

**BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**  
**PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**  
**July 31, 2007**

I. The Meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Ms. Doreen Bobby, MSW, LCSW at 10:25 A.M.

II. The Board meeting initially scheduled for July 18, 2007 was rescheduled to Tuesday July 31, 2007 and Sunshined accordingly. This meeting of the State Board of Social Work Examiners was held at 124 Halsey Street on the 6th floor in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The following attendance was recorded for these minutes:

III. Roll Call

Henry Acosta, MSW, LSW, Vice-Chair Professional Member Absent  
Leonard Altamura, DSW, LCSW Professional Member Absent  
Doreen J. Bobby, MSW, LCSW, Chair Professional Member Present  
Kathleen Ellis Public Member Present  
Maxine Lisboa, MSW, LSW Professional Member Present  
Louise A. Murray, DSW, LSW Professional Member Present  
Paul J. St. Onge, Esq. Public Member Present  
Wanetta V. Williams, BSW, CSW Professional Member Absent

Also present were Executive Director Kay K. McCormack, DAG Jodi C. Krugman, and Board staff Iris M. Irizarry.

IV. Review of Minutes

The Public Session minutes of June 27, 2007 were reviewed and unanimously approved with minor revisions.

V. Public Comment

Walter X. Kalman, MSW, LSW, Executive Director of the New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW-NJ) reported on the following concerns: -In tracking the Board's regulatory process, the Chapter questions the status of the Board's recent draft proposal, Custody/Parenting Time Evaluations. DAG Krugman advised that, pending clarification in several sections, she hopes to move this regulation along the review process. Broad members concurred with the Association in their interest in seeing this regulation move quickly to completion as its promulgation will hopefully eliminate a percentage of the consumer complaints consistently received by the Board.

-Mr. Kalman sought the Board's input on a recent question directed to the Chapter regarding the employment scope prescribed for the social work staff of a nursing home. The social workers questioned whether it was appropriate for their job descriptions to include the responsibility to take blood pressure readings and label urine samples for their clients. In response, the Board suggests that social work employees of nursing homes redirect their questions to the State Department of Health and Senior Services.

VI. Executive Director's Report

-Kay K. McCormack discussed notice of the Association of Social Work Board's Annual Fall Meeting scheduled for November 9-11, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas. The Association's offer to cover the expenses for one delegate from each state board may encourage the participation of member boards.

VII. Review of Clinical Supervisors' Credentials

A motion was made by Mr. St. Onge and by Ms. Ellis to approve the following clinical supervisors recommended

as qualified by review. The vote was unanimous.

## Supervisors

James W. Ellis, LCSW-NY Carrie Mastoris, LCSW-IL

Michael Zampella, LCSW-NY

Daphne E. Donahue, LCSW-CT

Carolyn Glascer, LCSW-NY

Tamu Aljuwani, LCSW-NY

Joan Hinkel, LCSW-PA

## VIII. Vote on Candidates Proposed for Licensure and Certification

A motion was made by Dr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Bobby to approve those candidates listed as qualified in their category based on a review of their application documents and in accordance with the Statute and Regulations. The vote was unanimous.

## IX. Continuing Education (CE)

A. The listing of all CE presentations was approved as recommended by Board member review. The vote was unanimous. These presentations will be reflected in the monthly update of Board approved CEs which is available at the Board's website and by hardcopy from the Board office.

B. There were no problematic submissions identified for review.

### C. Correspondence

1. The Board considered a question from Catherine Duzenski, MSW, LCSW, the clinical supervisor of TheraCare in Pennsauken, a local for profit behavioral healthcare facility which operates under State contracts to provide in-home clinical mental health services to children and their families. While aware of the requirement for licensure and, in light of the statutory exemptions, Ms. Duzenski sought clarity on whether the MSW employees require licensure in this situation. In response, the Board advises that, there is no question but that all MSW employees of TheraCare must comply with N.J.S.A. 45:15BB-4, the requirement to be licensed in this for-profit setting when providing any social work services, in particular, when providing the clinical services she describes. In an effort to work cooperatively with TheraCare and Ms. Duzenski the Board extends a one time offer of a six month period to process any initial credential applications for MSW and BSW employees of TheraCare without imposing any penalty for unlicensed practice against these employees, through March 2008. After that date, applicants from TheraCare will be reviewed on an individual basis.

2. The Board reviewed a request for clarification from Misty Mitsch, MSW, LSW who described prospective employment as a part-time consultant providing families with behavioral support by telephone using theories of Applied Behavior Analysis. Ms. Mitsch questioned whether this modality qualified as clinical services and, if so, what were her obligations for direct clinical supervision as she envisioned only a maximum of 15 hours per week in this setting. The Board responds that, based on Ms. Mitsch's description, the services she considers are clinical and she would be required to comply with N.J.A.C. 13:44G-8.1 regarding the mandatory one hour of direct, face-to-face weekly clinical supervision. And, Ms. Mitsch is correct that, since these hours of clinical service would be provided via the telephone and not directly "face to face" pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:44G-4.1(a), the hours would not count toward the clinical license requirement. The Board also urges Ms. Mitsch to confirm her position as an employee in this part-time setting and not as an independent practitioner. For a supervisor experienced in techniques of Applied Behavior Analysis, Ms. Mitsch is referred to the NJ Chapter of the NASW.

## XI. Regulations

The Board discussed possible inclusions/clarifications to the revisions of N.J.A.C. 13:44G-6.4; 7.2 and 8.1. Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst will prepare drafts for review on August 22, 2007. The Board exited Public

Session at 11:30 A.M. to enter Executive Session for a scheduled inquiry. The Board re-entered Public Session at 12:45 P.M. to complete the Public Agenda.

## XII. (non-agenda item) Legislation

The Board comments in support of the Legislative proposal A4382-which delays the expiration date of certain professional and occupational licenses for individuals in certain types of military services. To facilitate this process, the Board suggests advising all individuals, when approving their credential (through Board notice/via the Division's website and specific professional associations) of the obligation to notify their regulatory Board immediately of a call to active duty which would, in turn, automatically delay the expiration date of their credential. When their return date is confirmed, a streamlined renewal process could include a waiver of any penalties.(Naturally, this process hinges on L2K technology-ie; renewal documents)

## XIII. (non agenda item) Public Disciplinary Actions

DAG Jodi Krugman discussed the agreed upon public disciplinary action taken by the State against Alexander G. Gotay, CSW. The Board will file a consent Order against Mr. Gotay for professional misconduct, for his acts relating adversely to the profession in taking money from two elderly residents of care facilities where Mr. Gotay had been the residents' care giver. Mr. Gotay pled guilty and was convicted in one matter. The terms of the Order include the voluntary, permanent surrender of Mr. Gotay's social work certification, with prejudice, deemed a revocation of his certification. Mr. Gotay understands and agrees that he is precluded from seeking reinstatement of his New Jersey certification at any time. Mr. Gotay is also to cease and desist from engaging in the provision of mental health and social work services in any, including exempt, settings in New Jersey.

## XIV. (non-agenda item) Board policy

Mrs. McCormack raised a question recently brought to her attention by an out-of-state clinical license applicant. Referring to N.J.A.C. 13:44G-8.1(a)4-the applicant questioned whether, once receiving his New Jersey LCSW, he would be entitled to establish immediate 3-year eligibility as a clinical supervisor for a NJ LSW by calculating his years of active clinical social work licensure from another state? The Board agreed that this was a reasonable assumption and will, henceforth, accept this process as Board policy.

XV. The Public Session concluded at 1:00 A.M. whereupon the Board re-entered Executive Session to complete the Executive Agenda.

XVI. By unanimous consent, the Board re-entered Public Session at 3:00 P.M. to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kay K. McCormack  
Executive Director