



For Immediate Release

Contact Regina Wilson
951.823.7659

February 18, 2015

California Massage Therapy Council Approves New Guidelines for Massage Schools

Los Angeles, CA- The California Massage Therapy Council (CAMTC) voted to implement new policies and procedures for approval of massage schools that will guide the new Educational Standards Division of CAMTC.

“Today, the board struck a balance in strengthening the requirements for schools that train and educate massage therapists, while streamlining reporting and assessing a reasonable application fee,” said Ahmos Netanel CEO, CAMTC.

“We believe this is a step in the right direction to ensure CAMTC closes any loopholes for schools that are not meeting the educational standards for aspiring massage professionals. This action will also help weed out schools that are set up just to sell diplomas and lack educational capacity,” said Netanel.

In order to receive and maintain CAMTC two-year school approval, a massage schools must meet the following criteria:

- Pay a \$750 dollar application fee (good for two years); and
- The school must offer a program clearly identified as a professional massage program that grants certifications, diplomas or a degree in massage; and
- The school must set a minimum of 500 hours of supervised instruction with a minimum 100 hours instruction addressing various subjects specified in law.

The school must also meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Be approved by The California Bureau of Postsecondary Education or Department of Consumer Affairs; or
- Be Accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities or by the Accrediting Commission for Community Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Since its inception, CAMTC has conducted hundreds of undercover investigations at massage schools. These undercover operations have resulted in the un-approval of more than 50 schools to date.

“CAMTC remains committed to protect the public by certifying qualified therapeutic massage professionals and will continue to improve its policies to ensure all approved schools are held to the highest standard set forth by law,” said Netanal.

2008 SB 731(Oropeza) authorized the creation of a nonprofit public benefit corporation known as the California Massage Therapy Council. To date, the Council has successfully implemented a voluntary certification process for massage professionals. CAMTC’s central goal is to protect and maintain public safety for consumers when choosing a massage professional. CAMTC’s ‘enabling law’ completed its first Sunset Review by the legislature. The legislature implemented a new ‘enabling law’ for another two years.

For more information on CAMTC, please visit www.camtc.org

###