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Board of Examiners for Licensure of
Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family
Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists



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Minutes of the South Carolina Board of Examiners for the Licensure of
Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists and Psycho-Educational Specialists

Regular Board Meeting and Hearings for Licensees
October 7, 2014

Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Room 105
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Board members present were:

Danny L. Garnett, LMFT, LPC, D.Min.-President
Robert B. Carter, LMFT
Nikita M. Harrison, LMFT
Jennifer C. L. Jordan, LPC
Ronald H. Reames, M.A.
Jerome Tilghman, LPC
Samer G. Touma, LPC.

Board members absent were:

Margaret "Jill" Duffield, Rev. (excused)

Also present were:

Patricia Glenn, LLR Administrator
Susan Harrington, Board Administrative Assistant
Todd Bond, LLR Investigator – OIE
Zubin Billimoria, LLR Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Phillip Fluor, LLR Investigator – OIE
Mary League, LLR Advice Attorney

BOARD MEETING CALL TO ORDER:

President Garnett stated that Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the office of the South Carolina Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Room 108, at 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC 29210 and provided to any requesting persons, organizations, or news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the 1976 South Carolina Code, as amended, relating to the Freedom of Information Act. President Garnett called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. It was noted that a quorum was present. All votes referenced herein were unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

NOTE: These Minutes are a record of the motions and official actions taken by the Board and a brief summary of the meeting.

AGENDA and APPROVAL OF MINUTES 9:10 a.m.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Touma to approve the October 7, 2014 Agenda and the June 3, 2014, July 10, 2014 and July 24, 2014 Minutes. Mr. Reames seconded the motion. The motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS 9:12 A.M.:

President Garnett welcomed new board members Robert B. Carter, LMFT, Nikita M. Harrison, LMFT, Jennifer C. L. Jordan, LPC, Jerome Tilghman, LPC; and Margaret "Jill" Duffield (absent). He discussed issues which were addressed at the NBCC meeting in August, 2014 and the AMFTRB meeting in September, 2014. Topics included educating licensees regarding proper usage of technology and social media, e-counseling and how to navigate the world of technology.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS:

IRC Report 9:15 a.m.:

Todd Bond, Investigator from Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE), presented the Investigative Review Committee's (IRC) reports concerning disciplinary matters.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Touma to accept the IRC recommendations for Dismissal of cases 2013-23, 2014-2, 2014-3, 2014-9, 2014-10, 2014-16, 2014-18, 2014-25; for Authorization of Formal Complaints for 2013-19, 2014-1, for Dismissal with Letter of Caution for cases 2014-13 & 2014-21; for Cease & Desist, 2013-24 and 2014-4. Dr. Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Todd Bond, Investigator with OIE gave the statistical report from the Office of Investigation and Enforcement cases. The Board accepted this as information.

Zubin Billimoria, LLR Assistant Disciplinary Counsel gave the statistical report from the Office of General Counsel's (OGC) cases. The Board accepted this as information.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION AND FINANCIAL REPORT:

Patti Glenn gave the Administrative Report and the Financial Report of the Board. She gave statistical reports as handouts regarding the name and number of newly licensed LPCs/LMFTs/LPES.. Mrs. Glenn noted the OIE, OGC reports and other licensure information.

She discussed the up-coming national meetings of interest.

REPORTS OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

President Garnett called for the ratification of the electronic reports of the Standards Committees and Continuing Education Committee beginning on July 1, 2014 through October 1, 2014. It was reported that the records are electronically maintained for the following categories:

Recommended for Licensure as a Professional Counselor Intern;
Recommended for Extension of LPC Intern Licensure Status for 2 years;
Recommended for Transfer from LPC-Intern to Professional Counselor;
Recommended for Licensure as a Professional Counselor by Endorsement;
Recommended for Licensure as Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor;

Recommended for Licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapy Intern;
Recommended for an Extension of LMFT Intern Licensure Status for 2 years;
Recommended for Transfer from LMFT/Intern to LMFT;
Recommended for Licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist by Endorsement;
Recommended for Licensure as Marriage and Family Supervisor (LMFT/S);

Recommended for Licensure as Licensed Psycho-Educational Specialist;
Recommended for Licensure as a Licensed Psycho-Educational Specialist by Endorsement;

Recommended for Reinstatement of Licensure or Re-application (all license types);

Approval of One-Time Continuing Education Providership;
Approval of Permanent Continuing Education Providership

Motion: A motion was made by to ratify the reports by Dr. Touma and seconded by Mr. Reames. The motion passed.

REQUEST TO CHANGE NPDB “BASIS FOR ACTION” CODE

OIE #2012-27- Licensee requested that the board amend the selection in the drop down menu of the report to National Practitioner Data Bank from “sexual misconduct” to “non-sexual dual relationship or boundary violation.” On a motion from Dr. Jordan, seconded by Ms. Harrison, the Board voted to reject the request to amend the selection.

APPEARANCES:

Petition for Reinstatement

OIE #2013-8 Licensee petitioned the Board for Reinstatement. On a motion from Dr. Touma, seconded by Mr. Carter, the Board voted to accept the proposal for reinstatement as long as she continues in treatment with therapist and psychiatrist who must send progress reports to the Board every six months. See Order.

REVIEW OF E-THERAPY GUIDELINES AND DISTANCE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

The Board reviewed the E-Therapy Guidelines provided by President Garnett. The Board discussed and will review again at the next board meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

It was announced the next meetings of the South Carolina Board of Examiners for the Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists will be held April 7, 2015 in Room 105 and October 6, 2015 in Room 105.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM. on a motion from Dr. Jordan and seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Administrator
Patricia F. Glenn