

**GEORGIA COMPOSITE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS,
SOCIAL WORKERS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS**
Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2014

The Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists met by teleconference on Friday, December 5, 2014 at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia with the following members present:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tommy Black, LPC, Chair
Steve Livingston, MFT, Vice-Chair
Arthur Williams, LPC
Ben Marion, CSW
Jack Perryman, LPC
Richard Long, MFT

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Robert King, CSW
Tonya Barbee, CSW
Will Bacon, MFT

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1
Stacey Mitchell, Board Support Specialist, HC 1
Angela Harrison, Licensing Analyst, HC 1
Amanda Allen, Licensing Analyst, HC

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Tricia Downing, Esq., Senior A.A.G.

GUEST ATTENDEES:

James Pace – NASW Georgia Chapter
Cheryl Bonneau – NASW Georgia Chapter
Pat Harwell – GAMFT
Shannon Geordecink – Metropolitan Counseling Services
Tracy Hall – LPCA
Charlie Safford – YourCEU's.com, Inc.
Katie Tolleson – LPCA
Gale Macke – LPCA
Eunice Malave de Leon
David Lane

Tommy Black, Chair, established a quorum of the Board was present and called the Board meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

Agenda:

Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Marion second and the Board voted to approve the agenda as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Long seconded and the Board voted for the committees to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (1) (2), O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2-(k) (4), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19 (h) (2) & (4) to receive and review information pertaining to applications, conduct applicant and investigative interviews, receive the Attorney General's, the Professional Practices (Cognizant) and Professional Standards Committee Reports.

The Professional Practices Committee was called to order at 8:50 a.m. The Professional Standards Committee was called to order at 8:50 a.m.

Applications:

Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Perryman seconded, and the Board voted to accept the following recommendations on the Marriage & Family Therapists applications as reviewed during today's scheduled meeting. None opposed, motion carried.

ASSOCIATE MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPISTS CONTRACT CHANGES:

Name	Board Decision
1. Arkwright, Tiffany	Contract changes approved
2. Hersey, Nicholas	Contract changes approved
3. Jones, Angela	Contract changes approved
4. Overstreet, Mary	Contract changes approved
5. Pirasteh, Annisa	Contract changes approved

ASSOCIATE MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM:

1. J.G.	Approved to sit for exam
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MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM:

1. S.N.	Pending additional information
2. E.T.	Approved to sit for exam

MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM WAIVER:

1. Ford, Megan	Approved for licensure
2. Merrill, James	Approved for licensure
3. Wynn, Jessica	Approved for licensure

MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY ENDORSEMENT:

1. C.M.	Approved to sit for exam
2. C.M.	Approved to sit for exam
3. Wischusen, Monique	Approved for licensure

MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY REINSTATEMENT:

1. W.Q.	Pending additional information
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Mr. Perryman motioned, Mr. Long seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations on the Counselors applications as reviewed during today's scheduled meeting. None opposed, motion carried.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM:

1. C.B.	Pending additional information
2. R.B.	Approved to sit for exam
3. ST.B.	Approved to sit for exam
4. M.B.	Approved to sit for exam
5. B.C.	Approved to sit for exam
6. R.C.	Pending additional information
7. B.C.	Approved to sit for exam
8. J.C.	Approved to sit for exam
9. A.C.	Approved to sit for exam
10. L.G.	Approved to sit for exam
11. M.H.	Approved to sit for exam
12. Z.H.	Approved to sit for exam
13. V.JL.	Pending additional information
14. D.K.	Approved to sit for exam
15. T.L.	Approved to sit for exam
16. A.L.	Approved to sit for exam
17. A.M.	Denied
18. L.M.	Approved to sit for exam
19. D.M.	Approved to sit for exam.
20. T.M.	Approved to sit for exam
21. G.N.	Approved to sit for exam
22. K.N.	Pending additional information
23. R.P.	Approved to sit for exam
24. C.P.	Pending additional information
25. A.P.	Pending additional information
26. E.P.	Approved to sit for exam
27. T.S.	Approved to sit for exam
28. L.V.	Approved to sit for exam
29. M.VK.	Approved to sit for exam
30. A.W.	Approved to sit for exam
31. F.W.	Pending additional information
32. J.W.	Denied
33. T.Z.	Pending additional information

ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM WAIVER:

1. Bracket, Molly	Approved for licensure
2. Brown, Deela	Approved for licensure
3. Byrne, Jennifer	Approved for licensure
4. A.D.	Pending additional information
5. Ferg, Tina	Approved for licensure
6. Fleming, Britini	Approved for licensure
7. D.F.	Pending additional information
8. Gershenhorn, Kelsey	Approved for licensure
9. D.G.	Pending additional information
10. J.H.	Pending additional information

11. Hammett, Leanna	Approved for licensure
12. Hunsinger, John	Approved for licensure
13. Lewis, Kendra	Approved for licensure
14. K.M.	Pending additional information
15. Patterson-Mosley, Jocelyn	Approved for licensure
16. J.P.	Pending additional information
17. Powell, Emily	Approved for licensure
18. Sullivan, Stephanie	Approved for licensure
19. Stevenson, Tiffany	Approved for licensure
20. Turner, Deborah	Approved for licensure
21. Vaughn, Lauren	Approved for licensure
22. A.WI.	Pending additional information
23. K.W.	Pending additional information
24. R.W.	Pending additional information

ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR CONTRACT AFFIDAVIT CHANGES:

1. M.C.	Pending additional information
2. M.D.	Pending additional information
3. Gibbs, Marcia	Contract changes approved
4. Gordy, Kelli	Contract changes approved
5. Homesley, Taylor	Contract changes approved
6. S.J.	Pending additional information
7. P.J.	Pending additional information
8. Manuel, John	Contract changes approved
9. C.N.	Pending additional information
10. Pledger, Erin	Contract changes approved
11. Poore, Jennifer	Contract changes approved
12. M.P.	Pending additional information
13. Ruth, Danielle	Contract changes approved
14. Sledgem, Erica	Contract changes approved
15. Tracy, Tarah	Contract changes approved
16. Tutuh, Valarie	Contract changes approved
17. Wright, LaToya	Contract changes approved

LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM:

1. M.C.	Approved to sit for exam
2. C.C.	Pending additional information
3. J.G.	Approved to sit for exam
4. B.G.	Approved to sit for exam
5. M.H.	Denied
6. L.H.	Approved to sit for exam
7. L.J.	Approved to sit for exam
8. T.J.	Denied
9. L.K.	Pending additional information
10. D.K.	Approved to sit for exam
11. C.M.	Approved to sit for exam

12. M.M.	Denied
13. D.M.	Approved to sit for exam
14. N.P.	Approved to sit for exam
15. A.R.	Approved to sit for exam
16. D.S.	Approved to sit for exam
17. C.S.	Pending additional information
18. F.S.	Approved to sit for exam
19. L.V.	Pending additional information
20. A.W.	Pending additional information

LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM WAIVER:

1. Alden, Michelle	Approved for licensure
2. S.A.	Pending additional information
3. J.B.	Pending additional information
4. D.B.	Pending additional information
5. Chambliss, Treshelle	Approved for licensure
6. M.D.	Denied
7. B.D.	Pending additional information
8. Ford, Erin	Approved for licensure
9. Garcia, Shemaria	Approved for licensure
10. Groce, LaVonna	Approved for licensure
11. Hart, Kristina	Approved for licensure
12. Hornsby, Kristin	Approved for licensure
13. J.J.	Pending additional information
14. K.J.	Pending additional information
15. Koontz, Vilma	Approved for licensure
16. Krow, Sylvia	Approved for licensure
17. Marcone, Joanne	Approved for licensure
18. McGinnis, Rhonda	Approved for licensure
19. S.M.	Pending additional information
20. Montgomery, Krishawna	Approved for licensure
21. Nelson, Carla	Approved for licensure
22. Ricks, Thomansine	Approved for licensure
23. Rivers, Carmita	Approved for licensure
24. Robins, Weston	Approved for licensure
25. Russell, Karli	Approved for licensure
26. Sanders, Wanda	Approved for licensure
27. Schultze, Amanda	Approved for licensure
28. M.S.	Denied
29. Smith, Dennis	Approved for licensure
30. Wedge, Evelyn	Approved for licensure
31. L.W.	Pending additional information
32. Zuellig, Megan	Approved for licensure

LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY ENDORSEMENT:

1. Brooks, Salida	Approved for licensure
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2. Brown, Ida	Approved for licensure
3. Daisey, Pamela	Approved for licensure
4. Hadaway, Tisha	Approved for licensure
5. Lively, Heather	Approved for licensure
6. Mitchell, Erin	Approved for licensure
7. W.O.	Pending additional information
8. Ramsey, Bronwyn	Approved for licensure
9. Rucker, Rachel	Approved for licensure

APC FORM A REVIEW ONLY:

1. MA.A.	Form A not approved
2. McDonald, Fayette	Form A approved
3. Miller, Anna	Form A approved
4. Patel, Jaymina	Form A approved
5. Quinn, Susan	Form A approved

Mr. Marion motioned, Mr. Perryman seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations on the Social Workers applications as reviewed during today's scheduled meeting. None opposed, motion carried.

MASTER SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAM:

1. B.A.	Approved to sit for exam
2. E.A.	Approved to sit for exam
3. K.B.	Approved to sit for exam
4. A.B.	Approved to sit for exam
5. B.B.	Approved to sit for exam
6. N.C.	Approved to sit for exam
7. B.C.	Approved to sit for exam
8. Q.CF.	Approved to sit for exam
9. C.C.	Approved to sit for exam
10. J.C.	Approved to sit for exam
11. K.C.	Approved to sit for exam
12. L.C.	Approved to sit for exam
13. D.D.	Approved to sit for exam
14. K.F.	Approved to sit for exam
15. L.G.	Approved to sit for exam
16. L.H.	Pending additional information
17. J.H.	Approved to sit for exam
18. B.J.	Approved to sit for exam
19. E.J.	Approved to sit for exam
20. J.L.	Approved to sit for exam
21. E.M.	Approved to sit for exam
22. C.P.	Approved to sit for exam
23. J.S.	Approved to sit for exam
24. K.T.	Approved to sit for exam
25. R.W.	Approved to sit for exam

26. S.W.	Approved to sit for exam
27. E.W.	Approved to sit for exam

MASTER SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAM WAIVER:

1. Bryan, Coby	Approved for licensure
2. Cohen Carlyle, Voile	Approved for licensure
3. Hardy, Brandon	Approved for licensure
4. Lewis, Katherine	Approved for licensure
5. Park, June	Approved for licensure
6. Sabotin, Julia	Approved for licensure
7. Walker, Katie	Approved for licensure

MASTER SOCIAL WORKER BY REINSTATEMENT:

1. C.E.	Approved to take exam
2. D.M.	Approved for reinstatement (must retake exam)

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAM:

1. P.A.	Approved to sit for exam
2. C.A.	Approved to sit for exam
3. S.B.	Approved to sit for exam
4. G.B.	Approved to sit for exam
5. K.B.	Approved to sit for exam
6. T.B.	Approved to sit for exam
7. C.B.	Approved to sit for exam
8. R.C.	Approved to sit for exam
9. J.E.	Approved to sit for exam
10. V.E.	Approved to sit for exam
11. T.F.	Approved to sit for exam
12. C.G.	Approved to sit for exam
13. A.G.	Approved to sit for exam
14. T.H.	Approved to sit for exam
15. M.H.	Approved to sit for exam
16. E.H.	Approved to sit for exam
17. J.J.	Approved to sit for exam
18. H.Y. K.	Approved to sit for exam
19. P.M.	Pending additional information
20. T.M.	Approved to sit for exam
21. A.O.	Approved to sit for exam
22. S.P.	Approved to sit for exam
23. C.R.	Approved to sit for exam
24. A.T.	Approved to sit for exam
25. T.W.	Approved to sit for exam
26. Y.W.	Approved to sit for exam
27. S.W.	Approved to sit for exam

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAM WAIVER:

1. Craig, Erica	Approved for licensure
2. Franks, Tullos	Approved for licensure
3. Hawfield, Anita	Approved for licensure
4. Malava de Leon, Eunice	Approved for licensure
5. Moret-Glass, Lauren	Approved for licensure
6. Riggins, Timothy	Approved for licensure
7. Romanchik, Brenda	Approved for licensure
8. Scott, Kathleen	Approved for licensure
9. Vela, Sara	Approved for licensure
10. Yunker, Jacey	Approved for licensure

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER BY REINSTATEMENT:

1. L.M.	Pending additional information
2. K.P.	Pending additional information

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER BY REACTIVATION:

1. Karlin, Ann	Approved for reactivation
2. St. Angel, Melissa	Approved for reactivation

Assistant Attorney General's Report:

Written status and activity report presented for Board review.

Mr. Marion motioned, Mr. Perryman seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Assistant Attorney General's report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

PPC's: Complaints – Recommended for Closure:

COMP150004, COMP150016, COMP150022, COMP150032, COMP150038, COMP150047, COMP150041, COMP150049, COMP150051, COMP150054

PPC's: Complaints – Recommended for Investigative Interview:

COMP140065, COMP150046

PPC's: Complaints – Recommended for Referral to AG's Office:

COMP140047

Mr. Livingston motioned, Williams seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Professional Practices Committee report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Friday, December 5, 2014, Mr. Black declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq

Minutes:

Mr. Long motioned, Mr. Williams seconded and the Board voted to approve the following meeting minutes. None opposed, motion carried.

- November 7, 2014

Mr. Long motioned, Mr. Marion seconded and the Board voted to approve the following executive session meeting minutes. None opposed, motion carried.

- November 7, 2014

Correspondence:

- Taylor, G. – Proposed Rule Amendments - Supervision
 - Tabled until January board meeting for the Public Rules Hearing

Mr. Williams motioned, Mr. Marion seconded, and the Board voted to authorize the administrative staff to respond to all correspondence as recommended above. None opposed, motion carried.

Petition for Variance/Waiver Requests:

- Branton, Michelle –Rule 135-9-.01 Continuing Education
 - Denied; No substantial, verifiable hardship determined.

Mr. Long motioned, Mr. Perryman seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations for the Petitions for Variance/Waiver Request as shown above. None opposed, motion carried.

- Hedgepeth, Lisa - Rule 135-5-.03 References
 - Denied; No substantial, verifiable hardship determined.

Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Perryman seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations for the Petitions for Variance/Waiver Request as shown above. None opposed, motion carried.

- Marks, Stephen – Rule 135-5-.02 Supervision/DWE
 - Denied; No substantial, verifiable hardship determined.

Mr. Marion motioned, Mr. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations for the Petitions for Variance/Waiver Request as shown above. None opposed, motion carried.

PSC Committees - Applicant Interviews:

- K.J.

- C.R.
- L.W.
- E.P.
- R.W.
- J.G.

Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations for all applicant interviews conducted as reported by the Professional Standards Committees. None opposed, motion carried.

Rules Discussion: Finalization of proposed NEW Rule: TeleMental Health

Mr. Long motioned, Mr. Williams seconded and the Board voted to post the following proposed new rule, 135-11-.01 TeleMental Health. None opposed, motion carried.

Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.

135-11-.01 TeleMental Health

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to define TeleMental Health and to establish minimum standards for the delivery of services by a licensed Professional Counselor, Social Worker, or Marriage and Family Therapist using technology-assisted media.

(a) Definitions:

1. Asynchronous store and forward - means the transmission of a client's information from an originating site to a licensee at a distant site without the presence of the client.
2. Distant site - means a site or location from which services are delivered by a licensee via a technology-assisted media.
3. Licensee - means a person licensed in the state of Georgia as a Professional Counselor, Social Worker or Marriage and Family Therapist, including Associate licensees.
4. Originating site - means a site where a client is located at the time TeleMental Health services are provided via technology-assisted media or where the asynchronous store and forward services originates.
5. Synchronous interaction - means a real-time interaction between a client and a licensee located at a distant site.
6. TeleMental Health - means the mode of delivering services via technology-assisted media, such as but not limited to, a telephone, video, internet, a smartphone, tablet, PC desktop system or other electronic means using appropriate encryption technology for electronic health information. TeleMental Health facilitates client self-management and support for clients and includes synchronous interactions and asynchronous store and forward transfers.
7. TeleMental Health Supervision - means the delivery of supervision via technology-assisted media by a supervisor at one site while the supervisee is located at a distant site. Telemental health supervision may include, without being limited to, the review of case presentation, audio tapes, video tapes, and observation in order to promote the development of the practitioner's clinical skills.

(b) Provisions

1. Training for Licensee:

- (i) Prior to the delivery of clinical TeleMental Health, the licensee shall have obtained a minimum of 6 hours of TeleMental Health continuing education such as teletherapy, telecounseling, distance counseling, video-assisted counseling, behavioral telehealth or e-health.

2. Supervision:

(i) Training of the TeleMental Health Supervisor: Prior to the delivery of supervision via telemental health, the supervisor shall have obtained a minimum of 6 hours of TeleMental Health continuing education such as teletherapy, telecounseling, distance counseling, video-assisted counseling, behavioral telehealth or e-health.

(ii) Board rules 135-5 define the acceptable criteria of a Board recognized “Supervisor” for the Counselor, Social Work and Marriage and Family Therapy professions.

(iii) Informed Consent: Prior to the delivery of supervision via TeleMental Health, the supervisor at the distant site shall inform the supervisee that TeleMental Health will be used and obtain verbal and written consent from the supervisee for this use.

3. Informed Consent - Prior to the delivery of TeleMental Health services by a licensee via technology-assisted media, the licensee at the distant site shall inform the client that TeleMental Health services via technology-assisted media will be used, and the licensee shall obtain verbal and written consent from the client for this use. The verbal and written consent shall be documented in the client’s record. Consent must include disclosure of the use of any third party vendor such as a record keeping, billing service or legal counsel.

4. Client Assessment - Careful assessment using assessment instruments referenced in Rule 135.-7-.05 as appropriate is required in order to determine whether an individual may be properly assessed and/or treated via TeleMental Health services through technology-assisted media. Clients who cannot be treated properly via TeleMental Health services should be treated in person, or else they should not be accepted as clients or, if already accepted, properly terminated with appropriate referrals.

5. Code of Ethics -The failure of a licensee to comply with these requirements shall constitute unprofessional conduct under the Code of Ethics as described in Board rule 135-7. A licensee delivering health care services via TeleMental Health shall comply with all Code of Ethics requirements as described in Board rule 135-7.

6. Scope of Practice - This rule shall not be construed to alter the scope of practice of any licensee or authorize the delivery of services in a setting, or in a manner, not otherwise authorized by law.

7. Out-of-State Clients - Licensees who want to offer TeleMental Health services outside the state are advised to check with the state board in which the client resides for information about telemental health regulations outside of Georgia.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-24, 43-1-25, 43-10A-2, 43-10A-5, 43-10A-16 and 43-10A-17

Chair Report:

- CE Manager or “Tracker” tool still being reviewed; will present to full Board at a later date.

Associations Update:

- LPCA is monitoring the proposed amendments to the Psychologists practice act regarding testing, among other proposed legislation this session.
- GAMFT has a workshop coming up on January 15, 2015

2015-2016 Board Officer Elections:

Steve Livingston, MFT – Chair
Richard Long, MFT – Vice Chair

Professional Practices Committee – Rotation of Board Members

With no additional Board business requiring discussion, Mr. Long motioned, Mr. Marion seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn today’s meeting at 1:22 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Stacey Mitchell, Board Support Specialist, HC1
Minutes reviewed and edited by: Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1

Tommy Black
Tommy Black, LPC, Chair

BRIG ZIMMERMAN
Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director HC1

These minutes were approved on: January 9, 2015