

ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
February 25, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:57 a.m. in the Hudson Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey by Chairman Edward Reading who gave notice of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Committee Chair, Edward Reading
Committee Vice Chair, Donald Weinbaum
Committee Member, Sylvia Lippe

Absent: Public Member, Georgene Brazier

Staff Present:

Deputy Attorney General, Susan Berger
Executive Director, Elaine L. DeMars
Administrative Staff, Celeste Sweeper
Administrative Staff, Waiman Yee

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion made by Donald Weinbaum and seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the minutes of January 28, 2005 public session were approved as amended.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present.

V. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

Legislative Review

S-2321 A proposal that would require mandatory drug treatment for certain drug dependent persons and amending N.J.S. 2C:36A-1. The Committee voted to support the concept of the bill, but noted that clarification was needed for the following:

1. What is the funding source for the required evaluations?
2. Who is responsible for payment of the required evaluations?
3. Who is defined as professionals to perform diagnostic assessments? It is not clear whether independent evaluators would be employed or if evaluators employed by the Court would perform the evaluations. The Committee recommends that the language be revised to read: "the court shall require the person to undergo a professional diagnostic assessment performed by a licensed professional to determine whether and to what extent the person is drug dependent and would benefit from treatment.

A-3757 Revises licensure and certification requirements for certain persons who engage in the practice of social work. The Committee voted to support the concept of the proposal in that it is a way to raise the level of

education and training and therefore affords public protection. In theory, the Committee opined that public protection is not served by any exception to licensure, whether it be for the government agency or non-profit agency setting. The following recommendations were made:

1. Section 5(a) should be corrected to include marriage and family counseling, alcohol and drug counseling, social work . . .
2. The Committee emphasized that in Section 5(e) the existing statutory distinction of "prevention" as being a non-clinical and exempt service should be retained. There is currently a "prevention specialist" (voluntary) certification (APCBNJ) that is recognized by the Division of Addiction Services (Department of Human Services). These services are not recognized as social work or addictions counseling. Therefore, it is recommended that only the words "intervention" and "counseling" be deleted from N.J.S.A. 45:15BB.5(e) the remaining exemption would be accurate.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A- Application Processing Report

To date, a total of 1,530 applications have been received. Six hundred thirty-nine (639) are pending and eight hundred ninety-one (891) are active. One hundred sixty-three (163) are regular LCADC, six hundred eleven (611) are grandfather LCADC, one hundred eight (108) are regular CADC, nine (9) are grandfather CADC and twelve (12) applications have been approved for the examination. Of these 1,530 applications the Committee has received one application that has student loan default and one that has a child support default. Of the 1,769 CADC certificate holders from the APCBNJ list, 489 have not submitted an application for state licensure/certification.

B- Enforcement of Unlicensed Practice

The Committee will send notification of unlicensed practice to those in the field who continue to practice without the required State certification/licensure credential. The Committee will work through the Department of Human Services, Division of Addiction Services to identify the licensed alcohol and drug treatment facilities. It is anticipated that letters will be sent out in the month of June informing APCBNJ certificate holders of the August/September deadline to apply for licensure/certification.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items presented.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Legal Standards Continuing Education Requirement

The Committee discussed the "Train the Trainers" workshop planned to address the initial licensure period requirement for 6 contact hours of continuing education in legal standards. The Committee will continue to work with APCBNJ to establish the attendee requirements, training dates and locations. APCBNJ will host the training sessions.

2005 Committee Meeting Dates:

April 1, 2005
September 23, 2005
May 20, 2005
October 28, 2005
June 24, 2005
November 19, 2005
July 22, 2005

December 17,2005

August 26, 2005

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Licensure/Certification Workshop

The Department of Human Services, Division of Addiction Services will hold workshop/training on licensing/certification requirements. Administrators will be among the groups scheduled to be present. Committee Member Donald Weinbaum also reported that he has been asked by the Division of Addiction Services to provide a future presentation on licensure/certification requirements. Specific details will be provided as they become available.

X. CREDENTIAL REVIEW

The following applications were presented to the Committee for review and were approved as noted.

On a motion by Donald Weinbaum, seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the following applications were approved:

LCADC - Grandfather

1. Alvarez, Iris
2. Caines, Claire
3. Cervelli, Roseann
4. DeBlasio, Dominick
5. Germer, Omar A.
6. Hanlon, Michael *
7. Hargrove, Josephine
8. Kismal, Gwen
9. Lovell III, Frank

Recusal: Edward Reading and Donald Weinbaum recused from the vote on the approval for the application of Michael Hanlon. Recusal was based on either personal or professional knowledge of the applicant noted. Deputy Director Anthony Miragliotta approved the application for licensure.

10. McMenamain, Catherine
11. Morgan, Harry
12. Pagan, Jane
13. Pestana Malave, Jacqueline
14. Singley, Lori

LCADC - Regular

1. Brogan, John*
2. Toline, Holli
3. Warner, Susan

Recusal: Edward Reading recused from the vote on the approval for the application of John Brogan. Recusal was based on either personal or professional knowledge of the applicant noted.

CADC - Regular

1. Arthur, Carol
2. Brower, Mary
3. Brown, Mark

4. Centeno, Migdalia
5. Cundiff, Alice
6. Davila, Juan
7. Doughty, Edward
8. Firger, Linda
9. Fisher, Kathy
10. Flintall, Annmarie
11. Forte, Dominick
12. Harrington, Anne
13. Kane, Dennis
14. Kosek, Lesvy
15. Kornacki, Robert
16. Maksymowicz, Susan
17. McLaughlin, Thomas
18. Ramos, Angel
19. Ramos, Orlando
20. Rijos-Hughes, Elizabeth
21. Rogers, Robert
22. Smith, Rose
23. Taylor, David
24. Tyburski, Deborah
25. Ulikowski, Deborah
26. Whelan, Janet

Approved to Sit for the Oral Examination

1. Susan Foose

Recusal: Donald Weinbaum recused from the vote on the approval for the application of Susan Foose. Recusal was based on either personal or professional knowledge of the applicant noted.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 12:03 p.m., on a motion by Donald Weinbaum, seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session to discuss pending confidential and disciplinary matters.

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee is scheduled for April 1, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Donald Weinbaum, the Committee adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.