

GEORGIA COMPOSITE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS,  
SOCIAL WORKERS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS  
Committee Meeting Minutes – March 13, 2015

The Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists met on Friday, March 13, 2015 at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia with the following members present:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Steve Livingston, MFT, Chair  
Tommy Black, LPC  
Arthur Williams, LPC  
Ben Marion, CSW

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Tonya Barbee, CSW  
Kathryn Klock-Powell, MFT  
Richard Long, MFT, Vice-Chair  
Robert King, CSW  
Jack Perryman, LPC

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1  
Angela Harrison, Licensing Analyst, HC 1

**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  
Theresa Holt, President GA LPCA  
Tracy Hall – LPCA  
Gale Macke – LPCA  
Lisa Morris - Metropolitan Counseling Services  
Charles Safford, YourCEUS.com, Inc.

**Steve Livingston, Chair, established a quorum of the Board was not present and called for a meeting of the Board sitting as a committee to order at 8:45 a.m.**

**Agenda:** Recommendation to approve.

**Mr. Black motioned, Mr. Williams 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 8:55 a.m. The Professional Standards Committee was called to order at 8:56 a.m.**

**At the conclusion of Executive Session on Friday, March 13, 2015, Mr. Livingston declared the meeting to be "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq**

*Due to another commitment, Mr. Marion left the meeting following the executive session and was not in attendance for the remainder of the open session.*

**Applications:** Reviewed by the committees; recommendations tabled for a full Board vote

**ASSOCIATE MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. J. B.	Approved to sit for exam
2. S. C.	Approved to sit for exam
3. L. D.	Approved to sit for exam
4. R. J.	Approved to sit for exam
5. L. S.	Approved to sit for exam
6. S. S.	Approved to sit for exam
7. H. W.	Approved to sit for exam

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. S. A.	Approved to sit for exam
2. R. B.	Approved to sit for exam
3. S. M.	Approved to sit for exam

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM WAIVER:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. Finley, Heather	Approved for licensure
2. Jernigan, James	Approved for licensure
3. Jones, Angela	Approved for licensure
4. Mullins, Anita	Approved for licensure
5. S. R.	Pending receipt of additional information
6. N. R.	Pending receipt of additional information
7. Weinman, Steven	Approved for licensure
8. R. W.	Pending receipt of additional information

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY ENDORSEMENT:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. McLain, John	Approved for licensure

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. A.M.	Approved to sit for exam
2. A.B.	Approved to sit for exam
3. B.M.	Pending receipt of additional information
4. B.K.	Pending receipt of additional information
5. B.B.	Approved to sit for exam
6. C.T.	Approved to sit for exam
7. D-P.N.	Approved to sit for exam
8. D.C.	Approved to sit for exam

9. E.T.	Approved to sit for exam
10. F.B.	Approved to sit for exam
11. F.G.	Approved to sit for exam
12. F.C.	Approved to sit for exam
13. G.N.	Pending receipt of additional information
14. J-L.V.	Approved to sit for exam
15. M.K.	Pending receipt of additional information
16. M.M.	Pending receipt of additional information
17. P.V.	Approved to sit for exam
18. P.C.	Approved to sit for exam
19. P.D.	Pending receipt of additional information
20. P.J.	Pending receipt of additional information
21. P.K.	Approved to sit for exam
22. R.D.	Approved to sit for exam
23. R.R.	Approved to sit for exam
24. S.D.	Approved to sit for exam
25. S.T.	Pending receipt of additional information
26. W.Y.	Approved to sit for exam
27. W.M.	Approved to sit for exam
28. W.Y.	Approved to sit for exam
29. Y.H.	Approved to sit for exam

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAM ONLY:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. B.A.	Pending receipt of additional information
2. B.R.	Approved to sit for exam only
3. E.A.	Pending receipt of additional information
4. K.A.	Approved to sit for exam only
5. L.J.	Approved to sit for exam only
6. S.A.	Approved to sit for exam only
7. T.R.	Denied
8. W.N.	Approved to sit for exam only

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM WAIVER:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. Amos, Colisha	Approved for licensure
2. Aziz, Julie	Approved for licensure
3. Barnes, LaDonna	Approved for licensure -AW recused
4. B.B.	Approved for licensure; pending exam score
5. Brockman, Amy	Approved for licensure
6. B.A.	Pending receipt of additional information
7. Brown, Rachel	Approved for licensure
8. Carson, Dametria	Approved for licensure
9. Coenen, Amy	Approved for licensure
10. Dunn, Maggie	Approved for licensure
11. Earhart, Elizabeth	Approved for licensure

12. F.D.	Approved for licensure; pending exam score
13. Guzman, Heidy	Approved for licensure
14. Harrison, Kellie	Approved for licensure
15. Hoffman, Susan	Approved for licensure
16. H.J.	Approved for licensure; pending exam score
17. King, Lee	Approved for licensure - AW recused
18. Koepnick, David	Approved for licensure
19. Kuecher, Caitlin	Approved for licensure - TB recused
20. Mallory, Laura	Approved for licensure
21. Peeks, Daniel	Approved for licensure
22. Purvis, Monica	Approved for licensure
23. S.K.	Approved for licensure; pending exam score
24. Tate, Loretha	Approved for licensure
25. White, Whitney	Approved for licensure

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR CONTRACT AFFIDAVIT CHANGES:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. Becker Mikaela	Contract Affidavit approved
2. Carlton, Laurie	Contract Affidavit approved
3. Clark, Kathy	Contract Affidavit approved
4. Collier, Sara	Contract Affidavit approved
5. Collins, Johnnetta	Contract Affidavit approved
6. Cortes, Cynthia	Contract Affidavit approved
7. Cunningham, Catherine	Contract Affidavit approved
8. Dawson, Nicole	Contract Affidavit approved
9. Duncanson, Ola	Contract Affidavit approved
10. H.S.	Pending receipt of additional information
11. H.J.	Pending receipt of additional information
12. Ingram, Anna	Contract Affidavit approved
13. Jackson, LaVonna	Contract Affidavit approved
14. Morrell, Cynthia	Contract Affidavit approved
15. Norton, Matthew	Contract Affidavit approved
16. Panu, Judith	Contract Affidavit approved
17. P.M.	Pending receipt of additional information
18. Tindall, Richard	Contract Affidavit approved
19. T.E.	Pending receipt of additional information
20. Wilson, Krystyna	Contract Affidavit approved

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. A.K.	Pending receipt of additional information
2. B.A.	Pending receipt of additional information
3. B.L.	Denied
4. H.D.	Pending receipt of additional information
5. M.D.	Six month exam extension approved
6. N.F.	Denied

7. N.P.	Pending receipt of additional information
8. P.L.	Pending receipt of additional information
9. S.L.	Approved to sit for exam
10. V.A.	Approved to sit for exam
11. W.J.	Denied
12. W-S.A.	Pending receipt of additional information

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM WAIVER:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. A.J.	Pending receipt of additional information
2. Bearden, Allison	Approved for licensure
3. Borders, Jennifer	Approved for licensure
4. Cargal, Carla	Approved for licensure
5. Chhabra, Lisa	Approved for licensure
6. Cochran, Ruth	Approved for licensure
7. Ellis, Joshua	Approved for licensure
8. Flowers, NiQuetta	Approved for licensure
9. Fluker, Serena	Approved for licensure
10. Garcia, Toni	Approved for licensure
11. Glendye, Adam	Approved for licensure
12. H.B.	Pending receipt of additional
13. Hollis, LaRonda	Approved for licensure
14. Jacobson, Joshua	Approved for licensure
15. London, Ethel	Approved for licensure
16. Marshall, Amy	Approved for licensure
17. M.A.	Pending receipt of additional information (Interview –
18. Miller, Clara	Approved for licensure
19. M.A.	Pending receipt of additional information
20. Rezaei, Sanaz	Approved for licensure
21. Rivers, Vonda	Approved for licensure
22. Shedrick, Victoria	Approved for licensure
23. Shelton, Kelli	Approved for licensure
24. Simmons, Charmaine	Approved for licensure
25. S.L.	Pending receipt of additional information
26. S.B.	Pending receipt of additional information
27. Starks, Candace	Approved for licensure
28. Szokoly, Jessica	Approved for licensure
29. T.Z.	Pending receipt of additional information
30. Valdes, Kim	Approved for licensure
31. Whitlock, Marlayne	Approved for licensure
32. W.L.	Pending receipt of additional information
33. Wilson, Jancey	Approved for licensure

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY ENDORSEMENT:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. Austin, Mark	Approved for licensure

2. Azab, Patricia	Approved for licensure
3. Bonner, Yolanda	Approved for licensure
4. Karinshak, Micaela	Approved for licensure
5. L.C.	Pending receipt of additional information

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY REINSTATEMENT:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. Dawson, Penelope	Approved for reinstatement

**Master Social Worker by Exam**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Board Decision</b>
A.R	Approved to sit for exam
B.B.	Approved to sit for exam
B.N.	Approved to sit for exam
B.R.	Approved pending the receipt of one Form D
D.G.	Approved to sit for exam
D.J.	Approved to sit for exam
D.M.	Approved to sit for exam
E.K.	Approved to sit for exam
G.S.	Approved to sit for exam
G.S.	Approved to sit for exam
G.C.	Approved to sit for exam
G.F.	Schedule applicant interview
G.S.	Approved to sit for exam
G.C.	Approved to sit for exam
H.L.	Approved to sit for exam
H.T.	Approved to sit for exam
H.S.	Approved to sit for exam
J.M.	Approved to sit for exam
J.W.	Approved to sit for exam
L.T.	Approved to sit for exam
M.D.	Approved to sit for exam
M.J.	Approved to sit for exam
M.M.	Approved to sit for exam
M.K.	Approved to sit for exam
M.T.	Approved to sit for exam
N.G.	Approved to sit for exam
N.C.	Approved to sit for exam
R.D.	Approved to sit for exam
R.D.	Approved pending the receipt of additional docs
R.A.	Approved to sit for exam
S.J.	Approved to sit for exam
W.A.	Approved to sit for exam
W.M.	Approved to sit for exam
W.T.	Approved to sit for exam

### **Exam Waiver MSW**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. Bench, Heidi	Approved for licensure
2. B-H.N.	Approved pending the receipt of VFCNLIC from NJ)
3. Evans, Taylor	Approved for licensure
4. Firebaugh, Marjorie	Approved for licensure
5. M.K.	Approved pending the receipt of exam scores
6. Rosato, Lauryn	Approved for licensure
7. Sanchetti, Rebecca	Approved for licensure
8. Tatum, Kathleen	Approved for licensure
9. Turner, Corinne	Approved for licensure
10. VanDyke, Corrie	Approved for licensure
11. Walck, Kathleen	Approved for licensure

### **Clinical Social Worker by Exam**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. A.R.	Approved to sit for exam
2. B.G.	Approved to sit for exam; pending verification
3. F.T.	Pending additional information
4. G.S.	Approved to sit for exam
5. G.E.	Approved to sit for exam
6. H.C.	Approved to sit for exam
7. J.P.	Approved to sit for exam.
8. K.L.	Approved to sit for exam
9. L.L.	Approved to sit for exam
10. L.A.	Pending additional supervision
11. M.K.	Approved to sit for exam
12. M.R.	Approved to sit for exam
13. M.J.	Approved to sit for exam
14. P.N.	Approved to sit for exam
15. R.J.	Approved to sit for exam
16. S.S.	Approved to sit for exam
17. S-O. S.	Approved to sit for exam
18. S.T.	Approved to sit for exam
19. S.M.	Approved to sit for exam
20. S.C.	Approved to sit for exam
21. W.R.	Schedule phone interview
22. W.L.	Approved to sit for exam

### **CSW - Exam Waiver**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations:</b>
1. Balboni, Celina	Approved for licensure
2. B.M.	Approved to sit for EXAM
3. Cohen, Jessica	Approved for licensure
4. Danis, Kristen	Approved for licensure

5. Finland, Allyson	Approved for licensure
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**CSW - Reactivation**

Name	Recommendations:
1. Dickson, Celeste	Approved for reactivation

**CSW - Reinstatement**

Name	Recommendations:
1. Davis, Juanita	Approved for reinstatement
2. Firmin, Beverly	Approved for reinstatement
3. Furness, Stephanie	Approved for reinstatement
4. Pruitt, Diana	Approved for reinstatement

**Assistant Attorney General’s Report:**

Written status and activity report presented for committee review; Recommendation to accept; Table for a full Board vote.

**PPC Complaints – Recommended for Closure:**

COMP140056, COMP140057, COMP140058, COMP150024, COMP150043, COMP150050, COMP150052, COMP150066, COMP150068, COMP150072 and COMP150079

**PPC Complaints – Recommended for Investigative Interview next Meeting:**

COMP150065 and COMP120074

**PPC Complaints – Recommended for Referral to AG’s Office:**

COMP140065                      Board Order

Applicants:                      Board Order

- K.P.
- D.S.

**PSC Committee - Applicant Interview:**

- B. I.

**Minutes:** Reviewed

- February 13, 2015 Executive Session Minutes reviewed

**Correspondence:** Reviewed; responses tabled for a Board vote

- Bravo, Cheryl – Rule 135-5-.04(2)(b)
- Ferrero, Belinda – CSW Clinical Hours

- Gawlak, Jason – Open Records Request
- Harwell, Pat – GAMFT Core CE
- Smith, Anna – LPC - Records Release
- Cavin, Lindsey – CSW Rule 135-5-.04 (2)(b)
- Forsyth, Jamie – CSW
- Nicholson, Brandi – MFT
- Rogers, Pam – CSW – Rule 135-5-.04 (2)(c)

**Petition for Variance/Waiver Requests:** Reviewed; tabled for full Board vote

- Branton, Michelle – CSW

**Public Rules Hearing: Rule 135-11-.01 Telemental Health**

The Public Rule Hearing was tabled due to lack of a quorum, however Mr. Livingston, Chair, opened the floor to discussion regarding the rule at 1:20 p.m.

The following guests were in attendance: Gale Macke (LPCA), James Pace (NASW), Pat Harwell (GAMFT), Tracy Hall (LPCA), Lisa Morris (Metropolitan Counseling Services), Theresa Holt, President GA LPCA, Charles Safford, YourCEUS.com, Inc. and Cheryl Bonneau, NASW Georgia Chapter

Open Discussion:

- Charlie Safford suggested that non-secure forms of communications be addressed in the rule. An example was communication via a smartphone stating this type of communication would not be HIPPA compliant and would require informed consent to be obtained.
- Pat Harwell with GAMFT noted that the rule may be interpreted as granting unintended permission to eliminate face-to-face supervision and/or therapy.

Correspondence Reviewed:

- Letter from Sally Hildreth, Micah Ingle, Cristiana Valenti – Graduate Students of the Department of Psychology, University of West Georgia – encouraging that specific content areas of the certification within the required 6 hours of education and expanding the required hours in addition to requiring some standard of crisis intervention plan.
- Letter from Cheryl Bonneau, Georgia Chapter Executive Director of NASW – recommendation to require social workers to complete a minimum of 18 hours of TeleMental Health continuing education prior to delivery of services or supervision. The subject matter of the additional 12 hours was outlined in the letter with the goal indicated to address challenges of the use of technology and commanding the skills and knowledge needed to impart best practice.
- Letter from April Pruitt, student – concerns noted include security of client information, ethical issues across state lines; difficulty or inability in interpreting body language and showing empathy.

Board members Steve Livingston and Tommy Black commented that the intent of the rule is to address what is currently occurring without regulation in Georgia. The intent is to provide regulatory guidelines and oversight.

**Chair Report:** No report

**Executive Director's Report:**

- 2015 Legislative Session items include HB359 which has been dropped, HB 498 and HB 395, SB 65.
- The recently adopted changes to Board Rules 135-5-.01 and 135-5-.02 will become effective on March 17, 2015.

**Associations Update:**

- Ms. Macke with LPCA – GA Chapter
  - Documentation of the continuing education approval criteria provided for review. Since the full Board was not in attendance, she will bring the documentation back at the May Board meeting.
  - HB 244 and SB 8 noted.
  - The Certified Professional Counselor Supervisor (CPCS) program is receiving positive feedback.
- Pat Harwell with GAMFT asked for clarity on the use of “licensed” in the title used.

In response, the Board advised that O.C.G.A. § 43-10A-11 provides requirements for licensure in professional counseling with (1) specifying the licensure requirements for an associate professional counselor and (2) specifying the licensure requirements as a professional counselor. If an applicant meets the requirements for licensure specified in the law and Board Rules, a license may be issued to the individual.

**Meeting Minutes:**

- February 13, 2015 Open Session Minutes reviewed

**Application Ratify List:** Recommendation to accept; Table for a full Board vote.

**CE Broker Presentation:** Postponed until the May or June Board meeting.

**With no additional business requiring discussion, Mr. Williams motioned, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn the meeting of the Board sitting as a committee at 1:57 p.m.**

Minutes recorded by:

Hope Harrison, Licensure Analyst, HC1

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1

**STEVE LIVINGSTON**

Chair

**BRIG ZIMMERMAN**

Executive Director HC1

These minutes were approved on: **April 10, 2015**