



MISSISSIPPI OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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October 15, 2021

Dear MOMA Members,

The Board of Directors for the Mississippi Osteopathic Medical Association (MOMA) met last month alongside our Annual Business Meeting and discussed the recent *Medical Misinformation or Disinformation Policy* released from the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (MSBML) in September 2021. The policy can be found on our website for your review.

Our Board of Directors communicated directly with individuals at the MSBML to seek clarification on this policy, as well as reached out to the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to ensure that the language of the policy was consistent with the best interests of our physician members. All avenues of inquiry supported the language of this policy to extend reasonable expectation for all healthcare professionals to follow evidence-based approaches to clinical decisions and patient care, as well as sharing factual information with the public to the best of their ability. There are several supporting articles that can be viewed on our website. The MSBML has since released the following clarification statement:

“The Board is not attempting to stifle or suppress the free speech of anyone and especially that of its licensed medical professionals. The Board’s expectation for licensees is that they will use their education, training, and experience to make the best decisions for the treatment of their patients.”

We appreciate the hard work of the MSBML in ensuring that we maintain high-quality health care in our great state. MOMA is committed to ensuring that our members are aware of any new/relevant information that may be helpful to them as clinicians. We want all MOMA members to be aware of the language of the new policy and please feel free to reach out to us should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

J. Peyton Preece, DO
President

Makayla Merritt, PhD, MPH
Executive Director