STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
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MEMORANDUM

DATE	August 3, 2015
TO	Board Members
FROM	Karen Johnson Licensing Coordinator Karen Johnson
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item 24(b) – Closed Session** **Agenda Item 25(g)** Request from A.F.D. for an Extension of the 30-consective Month Requirement to Accrue 1500 hours of Post-Doctoral Supervised Experience Pursuant to Section 1387(a) of the California Code of Regulations

Attached is A.F.D. request for an extension of the 30-consecutive month requirement to accrue post-doctoral hours of supervised professional experience (SPE).

Section 1387(a) of the CCR states the following:
(a) Pursuant to section 2914(c) of the Business and Professions Code, two years of qualifying SPE shall be completed and documented prior to licensure. One year of SPE shall be defined as 1500 hours. At least one year of SPE shall be completed postdoctorally. Each year of SPE shall be completed within a thirty (30) consecutive month period. If both years of SPE (3000 hours) are completed postdoctorally, they shall be completed within a sixty (60) month period. Upon showing of good cause as determined by the board, these specified time limitations may be reasonably modified.

A.F.D accrued 644 hours of qualifying post-doctoral supervised experience from 12/12/12 to 1/23/14. A.F.D will need to earn an additional 856 hours meet the minimum 1500 hours of post-doctoral SPE required for licensure.

<u>Action</u>

The Board must decide to either grant or deny an extension of time for A.F.D. to earn the remaining 856 post-doctoral hours of SPE.

14 June 2015

CA Board of Psychology
1625 North Market Blvd; Suite N-215
Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Board Member(s):

I am writing to submit a formal request for an extension to the time allowed to earn the required 1500 hours of supervised post-doctoral experience. Several major life events have occurred in the past two years, which have prevented me from earning my hours within the required timeframe of 30 consecutive months.

In May 2013, I took a leave of absence from my psych assistant positions after my father was diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer, and I temporarily relocated to Kentucky to be with him and to assist my mother in caring for him. My mother has her own chronic medical issues and because I am an only child, there were no other family members who could provide assistance to my parents. Due to my father's rapidly declining health, in September 2013, I married my partner of several years and became pregnant—in hopes that my father could participate in my wedding, have time to form a relationship with my husband, and also so that he could have the opportunity to see at least one of his grandchildren. Unfortunately, my father died on December 23rd, 2013.

In January 2014, I returned to my home in Los Angeles, and then gave birth to my son on March 25th, 2014. Shortly after my son was born, my husband and I began having marital problems. We began couples' therapy but his verbally and emotionally abusive behavior continued to escalate. Then in June 2014, my son and I left LA to visit my mother in Kentucky, and during our visit my husband packed my furniture, clothing, and personal belongings and moved everything into storage in Kentucky. This action was both against my will or my knowledge. He then returned to LA, leaving my son and I with no home or financial support. Because my son was a young infant, I decided it would be best to remain with him at my mother's home in KY temporarily, rather than immediately attempt to return back to Los Angeles under the circumstances. Because KY law states that you must be physically present in the state for 180 days before being considered as a resident, I was unable to legally file for divorce until January 2015.

In February 2015, I lost another close family member. My cousin, who was 9 months older and was like a brother to me, died suddenly in a tragic accident in San Francisco where he fell from the window of a 6th floor apartment. His death has also had a significant impact on me, as we were raised together as children and have remained in frequent contact throughout our lives.

Since May 2013, I have experienced multiple stressful life events, one after another. I have been seeing a therapist to process the emotions related to the series of events, and feel empowered by the personal growth that has occurred. With the exception of unresolved property issues—which will likely be settled this week, my divorce is now final. I am in the process of returning to Los Angeles to finish earning my post-doctoral hours and then finally become licensed. And now that my son is a toddler and is more independent, I am ready to resume focus on my career goals, and am currently applying for post-doc fellowships and psych assistantships in LA.

Please let me know if more detailed information is needed about any of the aforementioned events, and the next steps I should take to seek approval for this request. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,