



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, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



JOHN J. HOFFMAN  
Acting Attorney General

ERIC T. KANEFSKY  
Director

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 45044  
Newark, NJ 07101  
(973) 504-6582

### **PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE** **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES** **SEPTEMBER 5, 2013**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair, William Green called the meeting to Order at 9:47 a.m. in the Hudson Conference Room, 124 Halsey Street, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Newark, New Jersey.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

##### **Present:**

William Green, Committee Chair  
Ketrin Saud Maxwell, Committee Vice-Chair  
Peter Economou, Committee Member  
Dana Kaspereen, Committee Member  
Diane Licht, Committee Member

##### **Absent:**

W. Michael Shea, Committee Member  
Alexis Goldberger, Deputy Attorney General

##### **Also Present:**

Susan Carbone, Deputy Attorney General  
Milagros Collazo, Executive Director  
Michela Ross, Government Rep  
Celeste Paige, Administrative Staff

*Committee Chair, William Green announced the presence of a quorum at 9:48 a.m.*

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 mailing to the Office of the Secretary of State, The Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and The Courier Post. Adequate notice of this meeting was also posted on the Committee's web page.

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

##### **A. July 18, 2013**

*Upon motion by Committee member, Dana Kaspereen, seconded by Committee member Peter Economou, the Committee voted to table the approval of the July 18, 2013 until the October 3, 2013 meeting. Voting in favor: all.*

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following members of the public were present and did not comment:

- A. Melissa Crespo, student Caldwell College**
- B. Justin Dana, student, Caldwell College**
- C. Kierra Tims student, Caldwell College**
- D. Marcus Hessler student, Caldwell College**
- E. Elizabeth Hih, student, Caldwell College**

**V. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY**

- A. A3371 ~ Governor Christie signed the bill on August 19, 2013. The law prohibits conversion therapy (attempts to change sexual orientation) for minors. A lawsuit was filed alleging the law violates the rights of patients (even minors). On August 29, 2013 the 9<sup>th</sup> circuit court of appeals upheld California’s law, which is similar in scope to NJ.**

Named in the suit are Governor Christie, Consumer Affairs Division Director, J. Michael Walker, Executive Director, Psychological Examiner Board, Paul Jordan, President of the NJ Board of Medical Examiners(former), and Milagros Collazo, Executive Director, Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners.

December 6, 2012 BOARD DECISION: motion by Peter Economou to support this bill due to harm that can be caused to minors, seconded by W. Michael Shea. Voting in favor: all with Ketrin Saud Maxwell abstaining.

**VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

- A. The following activities are reported for the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee for the months of July and August 2013.**

Licensing Activity Report

	LAC	PC	LRC
Active	998	3154	125
Expired	305	764	170
Inactive	41	280	43
*Pending	715	566	10
Reinstatements Pending	4	15	6
Suspended	0	4	0
Voluntary surrender	0	12	1
Withdrawn	7	10	0

\*in the pending category 393 applications (total as of 8/23/13) have been inactive since 2011. This bring the total number of pending applications (LAC and PC) to 378.

Sunset 2016

Reminder to the Committee that Professional Counselor regulations will sunset in 2016. This is a reminder that the formation of a regulations committee may be considered at this time.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

Pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 45:8B-3**, Executive Director, Collazo opened the nominations for Committee Chair.

**A. Nomination of Committee Vice-Chair**

Motion by Dana Kaspereen to nominate Ketrin Saud-Maxwell, Vice-Chair, seconded by Diane Licht. Voting in favor: all.

**B. Reimbursements**

Peter Economou noted that the Professional Counselor Examiner Committee, has no reimbursement, which for most boards is \$100. William Green advised that it in the statute. DAG Susan Carbone to review the matter and advise Committee.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

*Nothing to report.*

**IX. CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Sister Catherine Waters, Ph.D**

The Committee reviewed Sister Waters' August 1, 2013 letter requesting clarification on the Board's stance on Assembly Bill 4126 which seeks to create a separate licensing Committee for Art Therapists. *Upon motion by Dana Kaspereen, seconded by Ketrin Saud-Maxwell, the Committee went on record to state, "The Committee's discussion and vote concerning the Bill, was focused on the protection of the client's welfare." The Committee did not specifically discuss the relationship with Caldwell College. Voting in favor: all.*

**X. COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

*Nothing to report.*

**XI. NEW JERSEY COUNSELING ASSOCIATION (NJCA)**

Committee Chair, William Green announced next year's conference will be held on April 4-6, 2014. Committee member Dana Kaspereen volunteered to present at the conference and suggested the Committee make a request for more presentation time. The deadline to submit to the program is October 30, 2013.

**XII. NATIONAL BOARD OF CERTIFIED COUNSELORS (NBCC)**

Committee Chair, William Green discussed the program and new initiatives presented at this years conference. The major topic of discussion was the announcement of the merger between CACREP and CORE, which will have a significant impact on the license regulatory process throughout the United States. W. Green will provide continued updates on the merger and its anticipated impact on regulations.

**XIII. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Internet Counseling** - *Peter Economou, LPC*

Diane Licht, reported on behalf of the sub-committee, stated that States responding to the sub-committee's inquiry on their electronic therapy regulations, stated that "they too are struggling to implement appropriate regulations" - but most do require that therapists be licensed in the state(s) that the client is residing in.

**XIV. FILED ORDERS**

*None to report.*

**XV. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for October 3, 2013

2013 Meeting Dates:

October 3, 2013

November 7, 2013

**XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Committee will move to Executive Session to discuss the confidential review of; five (5) pending disciplinary actions, two (2) consumer complaints, review applications and plans of supervision.

**XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

The Executive Session was adjourned at 1:35 p.m. by Peter Economou, seconded by Dana Kaspereen. Voting in favor: all.