California Board of PSYCHOLOGY

SPRING

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

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President's Message

By Michael Erickson, Ph.D., President, California Board of Psychology

Greetings and happy spring to you! With this issue, the Board of Psychology introduces its new newsletter.

In this edition, we will provide you with updates about new Board members, staff, and the new Strategic Plan.

We look forward to providing you up-to-date information about our services and the changing profession of psychology.

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Strategic Planning and its Importance to You

By Michael Erickson, Ph.D., President, Board of Psychology

As defined by the Department of Consumer Affairs' SOLID Planning Solutions unit, strategic planning is a process by which we can envision the future and develop the necessary procedures and operations to influence and achieve that future.

If you are a licensee/registrant, applicant, consumer, law enforcement agency, educational institution, policymaker, or interested party, you have a vested interest in the activities of the Board of Psychology. The Board conducted a strategic planning session in March. Before March, the Board solicited feedback from stakeholders via survey to focus our goals and priorities for the next five years.

Using a broad range of collaborative techniques, we are optimistic about addressing future challenges and developing a realistic strategic plan that continues to emphasize consumer protection and that also encourages excellence in psychological services from our licensees. We remain, as always, committed to consumer protection and providing excellent customer service to current and future licensees/registrants.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

SB 127 (Gaines) Firearms: mentally disordered persons

Chapter 753, Statutes of 2013

What is the new law?

SB 127 requires a psychotherapist to notify local law enforcement within 24 hours when a person or a person's family member communicates to the therapist a serious threat of physical violence against a reasonably identifiable victim or victims. The purpose of this statutory change is to "add certainty and consistency" to the reporting requirements and to remove any confusion or ambiguity in the definition of "immediately."

SB 127 defines the time within which a licensed psychotherapist must communicate a serious threat to a local law enforcement entity as 24 hours.

Background

Formerly, licensed psychotherapists were required to "immediately" notify local law enforcement when a person or a person's family member communicates to the therapist a serious threat of physical violence against a reasonably identifiable victim or victims, and required the local law enforcement agency to immediately notify the Department of Justice.

Existing law prohibits a person from possessing a firearm or deadly weapon for a period of six (6) months when the person has communicated a serious threat of physical violence against a reasonably identifiable victim or victims to a licensed psychotherapist. Existing law requires the licensed psychotherapist to immediately report the identity of the person to a local law enforcement agency, and requires the local law enforcement agency to immediately notify the Department of Justice.

How it will affect you?

As of January 1, 2014, licensed psychotherapists must notify local law enforcement within 24 hours when a person or a person's family member communicates to the therapist a serious threat of physical violence against a reasonably identifiable victim or victims.

For more information on this law visit this Web site **http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140SB127**

SB 666 (Steinberg) Employment: retaliation

Chapter 577, Statutes of 2013

What is the new law?

SB 666 provides for the suspension or revocation of an employer's business license for retaliation based on citizenship/immigration status. The law also grants discretionary disciplinary authority to licensing agencies at the Department of Consumer Affairs. The Board is permitted to take into account the potential impact of the suspension of the license on employees.

Background

Existing State and federal laws contain provisions that define unlawful discrimination and lawful employment practices by employers and employment agencies to protect both prospective and current employees against employment discrimination. There was, however, no authority granted to licensing agencies at the Department of Consumer Affairs to discipline employment infractions by licensees.

How it will affect you?

As of January 1, 2014 the Board has the authority to pursue discretionary disciplinary action against licensees who have been found guilty of violating the above employment law.

For more information on this law visit this Web site **http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140SB666**

California Board of Psychology Board Member Profiles

Michael R. Erickson, Ph.D.

On August 6, 2010, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed **Michael R. Erickson, Ph.D.**, to the California Board of Psychology. Since 1980, Dr. Erickson has been in private practice focusing on clinical and forensic psychology and a qualified medical evaluator for the California Division of Workers' Compensation Medical Unit. Prior to private practice, Dr. Erickson was a clinical instructor for the University of California, Davis, School of Medicine, and a director of consultation and training at Eskaton-American River Mental Health Center. Dr. Erickson is a member of the American Psychological Association, California Psychological Association, and National Register of Health Service Providers. He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and his doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Oregon. Dr. Erickson also began his career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia.

Lucille Acquaye-Baddoo

On June 1, 2011, **Lucille Acquaye-Baddoo** was appointed by Speaker John Perez to the California Board of Psychology. Ms. Acquaye-Baddoo is currently an adjunct instructor of political science at Los Angeles Harbor College. She has served as assistant director at a local Head Start and as an administrator at the grantee level. She is a member of a local parliamentarian association, and reviews applications for the California Mental Health Loan Assumption Program. Previously, she worked for Los Angeles Job Corps, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, and other agencies and organizations. Lucille also acted as consultant and program director for Children's Institute, Inc., for more than a year. Her employment history also includes the Federation of Preschools and Community Education Centers, Inc., for more than two years. She earned a bachelor's degree in sociology/behavioral science and a Master of Public Administration degree from California State University, Dominguez Hills. She continues to be a life-long learner.

Linda L. Starr

On January 9, 2013, Senate Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg appointed **Linda L. Starr** to the California Board of Psychology. Ms. Starr retired as Director of the Accounting Department from the California State Senate after 30 years of service. Ms. Starr was previously appointed by Senator John Burton to the California Veterinary Medical Board, where she served as a member for nine years. She currently serves on the Sacramento SPCA board of directors and the California State Senate Alumni Association.

Johanna Arias-Bhatia, J.D.

On August 10, 2012, **Johanna Arias-Bhatia, J.D.**, of Los Angeles, was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. to the California Board of Psychology. Ms. Arias-Bhatia has served as fair hearings and government affairs manager at the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center since 2004 and was a health consumer advocate at Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County from 1999 to 2003. She earned a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law.

California Board of Psychology Board Member Profiles (continued)

Andrew Harlem, Ph.D.

On August 10, 2012, **Andrew Harlem, Ph.D.**, of San Rafael, was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. to the California Board of Psychology. Dr. Harlem has been a clinical psychologist in private practice since 2004 and has served on the editorial board of Psychoanalytic Dialogues since 2011. He has been an associate professor at the California Institute of Integral Studies since 2006, where he served as director of clinical training from 2006 to 2010. Dr. Harlem was a Peace Corps volunteer from 1992 to 1994. He earned a doctorate in human development from the University of Chicago and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard Medical School/Cambridge Health Alliance. Dr. Harlem served as president of the Northern California Society for the Psychoanalytic Psychology Board of Directors from 2009 to 2011.

Nicole J. Jones

On August 10, 2012, **Nicole J. Jones**, of Los Angeles, was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. to the California Board of Psychology. Ms. Jones is currently director of external affairs at Crystal Stairs, Inc. Previously, she was the associate director of corporate and foundation relations at Loyola Marymount University. Prior to this position, Ms. Jones worked in philanthropy, serving at The California Wellness Foundation, the California Community Foundation, the Indianapolis Foundation, and Southern California Grantmakers. Ms. Jones also served as field representative for California Assemblyman Kevin Murray and Watts field deputy for Los Angeles City Councilman Rudy Svorinich. In addition, Ms. Jones completed the National Urban Fellows Program and the Coro Fellows Program in public affairs. She currently serves on the Cal Alumni Association (University of California, Berkeley) Board and the Greater Los Angeles American Heart Association Affiliate Board.

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

On September 25, 2013, S**tephen Phillips, Psy.D., J.D.**, of Los Angeles, was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. to the California Board of Psychology. Dr. Phillips has been a clinical psychologist in private practice since 2002, an adjunct faculty and clinical supervisor at the Wright Institute Los Angeles since 2001, and an adjunct instructor at the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University since 1999. He was a psychological assistant for Elaine Schulman, Ph.D., from 2000 to 2002, an attorney in private practice from 1995 to 2004, and served in multiple positions at Shapiro, Posell, Rosenfeld & Close from 1985 to 1994, including managing partner, litigation department chairperson, and associate. Dr. Phillips earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Chicago Law School and a Doctor of Psychology degree in clinical psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology.

California Board of Psychology Board Member Profiles (continued)

Miguel Gallardo, Psy.D.

On December 17, 2012, **Miguel Gallardo, Psy.D.**, of Aliso Viejo, was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. to the California Board of Psychology, where he has served since 2010. Dr. Gallardo is an associate professor of psychology and director of Aliento, The Center for Latina/o Communities, at Pepperdine University's Graduate School of Education and Psychology. He maintains an independent/consultation practice where he conducts therapy with adolescents and adults and consults with organizations and universities on developing culturally responsive systems. He teaches courses on multicultural and social justice, intimate partner violence, and professional practice issues. Dr. Gallardo's areas of scholarship and research interests include understanding the psychotherapy process when working with ethnocultural communities, particularly the Latina/o community and in understanding the processes by which individuals develop cultural awareness and responsiveness. Dr. Gallardo is currently director of research and evaluation for the Multi-Ethnic Collaborative of Community Agencies, a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving monolingual Arab, Farsi, Korean, Vietnamese, and Spanish speaking communities. Dr. Gallardo has published refereed journal articles, books, and book chapters in the areas of multicultural psychology, Latina/o psychology, and ethics and evidence-based practices. Dr. Gallardo is a fellow of the American Psychological Association.

Jacqueline Horn, Ph.D.

On October 21, 2013, **Jacqueline Horn, Ph.D.**, of Sacramento, was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. to the California Board of Psychology. Dr. Horn has been a clinical psychologist in private practice since 1983 and a lecturer at the University of California, Davis, Department of Psychology since 1981. She was director of Psychological Services at Heritage Oaks Hospital from 1985 to 1995, a psychologist at Eskaton from 1982 to 1985, and Staff Psychologist at Napa State Hospital from 1981 to 1982. Dr. Horn earned a Master of Science degree in clinical psychology and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in clinical psychology from Vanderbilt University's Peabody College of Education and Human Development.

Antonette Sorrick

On November 25, 2013, **Antonette Sorrick** was hired as Executive Officer of the California Board of Psychology. Since March 2008, Ms. Sorrick served as the Executive Officer for the State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind. From 2005 to 2008, Ms. Sorrick served as Deputy Director for Board Relations for the Department of Consumer Affairs and from 2004 to 2005 as the Department's Assistant Deputy Director for the Consumer and Community Relations Division. Before her appointments to the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ms. Sorrick served as a policy and research manager for the California Building Industry Association.

What to Expect From Your California Licensed Psychologist

By Jacqueline Horn, Ph.D., Board Member

The task of choosing someone for therapy or to help an organization function more effectively can be a daunting task. Most people don't know the difference between a psychologist, psychiatrist, marriage and family therapist, or social worker. Even though there are many similarities between these different specialties, there are also significant differences. Psychologists hold doctoral degrees and are trained to work with children, adults, individuals, couples, families, and organizations, depending on the particular training program attended. They work in a variety of settings—private therapy offices, hospitals and medical schools, military settings, businesses, prisons, schools, and others. They deal with many issues such as depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, and learning difficulties.

Below are some guidelines that the California Board of Psychology hopes will help in choosing a psychologist and some information about what can be expected when one engages the services of a psychologist:

- Verify on the California Board of Psychology's Web site that the psychologist's license is current.
- Clarify with the psychologist that he or she is trained to help with the issues to be addressed and has experience to do so.
- The psychologist should fully inform all clients about billing arrangements, how he or she may be contacted when needed other than at scheduled appointment times, what procedures are in effect when the psychologist is unavailable, and the limits of confidentiality. This information is usually exchanged in the form of a written informed consent form or contract.
- Expect that the psychologist will have only one role with any person in therapy—that of a professional in the therapist-client relationship. There should be no social, sexual, familial, or other relationship with the psychologist, nor should the psychologist attempt that.
- Individuals have the right to refuse a particular type of treatment or intervention; to request (or refuse) electronic recordings of any meetings with the psychologist; and to obtain a second opinion at any time about any intervention proposed or occurring.

Individuals should feel comfortable working with their psychologist, and should be able to address any concerns or issues without fear of reprisal. This kind of respectful relationship between the psychologist and client usually has the potential for a positive outcome to the work undertaken.

The Board of Psychology hopes the above information is helpful when deciding to engage the services of a psychologist.

Submitting Your Supervision Agreement Form: Plan Ahead

By Lani Snyder, California Board of Psychology, Licensing/Registration Coordinator

The purpose of the supervision agreement form is to ensure that the supervisor and the person being supervised have a mutual understanding and agreement about the scope and goals for the supervision experience before the start of the training, as well as to ensure that both parties understand the Board's supervision requirements before training begins. Below are some suggestions to consider when preparing and submitting a supervision agreement to ensure the full accrual of supervised hours:

- Print and consider using the supervision agreement form from the Board of Psychology's Web site prior to the beginning of training.
- Set an appointment with your supervisor to review and discuss the supervision requirements.
- Sign and date the form after reviewing the plan.
- Applicants should retain a copy of the signed supervision agreement plan for their records.
- Supervisors must submit the original supervision agreement form together with the verification of experience form directly to the Board at the end of the training.

For psychological assistants, the process is slightly different. The form must also be completed prior to the start of training, however we recommend submitting the plan and application together for registration to the Board because the Board is required to approve the plan. The supervision agreement form must be accompanied with a supervision plan. For samples of a supervision plan, visit **www.psychology.ca.gov.**

Communicating to Our Audience

By Johanna Arias-Bhatia, J.D., Board Member

The Board of Psychology has historically striven for excellence in psychology for Californians. To that end, the information sharing for licensees/registrants, applicants, consumers, and interested parties should be easily accessible. To respond to this challenge, the Board will be overhauling its current Web site and extending its forms of communication to social media. In an age where laws and regulations are constantly changing, stakeholders of the Board should know where to look for the information they desire.

Web site enhancements:

- Links will be more intuitive.
- Instructions to forms will be reviewed for plain language style.
- Links to statutes and regulations will be embedded in documents with citations.
- New URL—from w**ww.psychboard.ca.gov** to **www.psychology.ca.gov**.
- Instructional videos for applicants and renewing licensees/registrants.

Social media presence:

- Like us on Facebook at **https://www.facebook.com/BoardofPsychology—CA Board of Psychology**.
- Follow us on Twitter at **https://twitter.com/BDofPsychology** (@BDofPsychology).
- Join our e-mail list at **www.psychology.ca.gov**.

If you have a suggestion for changes to the Board's Web site, or have an idea to make our communications more clear for you, please let us know by e-mailing us at **bopmail@dca.ca.gov**.

2014 Board Meeting Calendar

BOARD MEETING
May 15-16, 2014 – Los Angeles, CA

BOARD MEETING
August 21-22, 2014 – Bay Area

BOARD MEETING
November 20-21, 2014 – San Diego, CA

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2014 Board Members

Michael Erickson, Ph.D. (President)

Miguel Gallardo, Psy.D. (Vice-President)

Lucille Acquaye-Baddoo

Johanna Arias-Bhatia, J.D.

Andrew Harlem, Ph.D.

Nicole J. Jones

Linda L. Starr

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

Jacqueline Horn, Ph.D.

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California Board of PSYCHOLOGY

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