\*\*\*\* The California Department of Consumer Affairs, Board of Psychology Newsletter \*\*\*\*

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## **President's Message**



Lea Tate, Psy. D., President, Board of Psychology
Greetings!

Summer is here and so are the heat waves! I hope that everyone is staying safe and cool during these hot months. California is known for having the most fun in the sun and we are definitely living up to our reputation this year.

Exciting news! The new Continuing Professional Development (CPD) regulations have been adopted and go into effect on January 1, 2023. Changes include different options you may utilize to meet your CPD requirements and hourly requirement modifications. The advisory on this regulatory change is available at <a href="https://www.psychology.ca.gov/laws\_regs/cpd\_reg\_advisory.shtml">www.psychology.ca.gov/laws\_regs/cpd\_reg\_advisory.shtml</a>.

The staff at the Board of Psychology has been busy. They have been diligently working to maintain full staffing, offering overtime, and cross-training in the hope of decreasing wait times for staff email and phone response times in licensing. It is no secret we have been understaffed for some time, but we continue to recruit new staff as quickly as possible.

As a gentle reminder, please don't forget self-care! Make time for breaks, spending time with friends and family, vacations, meditation, massages, hobbies, exercise, and any other restorative practices that helps you regain equilibrium. I am 100% guilty of pushing my physical and emotional self during stressful times. Our profession has been through a lot the past several years, so please make time for yourself.

The next Board of Psychology board meeting is planned for November 17–18 in Sacramento. We are looking forward to meeting in-person again!

-Lea





### **Staff Spotlight**

By Jason Glasspiegel, Central Services Manager, Board of Psychology



Diana Brown Central Services Technician

After 23 years of state service (22 with the Board of Psychology), Diana Brown has decided to retire. For those who don't know, if you have emailed or called the Board

in the last 10 years, odds are you communicated with Diana.

She began her career with the state in 1998, working for the Department of Consumer Affairs' (DCA) Consumer Information Center. In 2000, she joined the Board, when one of her first assignments was to assist with the planning and execution of the Board's last two oral examinations.

In addition to her customer service roles, Diana has had many responsibilities, including organizing and managing Board meetings and Board member relations, completing all purchasing and contracts for services, and various HR and training management duties. In addition to being the Board's point of contact for the state's annual United Way campaign, Diana has been an active member of the staff-created Spirit and Wellness committees.

The Board thanks Diana for her years of dedicated service, and hopes her days are now filled with her favorite activities, which include camping, swimming, fishing, watching scary movies, and spending time with her fiancé (whom she plans to marry after her retirement), her two children, and her five grandchildren.



## **Finding Sanctuary in Nature**

By Shacunda Rodgers, Ph.D., Board Member



Confession: I am a country girl at heart. Although I have called California home for the last 19 years, I was born and raised primarily in Alabama. While I grew up in one of the more "progressive" cities in the state, my parents, grandparents, and great grandparents all hailed from

small, adjacent rural areas that, as of 2020, had a population count of 175 and 1,376. When I say these are small towns, these are small towns.

Every July since moving to California, I would return to Alabama for two weeks to celebrate my maternal grandmother's birthday, and spend time with my extended family and friends. My favorite part of returning home was spending time on my grandma's front porch at the home she and my grandfather built from the ground up. Although she'd left this area for many years before for work, she eventually returned when she retired. Upon returning to her country home, I'd sit on the porch day in and day out, talking and laughing with my family, watching my uncle grill underneath the sprawling magnolia tree, waving at the handful of passersby in their cars, yacking it up with some of the neighbors who would drive up to sit a spell with us, or sitting quietly, saying nothing at alljust resting in the silence.

Coming out to sit on the porch after breakfast in the morning, I would sit and breathe in the cool, fresh air, marveling at how still and calm the world felt. Cradled in the deepness of the countryside, I was literally unable to move from my spot on the porch for more than a few minutes here and there, and that was only to quickly grab a bite to eat. So, I'd fix my plate and return right back to the porch to eat and soak in all that nature had to give. It's like being wrapped in a warm blanket that you never want to get out of. And then, I'd sit . . . and sit . . . and sit . . . until night fell, and, because the streetlights are so few and far between, it's nearly pitch black, and all you can see

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are the lightning bugs (I think Californians call them fireflies) that flash occasionally to offer a tiny glimmer of light. That, and the crickets chirping, is all that's going on as you get ready to prepare for a night's rest.

Looking back, I recall how much I hated going to my grandma's country home as a young girl because "there's nothing to do here!" Despite my protests, somehow I always ended up there (and probably sulked my way through the entire dreadful time). Luckily, I eventually grew out of that, and going to this special place for two weeks every July became the highlight of my summer, especially once I moved away. The porch and all the nature that surrounds it is like a dream—except it's real, and I couldn't be more grateful for the sanctuary it offered.

This year, I was elated to return home for the first time since 2019, as the pandemic brought just about everyone's travel to a halt in 2020 and 2021. Unfortunately, due to a number of unforeseen circumstances, my family and I had to cancel the trip at the last minute. Although deeply disappointed, we decided to travel locally. My only requirement was to be somewhere surrounded by trees. We landed fairly close to home: north Lake Tahoe.

During our time there, I was struck by how immediately my whole body, heart, and mind settled once I planted my feet on the Earth, breathed in the clean, crisp air, felt the slight breeze on my skin,

and saw the trees swaying gently in the wind. There, rooted in the middle of nature, my nervous system and spirit seemed to whisper a soft and appreciative, "Thank you." My heart was so full of gratitude for the nourishment and sustenance I gained from the peace and serenity of being immersed in nature, and I have been trying to hold on to that feeling of ease since returning to the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

As psychologists, we know about the enormous health benefits of being in nature, such as lowering blood pressure and heart rate. In the work we do, we may have even recommended being in nature to some of the clients we serve. Yet, I know for myself, I don't connect with nature nearly as much as I would like. Also, many of us live such busy lives in cities, and accessing nature in a broader sense is not always something that's at our fingertips. Under these circumstances, I am reminded of the phrase, "Bloom where you are planted."

So, the question becomes, "How can we access nature, right here, right now?" Nature, of course, is all around us, although we may be so preoccupied with our daily tasks and responsibilities that we miss it. The simple reminder to "stop and smell the roses" is a literal call to action—to wake up to our lives, take ourselves off autopilot, and attend to—and really savor—all that this beautiful world has to offer. When was the last time you paused to look up at the sky, to see the shapes of the clouds (with wonder, like we did

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when we were children), to hear the birds chirping, to pay attention to the scent of freshly cut grass, to notice a butterfly passing through, to recognize the intricate pattern of a spider web, or even look with wonder at the stars in the night's sky? Perhaps when you are eating, you can pause and ponder the notion that the fruits and vegetables on your plate once grew on someone's farm, and that it took soil, water, and sunlight to create what's on the table before you. Nature is everywhere.

Once we returned home from North Lake Tahoe, I was reminded of the book, *Finding Refuge: aHeart Work for Healing Collective Grief*, by Michelle Cassandra Johnson, which is filled with many beautiful meditation practices. There is one in particular that focuses on connecting with the healing aspects of nature, and I would love to offer this as a practice for you to incorporate in your own life. May you find it beneficial. She writes:

### Connecting with Your Heart's Wisdom:

For this practice, I suggest you go outside. You can go out into your yard, a favorite park or mountain, a garden, or whatever space in the natural world feels nurturing to you. You will need space to move in some way, be it walking, sitting and swaying, standing, or stretching.

Once you have found your space, take a moment to settle into it. I invite you to notice the space you've chosen. Observe the colors, weather, flowers, trees, grass, clovers, stream, animals, and insects. Take stock of what is present in the environment you've chosen for this practice.

As you notice and observe the natural world, notice your breath. Inhale and exhale.

Breathe here and be in communion with the natural world as a way of coming back to your heart's wisdom, true nature, and intuition.

See if you can synchronize your breath with some part of the natural environment. Can you inhale and exhale with the wind? Is it possible to inhale and exhale with the flow of the stream? Perhaps you can synchronize your breath with the animals, insects, or other energies around you. Take a few breaths.

Now I invite you to move, walk, sit and stretch, stand and stretch, kneel on the earth, walk barefoot on the earth—whatever movement your breath and

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consciousness are guiding you to engage in. Take at least five minutes to move intuitively in your body. Just let the breath and your connection with the earth allow you to move.

After five minutes, find stillness and either take a moment to connect to your heart, or place your right hand on your heart and your left hand on your right. Take a moment to check in with your heart's wisdom and with your nervous system. What does your heart have to share with you?

Connect with your heart's wisdom as a way of connecting with your intuition, allowing it to assist you in governing your life from a place of deep wisdom and knowing. Stay here for as long as you would like, taking the time to be in the natural world and connect with your heart's wisdom." (pp. 81-82)

Allowing myself to be connected to practices like this helps me to hold on to the feelings that I normally get from immersing myself in nature, and has been a saving grace for me during my lengthy absence from the porch. My hope is that you will be able

to find some nourishment and sustenance from a mindfulness practice that incorporates nature as well. In the meantime, until the next newsletter, I'll end with the following well-wishes:

- May the beauty and serenity of nature nourish your mind, body, and heart continuously.
- May nature remind you of the connectedness between all things.
- May you find peace in one element of nature each day.
- May you feel supported by the Earth beneath your feet.
- May you feel calmed by a gentle breeze at your back.
- May you be warmed by the sun by day, and may your path be illuminated by the moon at night.

May you be well in spirit until we connect again.





# News You Can Use from the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB)

## **Guidelines for Closing a Psychology Practice**

By Jacqueline Horn, Ph.D., ASPPB Director of Regulatory Affairs

At some point, every psychologist who practices independently will have to consider closing their practice. The psychologist may be faced with a number of legal, ethical, emotional, and personal challenges, very different from those experienced when they started practicing. In 2017, both the American (APA) and Canadian (CPA) Psychological Associations, in their codes of ethics, identified several ethical considerations related to closing a practice. Additionally, several psychology licensing boards also provided guidance to their licensees about how to close a practice.

In 2020, the APA Center for Workforce Studies found that many psychologists in the U.S. were over age 50, and, as we have read, the psychologist populationin California is also "graying." With all the above in mind, ASPPB developed the Guidelines for Closing a Psychology Practice in response to requests from member jurisdictions to offer consistent guidance to psychologists about how to close a practice in an ethical, legal, and professional way.

The ASPPB Guidelines for Closing a Psychology Practice is a step-by-step guide for psychologists considering closing their practice, and can be accessed at www.asppb.net/resource/resmgr/guidelines/asppb\_guidelines\_for\_closing.pdf. Please take some time to read the guidelines, print and save a copy of them, and refer to them when you're deciding how to close your practice. Everything you'll need to consider is in that document, whether practice closure will happen soon or at some undetermined time in the future.



# **Licensed Mental Health Services Provider Education Program Recipient Profile**



I am Dr. Stephanie
Williams, and I am a
2019 Licensed Mental
Health Services Provider
Education Program
award recipient. When
I applied for the award,
I was working at Santa
Clara County Jail as
a psychologist. Since
obtaining the award, I
have also been employed

as the community program director at the South Bay Conditional Release program and recently as the clinical director at Integrated Psychological Assessment Services. My early exposure to systemic racism significantly contributed to my desire to pursue a career in mental health, to treat people who were involved in the justice system while simultaneously working alongside the legal system to demystify mental illness. This award allowed me the flexibility to seek out, create, and volunteer with organizations that have a passion for treating the mental health needs of the BIPOC, LGBTQ, and other marginalized gender communities.

Since the onset of the pandemic, I have seen the BIPOC community significantly impacted by the lack of available mental health providers that accept insurance. The lack of accessible mental health treatment and the long waitlists have all but devastated the vast amount of people who are unable to afford out of pocket treatment. This award has allowed me to service this unique and large subset of the community by reducing some of my worry about loan repayment. Like many people in the health profession, I am saddled with crippling loan debt. However, this award has afforded me the ability to follow my dreams while not placing my family at financial risk.







## Checking License and Renewal Information

By Carmen Harp, Central Services Technician, Board of Psychology

Did you know that you can check your license and renewal status through the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) license search function?

You can verify your license and information anytime by visiting https://search.dca.ca.gov:

- Choose "Psychology, Board of," under "Boards and Bureaus."
- Choose "Psychologist," or "Registered Psychological Associate," under "License Type."
- Search by your license number or name by entering your information in the respective fields.
- · Click "Search."

The following information will be available to view with your license information:

- · Renewal status.
- · License expiration date.
- · Address of record (AOR).

The URL can also be copied and shared with others to verify your license status.



### **Renew Your License**

Renewing in BreEZe is simple and the quickest way to renew. It is important to know when you are eligible to renew and how to create a profile in BreEZe.

Here are some helpful tips on renewing a license:

- You can renew your license 70 days prior to expiration and no sooner. As a courtesy, a reminder postcard will be sent to the licensee's AOR.
- 2. You can renew online in BreEZe (www.BreEZe.ca.gov) or by mailing in a paper application (found on the Board's website under the "Licensees" tab) with a check payment. Renewals submitted through BreEZe are immediately updated once payment is received. Mailed-in applications can take three to four weeks to process.
- Instructions on how to set up your profile in BreEZe can be found at www.psychology.ca.gov/licensees/renewal\_ instructions.pdf.

# Continuing Education (CE) Requirements

An important condition for renewing your license is completing the CE requirements. For information on current CE requirements, please visit www.psychology.ca.gov/licensees/ce\_faqs.shtml.

Effective January 1, 2023, the Board will be requiring licensees to complete 36 hours of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) biennially. Please review the CPD regulation advisory at www.psychology.ca.gov/laws\_regs/cpd\_reg\_advisory.shtml.

The CE department can be reached via email at **BOPCE@dca.ca.gov**.

# **Explanation of Disciplinary Language and Actions**

**Gross negligence:** An extreme departure from the standard of care.

**Incompetence:** Lack of knowledge or skills in discharging professional obligations.

**Public letter of reproval:** Formal discipline that consists of a reprimand of a licensee that is a matter of public record for conduct in violation of the law.

**Accusation:** A formal, written statement of charges. **Stipulated settlement of decision:** The case is formally negotiated and settled prior to hearing.

**Surrender:** To resolve a disciplinary action, the licensee has given up his or her license, subject to acceptance by the Board of Psychology.

**Suspension from practice:** The licensee is prohibited from practicing or offering to provide psychological services during the term of suspension.

**Revoked:** The right to practice has ended due to disciplinary action.

Revocation stayed, probation with terms and conditions: "Stayed" means the revocation is postponed. Professional practice may continue so long as the licensee complies with specific probationary terms and conditions. Violation of any term of probation may result in the revocation that was postponed.

### **Administrative Citations:**

April 1-June 30, 2022

### Michael Fraga

Unlicensed, PSY 17169 (Revoked), Roswell, NM

On June 24, 2022, the Board issued a citation containing an order of abatement and fine in the amount of \$2,500 to Michael Fraga for engaging in the unlicensed practice of psychology when respondent continued to see clients following the revocation of respondent's California psychology license, used the term "neuropsychologist" in advertisements, and provided direct supervision to a registered psychological associate in the form of shadowing, mentoring, and reviewing written documents.

### **Disciplinary Actions:**

April 1-June 30, 2022

#### **REVOCATION**

Michele Jackson Kahle, Ph.D.

Psychologist License No. PSY 10634, Monterey

The Board revoked Dr. Kahle's psychologist license after a default decision was entered following the filing of an Accusation, which alleged respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct for failing to provide adequate documentation of the completion of required continuing education upon the Board's request. The Default Decision took effect June 12, 2022.

### **SURRENDER**

Paul Allan Greenwald, Ph.D.

Psychologist License No. PSY 20162, Rancho Cucamonga

Dr. Greenwald stipulated to placing Psychologist License No. 20162 on probation for three years, after the Board filed an Accusation, which alleged respondent engaged in gross negligence, violated one or more provisions of the Ethics Code, and violated the provisions of the Psychology Licensing Law or regulations duly adopted thereunder, by utilizing improper assessment administration and interpretation procedures and improperly ruling out diagnoses. The Decision and Order took effect April 1, 2022. Subsequently, Dr. Greenwald stipulated to the voluntary surrender of respondent's license following the Board's April 1, 2022, decision, which allowed respondent to request the voluntary surrender of said license if respondent ceased practicing or was otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation. The surrender took effect April 13, 2022.

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#### Judith Z. Clark, Ph.D.

Psychologist License No. PSY 13963, Ojai

Dr. Clark stipulated to the surrender of Psychologist License No. 13963 after the Board filed an Accusation, which alleged respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct and gross negligence when respondent failed to properly assess a patient for suicide risk prior to and following a suicide attempt, and engaged in repeated negligent acts when respondent transitioned the patient to telepsychology, billed for two Skype sessions despite Skype not being a HIPAA-compliant platform, failed to obtain informed consent from the patient for recording a session, and allowed the recording of the session to be deleted. The Decision and Order took effect June 4, 2022.

#### **PROBATION**

### Lisa R. Lipton, Psy.D.

Registered Psychological Associate Registration No. RPA 94026573, Santa Monica

Dr. Lipton stipulated to placing Psychological Associate Registration No. 94026573 on probation for three years, subject to its revocation if applicant fails to comply with the terms and conditions of probation, after the Board filed a Statement of Issues, which alleged applicant was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a psychological associate, was disciplined by another board in California, engaged in a dishonest, fraudulent or corrupt act, and engaged in acts that are substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a psychological associate which would be grounds for suspension or revocation of a license. The Decision and Order took effect April 2, 2022.



#### Maryann Rowe, Ph.D.

Psychologist License No. PSY 22946, San Antonio, TX

Dr. Rowe stipulated to placing Psychologist License No. 22946 on probation for three years, subject to its revocation if respondent fails to comply with the terms and conditions of probation, after the Board filed an Accusation, which alleged respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct, violated the rules of professional conduct, and engaged in repeated negligent acts when respondent conducted an assessment and made recommendations in court regarding the custody of a minor without having conducted a minimally adequate investigation and without obtaining sufficient and reliable information, produced an assessment and recommendations which extended beyond the boundaries of respondent's competence, failed to recognize the professional limitations and legal and procedural complexities related to respondent's professional role, and failed to obtain the necessary informed consent from the legal guardians of the minor. The Decision and Order took effect April 13, 2022. extended beyond the boundaries of Respondent's competence, failed to recognize the professional limitations and legal and procedural complexities related to Respondent's professional role, and failed to obtain the necessary informed consent from the legal guardians of the minor. The Decision and Order took effect April 13, 2022.

### Susan D. Duenke, Psy.D.

Psychologist License No. PSY 15555, Murphys

Dr. Duenke stipulated to placing Psychologist License No. 15555 on probation for five years, subject to its revocation if respondent fails to comply with the terms and conditions of probation, after the Board filed an Accusation, which alleged respondent engaged in gross negligence and violated the ethical standards when respondent failed to maintain adequate treatment records, failed to maintain and/or release documentation of fees or payment records, and engaged in multiple relationships with a patients. The Decision and Order took effect June 5, 2022.

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#### **PUBLIC REPROVAL**

#### Robert Suiter, Ph.D.

Psychologist License No. PSY 9946, Riverside

Dr. Suiter stipulated to the issuance of a public letter of reproval against Psychologist License No. 9946, with a practice restriction, educational review, ethics course, cost recovery, and coursework terms, after the Board filed an Accusation, which alleged respondent's approach to the assessment of domestic violence allegations departed from the standard of care due to the lack of a structured, balanced, and objective approach, and inappropriately relied on certain psychological tests as hard and determinative data. The Decision and Order took effect April 1, 2022.

Fall 2022

# **Legislative and Regulatory Updates**

### **Regulatory Updates:**

Below are the Board's pending regulatory changes and their status in the formal rulemaking process.

Title 16, CCR Section 1391.1, 1391.2, 1391.5, 1391.6, 1391.8, 1391.10, 1391.11, 1391.12, 1392.1—Psychological Associates

**Status:** This package was published in the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) Notice Register on June 17, 2022, which began the 45-day comment period. This comment period ended on August 2, 2022.

This regulatory package does the following:

Conforms the California Code of Regulations to statutory changes made in SB 1193 (Hill) (Chapter 484, Statutes of 2016) and SB 801 (Archuleta, 647, Statutes of 2021). SB 801, effective January 1, 2022, removed the title "psychological assistant" and replaced it with "registered psychological associate." SB 1193 created a single registration with the Board of Psychology, independent from supervisor(s) or employer(s). This regulatory package updates this process and clarifies the existing statutory psychological associate registration fee.

Title 16, CCR Sections 1391.13 and 1391.14— Inactive Psychological Associate Registration and Reactivating a Psychological Associate Registration

Status: This package is in the Initial Review Stage. Staff received feedback from Legal Counsel on September 17, 2019, and have incorporated the recommended changes. Staff is waiting to submit the package back to Board Counsel until the Sunset Psychological Associate regulatory package is further through the regulatory process. Upon approval by Board Legal Counsel, the package will be submitted for the Initial Departmental Review which involves reviews by DCA Legal Affairs Division, DCA Budget Office, DCA's Division of Legislative Affairs, DCA Chief Counsel, DCA Director, and the Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

This regulatory package does the following:

Allows a psychological associate to request that the Board place their active registration in an inactive status. In addition, the proposed regulations would allow the Board to place the registration in an inactive status when the registrant has no primary supervisor. While the registration is in an inactive status, it will stop the time counting towards the cumulative total of six years registration limitation. The Board is also proposing the adoption of the process for reactivating an inactive psychological associate registration.

# Title 16 CCR Sections 1381.9, 1397.60, 1397.61, 1397.62, 1397.67—Continuing Professional Development

Status: On June 29, 2022, OAL approved the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) regulatory package and filed the changes with the Secretary of State's Office, to be effective January 1, 2023. Licensees that renew between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023, can use either the old method of 36 hours of traditional CE or the new CPD model.

This regulatory package does the following:

Changes the continuing education guidelines and requirements that must be completed by licensed psychologists from the CE model to the broader CPD model.

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## Title 16 CCR Sections 1381.9, 1381.10, 1392—Retired License, Renewal of Expired License, Psychologist Fees

Status: This package was published in the OAL notice register with the comment period ending on November 30, 2021, and hearing on December 1, 2021. The Board submitted this package to OAL for their final review on May 9, 2022, and withdrew this package on June 20, 2022, due to the need for a modified text. The Board noticed this package for a 15-day comment period due to the issuance of a modified text, with the public comment period ending on July 21, 2022. The Board will see this language at the August 2022 Board meeting.

This regulatory package does the following:

This proposal would allow a licensee to apply to have their license placed in a "retired" status.

### Title 16 CCR Section 1392—Psychologist Fees— California Psychology Law and Ethics Examination (CPLEE) and Initial License and Biennial Renewal Fee for a Psychologist

**Status:** Submitted to OAL on December 7, 2021 (Z-2021-1207-01) for publication on December 17, 2021. The comment period for this rulemaking file ended

on January 31, 2022. The public hearing took place on February 17, 2022, with no public comment. The Board adopted the package on February 18, 2022, and OAL approved the package on May 6, 2022. This regulatory package became effective July 1, 2022.

This regulatory package does the following:

Raises the fees for the California Psychology Law and Ethics Examination to cover the Board's costs to create and administer the exam and raises initial and renewal fees to the statutory provisions.

## Title 16 CCR Section 1395.2—Disciplinary Guidelines and Uniform Standards Related to Substance-Abusing Licensees

**Status:** Drafting Phase. This phase includes preparation of the regulatory text and collaborative reviews by Board staff and legal counsel.

This regulatory package does the following:

Updates the Board's disciplinary guidelines including conforming changes pursuant to AB 2138, conviction and substantial relationship criteria, and the Department's Uniform Standards for Substance Abusing Licensees.

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Title 16 CCR sections 1380.3, 1381, 1381.1, 1381.2, 1381.4, 1381.5, 1382, 1382.3, 1382.4, 1382.5, 1386, 1387, 1387.1, 1387.2, 1387.3, 1387.4, 1387.5, 1387.6, 1387.10, 1388, 1388.6, 1389, 1389.1, 1391, 1391.1, 1391.3, 1391.4, 1391.5, 1391.6, 1391.8, 1391.11, and 1391.12—Pathways to Licensure

**Status:** Drafting Phase. This phase includes preparation of the regulatory package and collaborative reviews by Board staff and legal counsel.

This regulatory package does the following:

Streamlines the licensing process and removes unnecessary barriers for applicants and the supervisors who support their training.

Title 16 CCR sections 1380.6, 1393, 1396, 1396.1, 1396.2, 1396.3, 1396.4, 1396.5, 1397, 1397.1, 1397.2, 1397.35, 1397.37, 1397.39, 1397.50, 1397.51, 1397.52, 1397.53, 1397.54, 1397.55—Enforcement Provisions

**Status:** Drafting Phase. This phase includes preparation of the regulatory package and collaborative reviews by Board staff and legal counsel.

This regulatory package does the following:

This regulatory package would update the Board's enforcement provisions.

### **Legislative Updates:**

For up-to-date bill status information, visit our website at:

www.psychology.ca.gov/laws\_regs/legislation.shtml.

### **SPONSORED LEGISLATION**

SB 401 (Pan)—Psychology: unprofessional conduct: disciplinary action: sexual acts

The Board of Psychology is sponsoring SB 401. This bill would add sexual behavior (inappropriate actions and communications of a sexual nature for the purpose of sexual arousal, gratification, exploitation, or abuse) with a client or former client to the list of what is considered unprofessional conduct

and would give the Administrative Law Judge the statutory authority to include an order of revocation in a proposed decision for such behavior.

The bill would also add clear definitions to the following sexual acts: sexual abuse, sexual behavior, sexual contact, and sexual misconduct. Note: this would not change or diminish the Board's adjudicatory discretion as to the final discipline.

This bill is in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

To view the text of the bill, click here: <u>SB 401</u>
<u>Psychology:</u> unprofessional conduct: disciplinary action: sexual acts.

#### **ACTIVE BOARD POSITIONS**

### AB 32 (Aguiar-Curry)—Telehealth

This bill would expand the definition of "synchronous interaction" for purposes of telehealth to include audio-video, audio only, and other virtual communication. It would also establish specified telehealth requirements for various health care settings.

This bill is on the Senate floor.

### **Board Position: Support**

To view the text of the bill, click here: **AB 32 Telehealth**.

## AB 1662 (Gipson)—Licensing boards: disqualification from licensure: criminal conviction.

This bill would authorize a prospective applicant that has been convicted of a crime to submit to any board or bureau a request for a preapplication determination that includes information provided by the prospective applicant regarding their criminal conviction. Upon receiving a preapplication determination request, this bill would require the Board to determine if the prospective applicant would be disqualified from licensure by the Board based on the information submitted with the request and to deliver that determination to the prospective applicant.

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This bill was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

### **Board Position: Oppose**

To view the text of the bill, click here: AB 1662 Licensing boards: disqualification from licensure: criminal conviction.

### AB 1733 (Quirk)—State bodies: open meetings.

This bill would change the requirements for open meetings for state bodies, specifically by: allowing for use of teleconference in closed sessions; requiring the state body to provide a means by which the public may remotely hear, or hear and observe, the meeting and may remotely address the state body via two-way audio-visual platform or two-way telephonic service; requiring information to be provided in any notice to the public indicating how the public can access the meeting remotely; removing existing provisions of the act that require each teleconference location to be identified in the notice and agenda and accessible to the public.

It would also require a state body to provide members of the public a physical location to hear, observe, and address the state body, authorize the members of a state body to participate in a meeting remotely or at a designated physical meeting location, and specify that physical presence at any physical meeting location is not necessary for the member to be deemed present at the meeting. The bill would take effect immediately due to an urgency clause.

This bill is in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee and did not move forward this year.

However, SB 189 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) was signed into law and took effect immediately. SB 189 allows boards and other state bodies to hold meetings entirely by teleconference. It also allows members of the body to participate from locations that are not disclosed and not accessible to the public. These provisions will remain in place until July 1, 2023.

### **Board Position: Support if Amended**

To view the text of the bill, click here: **AB 1733 State bodies: open meetings** 

To view the text of SB 189, click here: SB 189 State Government

## AB 2123 (Villapudua)—Bringing Health Care into Communities Act of 2023.

The Bringing Healthcare into Communities Act, AB 2123, would increase the number of medical professionals in federally designated California Health Professional Shortage Areas by offering five years of housing grants for mortgage payments for a permanent residence to the health professionals who practice and live in these areas. The housing grants would be provided by the California Housing Finance Agency. This bill would be operative upon an appropriation from the Legislature.

(continued on page 15)







This bill is in the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee and did not move forward this year.

### **Board Position: Support if Amended**

To view the text of the bill, click here: AB 2123

Bringing Health Care into Communities Act of 2023

### AB 2754 (Bauer-Kahan)—Psychology: supervision.

This bill would authorize the supervision of an applicant for licensure as a psychologist, and of a registered psychological associate, to be provided in "real time," which is defined as through in-person or synchronous audiovisual means, in compliance with federal and state laws related to patient health confidentiality. This bill also contains an urgency clause and would take effect immediately.

This bill is on the Senate floor.

### **Board Position: Support**

To view the text of the bill, click here: AB 2754 Psychology: supervision

### SB 731 (Durazo)—Criminal records: relief.

This bill would expand automatic arrest record and conviction relief to additional specified felony offenses, effective July 1, 2023, and subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act. It would expand automatic conviction relief to include felonies committed after January 1, 2005, where the defendant was not granted probation and did not complete probation without revocation.

This bill is in Engrossing and Enrolling, and onto the Governor's Office for action.

### **Board Position: Oppose**

To view the text of the bill, click here: SB 731 Criminal records: relief

### SB 1365 (Jones)—Licensing boards: procedures.

This bill would require each entity within DCA, including the Board, to publicly post on its website a list of criteria used to evaluate applicants with criminal convictions. It would require DCA to assist each board in developing an informal appeals process and disseminate materials to each board on assisting applicants with criminal convictions to gain employment, as specified.

This bill was held on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

#### **Board Position: Oppose**

To view the text of the bill, click here: SB 1365 Licensing boards: procedures

## SB 1428 (Archuleta)—Psychological testing technicians.

This bill would establish a new registration within the Board of Psychology for psychological testing technicians. It would authorize an individual to provide psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring services, if that individual is registered with the Board as a psychological testing technician and meets specified education requirements, or if the individual is gaining specified education requirements to be a psychological testing technician.

This bill is on the Assembly floor.

### **Board Position: Support**

To view the text of the bill, click here:

SB 1428 Psychological testing technicians





### **Board Members**

Lea Tate, Psy.D. (President)

Seyron Foo (Vice President)

Sheryll Casuga, Psy.D., CMPC

Marisela Cervantes, Ed.D., MPA

Mary Harb Sheets, Ph.D.

Julie Nystrom

Stephen Phillips, J.D., Psy.D.

Ana Rescate

Shacunda Rodgers, Ph.D.

### **2022 Meeting Calendar**

**BOARD MEETINGS** 

November 17-18

**COMMITTEES** 

Outreach and Communications

Committee

September 23





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