

TENNESSEE BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN PSYCHOLOGY

DATE: September 15, 2016

TIME: 9:00 a.m., CDT

LOCATION: Health Related Boards
Iris Room
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37243

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Janice Pazar, Ph.D., Chair
David C. Mathis, Ed.D.
Connie Mazza, SPE
Timothy Urbin, Ph.D.
Rebecca Joslin, Ed.D., Ph.D.
Hugh D. Moore, Ph.D.
H. R. Anderson, Jr., SPE
Annette Little, Ph.D., BCBA-D

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Jennifer Winfree, Consumer Member

STAFF

PRESENT: Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director
James Hill, Board Administrator
Paetria Morgan, Office of General Counsel

Dr. Pazar, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

The Board welcomed Connie Mazza, SPE and H. R. Anderson, Jr., SPE to the Board.

Minutes

Upon review of the June 16, 2016 minutes, Dr. Urban made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mathis, to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

Office of General Counsel

Ms. Morgan stated there are no consent orders, agreed orders or pending legislation to present at the meeting.

Ms. Morgan said there is one (1) open case in OGC which is currently scheduled to be heard at the December meeting. Ms. Morgan reminded Dr. Little, Dr. Joslin and Dr. Moore that they must recuse themselves from the proceedings as they participated on the Screening Panel for the complaint.

Ms. Morgan reviewed the conflict of interest policy with the Board.

Ms. Morgan said the Tele-Psychology rules are still in the review process and the Applied Behavior Analyst Committee rules are still in the Attorney General's Office.

Ms. Morgan presented a Petition for Order of Compliance for **Derek R. Hopko, Ph.D.**, to lift his suspension and place his license on probation, as he has complied with the stipulations of the order. Upon review, Dr. Little made a motion, seconded by Dr. Joslin, to approve the Order of Compliance. The motion carried.

Investigative Report

Ms. Dorroh said there are nineteen (19) complaints against Psychologists and no complaints against Psychological Examiners or Certified Psychological Assistants in Investigations.

Ms. Dorroh reviewed the list of currently monitored practitioners with the Board.

Administrative Report

Mr. Hill stated as of September 13, 2016 there are currently 1,397 licensed Psychologists, 423 licensed Psychological Examiners/Senior Psychological Examiners and 46 licensed Certified Psychological Assistants.

Mr. Hill said there are currently 58 Psychologists applications in process, 27 newly licensed, 161 renewals with 112 renewing online for a percentage of 70%. Mr. Hill said 5 retired, 11 expired and 1 reinstated their licenses.

Mr. Hill said there are currently no applications, or newly licensed, Psychological Examiners/Senior Psychological Examiners, 45 renewals with 21 renewing on line for a percentage of 47%. Mr. Hill said 2 retired, 7 expired and 1 reinstated their license.

Mr. Hill said there are currently no Certified Psychological Assistant applications, 1 newly licensed, 5 renewed with 4 renewing online for a percentage of 80%. Mr. Hill said 2 retired their licenses.

Mr. Hill asked the new Board members to review and sign the Conflict of Interest Policy and asked all Board members to sign their travel and per diem claims.

Mr. Hill stated the next scheduled Board Meeting is December 8, 2016 and the following dates have been scheduled for 2017:

- March 16, 2017
- June 15, 2017
- September 14, 2017
- December 7, 2017

Mr. Hill reviewed the summary of newly licensed, renewed, retired, expired and reinstated practitioners over the last five years as requested by Dr. Mathis at the last meeting.

Discuss and Ratify/Deny Newly Licensed and Reinstated

Newly Licensed

Dr. Urban made a motion, seconded by Dr. Joslin to ratify the following newly licensed Psychologists and Certified Psychological Assistant:

Psychologists

- Lisa Marie Asbill**
- Megan L. Avery**
- Rheanna N. Ata**
- Arianna Boddy**
- Sara K. Bridges**
- Hilary Duckworth**
- Angelica R. Eddington**
- Kimberly N. Fleming**
- Roneferiti Maishia Fowler**
- Daniel I. Goldstein**
- Judiann McNiff Jones**
- Danielle King**
- Dustin E. Lamport**
- William B. Little, Jr.**

- Christopher A. Love**
- Jesse D. Malott**
- Patrick Joseph Michaels**
- Joseph Brooks Minifie**
- Danielle Mizell**
- Chelsey M. Morrison**
- Charles E. Rudolph**
- Michael D. Shapiro**
- Karen E. Stewart**
- Heather B. Tahler**
- Rita Eileen Todd**
- Karen M. Toman**
- Heather Kay Wadeson**

Psychological Examiner

- Rachel N. Gunn**

The motion carried.

Reinstated

Dr. Mathis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Urban, to ratify the following reinstated Psychologists and Psychological Examiner:

Psychologist

Sam B. Hester

Psychological Examiner

Laura Catherine Hacker

The motion carried.

Tennessee Colleague Assistance Foundation

Brian M. Wind, Ph.D., Tennessee Colleague Assistance Foundation Executive Director stated that TCAF has continued with a steady number of referrals and inquiries. Dr. Wind stated they have six (6) active contracts and six (6) cases pending.

Dr. Wind said they met with the Licensed Professional Counselors Board regarding a possible contract with TCAF. Dr. Wind said they have taken five (5) referral cases from the Board as a pilot study and discussed the possibility of establishing a formal relationship. Dr. Wind said the LPC Board is considering a Request for Proposal. Dr. Wind stated they are working well within their budget and asked the Board to contact him with any questions. Dr. Mathis asked which professions the LPC Board licensed. Dr. Wind said the Board's professions include Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marital and Family Therapists and Licensed Pastoral Therapists. Ms. Wilkins said the LPC Board's methodology is different from Psychology and the RFP process is long. Upon discussion, the Board thanked Dr. Wind for his report.

Dr. Wind said he was here to advocate for **Laura Catherine Hacker** and was informed that the Board lifted the suspension on Ms. Hacker's license at the June 11, 2015 meeting. Mr. Hill stated the Board approved the reinstatement of Ms. Hacker's Psychological Examiner license earlier in the meeting.

Tennessee Psychological Association

Dr. Frank Edwards, TPA representative, stated the membership in TPA has decreased over the past five years. Dr. Edwards said in 2000 there were over 600 members and this year there is a little over 400 members. Dr. Mathis said he discussed this with other practitioners and it appeared the newer practitioners are not getting involved with the associations. Dr. Mathis said it is regrettable and wished TPA could promote the association on ethics and professional standards.

Dr. Edwards read a letter from TPA regarding feedback and questions they have circulated among the professional community concerning the ethics and jurisprudence exam. Dr. Edwards said the concerns generally involve the content and scoring of the exam and the process in which it is administered. Dr. Edwards said through informal communication they learned the Board had reviewed the content of the ethics and jurisprudence exam in recent years with a focus on ensuring that the exam questions were adequate for entering into the profession.

Ms. Wilkins stated that the Administrative Office is not in receipt of the letter and would like a copy to send to Board members. Ms. Wilkins said they were not aware of any problems with proctoring the exam although there had been a very few human errors in grading the exam. Ms. Wilkins said she has the results of the exam reviewed by a Task Force in 2013; however, the findings could not be discussed in a public domain. Ms. Wilkins said the questions and answers sheet show a reference to the statute and rules from which they were obtained. Dr. Pazar thanked Dr. Edwards for reading the letter and stated a discussion of the ethics and jurisprudence exam is on the agenda.

Dr. Moore asked if Tennessee is following a nationwide trend in the number of members in the Psychological Associations. Dr. Edwards said yes, it's a nationwide trend in the number of members.

Applicant File Review

Dr. Pazar said they have three (3) files to review and need to be clear on the requirements for education, training and experience.

Ms. Wilkins stated the rules and regulations for psychology are divided in several sections and there are general and specific rules for psychologists, psychological examiners and certified psychological assistants.

Dr. Pazar said two (2) files are from applicants from California which has different requirements from Tennessee. Dr. Pazar encouraged all applicants to review the requirements in Tennessee when making application. Dr. Pazar said Rule 1180-02-.02.(1)(a) requires documentation of a doctoral degree from an education program listed in the latest edition of "Designated Doctoral Programs in Psychology" compiled jointly by ASPPB and CNRHSP. Dr. Pazar said for HSP designation only ASPPB/CNRHSP designated programs in clinical counseling, school psychology, or professional programs combining the above three areas will meet the academic requirements. Dr. Pazar stated that Tennessee is very specific on when and how the hours are obtained. Dr. Pazar further stated that no less than 1900 hours in psychology can be obtained at a site where health services are provided and is part of an organized, integrated training program.

The Board reviewed the application of **Nancy Farris, Ph.D.** for licensure as Psychologists, who is present at today's meeting. Dr. Farris stated she obtained 1500 hours of predoctoral hours and 1500 postdoctoral hours, and a 750 hour practicum to meet the CPM accrediting body. Dr. Farris stated she has been licensed in California for twenty-five (25) years and is currently licensed in both California and South Carolina and plan to practice out of a small office in Tennessee. The Board informed Dr. Farris that in order to practice privately she must have a

Health Service Provider designation. Ms. Morgan said T.C.A. §63-11-208(d)(1)(a) gives the Board some discretionary authority in considering internship hours. Dr. Mathis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to accept Dr. Farris' application and internship as being equivalent to licensure as a Psychologist/HSP in Tennessee. The Board determined that a roll call vote was needed. Upon conclusion of the review of Dr. Farris' application, a roll call vote was conducted and Dr. Farris' application for licensure was denied. Dr. Farris' requested that her application for licensure be withdrawn and she be refunded all refundable fees. The Board approved her request.

Dr. Edwards stated that Tennessee is listed as a state that accepts reciprocity. Dr. Edwards said the applicant is licensed in two (2) states and the Board denied her licensure without considering reciprocity. Dr. Edwards said the rules need to be changed because that is false advertisement and asked the board to consider intent and competency.

Dr. Urbin said when he came from Illinois to Tennessee through reciprocity the requirements had to be equivalent. Dr. Urbin said South Carolina requires a much lower number of postdoctoral and pre-doctoral hours.

Dr. Mathis said Rule 1180-02-03(12)(b) requires the applicant to submit supporting documents and proof of a qualifying doctoral program, a qualifying internship and supervised postdoctoral experience if application is made for designation as a health service provider. Dr. Mathis said 1180-2-.03(12)(g) states that no applicant for licensure by reciprocity with HSP designation be approved without successful completion of the qualifying internship. Dr. Mathis said there is reciprocity but the question is whether or not their internship program qualifies. Ms. Wilkins stated that exam scores from other states are accepted for reciprocity. Ms. Wilkins stated that the LPC Board has reciprocity between Tennessee and Kentucky through a reciprocal agreement between the two states and the ASPPB is trying to get a compact license with surrounding Tennessee states.

The board revisited Dr. Farris' situation. Upon discussion, the Board asked Mr. Hill to send Dr. Farris a letter requesting documentation that her internship was an APA approved program and three (3) letters of reference from Psychologists with HSP designation or equivalent if from another state. Dr. Mathis said Dr. Farris' internship requirement was met as the hours were APA approved. Dr. Pazar said that wasn't an issue with her application as she began her practicum two (2) years prior to obtaining her degree.

The Board reviewed an application from **Michelle Cooper, Ph.D.** for a provisional licensure to sit for the Ethics and Jurisprudence examination. Dr. Cooper is not present at today's meeting. Upon review, Dr. Mathis made a motion, seconded by Dr. Urbin, to approve Dr. Cooper's application pending verification that she has met the 1900 predoctoral hours from the University of Minnesota. The motion carried.

The Board reviewed an application from **Cherie Carrera, Ph.D.** for licensure as a Psychologists HSP who is present at today's meeting. Dr. Carrera stated she knows she has an unorthodox application package and is at the meeting to answer any questions the Board may have. Dr. Carrera said she attended Pepperdine for her master's degree. Dr. Carrera said Pepperdine only

had twelve (12) spots in the Ph.D. program and was geared for research. Dr. Carrera said one of her favorite teachers, Dr. Goltra, decided to open a school to offer an APA approved postdoctoral program. Dr. Carrera said she transferred to Dr. Goltra's school; however, prior to receiving APA approval, Dr. Goltra passed away and the school closed. Dr. Carrera stated California requires 1500 predoctoral hours and 1500 post-doctoral hours and she was able to begin her internship hours while she was still taking courses. Dr. Carrera stated there were three (3) faculty members at the facility. Upon discussion, Dr. Carrera decided to withdraw her application for licensure and requested a refund of all refundable fees.

Agreed Citations

The Board reviewed the Agreed Citation for **Mary Arnold, Ph.D. /HSP** for failure to obtain two (2) of the required three (3) hours in Ethics. Mr. Hill stated that Dr. Arnold signed and returned the Agreed Citation with the \$100 fine and must complete the two (2) hours within sixty days. Dr. Urbin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mathis, to approve the Agreed Citation. The motion carried.

Discuss Ethics and Jurisprudence Examination

Dr. Pazar said the administrative staff asked the Board to discuss the Ethics and Jurisprudence examination. Ms. Wilkins stated that some of the issues they have with the exam is that the questions are pretty straightforward; however, the applicants taking the exam tend to greatly over think the questions. Ms. Wilkins said one of the instructions is to indicate the correct answer by circling true/false, A, B, C or D and is comprised of multiple choice as well as true/false questions. Ms. Wilkins said in order for the true/false item to be correctly classified the statement must be true/false in its entirety. Ms. Wilkins said applicants are over thinking that particular instruction. Ms. Wilkins stated the exam is open book but not sent out with the application or located online and asked if the applicant could sign an affidavit stating they have not discussed the exam with other colleagues or applicants. Ms. Morgan said the applicant could sign the affidavit and still discuss it with other colleagues or applicants. Ms. Morgan said you could combat that by having multiple exams. Dr. Moore said when you get into a multitude of exams you could get into test reliability and validity and doesn't think the Board wants to do that. Dr. Pazar said other states are beginning to utilize online exams and asked if that could be considered. Ms. Wilkins said Ohio has an online computerized exam which allows the applicant to answer the question until they answer it correctly. Ms. Wilkins said it's a learning experience instead of just a rating. Ms. Wilkins stated the Dental Board is trying to procure an online exam which will be a pilot for all Boards. Dr. Pazar said the open book is to assure applicants review the rules and statutes. Dr. Mathis said the Board wants to do everything they can to have a good process. Dr. Pazar asked if it would be appropriate for two (2) Board members to create a survey to obtain formal feedback from applicants who have taken the exam. Ms. Wilkins said there are 28 true/false questions and 22 multiple choice questions for a total of 50 questions. Dr. Pazar asked the administrative staff to obtain the rate of pass/fail for the past five years. Ms. Morgan said they need more data on how to proceed and conduct a formal survey. Ms. Wilkins suggested the Board come up with a short questionnaire. Upon discussion, the Board tabled the Ethics and Jurisprudence examination and the letter from the Tennessee Psychological Association until the December 8, 2016 meeting.

With no other Board business to discuss Dr. Urbin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Little, to adjourn at 1:05 p.m. The motion carried.

Ratified by the Board of Examiners in Psychology on December 8, 2016