

GEORGIA COMPOSITE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS,  
SOCIAL WORKERS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS  
Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2016

The Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists met Friday, June 10, 2016 at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia with the following members present:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Steve Livingston, MFT, Chair  
Kathryn Klock-Powell, MFT, Vice-Chair  
Bonnie Barker, LPC  
Jack Perryman, LPC  
Tommy Black, LPC  
Endsley Real, CSW  
Gerri Ann Robbins, MFT  
Ben Marion, CSW/MFT

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Karen Warren-Rosas, MSW

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1  
Hope Harrison, Licensing Analyst  
Linsey Brookins, BSS, HC1  
Amanda Allen, Licensing Supervisor

**ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:**

D. Williams-McNeely, Senior AAG

**VISITORS PRESENT (for Open Session):**

James Pare, National Assure of Social Workers  
Gale Macke, LPCA Executive Director  
Diane Hall Smith, GAMFT

Steve Livingston, Chair, established a quorum of the Board was present and called the Board meeting to order at 8:28 a.m.

**Agenda:** Approved as presented with the late agenda item of: Presentation of proposed rule amendments developed by respective rule committees between meetings.

**Mr. Black motioned, Mr. Marion seconded, and the Board voted 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, Professional Practices (Complaints) and Standards (Applications) Committee Reports. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board members: Livingston, Klock-Powell, Barker, Real, Black, Perryman, Marion, and Robbins**

**At the conclusion of Executive Session on Friday, June 10th, 2016, 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.**

**Applications:**

The separate Professional Standards Committees reviewed and made recommendations on all applications presented by the administrative staff.

**Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, M. Black seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Composite applications as presented. In addition, the Board voted that the licenses may be issued upon the receipt of a passing exam score report, and if all other requirements have been met. None opposed, motion carried.**

**PSC Committee: Applicant Interviews:**

**Recommendation**

- |         |                                      |
|---------|--------------------------------------|
| • Y.J.  | No Show                              |
| • J.T.  | Approved for licensure               |
| • S.R.  | Approved for licensure               |
| • A.B.  | Approved for licensure               |
| • M.W.  | Approved for licensure               |
| • J.W.  | Denied – needs additional coursework |
| • S. L. | Approved pending corrected Form C    |
| • C.P.B | Approved pending Form C & Form E     |

**Ms. Robbins motioned, Ms. Real seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations proposed by the committee’s for the Applicant Interviews as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Professional Practices Committee:**

**Recommendation: Closure**

COMP160102, COMP160103, COMP160111, COMP160113, COMP160118, COMP160122, COMP160125, COMP160136, COMP160140 and COMP160144.

In addition, COMP160114 is to remain closed.

**Recommendation: Referral to AG’s Office**

COMP160135

**Recommendation: Referral to Investigations:**

**Recommendation:**

COMP140019 – Non-Compliance/Board Order

Reopen Case; Refer to Inv.

**Recommendation: Investigative Interviews to be scheduled**

COMP160112 and 160137 (COMP160110 and 160121 also have been scheduled for July 2016 meeting based on recommendations voted on/approved during the May 2016 meeting)

**Ms. Real motioned, Ms. Klock-Powell seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Professional Practices Committee report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Assistant Attorney General’s Report:**

**Recommendation:**

Written status and activity report presented for Board review.

Approve as presented

Ms. D. Williams-McNeely announced to the board that Ms. Betsy Cohen will be the new Assistant Attorney General for the Composite Board, beginning with the July 2016 board meeting.

**Mr. Black motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Assistant Attorney General’s report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Executive Session Minutes:**

**Recommendation:**

- |                                  |                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| • May 13, 2016 Executive Session | Approve as presented |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|

**Ms. Barker motioned, Ms. Klock-Powell seconded, and the Board voted to approve the May 13, 2013 Executive Session meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Minutes:**

**Recommendation:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 13, 2016</li> <li>• May 19, 2016 Rules Committee</li> <li>• May 25, 2016 Rules Committee</li> <li>• June 9, 2016 Rules Committee</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve as presented</li> <li>Approve as presented</li> <li>Approve as presented</li> <li>Approve as presented</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

**Mr. Marion motioned, Ms. Klock-Powell seconded, and the Board voted to approve the May 13, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Ms. Barker motioned, Ms. Klock-Powell seconded, and the Board voted to approve the May 19, 2016 Rules Committee meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Mr. Black motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to approve the May 25, 2016 Rule Committee meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to approve the June 9, 2016 MFT Rules Committee meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

<b>Correspondence:</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
APC- Moving to Kentucky: TeleMental Health Question	The board feels an APC cannot adequately receive appropriate supervision and DWE while in KY and communicating with clients in GA.
Austin, Whitney LPC007556 CE Question	Referred her to the CE rule already and indicated that the Board does not review CE hours and provide "pre-approval"
Wolfe, Rachel LPC005296 Application File Request	Application file request granted
Gray, Aisha SWC005793 Application File Request	Application file request granted
Wingate, Laura MSW006776 – Rule 135-5-.04	Supervisor to determine if this is clinical supervision
Application File Request: Trina Hammonds LPC003292	Application file request granted
Mary Bridges: CE Question	Refer to Board Rule 135-9-.01
Wallace, Allison CSW005555 Application File Request	Application file request granted
ASWB – Exam Policy and Procedures	For board information only
Wodzinski, Darleen – RE TeleMental Health Rule	Telemental Health rules apply to licensed individuals only.

**Mr. Perryman motioned, Ms. Klock-Powell seconded, and the Board voted to approve the release of file contents for Rachel Wolfe, Aisha Gray, Trina Hammonds, and Allison Wallace as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Mr. Klock-Powell motioned, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted for the Board Staff to respond as directed to all other correspondences listed above. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Application Ratify List: Issued Date: 5/11/2016 - 6/9/2016**

License No	Licensee
AMFT000444	Tabitha LaShea McCoy
AMFT000445	James Kyle Sussenbach
AMFT000446	Corrie Elisabeth Brewton
AMFT000447	Amber Lynn Collins
AMFT000448	Ella Louise Flemister
AMFT000449	Kamala Christine Glenn-Taylor
AMFT000450	Shanika Rena Mitchell
APC005406	Joanna Der-Mesropian
APC005407	Latoya Renae Goulbourne
APC005408	Laura Winders Knox
APC005409	Wendi Nicol Line Robbins
APC005410	Richard Mark Pope
APC005411	Angela Rosa Saravia Valencia
APC005412	Linda Yeager Scott
APC005413	Antonia Lamoi Taylor
APC005414	Geraldine H White
APC005415	Tiffany Nicole White
APC005416	Catherine Elizabeth Bell
APC005417	Yolanda Mechele Bonner
APC005418	Edward Patrick Craven, Jr
APC005419	Angela Sherrill Davis
APC005420	Sarah Sibley Fleming
APC005421	Laura Mae Hafner
APC005422	Daniel Richard Horgan
APC005423	Ashley Elizabeth Jones
APC005424	Geriana Clarice Kneeland
APC005425	Amekia Lanette Lawson
APC005426	Courtney Shadiria Laye
APC005427	Shaniece Renita Lewis
APC005428	Mary Katherine Lockerbie
APC005429	Tanya Renae Markham
APC005430	Ashley Brooks McIntosh
APC005431	Linda Marie Doty
APC005432	Kafilat O Oseni
APC005433	Blair Kristan Sanning
APC005434	Laporshe E Smith
APC005435	Sarah Jessica Spann
APC005436	Conrad Valcy
APC005437	Timothy Reynolds Vojta
APC005438	Shakayla Marquita Ware
APC005439	Lawrence Harold Witte

APC005440	Trecina Ruth Bowen
APC005441	Amanda Renee' Highfield
APC005442	Nicole Fuglewicz
APC005443	Lashley Susanne Raleigh
APC005444	Creighton Christopher Roberts
APC005445	Cathryn Whitney Buck
APC005446	Tiffany Cherell Hill
APC005447	Pamela Jeanne Hester
APC005448	Victoria Reese Woodruff
APC005449	Sarah Elizabeth Johnson
APC005450	Eric James McClerren
APC005451	Jessica Elise Middlebrooks
APC005452	Tamara Danielle Bogan
APC005453	Shakenya Catrice Burch
APC005454	Starre Mersidees Parrish Cannon
APC005455	Cindy Beck Cochran
APC005456	Melissa Anne Haas
APC005457	Joshua Randolph Mustain
APC005458	John Henry Newsome
APC005459	Jennifer Kalie Sears
CSW005778	Zakia Mohieddin Abukhdeir
CSW005779	Deana Leanne Carson
CSW005780	Jaime Lynn Deutsch
CSW005781	Sarah Baker French
CSW005782	Crestre M. Boddy
CSW005783	Kari Anne Hamilton
CSW005784	Michael Ronald Smith
CSW005785	Danita Rochelle White
CSW005786	Laurencia Alanique Burt
CSW005787	Belinda Grant Ferrero
CSW005788	Ayana Louise Lewis
CSW005789	Erin Ann Blair
CSW005790	Kristopher Michael Sutter
CSW005791	Mary Jo Carver
CSW005792	Markescia Batrice Corker
CSW005793	Aisha Sheba Gray
CSW005794	Kyung Mee Kim
CSW005795	LaToya Lenae Skinner
CSW005796	Patricia Phillips
CSW005797	Kindra Elyse Battles
CSW005798	Stephen Mark Young
CSW005799	Sarah Rose Penfold
CSW005800	Stephanie Lupita Spencer
LPC008950	Amy Stivarius Adams
LPC008951	JoAnn Washington Cooper
LPC008952	Stephen D Hendrix
LPC008953	Mardeea Clark Jartu

LPC008954	Shellina R Jenkins
LPC008955	Andrea Lynn Lawson
LPC008956	Kellye Melissa Lewis-Cox
LPC008957	Cowartiz Gray Merkerson
LPC008958	Janika Lee Neidra Montgomery
LPC008959	Tavarous Ykeshia Saint-Louis
LPC008960	Valerie J Schwan
LPC008961	Jennifer Lee Wells
LPC008962	Stephanie Elizabeth Wiesman
LPC008963	Tanya N Ellis-Asbury
LPC008964	Michelle Kelley Forgey
LPC008965	Amanda De'Nee Green-Harrington
LPC008966	Robert Alan Grier
LPC008967	Erin Pearce Kilpatrick
LPC008968	Tameca Venshella Reed
LPC008969	Elizabeth Marks Lizotte
LPC008970	Joseph Bealle Adams, Jr
LPC008971	Gardenia Elizabeth Beard
LPC008972	Danny Joe Robinson
LPC008973	Karin Korinne Hansing
LPC008974	Thomas Louis McClain, II
LPC008975	Laura Beth Beard
LPC008976	Michael Thomas Bergquist
LPC008977	Cailey Ann Binkley
LPC008978	Petrice Whisby Brown
LPC008979	Jimmy Heath Browning
LPC008980	Lupita Calamese
LPC008981	Sheila Renee Caverly-Gillett
LPC008982	Ashleigh Renee Dennis Silas
LPC008983	Brynn Elizabeth Howard Dexter
LPC008984	Tamika Nicole England
LPC008985	Laura Ellen Galinis
LPC008986	Ashley Louetta Keaton
LPC008987	Debra Ann Kemp
LPC008988	Jonathan Patrick Key
LPC008989	Skiy Ahnisha Mitchell
LPC008990	Mary Elizabeth Pierce
LPC008991	Clarissa Alexandra Poole Parks
LPC008992	Brandi Nicole Reed
LPC008993	Amanda Schweitzer
LPC008994	Whitney Lauren Walker
LPC008995	Alan Edward Walter
LPC008996	Hannah Williams
LPC008997	Tyra Nicole Green
LPC008998	Anna Janette Miliner
LPC008999	Mary Kate Owens
LPC009000	Kathleen Mary Tufaro
LPC009001	Allison Fender
LPC009002	April Stapler Crisp

LPC009003	Brandon Neal Hatfield
LPC009004	Tasha JoAnne Temple
LPC009005	Julie Crawford Keck
LPC009006	Christie L. Hennigan
LPC009007	Nikkiya Danyel Brooks
LPC009008	Donna Gale Willis Palmer
LPC009009	Tamela Renee McDonald
LPC009010	April Sunshine Evans
LPC009011	Carnel Renea Jones
LPC009012	Elizabeth Eyvonne Pooler
LPC009013	Tiffany Chapman Pope
MFT001472	Vinson Eric Lee
MFT001473	Amanda Gail Moore
MFT001474	Holli Maria Kelly-Trombley
MFT001475	Mary Ann Keppler
MFT001476	Stephanie Marie Truong
MFT001477	Dessie Elizabeth Faulkner
MFT001478	Cynthia Stringer Martin
MFT001479	Deborah McColl
MSW007327	Linzy Kathryn Barnett
MSW007328	Lindsey Marie Dunning
MSW007329	Haribaldev Quanyin Foster
MSW007330	Elizabeth Paxton Franchot
MSW007331	Raymond Thomas Giunta
MSW007332	Allison Theresa Hannah
MSW007333	Andjy Joseph
MSW007334	Elvira Yanez
MSW007335	Sharon Denise Baxter
MSW007336	Jessica Renee' Mercer-Lopez
MSW007337	Kelly A Edmond
MSW007338	Adrienne Hines-Bond
MSW007339	Tiffany Michelle Leggett
MSW007340	Joselin Clara Athanasios
MSW007341	Eboni Katrice Henry
MSW007342	Emanda Lois Wimberly
MSW007343	Shumayl Farooq
MSW007344	Reva Marcia Bowers
MSW007345	Afrika Nzengu Cotton
MSW007346	Darrcelle Shoawana Covert-McGinnis
MSW007347	Ra'Shawne Mignon Cox
MSW007348	Monica Lorraine Ellington
MSW007349	Anita Stokes Hicks
MSW007350	Lisa Kay Lockemy
MSW007351	Caroline Amelia Tuten
MSW007352	Brandy Lee Mohn
MSW007353	Stacey Laleau
MSW007354	Pamela Lee Barrigar

MSW007355	Ashley Moriah Roberts Gibbs
MSW007356	Erica Ashley Jones
MSW007357	Adrienne Marie Torres

**Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to ratify the list of licenses issued between Board meetings as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Board Chair Report:**

The Rules Committee will be meeting via teleconference on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to review rules for amendments and changes. Recommendations will be presented to the full Board the next scheduled meeting date.

Request made to add the CE Broker program on the July Board meeting agenda for further discussion.

In addition, Board members were reminded to review the new legislation from the 2016 legislative session that have been signed into law: specifically HB 821, HB 952, SB 319 and SB 367.

**Associations – Board Update**

Association updates were provided by Ms. Gale Macke, Executive Director, LPCA, James Pace, NASW, and Diane Hall Smith, GAMFT.

The GA LPC Association Reported to the Composite Board June 10, 2016 that the NBCC approval for Continuing Education courses offered by CC and PESI has been revoked effective January 1, 2016. Here is what happened (as stated by Continuing Education Coordinator for NBCC)

- PESI, Inc. purchased Cross Country Education in 2015.
- PESI, Inc.’s ACEP status with NBCC was terminated on January 30, 2016.
- Cross Country Education was notified on March 1, 2016 that they were no longer authorized to offer NBCC credit and that their ACEP status was terminated.

Therefore, effective June 10, 2016 The Georgia Composite Board of PC, SW, MFT voted, by this policy, to accept Cross County and PESI CE Hours as Core or Related CE Hours for the 2016 renewal, but only if licensees had already taken any of the CE courses for this renewal cycle (10-01-2014 to 09-30-2016), or had planned/paid for any of these courses before the September 30, 2016 license expiration/renewal date. These CE hours still must meet all other Board rule criteria for acceptance by the Board. The board will accept these CE hours as stated on your certificates **FOR THIS RENEWAL CYCLE ONLY (09-30-2016)**.

**Mr. Marion motioned, Mr. Perryman seconded and the Board voted to adopt the above continuing education hour’s policy for this renewal cycle only. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Discussion: Proposed Rule Amendments - Rules Committee Meetings: May 19, 2016 (Rules Comm.) and May 25, 2016 (MFT Rules Comm.) - Presented to full Board:**

- Rule 135-3-.04. Licensure by Endorsement  
(1) The Board may license without examination any Professional Counselor or Marriage and Family Therapist currently licensed in another state or jurisdiction, so long as that other state or jurisdiction's requirements for the license in question are substantially equal to ~~or greater than~~ those in Georgia.

- (2) The applicant must ~~file~~ submit a written an application, and the non-refundable fee, for licensure by endorsement on Board approved forms available on the website: [www.sos.ga.gov/plb/counselors](http://www.sos.ga.gov/plb/counselors).
- (3) The applicant shall direct the licensure regulatory entity of ~~the every state or jurisdiction the applicant has ever been licensed in, currently active or not, in which the license is held to complete and~~ submit the Georgia Board's Form N of the application, or similar official documentation provided by the state or jurisdictions licensure entity, which indicates that such license is in effect and in good standing.
- (4) In addition, for only **Professional Counselor Applicants** by Endorsement, the following shall be submitted with the application materials:
- (a) Verification of a passing score for the national written exam approved by the Georgia Board for licensure; and,
- (b) Verification of a minimum of two years of unrestricted licensure at the level of a Georgia licensed professional counselor, in good standing, from every state licensure Board in which the applicant is currently, or has ever been, licensed; and,
- (c) Verification of active, unrestricted practice at the level of a Georgia licensed professional counselor in the two (2) years **immediately preceding the date of application** for licensure by Endorsement to the Georgia Board.
- (5) The Board may request further verification of any credential or documentation submitted if deemed necessary to evaluate the application.

**Ms. Barker motioned, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted to submit the above proposed amendments as presented to rule 135-3-.04 to the Attorney General's Office for a memo of statutory authority; to post the proposed rule amendments for the minimum thirty days required for public view and comment; with a public rules hearing/adoption to be scheduled the next available scheduled Board meeting. None opposed, motion carried.**

- Rule 135-5-.05. Associate Marriage and Family Therapists

(1) Definitions:

~~(a) Board Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor means a person who is licensed as a marriage and family therapist and who has been approved by the Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists to provide supervision of the practice of marriage and family therapy. To obtain such approval the person shall submit documentation of the following: five years of full-time post-licensure experience in the practice of marriage and family therapy; 180 hours of experience providing marriage and family therapy supervision for at least two supervisees during a period of no less than two years and no more than five years; 36 hours of supervision received from an American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor or a Georgia Board Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor, specifically in the skill of providing marriage and family therapy supervision, a minimum of 24 hours of which shall have been individual supervision of supervision and a recommendation from each of the supervisors who provided supervision of supervision attesting to the applicant's competence as a supervisor. In addition, the Board may, at its discretion, accept a supervisor who is licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist in another jurisdiction and who has been designated an Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor by the Board that licenses Marriage and Family Therapists in that jurisdiction.~~

~~(b-a) Contract for Post-Graduate Experience and Supervision means a statement, on forms provided by the Board, made by a person who has completed one of the degree programs required for licensure as either an associate marriage and family therapist or a marriage and family therapist, specifying that person's plan for obtaining the remaining experience and supervision required for licensure as a marriage and family therapist. Such a statement, once reviewed and approved by the Board, shall be considered a registered contract. A registered contract may be amended, so long as any changes have been approved by the Board.~~

~~(c) Course in Human Development means a graduate level course in any aspect of human development across the life span, including but not limited to theories of individual development, theories of learning,~~

~~theories of personality, theories of normal and abnormal behavior, gender, human sexuality and psychopathology.~~

~~(d) Course in Marriage and Family Studies means a graduate level course in the principles, concepts or history of marriage and family life, family systems, family relations and family development.~~

~~(e) Course in Marriage and Family Therapy means a graduate level course in the theory and practice of various treatment modalities in marriage and family therapy.~~

~~(f) Course in Marriage and Family Therapy Ethics means a graduate level course in professional ethics, legal responsibilities and liabilities, standards of practice, licensure regulation, and professional socialization relevant to the practice of marriage and family therapy.~~

~~(g) Course in Research means a graduate level course in research design, methods and statistics.~~

~~(h-b) Direct Clinical Experience means time spent in client contact as therapist or cotherapist, in supervision, in case staffing, or in case consultation.~~

~~(I c) Direction means ongoing oversight by an employer or superior of the work of a person practicing professional counseling, social work, or marriage and family therapy. The director shall be responsible for assuring the quality of services rendered by that practitioner, and shall ensure that qualified supervision or intervention occurs in situations which require expertise beyond that of the practitioner. In order to be acceptable to the Marriage and Family Therapy Standards Committee of the Board, a director must attest to having performed the functions specified in this paragraph, and when not an employer must have entered into a contractual agreement with the practitioner to perform these functions.~~

~~(j d) One Year Practicum means twelve months of supervised experience obtained while enrolled in graduate level courses designated as a practicum at an educational institution which, at the time, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation.~~

~~(k e) Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy means evaluating, diagnosing and treating emotional and mental problems and conditions, whether cognitive, affective or behavioral, resolving intrapersonal and interpersonal conflicts, and changing perception, attitudes and behavior; all within the context of marital and family systems. Marriage and family therapy includes, without being limited to, individual, group, couple, sexual, family and divorce therapy. Marriage and family therapy involves an applied understanding of the dynamics of marital and family therapy systems, including individual psychodynamics, the use of assessment instruments that evaluate marital and family functioning, designing and recommending a course of treatment, and the use of psychotherapy and counseling.~~

~~(l f) Program Equivalent to a Marriage and Family Therapy Degree Program means an organized course of study at an accredited educational institution consisting of a master's degree and additional post-master's degree coursework which includes three courses in marriage and family studies, three courses in marriage and family therapy, three courses in human development, one course in marriage and family therapy ethics, and one course in research.~~

~~(m g) Program in Marriage and Family Therapy means a master's degree program at an accredited educational institution which includes three courses in marriage and family studies, three courses in marriage and family therapy, three courses in human development, one course in marriage and family therapy ethics, and one course in research.~~

~~(h) Course in Marriage and Family Studies means a graduate level course in the principles, concepts or history of marriage and family life, family systems, family relations and family development.~~

~~(i) Course in Marriage and Family Therapy means a graduate level course in the theory and practice of various treatment modalities in marriage and family therapy.~~

~~(j) Course in Human Development means a graduate level course in any aspect of human development across the life span, including but not limited to theories of individual development, theories of learning, theories of personality, theories of normal and abnormal behavior, gender, human sexuality and psychopathology.~~

~~(k) Course in Marriage and Family Therapy Ethics means a graduate level course in professional ethics, legal responsibilities and liabilities, standards of practice, licensure regulation, and professional socialization relevant to the practice of marriage and family therapy.~~

~~(l) Course in Research means a graduate level course in research design, methods and statistics.~~

(~~m~~) Supervision means the direct clinical review, for the purpose of training or teaching, by a supervisor of the interactions with clients of a person practicing professional counseling, social work or marriage and family therapy. Supervision may include, without being limited to, the review of case presentations, audio tapes, video tapes, and direct observation in order to promote the development of the practitioner's clinical skills. Both supervisors and supervisees are required to maintain a contemporaneous record of the date, duration, type (individual, paired, or group), and a brief summary of the pertinent activity for each supervision session to be submitted to the Board upon request. If there are any discrepancies in hours, contemporaneous documentation of supervision will be requested.

(2) Requirements for Licensure:

(a) Education. The applicant must have earned a master's degree from a program in marriage and family therapy, from a program equivalent to a marriage and family therapy degree program, or from any program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education. Such program shall be in an educational institution which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation.

(b) Practicum. The applicant must have completed a one year practicum in the practice of marriage and family therapy before or after the granting of the master's degree.

1. Such practicum shall include a minimum of 500 hours of direct clinical experience.

2. Such practicum shall include 100 hours of supervision provided by a licensed marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, clinical social worker, psychiatrist or psychologist, who was also an American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor, ~~a Georgia Board Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor~~, or a person who was receiving supervision-of-supervision in order to qualify for either designation.

3. In addition, the Board may, at its discretion, accept a supervisor who is licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist in another jurisdiction and who has been designated an Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor by the Board that licenses Marriage and Family Therapists in that jurisdiction.

(c) Contract. The applicant must register an acceptable contract for post-graduate experience and supervision with the Board.

1. Applicants who have not yet secured employment or begun supervision at the time of their application for licensure may indicate on the contract form that their plan for obtaining experience or supervision is not complete, provided that they submit a completed contract to the Board upon securing employment or beginning supervision.

2. Once registered, any proposed change in the contract must be submitted to the Board for approval.

3. The Board, at its discretion, may request an update of the contract.

(3) Examination. To qualify for licensure as an associate marriage and family therapist, applicant must pass the required competency examination for licensure prescribed by the Board in rule 135-3-.03(2)(e)(2).

(~~3~~)4) Restrictions on Practice:

(a) A person who holds a license as an associate marriage and family therapist may only use the title "associate marriage and family therapist-" and may practice marriage and family therapy only under direction and supervision, and only for a period not to exceed five years while obtaining the post-master's experience and supervision required for licensure as a marriage and family therapist.

~~(b) A person who holds a license as an associate marriage and family therapist may engage in the practice of marriage and family therapy, but only while under direction and supervision, and only for a period not to exceed five years while obtaining the post-master's experience and supervision required for licensure as a marriage and family therapist.~~

(b) An associate marriage and family therapist license will expire five years from the date of issuance of the license, even if the "associate marriage and family therapist" license has been recently renewed. All requirements for licensure as an associate marriage and family therapist should be met within this five year period.

**Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to submit the above proposed amendments as presented to rule 135-5-.05 to the Attorney General's Office for a memo of statutory authority; to post the proposed rule amendments for the minimum thirty days required for public view and comment; with a public rules hearing/adoption to be scheduled the next available scheduled Board meeting. None opposed, motion carried.**

- Rule 135-5-.06. Marriage and Family Therapists

(1) Definitions:

(a) Approved Practicum or Internship Program means supervised experience obtained while enrolled in graduate level courses designated as a practicum or internship at an educational institution which, at the time, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

(b) ~~Board Approved Graduate Level Course means a course in Marriage and Family Studies, Marriage and Family Therapy, or Marriage and Family Therapy Ethics which is offered by a training institute, is comparable to a graduate level course offered by an accredited educational institution, and has received prior approval by the Board. To obtain such approval, the training institute shall submit a course outline, a reading list, a bibliography, a curriculum vita for each instructor, and the required fee to the Board. Applications must include evidence that: the course content is organized around at least one major accepted comprehensive book and additional ancillary readings; the readings represent the current state of thinking in the field of marriage and family therapy and are of a depth comparable to a graduate level course; the course includes a minimum of 45 hours of classroom instruction; the course includes at least one comprehensive examination on which students must achieve a score of 80% or better in order to receive credit; and the instructor is licensed as either a marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, clinical social worker, psychologist, or psychiatrist, demonstrates specific training in the field of marriage and family therapy, and has at least five years post licensure experience in the practice of marriage and family therapy. Such approval shall be for a period of three years, and shall expire unless renewed prior to the end of that period.~~

(c) ~~Board Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor means a person who is licensed as a marriage and family therapist and who has been approved by the Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists to provide supervision of the practice of marriage and family therapy. To obtain such approval the person shall submit documentation of the following: five years of full-time post-licensure experience in the practice of marriage and family therapy; 180 hours of experience providing marriage and family therapy supervision for at least two supervisees during a period of no less than two years and no more than five years; 36 hours of supervision received from an American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor or a Georgia Board Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor, specifically in the skill of providing marriage and family therapy supervision, a minimum of 24 hours of which shall have been individual supervision of supervision; and a recommendation from each of the supervisors who provided supervision of supervision attesting to the applicant's competence as a supervisor. In addition, the Board may, at its discretion, accept a supervisor who is licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist in another jurisdiction and who has been designated an Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor by the Board that licenses Marriage and Family Therapists in that jurisdiction.~~

(d) ~~b) Contract for Post-Graduate Experience and Supervision means a statement on forms provided by the Board, made by a person who has completed one of the degree programs required for licensure as either an associate marriage and family therapist or a marriage and family therapist, specifying that person's plan for obtaining the remaining experience and supervision required for licensure as a marriage and family therapist. Such a statement, once reviewed and approved by the Board, shall be considered a registered contract. A registered contract may be amended, so long as any changes have been approved by the Board.~~

(e) ~~c) Course in Clinical Content Area means a graduate level course in the etiology, dynamics, evaluation, assessment, or treatment of emotional or behavioral problems and conditions.~~

(~~f~~ d) Course in Marriage and Family Studies means a graduate level course in the principles, concepts or history of marriage and family life, family systems, family relations and family development.

(~~g~~ e) Course in Marriage and Family Therapy means a graduate level course in the theory and practice of various treatment modalities in marriage and family therapy.

(~~h~~ f) Course in Marriage and Family Therapy Ethics means a graduate level course in professional ethics, legal responsibilities and liabilities, standards of practice, licensure regulation, and professional socialization relevant to the practice of marriage and family therapy.

(~~i~~ g) Direct Clinical Experience means time spent in client contact as therapist or cotherapist, in supervision, in case staffing, or in case consultation.

(~~j~~ h) Direction means ongoing oversight by an employer or superior of the work of a person practicing professional counseling, social work or marriage and family therapy. The director shall be responsible for assuring the quality of services rendered by that practitioner, and shall ensure that qualified supervision or intervention occurs in situations which require expertise beyond that of the practitioner. In order to be acceptable to the Marriage and Family Therapy Standards Committee of the Board, a director must attest to having performed the functions specified in this paragraph, and when not an employer must have entered into a contractual agreement with the practitioner to perform these functions.

(~~k~~ i) Full-time Experience means a minimum of 20 hours per week spent in direct clinical experience.

(~~l~~ j) Group Supervision means a maximum of six supervisees meeting with one supervisor.

(~~m~~ k) Individual Supervision means a maximum of two supervisees meeting with one supervisor.

(~~n~~ l) One Year means twelve months, or any periods of time which sum to twelve months.

(~~o~~ m) Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy means evaluating, diagnosing, and treating emotional and mental problems and conditions, whether cognitive, affective or behavioral, resolving intrapersonal and interpersonal conflicts, and changing perception, attitudes and behavior; all within the context of marital and family systems. Marriage and family therapy includes, without being limited to, individual, group, couple, sexual, family and divorce therapy. Marriage and family therapy involves an applied understanding of the dynamics of marital and family therapy systems, including individual psychodynamics, the use of assessment instruments that evaluate marital and family functioning, designing and recommending a course of treatment, and the use of psychotherapy and counseling.

(~~p~~ n) Supervision means the direct clinical review for the purpose of training or teaching, by a supervisor of the interactions with clients of a person practicing professional counseling, social work or marriage and family therapy. Supervision may include, without being limited to, the review of case presentations, audio tapes, video tapes, and direct observation in order to promote the development of the practitioner's clinical skills. Both supervisors and supervisees are required to maintain a contemporaneous record of the date, duration, type (individual, paired, or group), and a brief summary of the pertinent activity for each supervision session to be submitted to the Board upon request. If there are any discrepancies in hours, contemporaneous documentation of supervision will be requested.

(2) An applicant who holds a current license as an **Associate Marriage and Family Therapist** must meet the following requirements for licensure as a marriage and family therapist:

(a) Experience. The applicant must document two years of fulltime post-master experience or its equivalent, under direction and supervision:

1. Such experience shall have been in the practice of marriage and family therapy and shall include a minimum of 2,000 hours of direct clinical experience.

2. For applicants who have worked less than full-time, equivalent experience may be accrued over a total of not less than two years and not more than five years.

(b) Supervision. The applicant must have obtained 100 hours of supervision; concurrent with his/her documented experience.

1. Such supervision shall have been provided by a licensed marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, clinical social worker, psychiatrist or psychologist, each licensee designated in this section shall have been licensed for a minimum of three years; and,

2. A minimum of 50 of these 100 hours must have been in individual supervision and a maximum of 50 of these 100 hours may have been in group supervision.

3. A minimum of 30 hours of supervision is required in any 12 month calendar year.

(c) Examination Waived. The applicant is not required to re-take the Examination in Marriage and Family Therapy following Board approval of his/her application for licensure as a marriage and family therapist.

(3) An applicant who holds a ~~Master's Degree~~ **Master's Degree** and does not have an active Associate Marriage and Family Therapist (AMFT) license must meet the following requirements for licensure as a marriage and family therapist:

(a) Examination. To qualify for licensure as an marriage and family therapist, applicant must pass the required competency examination for licensure prescribed by the Board in rule 135-3-.03(2)(e)(2).

(~~a~~ **b**) Education. The applicant must have earned a master's degree in marriage and family therapy, counseling, social work, medicine, applied psychology, psychiatric nursing, pastoral counseling, applied child and family development, applied sociology, or from any program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education. Such degree shall be from an educational institution which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

1. For the purpose of licensure under this rule, a degree in psychology, child and family development or sociology shall be considered an applied degree and a degree in divinity or in theology shall be considered a degree in pastoral counseling, if the applicant has completed, as part of the degree program or as additional post-master's coursework, either of the following two options:

(i) three courses in clinical content areas; or

(ii) two courses in clinical content areas, plus an approved practicum or internship, which shall include a minimum of 500 hours of direct clinical experience in the practice of professional counseling, clinical social work or marriage and family therapy. The coursework required under this section shall be in addition to the five courses required in 2 below.

2. The applicant shall have completed, as part of the degree program or as additional postmaster's coursework, at least two courses in Marriage and Family Therapy, two courses in Marriage and Family Studies, and one course in Marriage and Family Therapy Ethics. These courses shall have been obtained from an educational institution accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation ~~or from a training institute which offers Board approved graduate level courses.~~

~~3. A person who has completed one of the required master's degrees with the intention of pursuing licensure as a marriage and family therapist may, but is not required to, register a contract for post-graduate experience and supervision with the Board.~~

(~~b~~ **c**) Experience. The applicant must document three years of fulltime post-master's experience or its equivalent, under direction and supervision, which shall include a minimum of 2,500 hours of direct clinical experience, ~~may, but is not required to, register a contract for post-graduate experience and supervision with the Board.~~

1. One year of such experience may have been in an approved practicum before or after the granting of the master's degree, which shall include a minimum of 500 hours of direct clinical experience in the practice of professional counseling, clinical social work or marriage and family therapy.

2. At least two years of such experience shall have been in the practice of marriage and family therapy, which shall include a minimum of 2,000 hours of direct clinical experience.

3. For applicants who have worked less than full-time, equivalent experience may be accrued over a total of not less than three years and not more than five years.

(~~e~~ **d**) Supervision. The applicant must have obtained 200 hours of supervision, concurrent with his/her documented experience.

1. Such supervision shall have been provided by a licensed marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, clinical social worker, psychiatrist or psychologist, each licensee designated in this section shall have been licensed for a minimum of three years;

2. At least 100 hours of such supervision shall have been provided by an American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor, a Georgia Board Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor, or a person who was receiving supervision-of supervision in order to qualify for

either designation. A minimum of 50 of these 100 hours must have been in individual supervision and a maximum of 50 of these 100 hours may have been in group supervision.

3. Up to 100 hours of such supervision may have been obtained during an approved practicum before or after the granting of the master's degree.

(4) An applicant who holds a ~~Doctoral Degree~~ **Doctoral Degree** must meet the following requirements for licensure as a marriage and family therapist.

(a) Examination. To qualify for licensure as an marriage and family therapist, applicant must pass the required competency examination for licensure prescribed by the Board in rule 135-3-.03(2)(e)(2).

(~~a~~ b) Education. The applicant must have earned a doctoral degree in marriage and family therapy, counseling, social work, medicine, applied psychology, psychiatric nursing, pastoral counseling, applied child and family development, applied sociology, or from any program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education. Such degree shall be from an educational institution which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

1. For the purpose of licensure under this rule, a degree in psychology, child and family development or sociology shall be considered an applied degree and a degree in divinity or in theology shall be considered a degree in pastoral counseling, if the applicant has completed, as part of the degree program or as additional post-doctoral coursework, either of the following two options:

(i) three courses in clinical content areas; or

(ii) two courses in clinical content areas, plus an approved practicum or internship, which shall include a minimum of 500 hours of direct clinical experience in the practice of professional counseling, clinical social work or marriage and family therapy. The coursework required under this section shall be in addition to the five courses required in 2 below.

2. The applicant shall have completed, as part of a master's or doctoral degree program, or as additional post-graduate degree coursework, at least two courses in Marriage and Family Therapy, two courses in Marriage and Family Studies, and one course in Marriage and Family Therapy Ethics. These courses shall have been obtained from an educational institution accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) ~~or from a training institute which offers Board approved graduate level courses.~~

3. A person who has completed one of the required doctoral degrees with the intention of pursuing licensure as a marriage and family therapist may, but is not required to, register a contract for post-graduate experience and supervision with the Board.

(~~b~~ c) Experience. The applicant must document two years of fulltime post-master's or post doctorate experience in the practice of marriage and family therapy, under direction and supervision, which shall include a minimum of 1,500 hours of direct clinical experience.

1. One year of such experience may have been in an approved internship program before or after the granting of the doctoral degree, which shall include a minimum of 500 hours of direct clinical experience.

2. At least one year of such experience shall have been full-time post-master's or post doctorate experience, which shall include a minimum of 1,000 hours of direct clinical experience.

(~~e~~ d) Supervision. The applicant must have obtained 100 hours of supervision, concurrent with their documented experience.

1. Such supervision shall have been provided by a licensed marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, clinical social worker, psychiatrist or psychologist, each licensee designated in this section shall have been licensed for a minimum of three years, and who was also an American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor, a Georgia Board Approved Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor, or a person who was receiving supervision-of-supervision in order to qualify for either designation.

2. A maximum of 50 of these 100 hours may have been obtained during the applicant's doctoral degree or internship program.

3. A minimum of 50 of these 100 hours must have been in individual supervision and a maximum of 50 of these 100 hours may have been in group supervision.

**Mr. Livingston motioned, Ms. Klock-Powell seconded, and the Board voted to submit the above proposed amendments as presented to rule 135-5-.06 to the Attorney General's Office for a memo of statutory authority; to post the proposed rule amendments for the minimum thirty days required for public view and comment; with a public rules hearing/adoption to be scheduled the next available scheduled Board meeting. None opposed, motion carried.**

**In addition, Mr. Black motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded and the Board voted the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these three rules above does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the O.C.G.A.**

**Additionally, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of the O.C.G.A. to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Professional Counseling, Social Work and Marriage and Family Therapy.**

**With no additional Board business requiring discussion, Mr., Black motioned, Ms. Real seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn today's meeting at 3:32 p.m.**

Minutes recorded by:

Linsey Brookins, BSS, 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: July 8, 2016