

Licensing Division

Staff Report for Combative Sports Advisory Board

October 23, 2020

Personnel Updates

Doreen Garcia last day with the Safety Regulators Team was September 14, 2020.

The Licensing Division has made several adjustments to ensure the work continues. Although, most licensing staff are working from home, there are staff reporting to the office for various duties and this number is adjusted as business needs change, while maintaining safe social distance.

- At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Licensing Division, with the help of our IT division, prepared for most staff to work from home.
- Some staff continued to report to the office daily, while others reported on a rotating shift to ensure that applications and renewals were made available to the staff working remotely
- Managers also report on a rotating schedule and perform COVID-19 screenings of in-office staff
- The Licensing Division, along with other divisions within the agency, has cross trained staff to assist with heavy workloads where needed.

Statistics

Combative Sports Contestant	FY 20	FY 21
New Licenses	206	0
Total Licensed Population	438	380

Combative Sports Judge	FY 20	FY 21
New Licenses	3	0
Renewed Licenses	41	4
Total Licensed Population	50	47

Combative Sports Manager	FY 20	FY 21
New Licenses	7	1
Renewed Licenses	24	0
Total Licensed Population	32	30

Combative Sports Matchmaker	FY 20	FY 21
New Licenses	1	0
Renewed Licenses	7	0
Total Facilities Licensed Population	9	9

Combative Sports Promoter	FY 20	FY 21
New Licenses	6	0
Renewed Licenses	23	0
Total Facilities Licensed Population	33	32

Combative Sports Referee	FY 20	FY 21
New Licenses	4	0
Renewed Licenses	45	2
Total Facilities Licensed Population	50	50

Combative Sports Second	FY 20	FY 21
New Licenses	391	0
Renewed Licenses	0	16
Total Facilities Licensed Population	1,189	1,024

Combative Sports Event Coordinator	FY 20	FY 21
New Licenses	0	0
Renewed Licenses	1	0
Total Facilities Licensed Population	1	1

**Amateur Combative Sports
Association**

FY 20

FY 21

New Licenses

2

1

Renewed Licenses

4

0

Total Facilities Licensed Population

7

7

Enforcement Division

Staff Report for the Combative Sports Advisory Board

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Personnel Updates:

- On February 15, Debbie Hawkins was promoted to Legal Assistant Supervisor. Debbie has worked for TDLR for 8 years as a Legal Assistant in the Enforcement Division.
- On March 1, John Medlock was promoted to Chief Prosecutor. John has worked for TDLR for 7 years, previously serving as a Prosecutor and Senior Prosecutor in the Enforcement Division.
- On May 1, Trevor Theilen was promoted to Senior Prosecutor. Trevor has worked for TDLR for 9 years as a Prosecutor in the Enforcement Division.
- On August 31, Investigations Manager Gregg Dodson retired after 22 years of service with TDLR. Gregg oversaw the Investigations Section within the Enforcement Division, which includes 42 investigators. This position is currently posted on the Department's website, and we hope to conduct interviews soon.
- On August 31, Prosecution Legal Assistant Manager Daryl Kunze retired after 18 years of service with TDLR. Daryl oversaw the Prosecution Legal Assistant Section within the Enforcement Division, which includes 33 legal assistants and administrative assistants. This position is currently posted on the Department's website, and we hope to conduct interviews soon.
- On August 31, Senior Investigator Esmer Arguijo retired after 21 years of service with TDLR. Esmer conducted investigations of cases in the building and mechanical, water well, and property tax programs.
- On October 1, 2020, Jackie Revilla was promoted to Prosecution Legal Assistant Manager. Jackie has worked for TDLR for 18 years, previously serving as a Legal

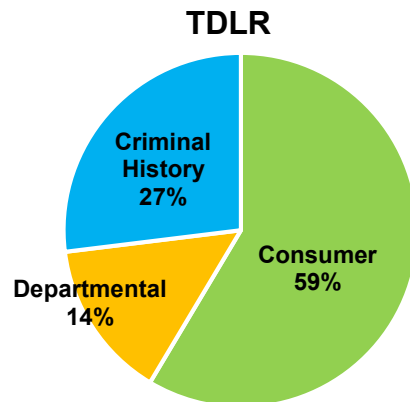
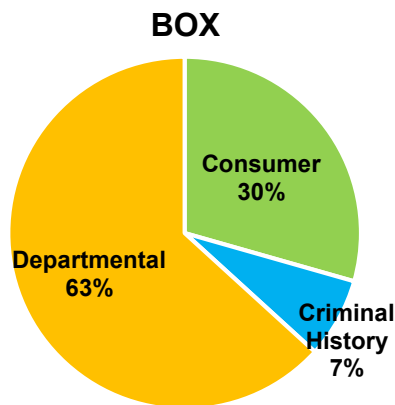
Assistant Supervisor in the Enforcement Division.

Statistics:

Shown below are the Enforcement Performance Measures and key statistics for the Combative Sports (BOX) program and for all TDLR programs combined for **Fiscal Year 2020**:

Performance Measure	BOX	TDLR
Cases opened	68	10,465
Cases closed	73	9,763
Average time to close (days)	267.56	157.58
% of cases resolved within 6 months	46.58%	68.64%
% of cases resulting in disciplinary action	45.21%	13.48%
Cases Pending	55	5,850

Source of Cases Opened Fiscal Year 2020



Case Outcomes	BOX	TDLR
Commission Orders	0	28
Default Orders	18	339
Agreed Orders	15	853
Penalties Assessed	\$46,131.00	\$2,360,451.00
Penalties Collected	\$9,020.00	\$1,296,792.16
Licenses Revoked (Disciplinary)	3	62
Licenses Suspended	1	4
Licenses Denied/Revoked (Criminal History)	0	240
Cease & Desist Orders	0	46
Informally Resolved	40	8,365
Consumer restitution through negotiated settlement	\$649.00	\$183,910.04

**Top 10 BOX Alleged Violations at Opening
for Fiscal Year 2020**

Violation:	Count
Drugs and alcohol	33
Criminal Activity	5
Contestant not licensed 72 hrs before	4
Failed financial responsibility	3
Did not exercise authority	3
Did not provide insurance proof	3
Did not stop contest	2
Acted without a license	2
Failed to pay tax within 72 hours	2
Acted without a license	2

**Top BOX Violations Resulting in Disciplinary Action
for Fiscal Year 2020**

Violation:	Count
Drugs and alcohol	27
Failed financial responsibility	3
Failed to comply with an order	3
Acted without a license	2
Did not fulfill contract	1
Failed financial responsibility	1

Case Highlights

- **Strike League**

On October 1, 2019, and February 10, 2020, two Default Orders were entered against Strike League that assessed a total administrative penalty of \$7,000 and total restitution of \$6,047. The Department cited Strike League for two violations for failure to bear all financial responsibility for an event.

- **TMB & PRB Entertainment**

On April 21, 2020, an Agreed Order was entered against TMB & PRB Entertainment that assessed an administrative penalty of \$375. The Department cited TMB & PRB Entertainment for failure to assure that all contestants scheduled to participate were licensed at least 72 hours before the event.

- **Jonathan Armond Taylor**

On August 19, 2020, a Default Order was entered against Jonathan Armond Taylor that assessed an administrative penalty of \$4,000. The Department cited Jonathan Armond Taylor for two violations for a positive drug test for stimulants.

- **Ramiro Garcia Jr.**

On November 15, 2019, a Default Order was entered against Ramiro Garcia Jr. that revoked his contestant and second licenses and assessed an administrative penalty of \$2,500. The Department cited Ramiro Garcia Jr. for a positive drug test for a cannabinoid (marijuana) and failure to comply with a previous Default Order of the Executive Director.

- **Jason Righteous Norwood**

On June 24, 2020, an Agreed Order was entered against Jason Righteous Norwood that assessed an administrative penalty of \$250. The Department cited Jason Righteous Norwood for failure to inform the Executive Director of the usage of prescribed or over the counter medication at least 24 hours before the event.

Regulatory Program Management Division

Staff Report for the Combative Sports Advisory Board

October 23, 2020

Personnel Updates

Combative sports event specialist personnel remain at eight since our last advisory board meeting. On December 1, 2019, TDLR hired two additional deputy executive directors, David Gonzales, who is over the Licensing Services and Christina Kaiser, who is over the Regulatory Services.

Charlotte Melder is the director for Regulatory Program Management Division and Lee Parham is deputy director.

Statistics

Sep 1, 2018 – Aug 31, 2019

Amateur MMA – 42
Boxing – 83
MMA – 36
Muay Thai – 2

Promoter Meetings

Professional – 16
Amateur – 2

Sep 1, 2019 – Aug 31, 2020

Amateur MMA- 15
Boxing - 25
MMA - 13
Muay Thai - 0

Promoter Meetings.

Professional - 4
Amateur – (2)

Current Projects

- Assisting Texas Accessibility Specialist with Architectural Barriers projects under the system (TABS)
- Assisting Licensing Division, Cosmetology - Processing Licenses
- Assisting Licensing Division, Electricians - Processing Licenses
- We have started accepting applications for combative sports events in the state in preparation for a phased-in reopening with a limited number of events. Events will be able to include spectators, with a cap of 50 percent of the total listed occupancy of the venue.

Event promoters must follow TDLR COVID-19 protocols that were developed with input from the TDLR Combative Sports Advisory Board's Medical, Health, and Safety Workgroup; ringside physicians; and other medical professionals. TDLR's protocols include COVID-19 testing for all athletes, seconds and event support staff.

In addition, promoters must submit their own operational plan to TDLR and to the Texas Department of State Health Services. The operational plan must include how the promoter will perform testing/daily screenings, provide protective equipment and detailed information about floor plans, staffing requirements and cleaning/disinfection of the event venue and athlete delegation housing.

We will monitor factors including positive test rates and hospitalization rates in the area where the event is scheduled. If there's a localized spike in cases, we may have to cancel an event any time up to the beginning of the bouts.

Outreach

- No events have taken place since March 7, 2020
- Combative Sports Staff have been participating in virtual conferences such as 'MMA Scoring' with TDLR staff and combative sports officials along with other state athletic commissions.