
CITATION NUMBER: MF-2010-227-M
DATE OF ISSUANCE: **January 28, 2010**
NAME: Julie Diane Cohen
ADDRESS: 3760 Motor Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Pursuant to Section 125.9 of the Business and Professions Code, and Title 16, California Code of Regulations Section 1886, KIM MADSEN issues this modified citation in her official capacity as the Executive Officer for the Board of Behavioral Sciences (hereinafter referred to as the "Board").

Licensing History

The records of the Board reflect that on **November 26, 1996**, the Board issued Marriage and Family Therapist license number **MFC 33711** to **Julie Cohen**. Said license expired due to non-payment of renewal fees on June 30, 2002 and was subsequently renewed on July 8, 2002. Said license expires on **June 30, 2010**, unless renewed.

Citation

A citation containing a fine and Order of Abatement is hereby issued to you in accordance with Title 16, California Code of Regulations Sections 1886, 1886.20, 1886.30, and 1886.40 for the violation(s) described below.

Applicable Statutes and Regulations

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 4980.54 "...(c)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (e), on and after January 1, 2000, the board shall not renew any license pursuant to this chapter unless the applicant certifies to the board, on a form prescribed by the board, that he or she has completed not less than 36 hours of approved continuing education in or relevant to the field of marriage and family therapy in the preceding two years, as determined by the board."

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 4980.54, "...(d) The board shall have the right to audit the records of any applicant to verify the completion of the continuing education requirement. Applicants shall maintain records of completion of required continuing education coursework for a minimum of two years and shall make these records available to the board for auditing purposes upon request."

Violation of section **4982(e)** of the Business and Professions Code, which reads as follows:

"...Unprofessional conduct shall include, but not be limited to: ...(e) Violating, attempting to violate, or conspiring to violate any of the provisions of this chapter or any regulation adopted by the board."

Violation of section **1887.1(b)** of the California Code of Regulations, which reads as follows:

"...A licensee who falsifies or makes a material misrepresentation of fact when applying for license renewal or who cannot verify completion of continuing education by producing a record of course completion, upon request by the board, is subject to disciplinary action under Sections 4982(b) and 4992.3(b) of the Code."

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Violation of section **1887.3(a)** of the California Code of Regulations, which reads as follows:

“...A licensee shall accrue at least thirty-six (36) hours of continuing education courses as defined in Section 1887.4. A licensee may accrue no more than eighteen (18) hours of continuing education earned through self-study courses during a single renewal period.”

Cause for Citation

The Board's records indicate that on or about June 27, 2008, you submitted an application for license renewal. You signed the renewal form certifying under penalty of perjury that you had completed the required hours of continuing education to obtain an active license. On July 30, 2009, the Board sent you an audit letter requesting copies of continuing education course certificate(s) and/or college transcript(s) for education completed during the renewal period of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2008. The Board's audit letter requested that this information be submitted within 30 days of the date of the letter.

The Board's audit revealed you violated California Code of Regulations section 1887.3(a), whereas you submitted proof of completion of only 23 hours of approved continuing education. On August 11, 2009, you submitted proof of completing 15 hours of approved coursework, completed on August 9, 2009 more than fourteen (14) months after you certified that you had met the continuing education requirements for renewal.

You also violated California Code of Regulations section 1887.1(b) by making a material misrepresentation of fact when applying for license renewal when you certified on or about June 27, 2008, that you had completed all the required 36 hours of continuing education and mandatory coursework within the previous two-year renewal period, July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2008.

During the informal citation conference held on January 19, 2010, you informed us that there were several errors in the citation issued to you. Specifically, you stated that the application date was incorrect and that you had submitted 23 hours of approved continuing education and not 21 hours as stated in the original citation. The Board has made the corrections and is reflected in this modified citation. Additionally, you asked the Board to take into consideration the evidence in mitigation you submitted for the Board's review.

Cause exists for the Board to take enforcement action against your license. Accordingly, a citation, which includes a fine, has been ordered for this violation of the Business and Professions Code and California Code of Regulations as stated in this citation.

Orders

(1) Order of Abatement:

The Board of Behavioral Sciences orders you to:

1. Comply with the continuing education requirements.
2. Obey all laws governing your License as a Marriage and Family Therapist.

Within 30 days from the date of this citation, but no later than **February 27, 2010**, you **must** submit proof that you have brought yourself into compliance with the order imposed by the Board of Behavioral Sciences as stated above. Proof of compliance should be sent to the Board to the attention of the Enforcement Unit at 1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S200, Sacramento, CA 95834.

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Order to Pay Administrative Fine:

In addition, you must pay an administrative penalty (fine) in the amount of **\$200.00**, within thirty (30) days from the date this citation was served, but no later than **February 27, 2010**. In assessing this penalty, the Board considered that you only submitted proof that you have completed twenty-three hours of continuing education during the July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2008 renewal period. The Board also took into consideration the evidence in mitigation you submitted and that you have since completed the missing hours of continuing education hours.

Payment of the administrative penalty should be made to the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS), 1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S200, Sacramento, CA 95834. Please note your citation number on the check or money order.

Pursuant to the enclosed copy of Title 17, California Code of Regulations section 1186.70, you may appeal the citation or any portion thereof, by requesting a formal Administrative hearing. The request for a formal Administrative Hearing must be in writing and be submitted to the Board within thirty (30) calendar days. Please refer to the enclosed instructions to Cited Person for additional appeal information.)

You may withdraw a Request for Administrative Hearing anytime prior to the date of the hearing. Failure to request a formal Administrative Hearing in a timely manner will waive your right to contest this citation. If the citation is not contested, or if the citation is contested and you do not prevail, failure to abate the violation or to pay the assessed fine within the time allowed shall constitute a violation and a failure to comply with the citation or order of abatement.

Further, failure to timely comply with an order of abatement or pay an assessed fine may result in disciplinary action being taken by the board or other appropriate judicial action being taken against you. If you have been issued an order of abatement and you are unable to complete the correction(s) within the time set forth in the citation because of conditions beyond your control after the exercise of reasonable diligence, you may request an extension of time in which to complete the correction from the executive officer of the board. Such a request shall be in writing and shall be made within the time set forth for abatement. (Title 16, CCR section 1886.60.)

Pursuant to Business and Professions code section 125.9, if you do not request a formal Administrative Hearing, payment of the fine does not constitute an admission of the violation(s) alleged. Further, where a fine is paid to satisfy an assessment based on the finding of a violation, payment of the fine shall be represented as satisfactory resolution of the matter for purposes of public disclosure.

IF YOU NEITHER PAY THE FINE NOR REQUEST AN AMINISTRATIVE HEARING WITHIN THE ALLOTTED TIME FRAME, YOUR LICENSE WILL NOT BE RENEWED FOR THE NEXT RENEWAL PERIOD UNTIL THE FINE IS PAID.

Original Signed By

Date: January 28, 2010

Kim Madsen
Executive Officer

Attachments: Statement of Rights
Section 125.9, Business and Professions Code
Section 1886.70, Title 16, California Code of Regulations
Notice of Appeal
Acknowledgment Receipt of Citation form