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**MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR**



**Christina Wong, LCSW, Chair**

It has been my privilege to serve as the Governor-appointed licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) member for the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS/Board) since 2011. Now I am also honored to serve as the Board Chair, effective May 2014.

This past year was an auspicious one for Board member appointments. Governor Brown reappointed Sarita Kohli, licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) member, and Renee Lonner, LCSW member. All of the Board members, new and reappointed, were confirmed by the Senate.

The Board extended our warmest welcome to Dr. Scott Bowling, our newest public member. Sadly, our well-respected public member, Dr. Harry Douglas, bid farewell to the Board after five years of service. His contributions and gracious presence will be missed.

The BBS celebrates its 70th anniversary in 2015. In 1945, the Board commenced operations, making California the first state to register social workers. Today, BBS is the State license regulatory agency for four mental health professions: LCSWs, licensed educational psychologist, LMFTs, and the newest addition in 2012, licensed professional clinical counselors (LPCC)—together, the Board regulates more than 100,000 registrants and licensees. The evolution of the Board and the professions it regulates could not have been accomplished without the vision of past and current Board members, the direction of the Executive Officers, and the diligent efforts by the dedicated BBS staff.

The last few years were highlighted by a very difficult fiscal climate in California. BBS, like any other State agency, suffered from the rippling effects of the budget constraints, government furloughs, and a hiring freeze. BBS, however, weathered the storm, and has been able to make several significant accomplishments. BBS is one of the boards to pilot the implementation of the Department of Consumer Affairs' (DCA's) new database system—BreEZe. Thanks to the tireless efforts of BBS staff who assisted in testing the database system, they were able to ensure that the new system would meet the Board's business needs. One of the newest and most exciting features of BreEZe is online license renewal. This long-

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CALIFORNIA  
**BOARD OF  
BEHAVIORAL  
SCIENCES**  
WINTER 2015  
NEWSLETTER



# LICENSING NEWS

## SAVE TIME AND RENEW YOUR LICENSE ONLINE!

Renewing your license or registration is just a click away through the BreEZe online renewal system. Renewing online is convenient and helps avoid potential delays in the renewal process. Licensees and registrants must have a profile account on BreEZe to take advantage of online renewal. If you have created a profile account on BreEZe, you may access the BreEZe system through the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board) website at [www.bbs.ca.gov](http://www.bbs.ca.gov). Select the BreEZe button and follow the instructions to renew. NOTE: You may only renew 90 days prior to your expiration date.

If you have difficulty registering or have questions, please call (916) 557-1208 or e-mail [breeze@dca.ca.gov](mailto:breeze@dca.ca.gov).

## BBS REVISES ITS CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM

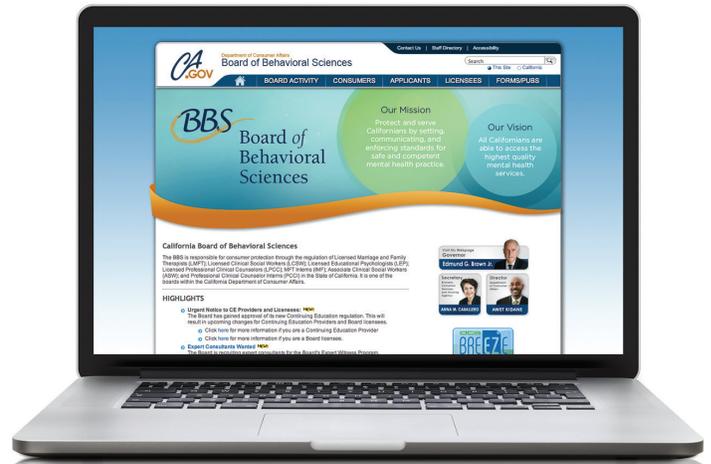
Regulations to revise the Board of Behavioral Sciences' (Board's) Continuing Education Program were approved by the Office of Administrative Law on September 16, 2014. These changes will affect all Board continuing education (CE) providers and licensees.

### Continuing Education Providers

Effective January 1, 2015, the Board ceased accepting applications to become a Board-approved CE provider. CE providers with Board-issued, valid CE provider numbers may continue to provide CE courses until the valid provider number expires. Once the provider number expires, it cannot be renewed. After July 1, 2015, existing CE provider numbers, issued by the Board, will no longer be renewable.

CE providers who wish to continue to provide CE courses must apply to become a provider with one of the following Board-recognized approval agencies:

- National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
- Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)



- National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC)
- National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT)

### Licensees

Licensees may take CE coursework from any of the following entities:

- An accredited or approved postsecondary institution that meets the requirements set forth in Business and Professions Code sections 4980.54(f)(1), 4989.34, 4996.22(d)(1), or 4999.76(d).
- A Board-recognized approval agency or a CE provider that has been approved or registered by a Board-recognized approval agency for CE.
- An organization, institution, association, or other entity that is recognized by the Board as a CE provider.
- A CE provider with a Board-issued CE provider number that is current and valid. Effective July 1, 2015, existing Board-issued CE provider numbers will no longer be renewable.

In addition to the approval agencies listed above, licensees may take CE coursework from the following organizations recognized by the Board as CE providers:

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## LAW CHANGES EFFECTIVE 2015

The following bills became effective January 1, 2015. Below is a brief summary of the changes that affect Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board) licensees and registrants. The full text of the bills is incorporated in the Board's Statutes and Regulations publication at [www.bbs.ca.gov/pdf/publications/lawsregs.pdf](http://www.bbs.ca.gov/pdf/publications/lawsregs.pdf).

**Assembly Bill 809** (Logue), Chapter 104, Statutes of 2014 – This bill amends Business and Professions Code section 2290.5 and requires, prior to telehealth, the health care provider initiating the use of telehealth to inform the patient about the use of telehealth. The provider must obtain and document verbal or written consent from the patient.

**AB 1775** (Melendez) Chapter 264, Statutes of 2014 – This bill amends Penal Code section 11165.1, which makes downloading, streaming, or accessing through electronic or digital media, material in which a child is engaged in an obscene sexual act a mandated report under the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA).

**AB 1843** (Jones) Chapter 283, Statutes of 2014 – The bill amends Business and Professions Code section 129 and Family Code sections 3025.5 and 3111 to allow the Board access to a child custody evaluation report for the purposes of investigating allegations that one of its licensees, while serving as a child custody evaluator, engaged in unprofessional conduct in the creation of the report.

**AB 2213** (Eggman) Chapter 387, Statutes of 2014 – This bill amends the following Business and Professions Code sections 4980.72, 4980.78, 4980.80, 4980.90, 4999.57, 4999.58, 4999.59, 4999.60, and 4999.62, and adds sections 4980.79, 4980.81, and 4999.63 to allow out-of-state applicants to count

time licensed in another state in lieu of supervised experience. Additionally, out-of-state licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) applicants who meet the California law and ethics course requirement are no longer required to take an additional 18-hour California law and ethics course.

**Senate Bill 578** (Wyland) Chapter 312, Statutes of 2014 – This bill amends Business and Professions Code sections 4980.49, 4989.51, 4993, and 4999.75 and requires Board licensees to retain patient records for a minimum of seven years from the date therapy is terminated.

**SB 1012** (Wyland) Chapter 435, Statutes of 2014 – This bill amends Business and Professions Code sections 4980.43 and 4999.46 and increases the hours of direct supervisor contact experience that a marriage and family therapist intern, marriage and family therapist trainee, and professional clinical counselor intern may count toward licensure from five hours per week to six hours per week. This applies to supervision hours gained on or after January 1, 2009.

**SB 1256** (Mitchell) Chapter 256, Statutes of 2014 – This bill amends Business and Professions Code section 654.3 and prohibits a healing arts licensee from doing the following:

- Arranging for patient credit or a loan from a third party without first providing written or electronic notice and a written treatment plan.
- Charging for treatment or costs not yet rendered to an open-end credit or third-party loan without providing a treatment plan and a list of which treatment and services are being charged in advance.

Any advance payment received through credit or third-party loan for treatment not yet rendered or costs not yet incurred must be refunded by the licensee within 15 days of the patient's request.



## MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS



**Christina Wong, LCSW, Chair**

**Christina Wong, Chair**, was appointed by Governor Brown as a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) member in May 2011. Since 2002, Ms. Wong has been employed by Glenn County Health Services and currently serves as Health Services Program Coordinator. She was formerly the Senior Mental Health Counselor for the Children's System of Care Program. Ms. Wong is also a mental health clinician for Butte County

Probation Department's Minor Adjustment Program, providing family counseling since 2008 to the incarcerated minors in juvenile hall and upon release in the community. Ms. Wong is the Field Instructor for California State University, Chico, School of Social Work, and previously served as the Dean of Student Affairs for Hong Kong Shue Yan College from 1993 to 1997. Ms. Wong received her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Hull, United Kingdom. She volunteers as Region D Director of the National Association of Social Workers, California Chapter.



**Deborah Brown, Vice Chair**

**Deborah Brown, Vice Chair**, was appointed by Governor Brown as a public member in August 2012. Ms. Brown has been a teacher for the Yosemite Unified School District since 1994. She was a part-time accountant at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, from 1991 to 1993, and served as Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Rancho Cucamonga from 1986 to 1991. Ms. Brown was a loan officer for Crocker Bank from 1982

to 1985. She earned a Master of Public Administration degree from California State University, Northridge.



**Samara Ashley**

**Samara Ashley** was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger as a public member in January 2010. She has served as Director of Government Affairs for the Port of Long Beach since 2007. Previously, Ms. Ashley was an account executive for Cerrell Associates from 2004 to 2007, district field representative for Senator Betty Karnette from 2002 to 2004, and Social Service Director and Case Manager for California Care Center

from 1999 to 2002. She is a member of the Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce, Women's Transportation Seminar, and American Association of Port Authorities.



**Dr. Leah Brew**

**Dr. Leah Brew** was appointed by Governor Brown as a licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) member in August 2012. Dr. Brew is currently an LPCC and serves as the Department Chair and Associate Professor in the Department of Counseling at California State University, Fullerton. As part of her 11 years as a faculty member, Dr. Brew has served on other professional boards such as the President of

California Association for Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors, President of the Western Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, and Graduate Representative for the National Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. She became a licensed professional counselor in Texas in 1999 and worked with individuals, couples, and children. She has also worked with children diagnosed with attention deficit disorder providing neurofeedback, and has published several articles and books in the areas of diversity and basic counseling skills.

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## MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4



Dr. Peter Chiu

**Dr. Peter Chiu** was appointed by Governor Brown as a public member in October 2013. He has been an adjunct clinical professor at Stanford University Medical School since 2009 and Hearing Board member of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District since 2013. He was a member of the U.S. Presidential/Congressional Commission on Risk Assessment and Risk Management for environmental protection from

1994 to 1997, an Occupational Medicine Department and Emergency Department physician at Kaiser Milpitas/Santa Clara from 1990 to 2012, a practicing family physician in San Jose from 1986 to 1990, and resident physician and Chief of Resident Physicians at San Jose Hospital from 1983 to 1986. He also served as Principal Environmental Engineer for the Association of Bay Area Governments from 1976 to 1979 and Associate Water Quality Management Engineer at the Bay Area Sewage Services Agency from 1974 to 1976. He earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from Stanford University, Doctor of Public Health degree in Environment Health and a Master of Public Health degree in Occupational Health from the University of California, Berkeley.



Elizabeth "Betty" Connolly

**Elizabeth "Betty" Connolly** was appointed by Governor Brown as a licensed educational psychologist member in August 2012. Ms. Connolly has worked for the El Dorado County Office of Education since 1983. She initially worked as a school psychologist, serving both county and district programs. She later took on the additional role of program specialist. Betty moved into her position as Principal of Special

Services in 2004. She began her career in special education in 1977 as a teacher of students with severe disabilities in the San Juan Unified School District. Over the past 15 years, Betty has presented throughout the State on the subjects of autism and behavior analysis. She served on the board of the California Association of School Psychologists for the past six years and was

Secretary/Treasurer of California Association of School Psychologists (CASP) for the 2005–2006 school year, and served as President of CASP for the 2007–2008 school year. Betty has also been an instructor at Chapman University and is trained as a mediator in the Alternative Dispute Resolution process.



Sarita Kohli

**Sarita Kohli** was appointed by Governor Brown in June 2011 as a marriage and family therapist (MFT) member. Ms. Kohli has been working in community mental health for more than 12 years. Currently, she serves as Director of Mental Health Programs at Asian Americans for Community Involvement in San Jose, overseeing outpatient mental health programs and the Center for Survivors of Torture. Ms. Kohli is in

the Addressing Health Disparities Leadership Program of the National Council of Community Behavioral Health, a national leadership program for developing leaders from ethnically diverse communities. Previously, Ms. Kohli was on the Board of West Valley Community Services, a community services organization providing basic needs, family support, and housing services. She serves on the Santa Clara County Social Services Advisory Commission and has been on the Executive Committee for the National Consortium of Torture Treatment Programs. Ms. Kohli is a passionate advocate for mental health and social services for underserved populations.



Patricia Lock-Dawson

**Patricia Lock-Dawson** was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger as a public member in January 2010. She has served the city of Riverside as Planning Commissioner since 2007 and Director of the Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway Partnership for Riverside County Supervisor John Tavaglione since 2005. Additionally, Ms. Lock-Dawson has been principal of PLD Consulting

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## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

awaited service is a convenient and efficient way to renew a license or registration. Once the renewal transaction is completed online, the license or registration is updated immediately. I encourage all licensees and registrants to take advantage of BreEZe.

During the summer of 2014, in close collaboration with the BBS staff, stakeholders, and DCA, the Board developed a new Strategic Plan. This four-year plan specifies the goals and tasks that will allow the Board to continue its mission to protect consumers and address the needs of licensees and registrants. Please take a moment to check out our Strategic Plan posted on the BBS website.

Prior to the addition of the LPCC program in 2102, the staffing levels of the Board were consistently maintained at around 40. Due to the rapid growth of the Board and its programs, it was necessary to increase staffing levels. As a result, the staffing level was increased to 60 staff and the BBS office was expanded and redesigned.

Another significant change is to the Board's Continuing Education (CE) Program. Effective January 1, 2015, these changes will affect both licensees and current BBS-approved CE providers. It is our belief that the changes will improve the quality of CE programs and ensure the continued competence of mental health professionals as envisioned by our State legislators. The changes to the CE program are described in further detail in this newsletter. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with these changes to ensure that your CE hours are obtained from approved providers.

Looking ahead to 2016, the Board will begin using the Association of Social Work Board (ASWB) examination for applicants seeking a clinical social work license in California. This change will be implemented on January 1, 2016, and will affect the examinations taken and the times at which the examinations must be taken for the Board's LMFT, LCSW, and LPCC applicants. Further information regarding this exciting change is available on the Board's website at [www.bbs.ca.gov](http://www.bbs.ca.gov) and in this newsletter.

The Board is committed to its work on issues affecting the professions we regulate and to protecting consumers. In the upcoming year, you will see us continue to work to reduce the examination application backlogs, review issues related to supervision, and review the Board's subject matter expert program. By collaborating with our stakeholders and adhering to the highest standards of mental health professions, we will strive to ensure that California consumers are able to access the highest-quality mental health services. We believe in integrity and respect. Our actions are guided by excellence and accountability. Californians' wellness can thus be improved and maintained.

This 70th anniversary is a commemorative milestone for BBS. Let us get ready for a year of celebrating our progress!

**Christina Wong, LCSW**  
Chair, Board of Behavioral Sciences



## STAY CONNECTED WITH THE BOARD

Keep current on all Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board) activities by joining the Board e-mail subscriber list. Board subscribers can receive e-mail notifications regarding upcoming Board and committee meetings, legislation and regulations updates, examination and enforcement news, and other general information.

To join the Board e-mail subscriber list, visit [www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/bbs/subscribe.php](http://www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/bbs/subscribe.php).

## MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

since 2003. Previously, she worked for Riverside County's Executive Office as Environmental Programs Advisor from 2000 to 2006. Ms. Lock-Dawson was an ecologist, ecosystem planner, and a wildlife biologist for the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Geological Survey from 1994 to 2001 and State Wetlands Coordinator for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources from 1992 to 1994. She is a member of the Riverside Unified School District, Riverside Land Conservancy Board of Governors, Raincross Group, and President of the Inland Empire Chapter of CA Women Lead, a Statewide women's leadership organization.



Renee Lonner

**Renee Lonner** was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger as a LCSW member in January 2007. From 1992 to 2008, she served as the Clinical Director and Chief Clinical Officer for Robert T. Dorris & Associates, a management consultation firm. Ms. Lonner has maintained a private practice specializing in individual, marital, and family psychotherapy since 1976. From 1999 to 2001, she served as President of the

California Society for Clinical Social Work. Ms. Lonner is a member of the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work and the National Association of Social Workers.



Dr. Christine Wietlisbach

**Dr. Christine Wietlisbach** was appointed by the California State Senate as a public member in January 2010. Dr. Wietlisbach has more than 20 years' experience in the health and higher education fields. She is a practicing occupational therapist at Eisenhower Medical Center and a faculty member at Loma Linda University. In April 2011, she was granted her Doctor of Occupational Therapy degree with a dual

emphasis in Hand Therapy and Administration/Practice Management. She also has a master's degree in Public

Administration. Dr. Wietlisbach is past-president of the Occupational Therapy Association of California, and recently completed two terms as a governor-appointee to the California Board of Occupational Therapy. She is a nationally known speaker and author.

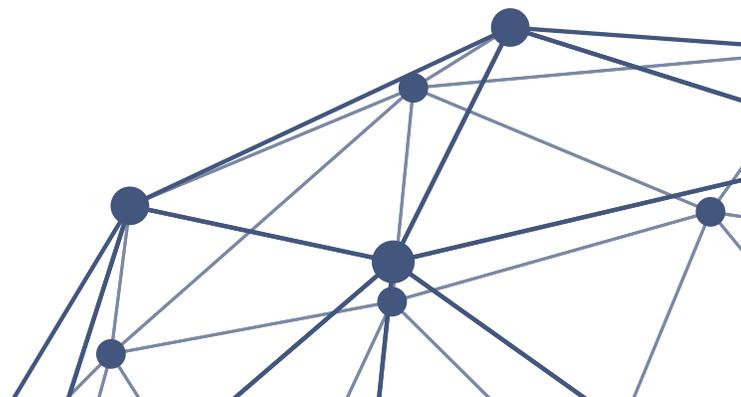


Karen Pines

**Karen Pines** was appointed by Governor Brown as an MFT member in April 2011. She previously served as a member of the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board) from July 24, 1999, to July 31, 2006. During her tenure with the Board, she served three terms as the Board's Chair and one term as the Board's Vice Chair. In addition to her previous Board service, Ms. Pines has also served as public member

for the Physical Therapy Board and is an adjunct professor at Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Journalism from Ohio University, with a minor in Education, and her Master of Education and Psychology from California State University, Northridge. Ms. Pines holds numerous certifications and has participated in various trainings including, but not limited to, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor Certification, Critical Incident Debriefing Specialist Certification, and Pain Management Training.

**Scott Bowling** was appointed by Governor Brown as a public member in September 2014. Mr. Bowling has been President and Chief Executive Officer at the Exceptional Children's Foundation since 1999. He was Associate Director at New Horizons from 1989 to 1999. Mr. Bowling is a member of the Culver City Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.



## EXAMINATION NEWS

### BOARD EXAMINATION RESTRUCTURE

Effective January 1, 2016, the Board of Behavioral Sciences' (Board's) examination process will change. New exams will be implemented for all licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) and licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) candidates, and registrants (associate clinical social workers [ASWs], MFT interns, and professional clinical counselor [PCC] interns) will be mandated to take a California Law and Ethics Exam, as described below and on the Board's website ([www.bbs.ca.gov](http://www.bbs.ca.gov)).

### ALL REGISTRANTS MUST TAKE A LAW AND ETHICS EXAM

Currently, the licensing exams are taken upon completion of all other requirements for licensure. Under the restructure, individuals who hold an ASW, MFT intern, or PCC intern registration will be required to take a California Law and Ethics Exam a minimum of once per renewal cycle while a registrant until the exam has been passed.

If a registrant does not take the Law and Ethics Exam during a renewal period, he or she will not be permitted to renew the registration until the exam has been taken.

If a registrant does not pass the Law and Ethics Exam during a renewal period, he or she will be required to take a 12-hour continuing education course on California Law and Ethics in order to be eligible to retake the Law and Ethics Exam.

Although the exam restructure takes effect January 1, 2016, a grace period has been established that allows individuals with a registration that expires prior to June 30, 2016, to renew that registration between January 1, 2016, and June 30, 2016, without first taking the Law and Ethics Exam.

### PASSING SCORE REQUIRED FOR SUBSEQUENT REGISTRATIONS

Effective January 1, 2017, individuals cannot be issued a subsequent (second or third) ASW or intern registration without first passing the California Law and Ethics Exam.

Individuals who apply for a subsequent intern or ASW registration between January 1, 2016, and December 31,



2016, may obtain that registration without first passing the Law and Ethics Exam. However, the applicant must pass the exam before the subsequent registration can be renewed.

### NEW EXAMS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ALL APPLICANTS

- **LCSW Exams** – LCSW applicants will be required to pass two new exams that replace the existing exams:
  - A California Law and Ethics Exam will replace the Standard Written Exam. It is designed to assess the applicant's knowledge of and ability to apply legal and ethical standards relating to clinical practice.
  - The National Clinical ASWB (Association of Social Work Boards) Exam will replace the Clinical Vignette Exam. It is designed to assess an applicant's knowledge of psychosocial principles and methods in treatment and their application, and the ability to make judgments about appropriate techniques, methods, and objectives as applicable to the profession's scope of practice.
- **LMFT Exams** – Licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) applicants will be required to pass two new exams that replace the existing exams:
  - A California Law and Ethics Exam will replace the Standard Written Exam. It is designed to assess the applicant's knowledge of and ability to apply legal and ethical standards relating to clinical practice.
  - A California Clinical Exam will replace the Clinical Vignette Exam. It is designed to assess an applicant's knowledge of psychotherapeutic principles and methods in treatment and their application, and the ability to make judgments about appropriate techniques, methods, and objectives as applicable to the profession's scope of practice.

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## LICENSING NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT)
- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy-California Division (AAMFT-CA)
- California Association for Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (CALPCC)
- California Association for Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT)
- National Association of Social Workers-California Chapter (NASW-CA)
- California Society for Clinical Social Work (CSCSW)
- California Association of School Psychologists (CASP)

Additionally, licensees may earn CE hours in the following areas:

- Attendance at Board Enforcement Case Review Training. A licensee who attends the Board enforcement case review training may be awarded up to six hours of CE in the renewal cycle in which the case review training was attended. The CE hours earned by attending Board enforcement case review training may only be used to satisfy the law and ethics portion of the CE requirement.
- Serving as a Subject Matter Expert for Enforcement Case Review. A licensee who acts as a Board subject matter expert (SME) for an enforcement case review may be awarded six hours of CE in the renewal cycle in which the enforcement case review was performed. The CE hours earned by acting as a Board enforcement case SME may only be used to satisfy the law and ethics portion of the CE requirement.
- Participation in Examination Development Workshops. A licensee who participates in a Board examination development workshop may be awarded six hours of CE in the renewal cycle in which the examination development workshop was attended. The CE hours earned by participating in a Board examination development workshop may only be used to satisfy the law and ethics portion of the CE requirement.

- Participation in a Professional Organization's Law and Ethics Committee. A licensee who participates in a professional organization's law and ethics review committee may be awarded up to six hours of CE in the renewal cycle in which the participation occurred. The CE earned by participating in a professional organization's law and ethics review committee may only be used to satisfy the law and ethics portion of the CE requirement.

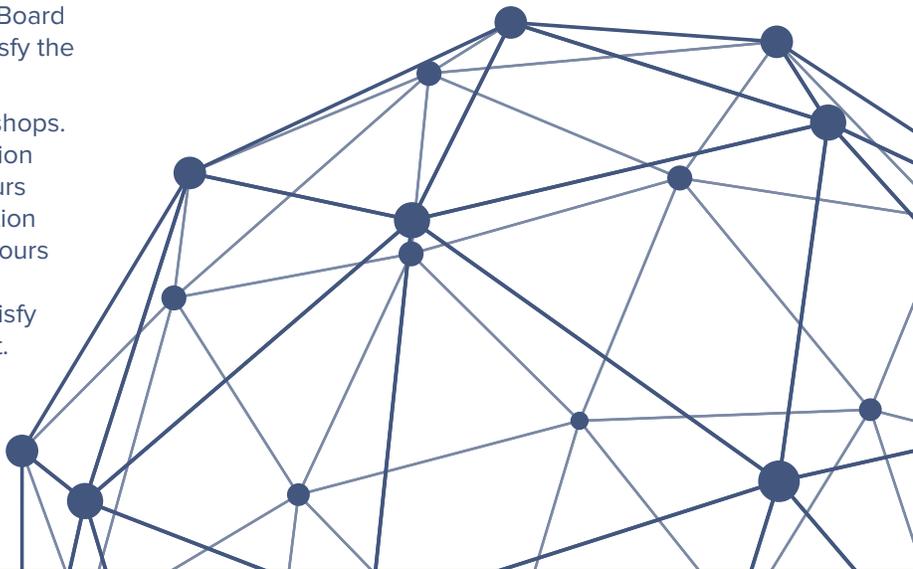
For more information on the CE regulation changes, go to the Board website, [www.bbs.ca.gov](http://www.bbs.ca.gov).

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## EXAMINATION NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

- **LPCC Exams** – There are no new exams. Licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) applicants will continue to take the California Law and Ethics Exam and the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam.
- **LEP Exams** – There are no new exams. Licensed educational psychologist (LEP) applicants will continue to take the LEP Written Exam.

Additional information regarding exams is available on the Board's website. Be sure to sign up for the Board's e-mail subscriber's list for updates.



## SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS WANTED

Are you interested in serving your professional community? Consider becoming a subject matter expert (SME)—also referred to as an expert consultant—for the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board). The role of an SME is vital to the Board’s examination development and to its enforcement program. SMEs provide valuable insight to determine if the conduct of a licensee or registrant is a violation, and to assist the Board in developing licensure examinations. They are compensated for their time and, effective July 1, 2015, earn continuing education units.

The Board is currently recruiting SMEs for its Enforcement Program and its Examination Program. For both programs, all SMEs must be currently licensed and in good standing. Take a moment to read the qualifications to become an SME for the Enforcement Program or the Examination Program.

### ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

SMEs for the Enforcement Program play a very important role in consumer protection. Board experts provide consultation to staff, review case materials, prepare written opinions, and when necessary, testify at administrative hearings as an expert witness.

An SME is a Board licensee possessing technical and professional knowledge gained through advanced education and extensive work experience to form a definitive opinion regarding the standard of care for the profession.

They are paid \$85 per hour for case review and preparation of the expert opinion report, and \$100 per hour plus expenses if called to testify at an administrative hearing. Experts will also be awarded six hours of continuing education for attending expert training.

Interested applicants must meet the following qualifications:

- Hold a current licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT), licensed clinical social worker (LCSW), licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC), or licensed educational psychologist (LEP) license; be in good standing; and have no prior or pending disciplinary actions, and no pending investigations or enforcement actions.

- Have a minimum of five years’ post-licensure practice.
- Maintain consistent, ongoing, face-to-face client contact (minimum of 10 hours per week).
- Possess working knowledge of current laws and regulations governing the practice that the SME is licensed to perform.
- Have knowledge of professional code of ethics.
- Possess strong written and oral communication skills and the ability to express ideas logically and critically.
- Agree to the Board’s hourly compensation rate.
- Be willing to serve as an expert for at least three consecutive years, with an option to apply for renewal at the end of three years.

If you are interested in providing SME services to the Board and you meet the above requirements, please complete and submit an Expert Consultant application, which is available at [www.bbs.ca.gov/forms.shtml](http://www.bbs.ca.gov/forms.shtml); select “General” and then click on “Enforcement Program - Expert Consultant Application.” Also include a cover letter outlining why you would like to participate in the program and a current curriculum vitae. Mail your packet to the Board:

**Board of Behavioral Sciences**  
**ATTN: Expert Consultant Coordinator**  
**1625 North Market Boulevard, Suite S-200**  
**Sacramento, CA 95834**

For more information before applying, contact Craig Zimmerman at (916) 574-7761 or Sandra Wright at (916) 574-7752.

### EXAMINATION DEVELOPMENT

The Board is recruiting licensees to serve as SMEs in written examination development workshops. Workshops are conducted throughout the year in Sacramento. The types of workshops include item (question) writing and review, passing score setting, clinical vignette writing and review, and examination construction.

Workshops last from one to three days, and are normally conducted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

The fee paid to SMEs varies depending on the length and complexity of the workshop (\$200–\$300 per day). Along with the fee, effective July 1, 2015, participants will also

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## SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS WANTED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

earn six hours of continuing education credits that can be used to satisfy the law and ethics portion of the continuing education requirement. Participants who travel 50 miles or more each way to workshops are reimbursed for travel expenses. Hotel and airfare are typically prepaid by the Board.

Interested applicants must meet the following qualifications:

- Possess a valid license that is current and not under suspension or probation.
- Perform 20 to 40 hours of training, supervision, education, or clinical experience with a minimum of 10 hours face-to-face counseling hours per week. LEP applicants must be currently practicing as an LEP.
- Agree to not participate in any examination coaching or preparation activities as stated in the agreement signed with the Board upon participation in examination development activities.

If you meet the above qualifications and are interested in serving as an SME for the Examination Program, complete and submit an SME application with your resume to the Board. The SME form is available at [www.bbs.ca.gov/forms.shtml](http://www.bbs.ca.gov/forms.shtml). Select "General" and then select your license type under "Examination Program - Subject Matter Expert Application(s)." Upon approval, you will be sent a list of workshop dates to review. Select the workshops you are interested in participating in and return the form to the Board.

If you would like more information before applying as an SME for the Examination Program, please contact Marsha Gove at (916) 574-7861.

## ENFORCEMENT NEWS

### BBS LICENSEE SURRENDERS LICENSES FOLLOWING ADMISSION OF EXAMINATION SUBVERSION

Elizabeth Marie Still, a licensed marriage and family therapist and licensed professional clinical counselor, agreed to surrender both professional licenses to the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board) following formal charges that Ms. Still conveyed licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) examination content and material to students in test preparation classes.

The Board investigation revealed that Ms. Still memorized test questions and took approximately 10 pages of notes to record test questions from the LPCC licensing examination. Ms. Still used the notes and her memory to write the same or substantially

similar questions from the LPCC licensing examination. Ms. Still subsequently disclosed these questions and test materials to participants in a LPCC test preparation class while employed as an instructor for private post-secondary schools. The investigation further determined Ms. Still possessed 44 questions and answers out of 75 questions from the LPCC licensing examination. As a result of Ms. Still's actions that comprised the integrity of the LPCC licensing exam, the Board immediately ceased administering this examination and was required to develop a new examination version.

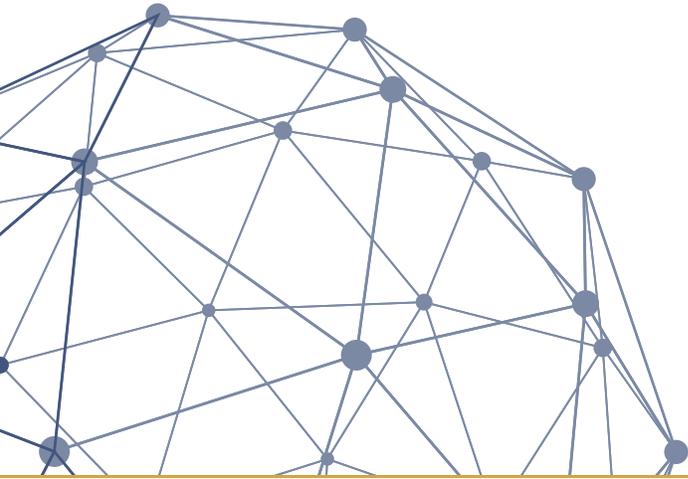
On November 6, 2014, Ms. Still entered into a stipulated settlement with the Board to surrender both of her professional licenses. Ms. Still admitted to the truth of all of the charges and allegations in the Accusation to revoke her licenses and was ordered to pay the Board \$20,000 in restitution.





**CALIFORNIA  
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite S-200  
Sacramento, CA 95834



## UPCOMING MEETING DATES

### Board Meetings

February 25–26, 2015	Sacramento, California
April 23, 2015*	Southern California
May 20–21, 2015	Southern California
August 27–28, 2015	Sacramento, California
October 22, 2015*	Sacramento, California
November 19–20, 2015	Southern California

### Policy and Advocacy Meetings

April 24, 2015	Sacramento, California
August 7, 2015	Sacramento, California
October 23, 2015	Sacramento, California

### Supervision Committee Meetings

April 10, 2015	Southern California
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*\* Disciplinary hearing dates may be canceled if the Board of Behavioral Sciences does not receive any petition requests.*

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