisprudence requirement, if required by the remote state(s), where the PA is applying for a compact privilege.
 - (7) Pay the non-refundable compact privilege fee required by the remote state(s) and any additional service fee required by the Compact Commission.
- (d) Upon receipt of all fees required, and receipt of the information from the application, including verification of eligibility by the designated state of qualifying license, the remote state(s) shall promptly issue a compact privilege to the PA, and provide information regarding the privilege to the Compact Commission to maintain in the data system.

3.5 Compact privilege cycle and continued participation

(a) A compact privilege shall be valid until the expiration or revocation of the qualifying license used to apply for the privilege unless the privilege is terminated pursuant to an adverse action. The expiration date of the qualifying license shall be the expiration date that was in

effect on the date the PA applied for the compact privilege. Any renewal of the qualifying license does not automatically extend the expiration date of the compact privilege.

(b) Not less than 90 days prior to the expiration of a compact privilege, the member state shall notify the PA by e-mail of the pending expiration of the compact privilege(s) and provide information that the PA may reapply for any compact privileges pursuant to this rule. The email notice shall be sent to the e-mail address currently on-file with the Commission in its data system. The PA is responsible for renewing any compact privilege(s) prior to their expiration and for maintaining current contact information, including an e-mail address, with the Commission.

(c) An application for a compact privilege shall be considered opened from the date the application form is received by the state of qualifying license.

(1) If the PA does not submit all requested materials, including any required fees, within 60 days after the application is opened, then the application shall be deemed to have been withdrawn. The PA must reapply and submit a new application and new nonrefundable application fees as determined by the state of qualifying license and the Compact Commission.

3.6 Jurisprudence requirement

(a) If a member state has a jurisprudence requirement to be eligible to obtain a compact privilege in accordance with Section 4.A.11 of the Compact, the PA must have successfully taken and passed any jurisprudence requirement prior to applying for a compact privilege in the remote state.

(b) If a compact privilege expires and the PA has applied for another compact privilege prior to the expiration date, in the same remote state, the PA may submit proof that the jurisprudence requirement was previously met for a compact privilege in that remote state.

(c) If a compact privilege expires and the PA fails to make an application for another compact privilege in the same remote state prior to the compact privilege expiration date, all applicable requirements for completion of a jurisprudence requirement will apply.

3.7 Denial or withdrawal of the determination of eligibility

(a) If the member state designated as the state of qualifying license issues a notice to the Compact Commission denying the applicant's eligibility for the compact, the PA may appeal such determination of eligibility within 30 days of the PA's receipt of the notice. The appeal shall be filed with the member state that issued the denial and shall be subject to the laws of that state.

(b) If the member state designated as the state of qualifying license issues a notice to the Compact Commission approving the PA's eligibility for the compact and thereafter withdraws

the approval due to the PA not meeting the Compact's eligibility requirements, any compact privilege issued under that qualifying license shall automatically be cancelled with no further action required by any member state. The Compact Commission shall provide e-mail notice of the withdrawal to the PA along with notice that all issued compact privileges have been cancelled. The PA may appeal the withdrawal of eligibility within 30 days of the PA's receipt of the withdrawal notice. The appeal shall be filed with the member state that issued the denial and shall be subject to the laws of that state.

3.8 State of emergency rule – waiver of timeframes

(a) This rule is effective upon a declaration of a national emergency by the President of the United States and/or a declaration of emergency by one or more Governors of the compact member states in response to Force Majeure such as a pandemic, hurricane, tornado, earthquake, or other natural disaster. As such time, each Board or the Executive Committee of the Compact Commission has the authority to temporarily waive enforcement of the timeframes in this rule which are not statutorily required.

(b) Such waiver would be justified based upon:

(1) The degree of disruption to procedures or timeframes under this rule, which is the basis for the waiver:

(2) The degree of benefit (or detriment) of such waiver to the PA and/or public health; and

(3) The anticipated duration of the emergency.

(c) The length of the waiver is subject to the length of the national/state emergency declaration unless preemptively concluded by a majority vote of the Compact Commission.

1	PA Compact Commission	
2	Title of Rule:	Compact Data System, Confidentiality, Information Sharing, and Joint Investigations
4	History of Rule:	
5 6 7	Reason for Rule:	To establish Data System requirements, confidentiality of certain records maintained by the Commission and/or Participating States, information sharing by Participating States, and the process for joint investigations.
8	Effective Date:	
9 10	Chapter 5:	Compact Data System, Information Sharing, Confidentiality and Joint Investigations
11	Authority:	Section 6: Adverse Actions
12		Section 7: Establishment of PA Compact Commission
13		Section 8: Data System
14		Section 9: Rulemaking
15	5.0 Purpose:	
16 17 18 19 20	This Rule addresses the Compact Commission's responsibility to develop and implement a coordinated data and reporting system, confidentiality of data maintained by the Compact Commission, information sharing by the Compact Commission and Participating States, and the process for joint investigations. This Rule will become effective upon adoption by the PA Compact Commission as provided in Section 9 of the PA Compact.	
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22	5.1 Definitions:	
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	 (a) "Adverse Action" means any administrative, civil, equitable, or criminal action permitted by a State's laws which is imposed by a Licensing Board or other authority against a PA License or License application or Compact Privilege such as License denial, censure, revocation, suspension, probation, monitoring of the Licensee, or restriction on the Licensee's practice. (b) "Compact" means the PA Licensure Compact. (c) "Compact Privilege" means the authorization granted by a Remote State to allow a Licensee from another Participating State to practice as a PA to provide Medical Services and other licensed activity to a patient located in the Remote State under the Remote State's laws and regulations. 	
33	(a) "Confidential a	nd filed under seal" means all information and documents required to be

shared in compliance with the Compact shall be transmitted confidentially and may not be

discoverable in civil litigation, re-disclosed voluntarily or pursuant to a public records request, or produced pursuant to civil or criminal subpoena, except that such information

- may be used for the purpose of investigating and taking disciplinary action and may be disclosed as part of any public disciplinary action resulting from the investigation.
 - (e) "Criminal Background Check" means the submission of fingerprints or other biometric based information for a License applicant for the purpose of obtaining that applicant's criminal history record information, as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(d), from the State's criminal history record repository as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(f).
 - (f) "Data System" means the repository of information about Licensees, including but not limited to License status and Adverse actions, which is created and administered under the terms of this Compact.
 - (g) "Investigative Information" means information, records, or documents received or generated by a Licensing Board pursuant to an investigation.
 - (h) "Joint Investigation" means an investigation conducted jointly by two or more Participating States.
 - (i) "Licensee" means an individual who holds a License from a State to provide Medical Services as a PA.
 - (j) "Non-participating State" means a State that has not enacted this Compact.
 - (k) "Participating PA" means a PA who has applied for or holds a Compact Privilege.
 - (I) "Participating State" means a State that has enacted this Compact.
 - (m) "PA" means an individual who is licensed as a physician assistant in a State. For purposes of this Compact, any other title or status adopted by a State to replace the term "physician assistant" shall be deemed synonymous with "physician assistant" and shall confer the same rights and responsibilities to the Licensee under the provisions of this Compact at the time of its enactment.
 - (n) "PA Licensure Compact Commission," "Compact Commission," or "Commission" mean the national administrative body created pursuant to Section 7.A of this Compact.
 - (o) "Qualifying License" means an unrestricted License issued by a Participating State to provide Medical Services as a PA.
 - (p) "Remote State" means a Participating State where a Licensee who is not licensed as a PA is exercising or seeking to exercise the Compact Privilege.
 - (q) "Significant Investigative Information" means Investigative Information that a Licensing Board, after an inquiry or investigation that includes notification and an opportunity for the PA to respond if required by State law, has reason to believe is not groundless and, if proven true, would indicate more than a minor infraction.
 - (r) "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United States.
 - (s) "State of Qualifying License" means a Participating State where a PA holds a qualifying license and which has been designated as such by the PA for purposes of registration and participation in the Compact.
- 74 (t) **"Uniform Data Set"** means information maintained by the Compact Commission with respect to participating PAs.

5.2 Data System

(a) The Compact Commission shall develop, maintain, operate, administer and utilize a Coordinated Data and Reporting System ("Data System").

- 80 (b) The Data System shall maintain information related to participating PAs, including:
- 81 (1) A uniform data set;

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- 82 (2) Qualifying License and Compact Privilege requests, dispositions and related 83 data;
 - (3) Adverse actions taken;
 - (4) Reports of the existence of significant investigative information; and
 - (5) License and privilege denials and any periods of Compact participation ineligibility resulting therefrom.
 - (c) If the Compact Commission determines the Data System development and implementation will rely, in whole or in part, on data created or maintained by third parties, such as a national certifying organization or other similar entity, the Data System may also maintain information related to PAs who may be eligible to participate in the Compact, but have not yet designated a State of Qualifying License or applied for Compact Privileges.
- 94 (d) The appropriate licensing board(s) in Participating States shall have access to the Data 95 System to report and query information, as appropriate.
- 96 (e) Participating States shall enter and update information in the Data System concerning 97 actions taken as a designated State of Qualifying License, as a Remote State, and as 98 otherwise set forth in the Rules of the Compact Commission.
- 99 (f) Any information submitted to the Data System that is subsequently expunged pursuant 100 to federal law or the laws of the Participating State contributing the information shall 101 be removed from the Data System as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than 102 ten business days after the Compact Commission's receipt of a report of expungement 103 by the appropriate Participating State.
- 104 (g) Participating states shall not disclose or report to the Compact Commission, and the
 105 Data System shall not receive or maintain, any criminal background check results
 106 obtained by Participating States.

5.3. Uniform Data Set

- (a) The Compact Commission, through its Data System, shall maintain a uniform data setfor each PA who applies for or holds Compact Privileges.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other State law to the contrary, each Participating State shall verify
 and submit the required information to create a uniform data set for each PA who
 applies for or holds Compact Privileges.
- (c) As a State of Qualifying License, a Participating State shall verify and submit the
 following information for each PA applying for or holding a Qualifying License:
 - (1) Full legal name;
- 117 (2) Other name(s) used, previously or currently;

118	(3)	Sex;
119	(4)	Date of birth;
120	(5)	National Provider Identifier Number;
121	(6)	Social security number;
122	(7)	Primary residence address of record;
123	(8)	Telephone number of record;
124	(9)	E-mail address delegated by applicant to receive correspondence from the
125		Compact Commission and Participating States;
126	(10)	PA educational program completed, including year of completion;
127	(11)	NCCPA Certification number, current certification status and certification
128		expiration date;
129	(12)	License number, status, issue date and expiration date in the designated
130		State of Qualifying License;
131	(13)	Adverse actions against a License or Compact Privilege;
132	(14)	The existence of Significant Investigative Information; and
133	(15)	Any denial of licensure, and the reason(s) for such denial (excluding the
134		reporting of any criminal history record information where prohibited by law).
135	(d) As a F	Remote State, a Participating State shall verify and submit the following
136	inforn	nation for each PA applying for or holding a Compact Privilege in the Remote
137	State:	
138	(1)	Compact Privilege issue date, status, expiration date and privilege number or
139		other unique privilege identifier issued by the remote state;
140	(2)	Adverse actions against a Compact Privilege; and
141	(3)	The existence of Significant Investigative Information.
142	(e) The u	niform data set shall also include the following additional information:
143	(1)	All primary residence address changes provided by the participating PA to the
144		Compact Commission, and the date the address was changed;
145	(2)	All e-mail address changes provided by the participating PA to the Compact
146		Commission, and the date the e-mail address was changed;
147	(3)	All applications, attestations or certifications submitted by the participating
148		PA in support of a request to designate a State of Qualifying License or to
149		obtain a Compact Privilege in a Remote State;
150	(4)	All documents submitted by a Participating State to verify or decline a PA's
151		eligibility for Compact participation or to issue a Compact Privilege; and
152	(5)	Evidence of the current certification status with the NCCPA for all PAs
153		holding Compact privileges.
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- (a) Participating States shall report all adverse actions taken against PA's Qualifying License or Compact Privilege to the Compact Commission either by entry into the Data System or on a form developed and provided by the Compact Commission.
- (b) Adverse action reports shall:

- (1) Include the participating PA's name, NPI number, a summary of the action taken or a copy of a public complaint detailing the charges against the PA, and a copy of the order or other documentation imposing the adverse action.
- (2) Be submitted to the Compact Commission as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than ten days after the adverse action is ordered or otherwise taken by the State. If the adverse action is summary or emergency action, the report shall be submitted within one business day.
- (3) Be updated by the reporting State upon changes to the status of any reported adverse action. Updated adverse action reports shall be submitted as soon as reasonably possible, and within the same time limitations as established for initial adverse action reports.
- (c) A State of Qualifying License shall report the existence of Significant Investigative Information concerning a PA with a Qualifying License in the State, and a Remote State shall report the existence of Significant Investigative Information concerning a PA holding a Compact Privilege in the State. All reports shall be made to the Compact Commission either by entry into the Data System or on a form developed and provided by the Compact Commission.
- (d) Significant Investigative Information reports shall:
 - (1) Include the participating PA's name, NPI number a copy of any public complaint detailing the allegations under investigation by the Participating State, and contact information for follow-up with the reporting State.
 - (2) In the absence of a public complaint, include a brief description of the nature of the allegations under investigation.
 - (3) Be submitted as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than ten days after a State issues a public complaint in association with Significant Investigative Information or makes a non-public determination, after inquiry and investigation, its investigative process has developed Significant Investigative Information.

5.5. Confidentiality

(a) Information contained in a PA's uniform data set shall be maintained by the Compact Commission in a confidential manner.

- (b) All uniform data sets in the custody and control of the Compact Commission are confidential and exempt from public disclosure by the Compact Commission except for:
 - (1) The names of participating PAs; and

- (2) The states where participating PAs hold Qualifying Licenses and Compact Privileges.
- (c) With the exception of public complaints and publicly available records of adverse actions, all adverse action reports and Significant Investigatory Information reports submitted to the Data System pursuant to Section 5.4 of this Rule are designated confidential and filed under seal. Participating States who access this confidential information may only utilize the confidential material for investigations or during disciplinary processes. The confidential material may be made public in disciplinary actions, but Participating States shall not redisclose confidential adverse action or Significant Investigative Information to any person or Non-participating State.
- (d) In addition to the confidentiality provisions established herein, Participating States contributing information to the Data System may, in accordance with state or federal law, designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the contributing State. Notwithstanding any such designation, such information shall be reported to the Commission through the Data System.
- (e) Nothing in this section prohibits the Compact Commission from complying with a lawful order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (f) This section is not intended to limit the Compact Commission's authority to enter into data sharing agreements with Participating States or other entities to facilitate the purpose of the Compact. Provided, that Significant Investigative Information pertaining to a PA in any Participating State shall only be available to other Participating States.

5.6. Information Sharing

- (a) A Participating State shall have access to the uniform data set for every applicant and licensee who holds a Qualifying License or Compact Privilege in the Participating State.
- (b) When the Compact Commission receives notice of an adverse action, it shall promptly notify each Participating State where the PA holds a Qualifying License or a Compact Privilege of the adverse action.
- (c) Upon request, adverse action reports may also be shared with any other Participating State.

- (d) When the Compact Commission receives notice of Significant Investigative Information, it shall promptly notify each Participating State where the PA holds a Qualifying License or a Compact Privilege of the existence of Significant Investigative Information.
- (e) A Participating State where a PA holds a Qualifying License or a Compact Privilege may request an investigative file from any Participating State that submitted a Significant Investigative Information report with respect to the PA.
 - (1) Upon receipt of such a request, a Participating State shall share the requested information from an investigative file as soon as reasonably possible.
 - (2) Information shared with another Participating State pursuant to this process is confidential and filed under seal.
 - (3) Participating States who access this confidential information may only utilize the confidential material for investigations or during disciplinary processes. The confidential material may be made public in disciplinary actions but may not be redisclosed to any person or Non-participating State.

5.7 Joint Investigations

- (a) Participating States may conduct a joint investigation of a PA applying for or holding one or more Compact Privileges.
- (b) If a participating State seeks to initiate a joint investigation, it may obtain a list of all other participating States where the PA holds Compact Privileges or a Qualifying License from the Compact Commission or the Data System.
- (c) States participating in a Joint Investigation shall designate a lead investigative state.
- (d) The lead investigative state shall direct the investigation, update the other members of the joint investigation upon any significant developments in the investigation, and share investigative information.
- (e) The lead investigative state may request the other States participating in the joint investigation to conduct investigatory tasks in their own states.
- (f) A non-lead investigative state may continue its own investigation but shall keep the lead investigative state apprised of its investigatory actions and shall coordinate its actions with the lead investigative state.
- (g) States participating in the joint investigation shall share investigative information, litigation, and compliance materials in furtherance of the investigation.
- (h) During a joint investigation, a Participating State may request that another Participating State issue a subpoena on behalf of the joint investigation or assist in the enforcement of a lawful subpoena issued by the joint investigation.

- (i) A Participating State may elect to withdraw from a joint investigation at any time, however upon doing so it shall share with the remaining members of the joint investigation any investigative information, litigation, and compliance materials in its custody and control which were obtained or generated during the course of the joint investigation.
- (j) If a joint investigation results in Significant Investigative Information, the lead investigative state shall be responsible for making a report to the Compact Commission on behalf of all participants in the joint investigation.
- (k) Any adverse action resulting from a joint investigation shall be reported to the Compact Commission by the Participating State which took the adverse action.

5.10 Authenticated Business Records of the Compact Commission

(a) The records and information provided to a Participating State pursuant to this Compact or through the Data System, when certified by the Commission or its agent, shall constitute the authenticated business records of the Commission, and shall be entitled to any associated hearsay exception in any relevant judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative proceedings in a Participating State.