



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

IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Welcome	1
Grief and Gratitude: A Reflection on the Beauty of Friendship	2
Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Information	4
Common Deficiencies That Delay Application Processing	5
Understanding the Complaint Process and Common Violations	6
The California Psychology Law and Ethics Examination (CPLEE) Request (Initial and Retake) Applications Available Online Through BreZe	10
Explanation of Disciplinary Language and Actions	11
Administrative Citations	12
Disciplinary Actions	13
Regulatory Update	15
Active Board Positions	18
Board Members	20
2026 Meeting Calendar	20

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President's Welcome

By Lea Tate, Psy.D., President, Board of Psychology



Welcome to summer in California!

This is my favorite time of year! Soaring temperatures, hot cars, swimming dogs and always an excuse to get in the closest water source – pool, river, lake, or creek! I am never cold during the summer unless I am in a Board of Psychology meeting room.

I can't believe it has been more than two years since the new continuing professional development (CPD) structure was implemented. With the changes, board members and board staff have seen a significant increase in attendance at our board meetings and committee meetings. We are grateful that our fellow professionals have an opportunity to see what occurs at our board and committee meetings and have a chance to engage in the public comment process.

As a reminder, 36 hours of CPD are required every two years. All licensed psychologists may obtain CPD hours from four different categories: professional activities, academic, sponsored continuing education and Board certification. As I mentioned earlier, one way to obtain CPD hours is to attend a California Board of Psychology board meeting or committee meeting! Attending committee or board meetings qualify for CPD credit in the professional activity category. On the Board of Psychology website, there is an optional CPD reporting form for your use to keep your hours organized and documented (www.psychology.ca.gov/forms_pubs/cpd-reporting-form.pdf).

As a reminder, all board and committee meetings are updated on the Board of Psychology website: www.psychology.ca.gov/about_us/meetings/index.shtml. We hope to see you at our next California Board of Psychology meeting on August 14, 2026, in beautiful San Diego!

Lea Tate, Psy.D.



Grief and Gratitude: A Reflection on the Beauty of Friendship

By Shacunda Rodgers, Ph.D., Vice President, Board of Psychology

A dear friend of mine passed away unexpectedly a few weeks ago, and reflecting on the exuberance with which she lived her life has given me the opportunity to think about all that she has taught me over the 20 years we've known one another. A long-time practitioner of yoga and meditation since the 1970s, long before the wellness boom we're currently experiencing, she was my wisest elder, my most grounded friend, and my most spiritually connected "soul sister."

Chris (short for Christine), embodied and truly lived the principles commonly taught in mindfulness classes — awareness without judgment, accepting things as they are, being fully present in each moment, and always looking for the wisdom available in each experience. While I consider myself to be a relatively grounded person, she was the first person I would call in those moments when I found myself feeling emotionally dysregulated. She held the warmth of a mother, grandmother, great aunt, big sister and best friend all rolled into one. She would listen patiently and with care, then offer a compassionate, thoughtful response, which always guided me toward a solution that was both heart-centered and wise.

The wisdom Chris offered typically boiled down to three concepts, all rooted in mindfulness. The first concept was that of *impermanence* — no matter what I was facing, it would eventually pass. It reminds me of the phrase by Pema Chödrön, "You are the sky. Everything else — it's just the weather." She would remind me that everything was temporary, and this can be a hard thing to remember when life gets challenging. The second concept was *radical acceptance* — coming to terms with reality *as it is*, in the present moment, and not how I would *prefer* things to be. The third concept was the importance of *detaching from outcome*, releasing our expectation that the situation needs to unfold in a particular way. She would encourage me to release my desire for a specific goal or outcome to avoid getting upset if the circumstances turned out other than how I'd hoped.

Rather than grasping at or forcing something, she would simply say, "Put it in the gap," and release the rest. It was an invitation to surrender control and let things be, and was always a true gift (when I could actually do it).

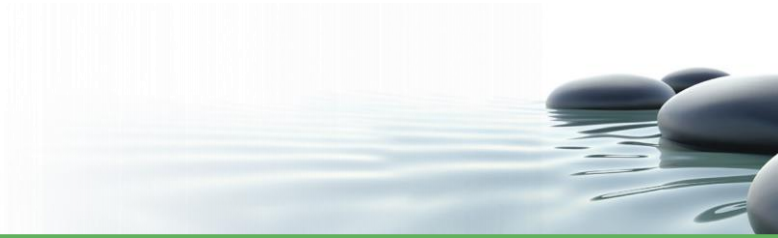
While I will miss my dear friend, I am resting in the gratitude of her kindness and generosity of heart over these last 20 years. This helps soften some of the hard edges of grief. As psychologists, we know that multiple emotions can exist simultaneously, so I am allowing my heart to hold both sides of what's true right now. Focusing on the gratitude, however, has reminded me that this practice offers several benefits for mental health and well-being. For instance, those who practice gratitude regularly experience increased happiness, optimism, and life satisfaction. Additionally, gratitude strengthens our ability to notice the positive aspects of our experience, even in the midst of difficulty. It also helps improve our resilience as we navigate through the adversities of life.

Gratitude also improves our physical well-being, is often associated with reduced health complaints, lowered blood pressure, and increased nervous system regulation. Lastly, gratitude can have a ripple effect, strengthening our interpersonal connections with others and serving as a "social glue," that improves our bonds within relationships. Whether these connections are our friendships, romantic relationships, familial ties, or communities that we are part of, gratitude boosts positive feelings toward those in our lives, and can be especially helpful when working through conflict within relationships. Gratitude is a wellspring that can continuously replenish our hearts, minds, and bodies when we take the time to cultivate it.

As this article comes to a close, take a moment to reflect on something for which you are grateful. It could be another person, a song, a pet, something in nature, an attribute you appreciate about yourself, the planet, or something that made you laugh recently. Stay with the felt sense of gratitude and

(continued on page 3)

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how it makes itself known. What do you notice in the mind? The heart? The body? Do you notice any warmth, tenderness, or openness? Whatever comes up, linger with it for a bit, savoring the goodness that comes from connecting with this sense of appreciation. Rest here, in kind awareness, staying as long as you like with this feeling of gratitude and all that it has brought forth.

Thank you so much, dear colleagues, for reading about my beloved friend, Chris, and all that she

has given me over the years. May we all know and experience this kind of care and deep, abiding friendship from another being as we travel down life's path. May we also know the transformative, healing power of gratitude, and may it touch our lives in some noticeable way each and every day. And may our hearts be open enough to hold the depth of grief and the abundance of gratitude that may be present at the same time. As one of my meditation teachers often says, "This, too, belongs. It all gets to be here."





Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Information

CPD offers multiple categories for licensees to earn hours for renewal. The CPD requirements are structured into 15 activities grouped into four CPD learning categories, with specific hour requirements for law and ethics and cultural diversity/social justice.

Licensees must accrue hours in at least two of the four CPD learning categories to complete the required 36-CPD hours per renewal cycle. The 36 CPD hours include the required four hours in law and ethics and four hours in cultural diversity/social justice.

Board Meeting Attendance for CPD credit

CPD hours can be earned by attending a Board or committee meeting. For a Board or committee meeting that is three hours or less, CPD hours will be credited on an hour-for-hour basis. If the meeting lasts more than three hours or lasts the full day, then a total of six hours will be credited.

If looking to earn CPD hours by attending a Board or committee meeting, the Board Meeting/Event Calendar can be accessed on our website [here](#). If a meeting is posted with a physical location, physical attendance is required to receive credit. Hybrid meetings allow attendees to earn CPD

credit by attending in-person or remotely. No pre-registration is required to attend any Board or committee meeting.

Upcoming Board and Committee Meeting Dates

- July 10 - Licensure Committee - Webex
- August 14 - Board Meeting - San Diego

CPD Resources

On March 27, 2026, the Board held an informational webinar on CPD. The webinar included a detailed overview of the general requirements, CPD categories and activities, CPD reporting, and audit process. The recording of the webinar is available on the Board's website [here](#). The information webinar provides three CPD hours under self-directed learning (category two). The three CPD hours are also credited toward law and ethics.

To view a full list of CPD FAQs, visit our [website](#).

The Board offers a courtesy **CPD reporting form**. Licensees may also use their own reporting form.

To learn more about these updates or to get in touch with the CPD coordinator for further information, email BOPCE@dca.ca.gov.



Common Deficiencies That Delay Application Processing

By Susan Hansen, Examinations Coordinator, Board of Psychology

Deficiencies are a frequent cause of delayed processing times. In some cases, these issues can result in the denial of supervised professional experience (SPE) hours. To help applicants and supervisors avoid these setbacks, several common deficiencies in supervision agreements and verification of experience (VOE) are highlighted below.

Supervision Agreement

- **Completed prior to accruing hours.** Supervision agreements must be completed prior to the accrual of any hours. Hours accrued prior to the completion of the supervision agreement cannot be counted toward licensure. (California Code of Regulations (CCR) 1387(b)(10))
- **Signatures.** Supervision agreements can be hand-signed or electronically signed. Electronic signatures need to be accompanied by a certificate of completion (e.g. Adobe, DocuSign, etc.), or a certified date and time stamp.
- **Supervision Plan.** The supervision plan (page two of the supervision agreement form) is part of the required supervision agreement and must be included. Additionally, all three aspects of the plan - duties, socialization, and feedback and evaluation - must be adequately addressed.
- **Complete all pages and sections.** Missing pages or incomplete sections are common deficiencies that delay processing.

Verification of Experience

- **Signature and seal.** VOEs must be signed and sealed by the primary supervisor, with their signature across the seal, prior to mailing to the Board. If the experience was overseen by the American Psychological Association (APA), Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC), or California

Psychology Internship Council (CAPIC), the primary supervisor or training director, if applicable, can sign and seal the VOE. (CCR 1387(b)(11))

- **One VOE per primary supervisor.** Each primary supervisor must submit a separate VOE for the timeframe and hours accrued under their supervision. If the experience was accrued under a formal internship or postdoctoral placement overseen by the APA, APPIC or CAPIC, the training director, if applicable, can sign the VOE on behalf of the primary supervisors. There must also be a supervision agreement with each primary supervisor completed prior to the experience.
- **Supervisor completes the VOE.** The VOE must be completed by the primary supervisor (or training director, if applicable), not the trainee.
- **Separate forms for predoctoral and postdoctoral hours.** Predoctoral and postdoctoral hours must be submitted on separate VOE forms.
- **Supervision requirements must be met.** For example, CCR 1387(b)(4) states, "Trainees shall be provided with supervision for 10% of the total time worked each week. At least one hour per week shall be face-to-face, direct, individual supervision with the primary supervisor."
- **Proof of registration exemption status.** For example, if the experience was overseen by the APA, APPIC, or CAPIC, provide proof of enrollment and/or a copy of the formal placement contract showing the trainee was officially matched through the formal match process.
- **No ranges of hours.** The Board cannot accept a range (e.g. "30 to 40") for the average hours worked per week, individual supervision hours, total supervision hours, or total hours of verified experience.
- **Weekly SPE logs.** Weekly logs are required pursuant to CCR 1387.5 and must be maintained weekly in accordance with the regulation. These logs must be submitted to the Board upon request.

Any questions can be addressed to BOPLicensing@dca.ca.gov, or by calling (916) 574-7720 option 4.



Understanding the Complaint Process and Common Violations

The California Board of Psychology (Board) is committed to protecting the public by regulating the practice of psychology in the state. When consumers have concerns about a licensed psychologist's conduct, they have the right to file a complaint with the Board. This article explains how the complaint process works, what timelines to expect, and the most common categories of violations that come before the Board.

Scope of the Board's Complaint Authority

The Board's authority to investigate complaints is limited to determining whether administrative violations of the Laws and Regulations Relating to the Practice of Psychology have occurred. The Board does not adjudicate private disputes, determine civil liability, or prosecute crimes. Its mandate is specifically to protect the public by ensuring that licensed psychologists practice in accordance with established legal and ethical standards.

The Board's investigations are conducted within the parameters of the California Administrative Procedures Act (APA). This framework establishes procedural safeguards that apply to all administrative enforcement actions in the state.

When the Board determines that disciplinary action is warranted, it is guided by the Disciplinary Guidelines and Uniform Standards Related to Substance Abusing Licensees, adopted pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section

1395.2. However, before these guidelines are applied, the evidence gathered during investigation must be sufficient to corroborate the alleged violation and support the specific grounds for discipline being pursued. These guidelines establish recommended penalties and conditions of probation for specific violations of the Psychology Licensing Law, and are used by administrative law judges, legal counsel, and the Board in formulating proposed decisions and stipulated settlements. The guidelines provide a structured framework for determining whether revocation, suspension, or probation is appropriate in a given case, while allowing for deviation where mitigating or aggravating circumstances warrant a different outcome. In cases involving substance abuse, the guidelines incorporate uniform standards that govern clinical diagnostic evaluations, drug testing, treatment programs, and monitoring requirements applicable to substance-abusing licensees.

(continued on page 7)



(continued from page 6)

The Burden of Proof

One of the most important features of the complaint process is the high legal standard the Board must satisfy before taking disciplinary action. Under the APA, the Board must meet a burden of "clear and convincing evidence to a reasonable certainty" to establish a violation. This is a demanding legal threshold significantly higher than a simple preponderance of evidence, and it reflects the serious consequences that professional discipline can have on a licensee's career and livelihood.

Under this standard, the Board is obligated to ensure that admissible and competent evidence exists before initiating disciplinary action. Complaints that lack sufficient evidentiary support, regardless of the seriousness of the allegations, cannot proceed to formal discipline. This protects both the public and licensees from unfounded or unsustainable actions.

How the Complaint Review Process Works

When a complaint is received, Board staff conduct an initial review to determine whether the allegations fall within the Board's jurisdiction and whether there is sufficient basis to warrant further inquiry. Not all complaints allege conduct that violates the Laws and Regulations Relating to the Practice of Psychology, and those that do not are closed at this stage. In cases where the conduct falls outside the Board's jurisdiction entirely, the matter may be closed at the Board level, but referred to the appropriate enforcement agency for further action.

If the initial review indicates a possible violation, the matter may proceed to a further formal or informal investigation. This may include gathering records, interviewing witnesses, obtaining expert consultation, and reviewing documentation related to the alleged conduct.

Once an investigation is substantially complete, the matter is referred to legal counsel for review. Legal counsel determines whether the evidence gathered is sufficient to support formal disciplinary action. At any point during the review process, including during formal review, a complaint may be closed for the following reasons:

- The evidence is insufficient to support a disciplinary action.

- It is determined that no violation of the Laws and Regulations Relating to the Practice of Psychology occurred.

If the evidence is deemed sufficient, the matter may proceed to formal disciplinary action through the Office of the Attorney General, which prosecutes the case before the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Complaint Review Timeframes

The complaint review process involves multiple stages, each of which contributes to the overall timeline. Complainants and respondents alike should understand that thorough and legally defensible enforcement takes time.

Initial Complaint Review

The initial stage of the complaint review process, from receipt of a complaint through preliminary assessment and early investigation, typically takes three to six months, but may take longer depending on complexity. During this period, Board staff gather foundational information, assess jurisdiction, and determine whether the complaint warrants further inquiry.

Full Disciplinary Process

For complaints that proceed through investigation and into formal disciplinary action by the Attorney General's office, the overall timeline is considerably longer. The full disciplinary process from intake through final resolution can take between twelve and thirty-six months.

This extended timeframe reflects the complexity of administrative law proceedings, the demands of evidentiary review, the scheduling of administrative hearings, and the legal rights afforded to all parties throughout the process. The Board is committed to conducting thorough investigations and ensuring that all actions are legally and procedurally sound.

Most Common Violation Categories

The Board receives complaints spanning a broad range of alleged misconduct. The following table summarizes the fourteen most frequently cited categories of violations. These categories are defined by the Laws and Regulations Relating to the Practice of Psychology and serve as the legal basis for administrative enforcement actions.

(continued on page 8)



(continued from page 7)

#	Violation Category	Description
1	Unprofessional Conduct (CAC)	Conduct that falls below accepted professional standards, as defined under the California Administrative Code, including behaviors that bring discredit to the profession.
2	Unprofessional Conduct	Broad professional misconduct not otherwise specified, including failure to maintain appropriate professional boundaries or ethical obligations.
3	Gross Negligence	A severe departure from the standard of care that a reasonably competent psychologist would exercise under similar circumstances.
4	Repeated Negligent Acts	A pattern of substandard care or repeated failures to meet professional obligations, even where no single act rises to gross negligence.
5	Unlicensed Practice	Providing psychological services without a valid and active license issued by the Board, or practicing beyond the authorized scope of licensure.
6	Fraud/Dishonesty/Corruption	Intentional misrepresentation, fraudulent billing or documentation, falsification of records, or corruption in the practice of psychology.
7	Rules of Ethical Conduct	Violations of the ethical principles and standards governing psychological practice, including those outlined in the APA Ethics Code and state regulations.
8	Conviction of Crime (Psych)	A criminal conviction related to the practice of psychology that reflects on the licensee's fitness to practice.
9	Conviction of Crime (Psychologist)	A criminal conviction by a licensed psychologist – whether or not directly related to practice – that indicates unfitness or risk to the public.
10	Self-Use of Alcohol/Drugs	Personal misuse of alcohol or controlled substances that impairs the licensee's ability to practice safely and competently.
11	Violation of Probation	Failure to comply with terms and conditions of a disciplinary probation order previously imposed by the Board.
12	Sexual Misconduct	Any sexual contact or exploitation involving a current or former patient, or other conduct of a sexual nature that violates professional and legal standards.
13	License Denial Grounds	Conduct or history that would have formed the basis to deny initial licensure, including material omissions or misrepresentations on licensure applications.
14	Breach of Confidentiality	Unauthorized disclosure of patient information or records, in violation of state and federal privacy laws and professional confidentiality obligations.

(continued on page 9)



(continued from page 8)

What Complainants Should Know

Filing a complaint does not guarantee disciplinary action. The Board must substantiate a violation with admissible evidence meeting the "clear and convincing" standard before formal discipline can occur. Complainants are encouraged to provide as much documentation and detail as possible to assist the Board in its review.

The Board does not serve as an advocate for complainants, nor does it provide legal representation or advice. Consumers seeking remedies beyond administrative discipline, such as financial compensation, should consult private legal counsel, as those matters fall outside the Board's jurisdiction.

Throughout the process, the Board maintains confidentiality regarding active investigations as required by law. Complainants will be notified of the outcome of their complaint upon closure, but detailed information about the investigation may be restricted under applicable statutes.

Contact and Additional Resources

For more information about filing a complaint or understanding the Board's enforcement process, please visit the California Board of Psychology's official website or contact the Board's enforcement unit directly. Information about licensee status, disciplinary history, and public documents is also available through the Department of Consumer Affairs [License Search](#).





The California Psychology Law and Ethics Examination (CPLEE) Request (Initial and Retake) Applications Available Online Through BreEZe

By Mai Xiong, Licensing and BreEZe Coordinator, Board of Psychology

The Board of Psychology (Board) requires psychologist applicants to pass the California Psychology Law and Ethics Examination (CPLEE) as part of the licensure process. Applicants applying to take the CPLEE may submit the application and exam fee directly through their BreEZe account.

To apply for the CPLEE through BreEZe, the applicant must make sure their BreEZe account is linked to their existing Board psychologist file and that they are eligible to take the exam.

Users can determine whether their BreEZe account is linked to their psychologist file by checking for an “Applicant Activities” section on the Quick Start menu. If the psychologist file is not linked, the user can connect their BreEZe account to their existing file by selecting “Update Profile” from the Quick Start menu and then clicking the “Add Licenses” button.

After linking the BreEZe account to the psychologist file, the CPLEE Request (Initial/Retake) applications will be located under the “Applicant Activities” section of the Quick Start menu, rather than in the “Applications” section.

The Board utilizes a single paper CPLEE Request application for both initial and retake requests; however, two distinct online CPLEE Request applications are available in BreEZe, designated as either “Initial” or “Retake.”

CPLEE Request (Initial) Application

The CPLEE Request (Initial) application is intended for exam candidates who have successfully passed the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) and are requesting to take the CPLEE for the first time.

CPLEE Request (Retake) Application

The CPLEE Request (Retake) application is intended for exam candidates who need to retake the CPLEE due to an unsuccessful attempt, as well as psychologist licensees who are required to take the CPLEE due to probation.

For more information about applying for the CPLEE and CPLEE requirements, please go to <https://psychology.ca.gov/applicants/instructions.shtml>.



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 reproof: 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

September 31, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Zee Brady Brewer-Williamson

Unlicensed, Calabasas

On December 2, 2025, the Board issued a citation to Zee Brady Brewer-Williamson, including an Order of Abatement and a fine of \$500, for allegedly engaging in unlicensed practice and misrepresentation as a psychologist.

The citation alleged Zee Brady Brewer-Williamson misrepresented themselves as a licensed psychologist, conducted psychological testing without licensure, and engaged in conduct intended to influence control over another individual's affairs, in violation of California Business and Professions Code sections 2903, 17500, and 2960(n), which prohibit the unlicensed practice of psychology, false or misleading representations, and dishonest or fraudulent conduct.

The Order of Abatement required Zee Brady Brewer-Williamson to immediately cease all activities constituting the practice of psychology and any misrepresentation as a psychologist, review applicable statutory provisions, including Business and Professions Code sections 2902, 2903, 17500, and 2960(n), and submit a signed statement under penalty of perjury confirming compliance and understanding of these requirements.

Petition for Reinstatements

Jennifer M. Chrisman, Psy.D.

PSY 23667, Hermosa Beach

On October 16, 2024, the Board issued a citation containing an Order of Abatement and a fine in the amount of \$2,500 for alleged unauthorized practice of psychology. She allegedly advertised her group as offering treatment for complex PTSD (C-PTSD) and accepted payments for these services, constituting unlicensed psychological practice. The Order of Abatement required her to cease all practice requiring licensure and remove treatment plans

for C-PTSD from her service offerings, then review Business and Professions Code section 2903 before submitting a signed statement under penalty of perjury confirming compliance.

On December 22, 2025, the Board took disciplinary action in connection with the petition for reinstatement of Jennifer M. Chrisman, Psy.D., following the prior revocation of her license; however, the petition for reinstatement was denied, and no probationary status was granted.

This action arose from an accusation alleging unprofessional conduct related to failure to verify completion of the required continuing education hours and to misrepresent compliance during license renewal. The Board previously determined that Dr. Chrisman engaged in conduct inconsistent with the ethical and professional standards governing the practice of psychology, including failure to maintain required documentation, lack of accountability in regulatory compliance, and deficiencies in demonstrating rehabilitation following revocation.

The Board further determined that Dr. Chrisman failed to provide clear and convincing evidence of rehabilitation, including failure to submit documentation verifying completion of continuing education, insufficient evidence of corrective compliance systems, and lack of corroborating evidence of rehabilitation or professional character.

No terms and conditions of probation were imposed as the petition for reinstatement was denied. The prior revocation remains in effect.

Roberto J. Velasquez, Ph.D.

PSY13120, Chula Vista

On December 22, 2025, the Board reinstated the license of Roberto J. Velasquez, Ph.D., but the reinstatement is subject to an immediate revocation order that was stayed. He was also placed on a five-year probation.

This action arose from an accusation alleging criminal conduct and violations of professional standards, including making false statements on immigration and social security documents and

(continued on page 13)



(continued from page 12)

engaging in dishonest, corrupt, or fraudulent acts substantially related to the duties of a psychologist. The Board determined that Dr. Velasquez engaged in conduct inconsistent with the ethical and professional standards governing the practice of psychology, including fraud-related misconduct and abuse of professional authority in client advocacy.

As terms and conditions of probation, Dr. Velasquez was ordered to undergo a comprehensive psychological evaluation and complete any recommended psychotherapy; participate in ongoing practice and billing monitoring by a Board-approved psychologist; take and pass the California Psychology Law and Ethics Examination (CPLEE); abstain from drugs and alcohol and submit to random testing; complete continuing education coursework in ethics and billing; reimburse the Board \$2,265 in investigative and enforcement costs; comply with quarterly reporting and employer notification requirements; and adhere to all standard probationary conditions imposed by the Board, including monitoring, compliance reporting, and restrictions on supervision and instruction.

Disciplinary Actions

September 31, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Public Letter of Reproval

Marcia M. Asgarian, Ed.D.

PSY 18390, Lodi

On October 21, 2025, the Board took disciplinary action against Marcia M. Asgarian, Ed.D. The license was publicly reproved.

This action arose from an accusation alleging unprofessional conduct, including gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and violations of professional and ethical standards in the treatment of a minor patient. The Board determined that Dr. Asgarian engaged in conduct inconsistent with the ethical and professional standards governing the practice of psychology, including failure to respond

to a patient in crisis, inadequate communication with the patient's family, improper reliance on an untrained intermediary answering service, breakdowns in continuity of care, and deficiencies in termination and referral practices.

The Board's findings were based on violations of the Business and Professions Code, including section 2960, subdivisions (i) (violation of professional conduct rules), (j) (gross negligence), (k) (violation of the Psychology Licensing Law), and (r) (repeated negligent acts), as well as section 2936, which establishes the American Psychological Association Ethical Principles as the governing standard of care. The violations also included applicable ethical standards, including APA Ethics Code Standards 2.05 (delegation of work to others), 3.04 (avoiding harm), and 10.10 (terminating therapy).

As terms and conditions associated with the public reproval, Dr. Asgarian was ordered to complete a Board-approved laws and ethics course within one year; complete a minimum of twenty four hours of additional coursework in areas including delegation, documentation, termination of therapy, and avoiding harm; and reimburse the Board \$34,428.80 in investigative and enforcement costs.

Probation

Laura K. Dorin, Ph.D.

PSY 11931, Torrance

On October 9, 2025, the Board took disciplinary action against Laura K. Dorin, Ph.D., revoking the license. The revocation was stayed, and the licensee was placed on probation for three years.

This action arose from an accusation alleging gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and violations of professional and ethical standards in the practice of psychology, specifically in the context of a fitness-for-duty evaluation. The Board determined that Dr. Dorin engaged in conduct inconsistent with the ethical and professional standards governing the practice of psychology, including failure to maintain test security by permitting a patient to complete

(continued on page 14)



(continued from page 13)

standardized psychological testing outside of her supervision, reliance on test data obtained under non-standardized conditions, and failure to adequately assess or document the impact of those conditions on the validity and reliability of her professional opinions.

As terms and conditions of probation, Dr. Dorin was ordered to undergo a Board-ordered psychological evaluation; take and pass the California Psychology Law and Ethics Examination (CPLEE); notify employers and relevant parties of her probationary status; complete a minimum of sixteen hours of

coursework annually in test security; complete an additional laws and ethics course; submit quarterly reports; comply with practice monitoring and Board oversight; and reimburse the Board \$43,925 in investigative and enforcement costs.

Failure to comply with the terms of probation may result in further disciplinary action, including activation of the stayed revocation.





Regulatory Update

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

Title 16 CCR sections 1395.2 - Disciplinary Guidelines and Uniform Standards Related to Substance-Abusing Licensees

Status: This regulatory package is in the Initial Stage. This phase includes Agency approval of a completed package and submission to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). This phase also includes the required public comment period(s), which may include public hearings, and concludes once all

opportunities for public comment have ended. This package was approved by Agency and sent to OAL for approval of publishing on March 27, 2026. The regulatory package was approved for publishing by OAL on April 3, 2026. The 45-day public comment period started on April 10, 2026. The Board inadvertently omitted the document incorporated by reference. The Board is extending the public comment period while adding the document incorporated by reference to address the oversight and allow for the public to have the appropriate amount of time to review the amendments to the regulation as well as the document. The Board

(continued on page 16)



(continued from page 15)

posted the Disciplinary Guidelines and Uniform Standards Related to Substance-Abusing Licensees rulemaking documents to its website on Friday, May 1, 2026. The extended 45-day comment period started on May 1, 2026.

This regulatory package does the following: This regulatory package updates the Board’s disciplinary guidelines to include conforming changes required by AB 2138, the Board’s new regulations related to criminal convictions and substantial relationship criteria, and the Department’s Uniform Standards for Substance-Abusing Licensees.

Title 16 CCR sections 1381, 1387, 1387.10, 1388, 1388.6, 1389, and 1389.1 -Applications - Implementing AB 282

Status: This regulatory package is in the Drafting Phase. This phase includes drafting proposed regulatory text and collaborative reviews by Board staff, budget staff, and regulatory counsel. Board staff is drafting the proposed text.

This regulatory package does the following: This regulatory package was originally designed to accomplish two changes: updates the statutory and regulatory sections needed to implement the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) part 2 (EPPP-2) and implement the mandates of AB 282.

The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) paused the decision to make EPPP a two-part exam effective on January 1, 2026. Board staff paused the regulatory work related to implementing EPPP part 2 based on this new development.

Board staff are currently working on making changes to regulations to implement AB 282 mandates and bring it to the Board for review and discussion in future Board meetings. With this change, the anticipated implementation date would be tentatively postponed to 2027.

Title 16 CCR sections 1382, 1382.3-1382.5, and 1397.60.1-1397.70 – Research Psychoanalyst

Status: This regulatory package is in the Drafting Phase. This phase includes drafting proposed regulatory text and collaborative reviews by Board staff, budget staff, and regulatory counsel. Board staff is drafting proposed regulatory text.

This regulatory package does the following: On July 2, 2025, Senate Bill 775—the Board’s Sunset Bill—incorporated the Board-approved regulations, expanding the Board’s authority over Research Psychoanalysts (RPAs) and Student Research Psychoanalysts. SB 775 established new one-time coursework requirements—such as child abuse assessment and reporting, suicide risk assessment and intervention, and any additional coursework adopted by the Board (e.g., alcohol and chemical dependency)—as well as a CPD requirement of 36 hours every two years for renewing RPAs.

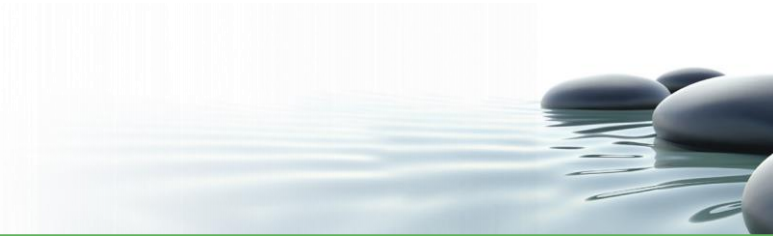
After the governor approved SB 775, Board staff, regulatory counsel, and budget staff met on November 24, 2025, and determined additional regulatory amendments were needed to implement these new requirements. Specifically, further changes were necessary to clarify the Board’s authority and to put the new training standards into effect.

Title 16 CCR 1396.8 – Standards of Practice for Telehealth Services

Status: This regulatory package was approved by OAL on March 25, 2026, and will be effective July 1, 2026.

This regulatory package does the following: This regulatory package updates and clarifies the Board’s regulation of psychological services via telehealth. The amendments seek to remove outdated language, align the regulation with current laws and technology, and provide clearer guidance for licensees, registrants, psychology trainees, and supervised individuals on legal compliance, clinical appropriateness, supervision, and data security.

(continued on page 17)



(continued from page 16)

Title 16 CCR 1388 – Examinations (TOEFL)

Status: This regulatory package is a Section 100. A “Section 100” rulemaking is a simple procedure for changes without regulatory effect. This section permits the updating of existing regulations without complying with the regular rulemaking procedure specified in the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). A Section 100 is appropriate only if the change does not materially alter any requirement, right, responsibility, condition, prescription, or other regulatory elements of any California Code of Regulations (CCR) provision. This package was approved by OAL and became effective on March 30, 2026.

This regulatory package does the following:

This package updates examination regulations to reflect recent changes by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT). Effective January 21, 2026, ETS is implementing a revised version of the TOEFL iBT and transitioning from the longstanding 0 to 120 scoring scale to a new banded scale ranging from 1.0 to 6.0 in 0.5 increments. The regulatory changes replace references to the prior score scale with the corresponding band score used to determine eligibility for extended examination time for applicants requesting accommodation based on English as a second language. Under the updated scoring system, applicants who received a score of 85 or below on tests taken before January 21, 2026, or a score of 4.25 or below on tests taken on or after that date, will continue to qualify for time-and-a-half (1.5x) when taking the examination.

Title 16 CCR 1397.50 – Citations and Fines

Status: This package is in the Concept Stage. This phase includes a kick-off meeting to establish production steps, expectations, and timelines for developing proposed regulatory text.

This regulatory package does the following:

This regulatory package amends Section 1397.50 to expand the Board’s citation and fine authority to include violations of probation terms contained in Board-issued disciplinary orders. The amendments clarify that the executive officer or designee may issue a citation, order of abatement, and/or administrative fine when a licensee fails to comply with any condition of probation, and that such citations may be used as an intermediate enforcement tool in addition to, and not in place of, formal disciplinary action. These changes improve enforcement efficiency, promote timely correction of probation violations, and enhance consumer protection by providing the Board with a broader range of responses to non-compliance.





Active Board Positions

AB 1979 (Bonta) Healing arts: reports: claims against licensees

This bill would require specified health facilities, including physician's offices, to ensure that no clinical decision is based solely on the output of a clinical decision support system, as defined. These facilities would be prohibited from using artificial intelligence to guide or supervise unlicensed personnel in performing any function requiring a professional license. Licensing boards may pursue an injunction or restraining order for practicing health care without a license.

Board Position: Support if Amended

To view the text of the bill, click here:

[AB-1979 Healing arts, reports, claims against licensees](#)

AB 2164 (Bauer-Kahan) Legally-protected activities

This bill expands California's protections for individuals engaged in legally-protected health care activities, including reproductive and gender-affirming care. It extends existing safeguards to individuals who provided or supported these services while in another jurisdiction, so long as the conduct was lawful in that jurisdiction and would be protected in California. The bill also limits the circumstances under which the governor may authorize extradition related to such activities and prohibits recognition of certain out-of-state criminal liability tied to legally-protected health care services.

Board Position: Support

To view the text of the bill, click here:

[AB-2164 Legally protected activities](#)

AB 2575 (Ortega) Health care services: artificial intelligence

This bill establishes new requirements governing the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and clinical decision support tools in patient care. It requires health facilities and providers to disclose detailed information about AI tools, including their development, limitations, and potential biases, and affirms that health care workers may override AI-generated output based on their professional judgment. The bill also prohibits employers from limiting clinical judgment or retaliating against workers for overriding or relying on AI tools. The bill also clarifies that developers and users of AI cannot avoid liability by attributing harm to a provider's failure to override the technology.

Board Position: Support if Amended

To view the text of the bill, click here:

[AB-2575 Health care services: artificial intelligence](#)

SB 903 (Padilla) Mental health professionals: artificial intelligence

This bill establishes new statutes to regulate how artificial intelligence (AI) may be used in therapy and psychotherapy services. The bill is intended to protect consumers by prohibiting unlicensed individuals or entities from offering therapy or psychotherapy services through artificial intelligence. For licensed professionals, the bill would require clear patient consent when AI is used to support recorded or transcribed therapy sessions and would ensure that AI does not make independent therapeutic decisions or replace professional clinical judgment. The bill also authorizes the Department of Consumer Affairs to investigate violations and impose civil penalties.

Board Position: Support

To view the text of the bill, click here:

[SB-903 Mental health professionals: artificial intelligence](#)

(continued on page 17)



(continued from page 18)

SB 934 (Wiener) Sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts: actions for recovery of damages; statute of limitations

This bill expresses the legislature's intent to enact legislation that would provide individuals harmed by sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts performed by licensed mental health providers with additional time to seek civil remedies for those harms. Under existing law, engaging in sexual orientation change efforts with a patient under 18 years of age is considered unprofessional conduct and subject to disciplinary action by the provider's licensing board.

Board Position: Support

To view the text of the bill, click here:

[**SB-934 Sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts: actions for recovery of damages; statute of limitations**](#)

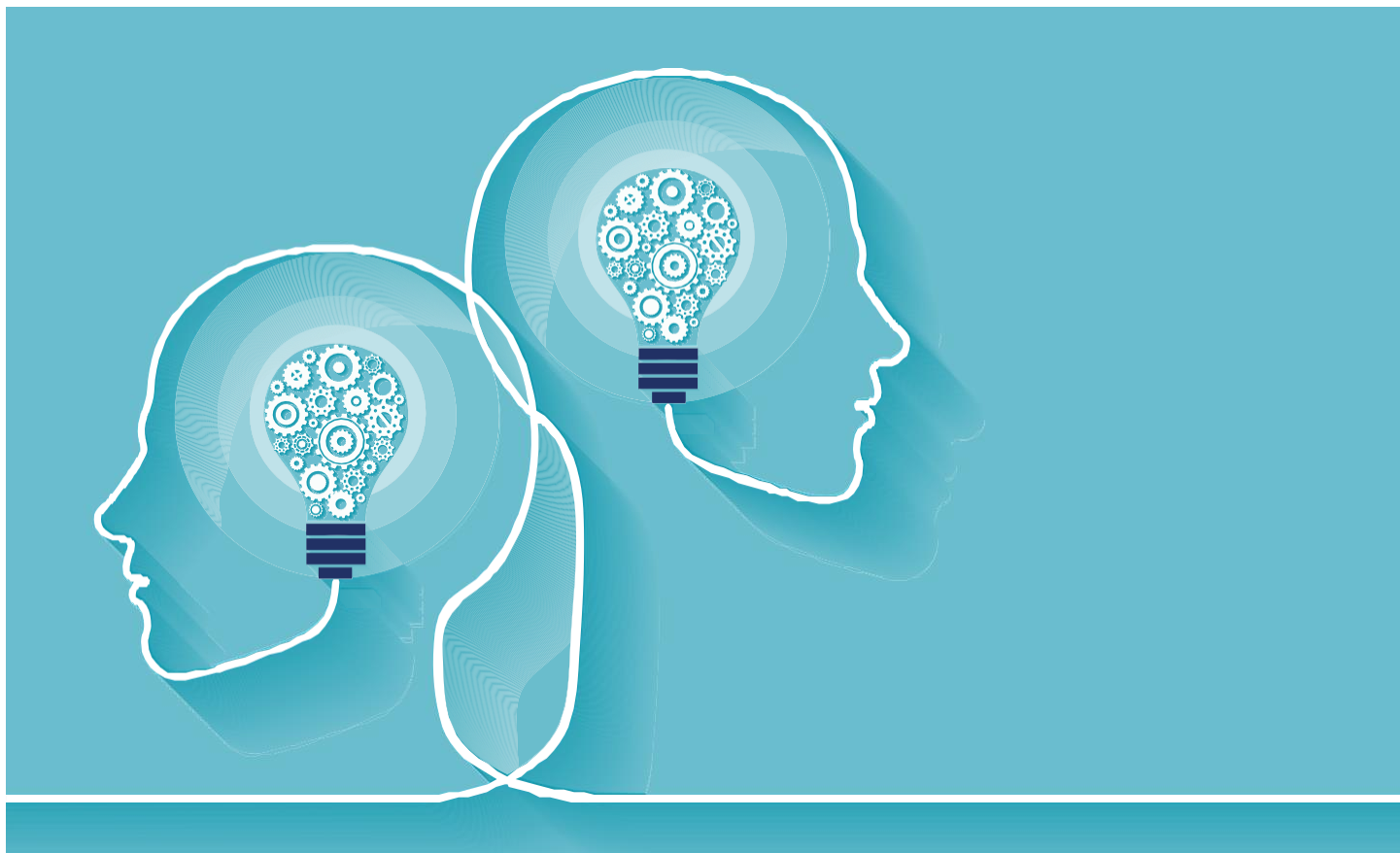
SB 1391 (Wahab) Department of Consumer Affairs: retired category licenses

This bill requires boards, bureaus, and commissions within the Department of Consumer Affairs that offer a retired category of licensure to disclose that information on their internet websites. While existing law authorizes boards to establish retired license categories by regulation, this bill adds a transparency requirement to make sure that information about such licensure options is publicly accessible.

Board Position: Support

To view the text of this bill, click here:

[**SB-1391 Department of Consumer Affairs: retired category licenses**](#)





Board Members

Lea Tate, Psy.D. (President)
Shacunda Rodgers, Ph.D. (Vice President)
Sheryll Casuga, Psy.D., CMPC
Seyron Foo
Mary Harb Sheets, Ph.D.
Julie Nystrom
Ana Rescate

2026 Meeting Calendar

BOARD MEETINGS

August 14
November 12-13

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Licensure
July 10

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS

October 9

Have an idea for an article?

Email us at bopmail@dca.ca.gov

