

**ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
OCTOBER 26, 2007**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

This scheduled meeting of the Committee was called to order at 9:34 a.m., in the Hudson Conference Room, 6th floor, Newark, New Jersey by Committee Chair Edward Reading who gave notice of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present:

Committee Chair, Edward Reading, LCADC  
Committee Vice Chair, Sylvia Lippe, LCADC  
Committee Member, Norwood Allen, CADC  
Committee Member, Jamie Lugo, CADC

Recused:

Until the matter is resolved, Public Member Lorenzo S. Puertas is recused from attendance based on services he provides related to the profession that may be a possible violation of the statutory requirement for public board members.

Staff Present:

Executive Director, Elaine L. DeMars  
Deputy Attorney General, Susan Berger  
Administrative Staff, Celeste Paige

**III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

On a motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee approved the September 21, 2007 public session minutes as amended.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

N.J.A.C. 13:34C-2.3(b)4  
Division of Addiction Services

Mollie Green, Deputy Director and Elizabeth Conte, Educational Development Workforce Specialist of the Division of Addiction Services attended the meeting to discuss information regarding the 270 core course work hour requirement as set at N.J.A.C. 13:34C-2.3(b)4 and the respective course work documentation.

**V. LEGISLATION/REGULATIONS**

A. N.J.A.C. 13:34C -Revision Draft  
N.J.A.C. 13:34C-2.3(b)4

Regulatory Analyst, Maryann Sheehan, addressed the Committee to discuss the issue of whether ICRC or NAADAC must approve all course work that is not part of a matriculated college or university program. The

professional members of the committee emphasized the significant difference in two types of college sponsored course work. On one hand, the presentation techniques and content of courses offered through matriculated (fifteen contact hours per credit, and usually 3 credit courses) college course work is far more structured and integrated, utilizing not only techniques such as lecture, video, discussion, role playing, etc., but also "homework", independent research, site visits, outside of classroom meetings and study, etc. The other style of non-matriculated "workshops" are freestanding topics that normally do not integrate the required topics with the entirety of the Domain requirements.

Matriculated college course work is developed with the course approval process being approved by the "Regional Accrediting Agencies for Colleges and Universities." Workshops (3-6 hours) offered on college grounds, not for college credit are not given the same recognition by academic institutions. If the series of workshops were coordinated and integrated into a unified "course for credit" it would go through a different approval process. The Committee also had concerns that workshop presenters, even in college sponsored workshops, do not have the same credential requirements as presenters in matriculated courses.

These issues are a major concern for the students' entry level preparation for practice, and therefore, the welfare of future clients. It was also noted that in New Jersey with the exception of the Center for Alcohol Studies, all other non-matriculated programs are reviewed through the ICRC approved standard review process. In fact, most of the matriculated college programs also submit their course work to the ICRC approval process.

The Committee asked that the Division Acting Director, Legislative Liaison and Assistant Attorney General meet with them on November 16 or as soon as possible, during a scheduled meeting, to discuss their concerns directly.

#### B. Proposed Readoption: N.J.A.C. 13:44B

The Committee accepted as informational the notice of the October 15, 2007 Rule Proposal published in the New Jersey Register. The regulation establishes per diem compensation for members and officers of a professional board designated at N.J.S.A. 45:1-2.1.

#### C. N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.2(d) -Continuing Education Contact Hour Requirement

The Committee accepted as informational an e-mail notice with scheduling information for the mandatory legal standards continuing education course. Prevention First (preventionfirst.net ) has scheduled three opportunities to complete the 6-hour course, November 19, December 4 and 12, 2007.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.2(d), all licensees and certificate holders are required to complete at least six contact hours of continuing education in legal standards related to the practice of alcohol and drug counseling during their initial biennial period. A specialized course, designed to develop competency in the New Jersey statute and regulations governing the practice of alcohol and drug counselors, will become available in the Fall. In order to assure that all certificate holders and licensees complete the required course of study, the time period in which to complete the legal standards continuing education requirement will be extended for one additional renewal period. Therefore, all those certified or licensed between August 1, 2004 through July 31, 2006 must complete the specialized legal standards course by July 31, 2008.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

A. Executive Director Elaine DeMars discussed the Star Ledger article, "Professional licensing boards in Jersey in line for overhaul" and the related Attorney General press release. The Committee noted that while the long delay in Committee member appointments and lack of clerical staff has had a significant impact, the Committee has continued since 2004 to review complete application submissions and all matters related to licensing and discipline.

#### B. Ronald Teed, LCADC

The Committee reviewed the letter forward by Ronald Teed, LCADC with a petition for the modification of the

filed Consent Order. The Committee reviewed Mr. Teed's petition for a modification of the Consent Order which failed to demonstrate compliance with the Consent Order. On a motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee determined that there was insufficient basis to modify the Consent Order at this time.

#### C. Victoria Ravenna

The Committee reviewed the letter forward by Victoria Ravenna, LCADC who writes to petition the modification of the May 4, 2007 filed Consent Order. The Committee reviewed Ms. Ravenna's petition for a modification of the Consent Order which failed to demonstrate compliance with the Consent Order. On a motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee determined that there was insufficient basis to modify the Consent Order at this time.

### **VI. APPLICATION PROCESSING**

#### Educational Programs

Gail Milgram, Ph.D., Professor/Director, Rutgers School of Alcohol and Drug Studies Review of Course Work - School of Alcohol Studies and Institute of Alcohol and Drug Studies The Committee reviewed the package of 114 course outlines submitted by Dr. Milgram for Committee approval. Due to the extreme volume of the submission, the matters pending before the Committee and time constraints, the Committee voted to contract the review to two individuals identified as specialists in the area of course work designed to prepare individuals for alcohol and drug counseling. A \$75./hour stipend was authorized. The fee is to include the review and recording of the results in a preset Excel spreadsheet. The Committee unanimously voiced strong objections that the cost for this review will be supported by licensing fees. It was noted that alcohol and drug counselors are the lowest paid and have the highest licensing fee. On a motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Jamie Lugo the Committee recommended that the regulations be revised to include a fee for course review sufficient to cover the cost for future requests. In response to Dr. Milgram's question regarding whether the Committee's course approval will be good for three years as was the ICRC approval in the past, the Committee determined that the approval applies for one year only.

### **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

#### Proposed Application Revisions

A final draft of the application for certification/licensure was reviewed and approved by the Committee. The revised application will be posted immediately on Committee's web page.

### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

#### Qualifications for Licensure

The Committee reviewed an e-mail from Dr. Peter Meyers regarding the eligibility for licensure for a person who holds a Juris Doctorate. The Committee determined that an individual who holds a Juris Doctorate degree may qualify for licensure, if the applicant meets all of the requirements. The regulations do not include an exemption for holders of the degree.

### **IX. NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is November 16, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey

### **X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Norwood Allen, seconded by Jamie Lugo, the Committee moved to Executive Session at 9:40 a.m. to address confidential disciplinary matters. A subsequent motion was made at 1:00 p.m. to move to public

session to address agenda items.

## **XI. REVIEW OF CREDENTIALS**

### CADC - Regular

1. Chaconas, Patricia
2. Keeley, Jr., Patrick
3. Montaro, Dorothy
4. Neggers, Wendy
5. Ogunkola, Victoria
6. Snyder, Cindy

### LCADC - Regular

1. Acosta, Maya
2. Arthur, Robinette
3. Brockington, Inga
4. Centeno, Migdalia
5. DeMassi, Michael
6. Dimitrovski, Nancy
7. Genovese, James
8. Goodrich, Kimberly
9. Jones, Herbert
10. Ketofsky, Hal
11. Kulczycky, Sonya
12. Kunish, Jordan
13. Messineo, Theresa
14. Murphy, Keith
15. Rehman, Sonia
16. Wilke, Heather

### Approved for Written and Oral Exams

1. Asa-Awuku, Winifred
2. Blachfield, Keri
3. Goonewardene, Linda
4. Green, Clarence
5. Hodge, Rajonta
6. Rivera, Lauren
7. Sawers, Jill
8. Wilson, Sean
9. Wright, Babsie

### Approved for the Oral Exam

1. Orlando, Andrea

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Jamie Lugo, seconded by Norwood Allen, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.