

**ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
January 27, 2006**

I. CALL TO ORDER

This scheduled meeting of the Committee was called to order at 9:15 a.m., in the Somerset Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey by Committee Chair Edward Reading who gave notice of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Committee Chair, Edward Reading
Committee Member, Sylvia W. Lippe
Committee Member, Robert Mackey

Staff Present:

Executive Director, Elaine L. DeMars
Deputy Attorney General, Mileidy Perez
Administrative Staff, Celeste Sweeper
Administrative Staff, Waiman Yee
Administrative Staff, Tammarra King

The Committee congratulated and welcomed new committee member Robert Mackey, LCADC.

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion made by Sylvia W. Lippe and seconded by Robert Mackey, the minutes of the December 16, 2005 public session Committee meeting were approved as amended.

IV. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

A. N.J.A.C. 13:34C- Proposed Amendments

Committee Chair Edward Reading informed the Committee that the draft revisions of N.J.A.C. 13:34C have been approved by the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners. The Committee had previously approved revisions to correct, clarify and update current language including the definition of "Health care provider," the scope of practice for certificate holders, the continuing education requirement for six credits in the legal standards related to the practice of alcohol and drug counseling and clarification of supervision and references to counseling interns.

B. A-3743

This proposed legislation would limit the time frame in which a health insurance carrier can request reimbursement from a health care provider if the carrier overpaid a previously settled claim and provides the general procedure for the reimbursement request process. Following review the Committee determined to accept the proposal as informational without comment.

IV. APPLICATION PROCESSING ISSUES

A. N.J.A.C. 13:34C-2.1(a)

The Committee once again noted that pursuant to the above noted regulation, March 15, 2006 is the date for the expiration of licensure/certification pursuant to the "grandfathering" provision. Applications must be postmarked March 15, 2006 to be considered for licensure or certification.

B. Biennial License Renewal

The Committee was informed that the biennial renewal application for all active CADCs and LCADCs is in the approval process. It is anticipated that the first renewal-related mailing will be mailed in early June, 2006. The letter will include information on the requirement for current address information and will also provide instructions for on-line renewal processing. The pressure-sealed (hard copy) renewal application is scheduled to be mailed on or before June 15, 2006. The continuing education requirement, continuing education audit and procedures for the review of documentation were discussed. The Committee determined that an additional mailing is necessary to remind all licensees and certificate holders that continuing education certificates are not to be sent with the renewal or to the Committee office. It is only upon receipt of a continuing education audit letter that certificates will be required. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.5, "A licensee or certificate holder shall retain documentation of the contact hours of continuing education which the licensee or certificate holder completes in order to verify program attendance or activity completion. Each licensee or certificate holder shall submit such documentation to the Committee upon request. The Committee shall review the records of the licensees and/or certificate holders from time to time, to determine compliance with continuing education requirements."

C. License Processing Report

Executive Director DeMars reported that effective January 26, 2006 a total of 1915 applications have been received. There are a total of 1070 active LCADCs and 307 active CADCs. A total of 529 applications are pending, 241 for licensure and 288 for certification. Pending applications include those awaiting criminal history reports, fees, and documentation of requirements. Nine (9) applications have been either withdrawn or denied.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

APCBNJ Executive Director Richard Bowe and Board Chair Ray Cortese attended the public session of the meeting and presented information on the preparation course for the written examination, revised requirements for instructors and the certification of instructors of the course to satisfy the State renewal requirement (N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.2(d)) for 6 contact hours in legal standards related to the practice of alcohol and drug counseling in New Jersey. The names of the twenty- seven individuals who have been approved to instruct this course are listed on APCBNJ's web page at www.certbd.com

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Carol Bucciarelli, M.Ed., LCADC

The Committee reviewed Ms. Bucciarelli's e-mail dated December 27, 2005 and questions related to the lack of recognition of the LCADC credential by major insurance companies. Upon review, the Committee directed that Ms. Bucciarelli be informed that the Committee does not have jurisdiction over insurance matters. The issue, however, may be addressed by professional associations.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Filed Consent Orders

Copies of following Consent Orders were distributed. Delores Bender-Melillo, Khalil Hamza, Suzanne Jacki Zipes.

B. "Fast Track" - Addiction Treatment Management Service Network (ATPMSM)

The Committee reviewed an electronic advertisement for the ATPMSN program designed to prepare candidates

with a Masters degree in Counseling or a related field for State licensure. A determination was made to make a formal request to Mr. Jim O'Brien, Executive Director of Addiction Treatment Providers that the use of the term be discontinued as it may be misleading. The Committee emphasized that the requirements for licensure and certification are set by statute at N.J.S.A. 45:2D and in the regulations at N.J.A.C. 13:34C. All applicants must be aware that all requirements for licensure must be satisfied.

2006 Meeting Dates:

February 17, 2006 July 28, 2006
March 31, 2006 August 25, 2006
April 21, 2006 September 22, 2006
May 19, 2006 October 27, 2006
June 16, 2006 November 17, 2006
December 15, 2006

X. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee is February 17, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

XI. CREDENTIAL REVIEW

Applications for licensure and certification were presented to the Committee for review. On a motion made by Sylvia W. Lippe and seconded by Robert Mackey, the following applications were approved:

CADC - Regular

1. Armstrong, Sandra E.
2. Auriemma, Jacqueline
3. Brown, Sahib H. Sr.
4. Chapman, Derick R.
5. Conway, Jodi
6. Dowling, Denise L.
7. Eddington, Laverne *
8. Flietstra, William C.
9. Gavrell, Stephen J. 10. Gibson, William
11. Hazzard, Gregory
12. Karpiel, Roman
13. Kosmalski, Suzanne
14. Llano, Rafael Jr.
15. Montas, Sergio A.
16. Schavelin, Michelle L.
17. Staten, Glenn J. Jr.

LCADC - Regular

1. Castellano, Anthony E.
2. Conner, Kristen A.
3. Danskin, Jill
4. Harris, Richard K.
5. Jackson, Nicole M.
6. Jackson, Susan B.
7. Walton, Malachi I.

LCADC - Grandfather

1. Frascati, Robert J.

* Committee member Robert Mackey recused from the vote on the applications Ms. Laverne Eddington. Recusals are based on either professional or personal knowledge of the individual noted.

Approved to Sit for the Oral Examination

1. Alli, Ajibola LCADC regular
2. Amaral, Fernando CADC regular
3. Kross, Gail F. CADC regular
4. Champion, Linda CADC regular
5. Joissim, Joada CADC regular
6. Jones, Rene CADC regular
7. June, Linda LCADC regular
8. Prokop, Philadelphia J. LCADC regular
9. Shumate, Mark CADC regular
10. Vazquez, Elba CADC regular
11. Walton, Marsha LCADC regular

Approved to Sit for the Written and Oral Examination

1. Adler, Elissa CADC regular
2. Ashley, LaTanya CADC regular
3. Blamahsah, Katie CADC regular
4. Brennan, Samantha S.W. LCADC regular
4. Crosley, Leroy CADC regular
5. Dix, Debra LCADC regular
6. Elliott-Smith, Tiffany CADC regular
7. Flores, Romonita CADC regular
8. Fox, Denise C. LCADC regular
9. Ghali, Maureen F. LCADC regular
10. Ivonnett, Alina CADC regular
11. Johnson, Shaun CADC regular
12. Karl, Michael CADC regular
13. Lapenz, Suzanne LCADC regular
14. Maederer, John S. CADC regular
15. Mateo, Miguel LCADC regular
16. Mendez, Selina LCADC regular
17. Romanelli, Thomas CADC regular
18. Rivera, Evelyn CADC regular
19. Ruane, Stephanie D. CADC regular
20. Ruff-Jordan, Marie CADC regular
21. Saucedo, Mary H. CADC regular
22. Schaber, Fred N. Jr. CADC regular
23. Utley, Stanley CADC regular
24. Viera, Maribett CADC regular
25. Vint, Dianne M. LCADC regular

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Sylvia W. Lippe and seconded by Robert Mackey, the Committee voted to move into Executive Session at 11:17 a.m. to discuss pending applications, confidential and disciplinary matters.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Robert Mackey, the Committee adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.