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# TBPG Spring Newsletter 2019

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## **HB 1131 update.**

TBPG's authorizing bill has been passed out of the House of Representatives and out of the Senate. It has now been sent to Governor Abbott for final approval.

## **TBPG's New Executive Director.**

TBPG has hired a new Executive Director. At its Board meeting on February 1, 2019, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Rene D. Truan as TBPG's new Executive Director, effective February 15, 2019. Congratulations, Mr. Truan, and welcome to TBPG! We look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.

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## ***The Chairman's Column***

Hello folks.

I feel exceptionally honored to be elected as the new chair of the TBPG. I want to thank every single PG out there that fought so hard to keep licensure in Texas. Without you, there would be no TBPG. I will try my best to honor your hard work and dedication.

There is no way that I can adequately fill the shoes of our outgoing chair, Dr. Tom Hallmark. He is a kind and thoughtful leader that navigated us through our darkest hour. His service to the profession is unmatched and he will be sorely missed when his time on the board is up. Thank you Tom for your mentorship of me on this board.



In August, our former executive director, Charles Horton, retired just as our fight to keep licensure was beginning. Charles (and the entire staff) did a remarkable job preparing the agency for our sunset review, and I have no doubt that Charles' testimony at our initial hearing was critical to our ultimate success. Thank you Charles for your dedication to this board and your leadership that guided us through not only the sunset review but also our 4-year rules reviews, budget planning, and some rather unusual enforcement actions. I hope that retirement is wearing well on you!

Next, I want to welcome our new Executive Director, Rene Truan. For me personally, I knew Rene was the right hire as soon as his interview began! While many of you have expressed a desire to have a PG in that role (note: none applied), Rene had the skillset necessary to lead this organization: he has extensive experience with the state legislature, long-standing experience at a large state agency, and organization/operational expertise that allows each employee to reach their full potential. He hit the ground running and I have the utmost confidence in his ability to guide this organization for the next 6 years and beyond. I hope you all will join me in welcoming Rene!

I will end this first message by saying that, as we are working to get another 6 years, we have a lot to accomplish in that time. We want to ensure that licensure in Texas continues and we are going to need each and every one of you to help us make that a reality!

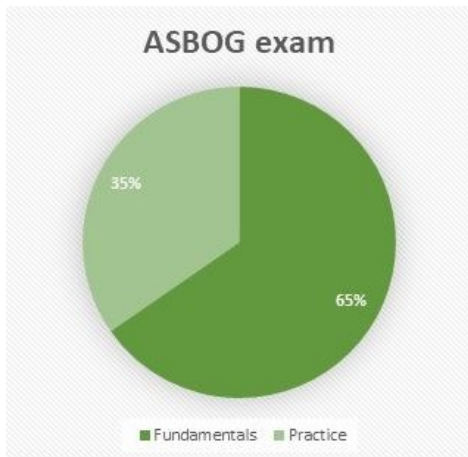
*Becky L. Johnson, P.G.*

Chair, Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists

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## Spring ASBOG examination 2019



Forty-nine (49) individuals sat for the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology exam. Twenty-six (26) sat for the ASBOG Practice of Geology exam. Results of this exam will be received in early May.



TBPG staff proctored the Spring ASBOG examinations on March 15, 2019 at the J.J. Pickle Center, in Austin, Texas. The Fall ASBOG examinations will be held on **October 4, 2019**.

### ***Executive Director's Corner***

It is an honor to serve as TBPG's new Executive Director. I come into this position during a critical time for this Agency and I look forward to working in partnership with our Legislators, Board, License Holders, and the geosciences community to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

Beginning this new journey required an immediate dive into the legislative process to provide information about the work of this agency and the importance of our professional licensing and regulatory responsibilities. I have learned much from the public testimony provided during the legislative committee hearings including supportive testimony from license holders and others from within the geosciences community. I am excited to be a part of this organization to ensure we maintain the highest professional standards and continue to meet our mission of protecting the public through our licensing and regulatory activities.



As I begin my work, I welcome any suggestions you may have to improve our service to this State, our license holders, and to the geosciences community. Additionally, we welcome any ideas or suggestions on information that would be beneficial to include in future newsletters. Please feel free to send any ideas, comments or suggestions to me by e-mail at [rtruan@tbpq.texas.gov](mailto:rtruan@tbpq.texas.gov).

Rene D. Truan  
TBPG Executive Director

## New Opportunity to Volunteer!

### TBPG Advisory Committees

TBPG is looking to establish Advisory Committees to assist with different issues that come before the Board. It is helpful to have input from licensees on issues as they arise, and this is where having Advisory Committees to consult would be really beneficial. Be looking out for additional information about these exciting volunteer opportunities in future e-mails, and agency notices.

### Recent Board Activity

#### February 1, 2019 - Waiver requests approved and denied:

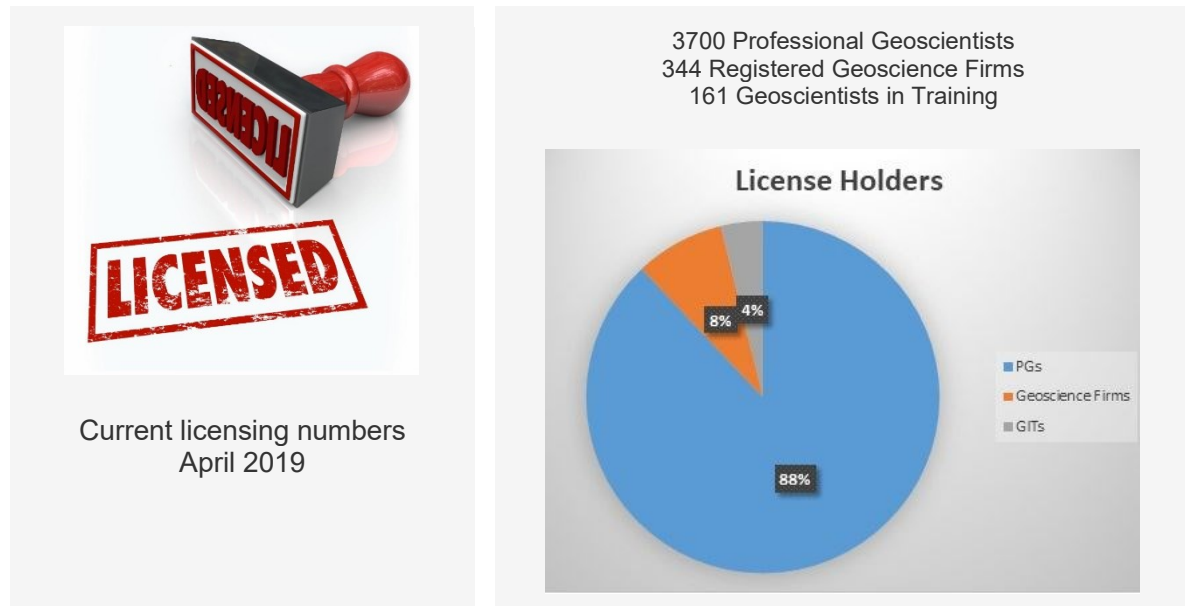
- The Board unanimously granted waivers of a licensing examination requirement for two PG applicants who met the Waiver Policy requirements.
- The Board unanimously granted a waiver of the education requirement for a PG applicant who met the Waiver Policy requirements.
- The Board unanimously denied a request for licensure by reciprocity for one PG applicant whose qualifications did not meet the Licensure by Reciprocity rule requirements.

**Complaints dismissed.** The Board dismissed Complaint #2019001 unanimously in a vote of 8-0, with Member Johnson recused.

**Agreed Board Order adopted.** The Board adopted the Agreed Board Order for Complaint Case No. 2018032 unanimously in a vote of 8-0, with Member Lee recused.

**Proposed Default Order adopted.** The default order for Complaint Case #2018042 was adopted unanimously in a vote of 8-0, with Member Johnson recused.

### Licensing Numbers



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## Upcoming TBPG Meetings

### **August 22, 2019**

9 a.m. Application Review and Continuing Education Committee  
1 p.m. General Issues Committee  
3 p.m. Compliance and Enforcement Committee

### **August 23, 2019**

8 a.m. Financial Review and Strategic Planning Committee  
9 a.m. TBPG Board Meeting

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