

NORTH CAROLINA PSYCHOLOGY BOARD
Open Session Minutes
February 11, 2022
Videoconference

The North Carolina Psychology Board met in its regularly scheduled meeting via videoconference on February 11, 2022.

Members present for all or part of the meeting: Helen Brantley, Ph.D., Chair; Stacie MacDonald Jones, M.A., Vice Chair; Katrine Brent, Lisa Duck, MPH; Susan Hurt, Ph.D.; G. Gail Neffinger, Ph.D.; and Tonya Omar, M.A.

Others present for all or parts of the meeting: Daniel P. Collins, Executive Director; Marc Davis, Staff Psychologist/Investigator; Rebecca Osborne, Deputy Director, and Sondra Panico, Special Deputy Attorney General.

Dr. Brantley reminded Board members that, in accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. Board members were directed to identify any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Board at the meeting and to refrain from any undue participation in the particular matter involved. Board members were asked to identify any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board at the meeting, and instructed that, if one arose during the course of this meeting, to articulate it to the Board.

General

1. Open session minutes of November 4, 2021 meeting were approved as amended.
2. Open session minutes of January 12, 2022 meeting were approved.
3. The financial report for the period ending December 31, 2021 was reviewed.
4. The Board was updated on the status of the online state exam/ethics refresher.
5. The Board was updated on the status of the online CE submission system.
6. The Board received a report from the Supervisor Training Committee.
7. The Board received a report from the Newsletter Committee.
8. The Board was informed of recent outreach initiatives.
9. Dr. Brantley provided a report on the recent ASPPB Board Chairs meeting.
10. The Board discussed the upcoming ASPPB mid-year meeting.

11. The Board reviewed upcoming dates for Board meetings.
12. The Board reviewed ethics training due dates.
13. The Board was reminded of the Statements of Economic Interest filing deadline in April.
14. The Information Items/Staff Actions were accepted.

Legal/Ethical

15. Case #022207 Simon, Matthew, Psy.D. – CPT alleged MS continued to provide psychological services to her 9 year-old son after his move to NC with his father. CPT alleged that MS did not apply for a temporary exemption or temporary licensure and was not a member of PSYPACT. Following review of the case report and discussion, the Board determined that MS was in compliance with the Practice Act and closed the case.

16. Case #022208 Thomas Grandy, Ph.D. - CPT alleges that TG has been providing psychological services to an individual in North Carolina without licensure, temporary licensure, or other exemption from licensure. Following review of the case report and discussion, the Board determined that TG was in compliance with the Practice Act and closed the case.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion made and adopted by the Board to hold a closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.18(6), the Board will go into closed session to discuss individual applicants or individual licensees.

17. Christy Fiber Sigmon, Psy.D. - The Board proposed to deny licensure at the Licensed Psychologist level. A hearing was held in open session on February 11, 2022. Following discussion in closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.18(6), the Board announced in open session that it determined to deny Dr. Sigmon's application for licensure at the Licensed Psychologist level.

18. Alloway, Brenda, Ph.D. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on February 11, 2022. The described conduct constitutes violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-270.148(a)(10) & (a)(19) of the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act, and constitutes violations of Standards 3.04, 3.09, 6.04 of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. The license of the Respondent is REPRIMANDED. Respondent shall successfully complete a minimum of four hours of tutorials. For a period of six months consisting of at least 750 hours of practice by Respondent in psychology, whichever takes longer to occur, Respondent shall receive face to face supervision at a minimum of one one-hour session per week during any week in which Respondent practices psychology. Respondent's Board designated supervisor shall submit quarterly reports to the Board, together with written narrative descriptions of Respondent's practice and response to supervision. Respondent shall not supervise any provisionally licensed psychologists; licensed psychological associates; students in graduate psychology programs; post doc fellows; applicants with the Board; or any ancillary services personnel, for the practice of psychology while she is under the Board mandated supervision required in this Consent Order. All of the conditions of this Consent Order are in addition to the conditions set forth in her

previous Consent Order with the Board, dated July 31, 2020. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs.

19. Grubb, Monty, Ph.D. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on February 11, 2022. The Board's evidence would show that the described conduct constitutes violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-270.148 (a)(10), (a)(11), (a)(15), (a)(17) & (a)(18) of the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act, and Standards 3.04, 3.05, 3.06, and 6.01 of the Ethical Principles of Psychologist and Code of Conduct. Respondent shall RELINQUISH his license to practice psychology in North Carolina and the Board shall accept his relinquishment. Respondent shall terminate psychological services to all of his patients and cease to engage in the practice of psychology including supervision of other mental health professionals. Respondent shall transfer his records to a psychologist licensed in North Carolina. Respondent must submit an affidavit to the Board office that he has ceased practice and transferred his records. Respondent shall not engage in the practice of psychology at any time in the future in this State and shall not reapply for licensure to practice psychology in this State at any time in the future. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs.

20. Kleinschuster, David, Psy.D. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on February 11, 2022. The Board finds that the described conduct constitutes violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-270.148(a)(10), (a)(11), (a)(15) & (a)(17) of the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act, and constitutes violations of Standards 2.06, 3.04, 3.05(a) & 3.06 of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. The license of the Respondent is REPRIMANDED. Respondent shall successfully complete a minimum of four hours of tutorials. For a period of one year consisting of at least 1500 hours of practice by Respondent in psychology, whichever takes longer to occur, Respondent shall receive supervision with a psychologist licensed at a minimum of one one-hour session per week during any week in which Respondent practices psychology. Respondent's Board designated supervisor shall submit quarterly reports to the Board, together with written narrative descriptions of Respondent's practice and response to supervision.

21. Schroeder, Elissa, Ph.D. – Dr. Schroeder was directed in an educative letter to complete tutorials on communication with professionals, responsivity, and timeliness of response to requests by clients and other professionals. The Board reviewed and accepted the tutorial report submitted by Thomas Thompson, Ph.D.

22. Edwards, Carmen, Ph.D. – Dr. Edwards is under a Consent Order, which required that she complete tutorials in multiple relationships, appropriate boundaries, treatment plans and confidentiality. The Board reviewed and accepted the tutorial report submitted by Cynthia Sortisio, Ph.D.

23. Miller, Kathryn, Ph.D. - Dr. Miller is under a Consent Order, which required that she complete tutorials in professional conduct, patient ethics, standards of care and general compassion. The Board reviewed and accepted the tutorial report submitted by Nancy Laney, Ph.D.

24. Lopez, Alexander, M.S. – Mr. Lopez is under a Consent Order, which requires that he complete tutorials on timely completion of work, managing deadlines, cooperating with other

professionals and not making false statements. The Board reviewed and accepted the tutorial report submitted by Jeffrey Lorence, M.A.

25. Bale, Patricia, Ph.D. – At its meeting on November 4, 2021, the Board proposed to deny Dr. Bale’s application for licensure under the senior psychologist provisions as she did not meet the work experience requirement and did not submit all of the required documents. Dr. Bale requested to withdraw her application. Following discussion, the Board accepted the request.

26. Henkel, Beverly, Psy.D. – Dr. Henkel’s requested special testing accommodations. Following review of documentation submitted as part of the request and discussion, the Board determined to request that Dr. Henkel have a fitness to practice evaluation.

27. Romano, Lynanne, Psy.D. – Dr. Romano failed the state exam on December 16, 2021. Dr. Romano’s requested not to have that first failure count as she was recovering from surgery that took place in August and did not have time to prepare for the exam. Following discussion, the Board determined to deny the request.

28. Keener, Janice, Psy.D. – Dr. Keener failed to take the state exam by her initial four-month deadline. Dr. Keener’s requested to extend that deadline. Following discussion, the Board determined to deny the request.

29. Deloatch, Megan, M.A. - Ms. Deloatch is requesting an extension to her January 31, 2022 deadline to retake the EPPP due to reportedly being exposed to Covid. Ms. Deloatch has already received several extensions due to reportedly being exposed to or having Covid and was informed that no additional extensions would be granted following her last one. Given the number of previous requests and claims of exposure to Covid, it was requested that she provide documentation of the most recent exposure and what steps she has taken to limit exposure given the high number of reported previous exposures. Following discussion, the Board determined to deny the request.

30. Byassee, James, Ph.D. – Dr. Byassee is under a Consent Order, which requires that he receive tutorials. The tutor requested to extend the deadline for completion of the tutorials. Following discussion, the Board determined to grant the request.

31. Hanna, Robert, Ph.D. – Dr. Hanna is under a Consent Order, which requires that he receive tutorials. The Board reviewed and approved the tutorial report submitted by Robert Hill, Ph.D.

32. Whitehead, Shanae, Ph.D. - Dr. Whitehead is under a Consent Order, which required that she complete tutorials. The Board reviewed and accepted the tutorial report submitted by Cynthia Sortisio, Ph.D.

File Review

Admit to Both Exams

Ashley Robinson, M.A.

February 11, 2022

Admit to State Exam

Jeffrey Gruber, Psy.D.
Daniel Cohen, Psy.D.
Frank Lawatsch, III, Psy.D.
Jacinta Mixson, Psy.D.
Sherri Zatz, Ph.D.

Proposed Denial

Kevin Kurian
Kathleen Tillman, Ph.D.

Decision Deferred for Additional Information

Melissa Ford, Psy.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Collins', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Daniel P. Collins
Executive Director