



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### NCBTMB APPOINTS NEW BOARD OFFICERS

*Alexa Zaledonis, Susan Toscano and Ronni Burns to Assume Leadership Roles*

**OAKBROOK TERRACE, Illinois (November 15, 2010)** – The National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCBTMB) elected new officers during its fourth quarter board meeting in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois. Terms for the new officers begin January 1, 2011.

The NCBTMB Board of Directors is made up of nine members, who together supervise and direct the affairs of the national certification programs, as well as the organization's committees and examinations. They also determine NCBTMB policies and procedures. The new board officers are:

Alexa Zaledonis, LMT, CPT, NCTMB, of Annapolis, Maryland will assume the NCBTMB Chair. She is the owner and operator of *Even Keel*, a wellness spa employing eight massage therapists and treating over 3,500 clients annually. A graduate of the Baltimore School of Massage, she passed the National Certification Exam in 2002. Zaledonis is a certified Lotus Palm Thai Yoga Massage practitioner and instructor. She is in the process of completing Yoga RYT 200 training.

Zaledonis also is a former Certified Public Accountant who specialized in healthcare and nonprofits. She graduated with a bachelor's degree from Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, Connecticut. Her term on the NCBTMB Board will end December 31, 2012.

Chair-Elect Susan S. Toscano, NCTMB, of Groton, Connecticut, is an on-site team evaluator for the Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation. She has been a licensed massage therapist for 10 years. Toscano earned a bachelor's degree in Holistic Studies from Norwich University after earning a diploma from the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy.

Susan Toscano has a long history of supporting and serving the NCBTMB. She was first elected to the Board of Directors in 1997, named Treasurer for 1998-1999 and held the position of Chair from 2000-2001. In addition, she was a member of NCBTMB's Strategic Planning Committee from 1999-2001 and served as an NCBTMB School Outreach Coordinator from 2001-2002.

Treasurer Ronni Burns of New York is a professor of communications at the Smith School of Business, University of Maryland and at the Stern School of Business, New York University. Burns served as a senior executive with Citigroup for 17 years, where

her positions included consumer advocate, director of national sales, lobbyist and spokesperson. Burns is the public member of the board.

Burns is a certified professional coach and a communications consultant. She develops and delivers sales, management, ethics and communications courses to major corporations. She earned an undergraduate and graduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a master's degree in communications from the University of Connecticut.

“The election of our officers completes the executive committee, providing oversight for our financial concerns and to all areas of operation and governance,” said current Chair Neal Delaporta. “These accomplished individuals will ensure a smooth transition, lead us into the future and further our efforts to serve the massage and bodywork profession.”

### **ABOUT NCBTMB**

The National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCBTMB) was established in 1992 as an independent, private, nonprofit organization fostering the highest standards of ethical and professional practice in the delivery of therapeutic massage and bodywork through two recognized credentialing programs. NCBTMB examinations are currently accepted or recognized in statute or rule by 39 states plus the District of Columbia. There are nearly 90,000 professionals with NCBTMB certification. NCBTMB's certification programs are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

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