



CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
Professional Counselor Examiners Committee
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



PAULA T. DOW
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PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES** **FEBRUARY 4, 2010**

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The scheduled meeting of the Committee was called to Order at 9:45 a.m., 124 Halsey Street, Hudson Conference Room, 6th floor, Newark, New Jersey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Committee Chair, J. Barry Mascari
Committee Member, William Green
Committee Member, Barbara Maurer

Also Present:

Deputy Attorney General, Susan Berger
Administrative Staff: Elaine DeMars
Agnes Almeida
Celeste Paige

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine

Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided, by mail, to the Office of the Secretary

of State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and the Courier Post and also posted on the Committee's web page.

Announcement of Quorum

The Professional Counselor Examiners Committee continues to function as a sub-Committee due to the lack of sufficient Committee member appointments. Quorum is established at N.J.S.A. 45:8B-37 and requires four members. Therefore all agenda matters will be presented to the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners as recommendations for a final vote.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by William Green, seconded by Barbara Maurer, the minutes of the December 3, 2009 public session meeting will be recommended for approval as presented.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the public attended the meeting:

1. Howard Meyerowitz, Esq. on behalf of his client, Yvonne Weber
2. John Strong, Esq. on behalf of his client, Ellen Yeagle
3. Luz Villagran

4. Susan Lutz

V. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

Senate Bill 848

The Bill requires health service corporations to encrypt certain patient information. The Committee felt that this was a duplication of what HIPAA already requires and that there are already provisions for civil penalties that the State can also take. The Committee determined that the intent of the Bill is good and supports the Bill with clarification regarding whether it applies to all health care providers.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

The committee reviewed the following letters:

A. A letter dated December 16, 2009 from seven colleges/universities (*Caldwell College, Centenary College, The College of St. Elizabeth, Fairleigh Dickinson, Georgian Court University, Rowan University and Seton Hall University*) who offer Masters degrees in counseling who say they are immediately and negatively affected by the recent regulatory changes adopted by the Committee and requested a meeting with the Committee.

The Committee determined to send a letter inviting one (1) representative from each college/university to meet with Committee on April 29, 2010 to discuss their compliance with the October 5, 2009 adopted regulation.

B. The Committee reviewed the December 14, 2009 letter forward by the **Northamerican Association of Masters in Psychology (NAMPP)**. The Association wrote to request clarification on the regulations and to ask for the Committee's help with the licensing process. A letter will be sent to Ms. Pennington referring her to N.J.A.C. 45:B8-40 (c) and 40(e).

C. The Committee reviewed the December 14, 2009 letter submitted by Sheila Stander of **Mines & Associates**. Ms. Stander writes on behalf of the company offering the Committee the opportunity to join the Mines network. The Committee accepted the letter as informational.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC)

The Committee reviewed the NBCC Statistical Report for the January 16, 2010 Examination and accepted the report as informational.

IX. NBCC MATTERS

Computer Based Test

The paper and pencil examination will continue until the Committee receives state approval for the computer based testing.

X. FILED ORDERS

A. Luis E. Hernandez

December 17, 2009 filed Final Order of Discipline suspending Mr. Hernandez's license for failure to comply with the May 8, 2008 Consent Order.

B. Annamarie Lubitz

The signed February 4, 2010 Consent Order for the unlicensed practice of professional counseling.

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for March 4, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

2010 Meeting Dates:

March 4, 2010	August 5, 2010
April 1, 2010	September 2, 2010
May 6, 2010	October 7, 2010
June 3, 2010	November 4, 2010
July 1, 2010	December 2, 2010

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by William Green, seconded by Barbara Mauer, the Committee moved to Executive Session at 10:45 a.m. to discuss consumer complaints and pending disciplinary matters.

XIII. CREDENTIAL REVIEW

On a motion by Barbara Maurer, seconded by William Green, the following applications were approved:

Licensed Professional Counselors

Brisson, Benjamin
DeRosa, Alicia
DeVenuto, Heather
Diaz, Eileen
Durbin, Karen
Hamilton, Sharon
Hartford, Gary
Hernandez, Arelis
Hernandez, Michele
Hodasi, Belinda
Ottogalli, Carolyn
Restivo, Lana
Richardson, Angelle
Smith-Farrell, Matthew
Uecker, Teresa
Vasto, Carmen
Villagran, Luz

Licensed Associate Counselors

Elmore, Linnie
Goldwert, Laura
Hall, Kristofer
Hill, Debra
Hooper, Stacia
Keith, Heather
Leff, Deborah
Lowe, Angela
Magner, Margarita
Nolan, Walter
Pinto, Jennifer
Ruggirello, Amy
Schreiber, Linda
Satya, Salony
Szabo, Victoria
Wooloff, Claire
Young, Christina
Yu, Irene

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Barbara Maurer, seconded by William Green, the meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.