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"...ALWAYS WORKING RELENTLESSLY TO PROTECT AND DEFEND OUR CLIENTS' PROFESSIONAL LICENSES."

- TONY R. BERTOLINO, MANAGING PARTNER

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BERTOLINO LLP has been named a 2017 Law Firm 500 Honoree (ranked 149th at 61.76% growth rate) as one of Fastest Growing Law Firms in the United States

Over the past 3-years, our team at BERTOLINO LLP, have been dedicated to providing excellence in customer service resulting in many happy clients. In doing so, our commitment and focus has taken us on a fabulous journey of growth - both personally and for our business.

We are pleased to announce that our law firm has been named a **2017 Law Firm 500 Honoree** awarded to the **fastest growing law firms in the United States**. It began earlier this year when we were nominated for our growth, operational excellence and commitment to client service.



Thank you so much to our loyal clients who have supported us as we have grown.

The **Law Firm 500 Award** is an honor for our firm to receive and a tribute to our

team. Of course, we could not have achieved this truly remarkable accomplishment without our devoted team members: Tony R. Bertolino, Managing Partner; Chris Henderson, Senior Associate; Tyler Cota, Certified Paralegal; London De La Teja, Office Administrator; and Teresa Bressi, Legal Administrator. Each, in their own way, has contributed to making this award possible.

As our firm continues to grow, we encourage you to follow our progress, and stay in touch! You can view the full list of Law Firm 500 Honoree firms here: lawfirm500.com/award-honorees

Texas Medical Board Relaxes Licensing Rules, Out-of-State Doctors Help Hurricane Harvey Victims

In its [Hurricane Harvey Response](#), the Texas Medical Board relaxed its licensing rules for out-of-state providers.

TMB Expedited Temporary Permits for Out-of-State Physicians & Other Practitioners

The TMB is issuing expedited temporary permits for out-of-state physicians assisting with the Hurricane Harvey emergency response. Applications will be reviewed and immediately expedited upon verification of good standing of the out-of-state physician's license.

Submit the [EMERGENCY VISITING PHYSICIAN TEMPORARY PERMIT FORM](#) to: TMBtransition@tmb.state.tx.us. Include "HARVEY" in the procedure section of the form.

Rules for the Temporary Permit

- Applying physicians must be sponsored by a licensed Texas physician. This requirement may be fulfilled by a facility based physician, such as a department director, where the visiting physician will be practicing.
- Applying physicians must be licensed to practice medicine in another jurisdiction and submit to a Criminal History Verification.
- The temporary permit is valid for 30 days.
- There is no charge for the permit.

Non-Physician Providers

Out-of-state non-physician health care providers who are not affiliated with a hospital may apply for an [EMERGENCY VISITING PRACTITIONER TEMPORARY PERMIT](#).

The [Texas Board of Nursing](#) is also issuing temporary licenses for out-of-state nurses. The BON reports that it issued over 600 temporary licenses to out-of-state nurses from August 26th to September 1st.

The [Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists](#) is also issuing emergency temporary licenses to assist Hurricane Harvey victims. In fact, the Red Cross issued a call for mental health care practitioners to help those affected get through the intense crisis. The Red Cross reports that "We received over 5,000 applications

from health and mental health professionals interested in deploying with the Red Cross to support Hurricane Harvey."

Governor Temporarily Suspends TMB Licensing Requirements for Hospital-Affiliated Providers

Texas Governor Greg Abbott temporarily suspends "all necessary statutes and rules to allow health care providers employed by a hospital and licensed and in good standing in another state to practice in Texas in order to assist with the Tropical Depression Harvey disaster response operations."

The temporary suspension of TMB licensing requirements is in accordance with section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, which allows the governor to "suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of a state agency if strict compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster." Tex. Gov't Code § 418.016.

Length of Suspension & Hospital Duties

The suspension is in effect until it is terminated by the Office of the Governor or until the Tropical Depression Harvey disaster declaration is lifted or expires. Hospitals have a duty to submit to the applicable licensing entity the name, provider type, state of license, and license identification number for each out-of-state provider they send. The providers' information can be emailed to: TMBtransition@tmb.state.tx.us.

Providing Services

For information on services that are still needed, please visit:

- [Texas Disaster Volunteer Registry](#)
- [Volunteer Houston](#)
- [TX Gulf Coast Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster \(VOAD\)](#)
- [American Red Cross](#)

Thank you

to the thousands of volunteers who showed up to help Texans during and after Hurricane Harvey. We are moved and grateful for your dedication to help others in need.

Our law firm helps professionals keep their licenses when those licenses are under attack by a state agency or board. In the event that you run into issues with your professional license after serving in Texas, please contact [our firm](#). We practice [professional license defense](#) and we can help you protect your license and career.

[BERTOLINO LLP](#) represents licensed professionals across the entire State of Texas. Our honest, experienced attorneys will fight aggressively on behalf of your license and reputation. [Contact us](#) today or call (800) 210-0126 and schedule a case evaluation.

Get a copy of Tony R. Bertolino's #1 Bestselling book, [When Your License is Under Attack: A Survival Guide for Texas Professionals](#) in hardcover or for Kindle [here](#).

Hallmark Achievements | October 2017

Another Month of Dismissals

Texas Board of Physical Therapy v. J.C.

A Dismissal Secured in the Face of Fraud Allegations

Our Client, a Physical Therapist ("J.C."), was investigated by the Texas Board of Physical Therapy ("Board"), for allegedly committing Medicare fraud, by charging for services not rendered. Through various pre-litigation maneuvers, we obtained documentation and prepared a response, which quickly stifled the complaint, and secured a dismissal. At the earliest possible juncture, our tactful representation freed J.C. up to practice, without a complaint hanging overhead.

Texas Education Agency v. A.S.

A Dismissal Secured in the Face of Inappropriate Conduct Allegation

Our Client, a Teacher ("A.S."), was investigated by the Texas Education Agency ("Agency"), after he was terminated for alleged "inappropriate conduct with students". Through successful performance at a hearing before the Agency, we secured a dismissal.

Bertolino Team Highlights



This has been such a crazy, wonderful time in my husband and I's life. We were blessed earlier this year when we found out we would be expecting a baby boy. I have worked here at Bertolino LLP now for almost four years and have been very career orientated from the start. Our team and I have worked hard together to create an incredible work environment where many would feel right at home. When I found out I was going to be a mom my entire world just brightened. It has been a pleasure to work for a small company that feels more like family than co-workers. Everyone has treated me like the work momma and has been wonderful from the start. I am looking forward to taking a few months off to focus on my sweet boy and getting him settled with his new babysitters, grandma and grandpa. Soon I will be back and ready to continue to expand my career and job here as our office manager. Thanks for all the love and well wishes. We can't wait to introduce him to his new Bertolino Family.

"Our law firm helps professionals, like you, keep their licenses when those licenses are under attack by a state agency or board."

-Tony R. Bertolino, Managing Partner

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