

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

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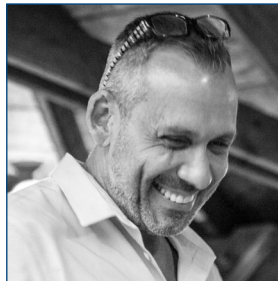


Board of Behavioral Sciences

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BOARD CHAIR UPDATE



Max Disposti

On October 17, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the COVID-19 State of Emergency for California will end on February 28, 2023. As we reflect upon this news, we must recognize that there is still more work to be done in attending to the mental health crisis created in part by the pandemic. During the last year, the Board has been challenged to find ways to assist in supporting a mental health workforce that is able to meet the needs of Californians while also maintaining public protection. This challenge

was met in part by the passage of some key legislation sponsored by Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry.

AB 1758 allows a Board registrant to obtain their weekly supervision via two-way, real-time videoconferencing in all settings if the supervisor makes an assessment that it is appropriate. This change will increase the ability of Board registrants to gain experience hours, will increase the number of available supervisors, and will reduce barriers into the profession.

AB 1759 requires applicants for licensure and current licensees to complete three hours of training or coursework in the provision of mental health services via telehealth, including law and ethics related to telehealth, as a one-time requirement. It requires all Board registrants to complete a three-hour continuing education course in California law and ethics each renewal cycle. Together, the changes made by this bill take steps to strengthen public protection.

Looking forward to the Board's new Licensing Committee, we will be exploring additional ways to reduce barriers to licensure to ensure that the mental health needs of California are met while also maintaining consumer protection. The discussion will focus on current licensure requirements, the Board's application process, examination development, and examination pass rates. To foster productive discussion, the Board will take a closer look at demographic data as it relates to the licensee population and examination pass rates.

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BOARD CHAIR UPDATE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Board is looking forward to working with stakeholders in pursuing solutions to the mental health crisis that California is facing. The achievement of our vision that all Californians can access the highest quality mental health services can only be realized through active engagement by applicants, licensees, and consumers at our Board and committee meetings. Please join in the discussion this year. We welcome your opinion and your support in our efforts toward reducing barriers to licensure.

Max Disposti
Board Chair

LAW CHANGES FOR 2023

There are several law changes that take effect in 2023 that will affect the Board’s licensees, registrants, and applicants. It is important that you take some time to review these changes, which will help ensure your compliance with the law. The Board recommends reading the bills referenced in their entirety for greater clarity, available by clicking on the bill number links below, or by visiting <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov>.

The law changes listed below take effect January 1, 2023, unless otherwise noted. The Board’s 2023 Statutes and Regulations law book will be available on the Board’s website soon.

NEW LAWS DIRECTLY AFFECTING THE BOARD’S LICENSEES AND REGISTRANTS

1. [AB 1758](#): Supervision of Applicants for Licensure via Videoconferencing

This bill allows required weekly supervision via two-way, real-time videoconferencing in all settings if the supervisor makes an assessment that this is appropriate. See the [AB 1758 FAQ](#) for more information.

Note: This bill was an urgency measure and became effective on August 29, 2022.

2. [AB 1759](#): Associates: Continuing Education in Law and Ethics Effective January 1, 2023; Licensees and Applicants: Telehealth Coursework Required July 1, 2023

This bill makes several changes to the Board’s continuing education/coursework requirements:

- **Registrant CE:** Requires all Board registrants (associates) to complete a three-hour continuing education course in California Law and Ethics each renewal cycle. It also deletes the requirement that registrants who have failed the California Law and Ethics Exam take a 12-hour state law and ethics course to take the exam again in their next renewal period. **NOTE: Takes effect January 1, 2023. See page 5 for more information.**
 - **Telehealth:** Requires applicants for licensure and current licensees to complete three hours of training or coursework in the provision of mental health services via telehealth, including law and ethics related to telehealth, as a one-time requirement. **NOTE: Takes effect July 1, 2023. See page 6 for more information.**
- 3. [Continuing Education and Additional Coursework Regulation Changes](#)**
- Effective July 1, 2023, the below changes to additional coursework and continuing education (CE) requirements will take effect. Click on the link above for the full text of the changes.
- Updates additional coursework content requirements for human sexuality, child abuse assessment and reporting, and alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency courses, and creates consistency in the required qualifications for course providers.
 - Strikes the 18-hour CE exception for initial renewal periods for new licensees (36 hours will now be required).

LAW CHANGES FOR 2023 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

- Changes the criteria required to qualify for a CE waiver.
- Limits the amount of CE that may be claimed for teaching a course to 18 hours per renewal period.
- Allow a licensee who completes a Board occupational analysis survey to be credited with six hours of CE.
- Repeals outdated regulations pertaining to the Board’s former CE program.

For more information, see [page 7](#).

OTHER NEW LAWS RELEVANT TO THE PROFESSIONS

1. [SB 923](#)—Gender-Affirming Care

This bill takes a number of steps to provide a model for trans-inclusive care, including requiring health plan staff who are in direct contact with enrollees to complete evidence-based cultural competency training for the purpose of providing trans-inclusive health care.

At its August 2022 meeting, the Board took a “support” position on the bill. However, additional substantive amendments that the Board was not able to consider were made at the end of the legislative session.

2. [SB 774](#)—Emotional Support Dog Documentation

This bill slightly amended the criteria for a health care practitioner who is providing emotional support dog documentation. A client-provider relationship that exists at least 30 days prior to providing the documentation is now not needed if the individual is verified to be homeless. The bill provides further criteria for how to verify homeless status.

3. [SB 966](#)—Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics: Visits

This bill allows Medi-Cal reimbursement for covered mental health services provided by an ASW or an AMFT who is under appropriate supervision and who is employed by a federally qualified health center or a rural health clinic.

At its May 2022 meeting, the Board took a “support” position on the bill. Additional substantive amendments that the Board was not able to consider were made at the end of the legislative session.

4. [SB 1002](#)—Workers’ Compensation: Licensed Clinical Social Workers

This bill adds LCSWs as providers in the workers’ compensation system. At its May 2022 meeting, the Board took a “support” position on the bill. Additional substantive amendments that the Board was not able to consider were made at the end of the legislative session.

5. [AB 988](#)—Mental Health: 988 Crisis Hotline

The Board supported this bill, which provides additional funding for the statewide 988 mental health crisis hotline.

6. [SB 1495](#)—Professions and Vocations

This bill makes two sets of minor, technical, or nonsubstantive amendments to add clarity and consistency to current law.

THE BOARD’S MISSION
IS TO PROTECT AND
SERVE CALIFORNIANS BY
SETTING, COMMUNICATING,
AND ENFORCING
STANDARDS FOR SAFE
AND COMPETENT MENTAL
HEALTH PRACTICE.

REDUCING BARRIERS TO LICENSURE AND ADDRESSING WORKFORCE SHORTAGES

BBS EFFORTS

The Board's Licensing Committee had its first meeting on December 8, 2022, and will be meeting again on January 13, 2023. Stakeholders are encouraged to participate. The Committee will be discussing barriers to licensure and ways that they can be addressed. This includes discussing requirements such as education, supervision, outreach and also addressing internal processes, all while continuing to provide consumer protection. The Board is also doing its best to reduce backlogs in application processing, which at times is challenging due to vacant positions.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND INFORMATION

The Board is partnering with Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) (formerly known as the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD)), the leader in collecting data and disseminating information about California's health care infrastructure. HCAI promotes an equitably distributed health workforce, and has developed a workforce survey for BBS licensees to complete during the renewal process.

IMPORTANT LICENSEE WORKFORCE SURVEY AT RENEWAL

The Board strongly encourages all licensees to complete this important survey during their online renewal, the results of which will help shape the future of health workforce policy in California. Based upon the results of this and other surveys, HCAI will produce an annual report discussing:

- Supply and demand of the health workforce.
 - Geographical distribution of the health workforce.
 - Diversity of the health workforce, by specialty (including, but not limited to, data on race, ethnicity, and languages spoken).
 - Current and forecasted demand for health care workers, by specialty.
- Educational capacity to produce trained, certified, and licensed health care workers, by specialty and by geographical distribution.

MORE ABOUT HCAI

HCAI works to promote a culturally competent and diverse health care workforce, and plays an important part in improving health care access. HCAI is committed to expanding equitable access for all Californians—ensuring every community has the health workforce they need, safe and reliable health care facilities, and health information that can help make care more effective and affordable.

HCAI improves health care access by providing scholarships, loan repayments, and grants to students, graduates, and institutions providing direct patient care in areas of unmet need. HCAI also collects, analyzes, and publishes data about California's health professional training, as well as identifies health care shortage areas in the state.



NEW ANNUAL CE REQUIREMENT FOR ASSOCIATE RENEWAL AND REMOVAL OF THE 12-HOUR LAW AND ETHICS COURSE FOR RE-EXAMINATION

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023, PER AB 1759

All associates who renew their registration or whose registration expires on or after January 1, 2023, must take a minimum of three hours of continuing education (CE) in California Law and Ethics to be eligible to renew their registration. This is an ongoing requirement, so an additional three hours of CE in California Law and Ethics must be completed prior to each renewal thereafter. This new requirement was put into place to ensure consumer protection in the same manner as the licensee requirement (six hours of Law and Ethics CE for each license renewal).

Additionally, this bill has eliminated the 12-hour Law and Ethics course required for registrants who did not pass the Law and Ethics Exam during their renewal cycle.

For more information on registrant CE and removal of the 12-hour Law and Ethics course related to the exam requirement, see the [AB 1759 FAQ](#). Also see the Board's new [Registrant Continuing Education Brochure](#).

STAY INFORMED ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH BBS!

Are you an applicant, registrant, licensee, or consumer who would like increased access to BBS activities and updates? Join our email subscriber's list! You can also follow the Board on Facebook and Twitter. Click on a graphic or go to www.bbs.ca.gov to connect!



EMAIL
SUBSCRIBERS
LIST



IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING A VALID EMAIL ADDRESS WITH THE BOARD

The Board strongly encourages all licensees, associates, and individuals in the exam process to ensure that their current email address is on file with the Board. The email address you provide will NOT be disclosed to the public.

This is important for everyone, but especially registrants working on passing the Law and Ethics exams and the LMFT Clinical exam. This is because they are notified of approval to test via email by Pearson Vue. Without an email address on file, they may not be notified how to register and schedule the exam.



HOW TO ADD OR UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

You can easily add or update your email by accessing "Change of Address Application" in the drop-down menu under "Manage Your License" on [BreEze](#).

EMAIL ADDRESS IS NOW REQUIRED

Effective July 1, 2022, a new law requires all licensees, registrants, and applicants who have an email address will be required to provide it to the Board. The Board must be notified of any changes to the email address within 30 days of the change.



AB 1759: ONE-TIME TELEHEALTH COURSEWORK REQUIRED FOR LICENSEES AND APPLICANTS FOR LICENSURE—EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

This new law requires applicants for licensure and current licensees to complete three hours of training or coursework in the provision of mental health services via telehealth, including law and ethics related to telehealth, as a one-time requirement. There is no age limit on this course. Licensees must certify at their first renewal after July 1, 2023, that this requirement has been met. Individuals submitting an application for licensure on or after July 1, 2023, must attach proof of completion to their application. See the [AB 1759 FAQ](#) for more information.



988 CALIFORNIA: SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE

988 was designated as the three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline and increase the accessibility of the Lifeline for individuals beginning in July 2022. The Lifeline provides confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24/7 across the United States.

988 California is a consortium of 13 California crisis centers answering calls, texts, and chats, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. 988 California’s crisis centers are accredited by the American Association of Suicidology and designated by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). 988 California is seeking volunteers and staff. [Click here for more information.](#)

ONLINE IS EASIER AND FASTER!

A Variety of Online Services Available via BreZE

For faster service, manage your registration and license online! BreZE provides services for applicants, registrants, and licensees that can save you weeks of processing time compared to paper applications. Services available include the ability to:

- Renew a license or registration instantly (up to 90 days in advance).
- Submit an address change (takes effect instantly).
- Request a replacement registration or license (allow two weeks for delivery).
- Verify a license and obtain proof of renewal status.
- Obtain a certification of licensure.
- Apply for your initial Law and Ethics Exam.
- Submit an application to change from Inactive to Active status.
- Pay with a major credit card in a secure environment.

Consumer complaints can also be filed on BreZE.

Visit www.breeze.ca.gov.

HELPFUL TIPS

If you are new to the Board’s online services, there are tutorial videos available to help you (select “Help Tutorials” on www.breeze.ca.gov). Tutorial videos include:

- An overview of BreZE services.
- How to search for a license.
- How to register for BreZE.
- What to do if you forgot your password or user ID.
- How to submit a renewal.
- How to update license information.
- How to make a payment.

If you need additional assistance using BreZE, technical support can be reached at (855) 227-9633.



LICENSEE CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) REGULATION CHANGES COMING JULY 1, 2023

If your license expires after July 1, 2023, or if you submit a renewal application after July 1, 2023 (regardless of your license's expiration date), a number of new requirements pertaining to licensee continuing education will affect you. For the full text of the changes, click [here](#). An FAQ that explains more about all of the changes will be released soon.

A summary of the changes that will affect some licensees renewing near the July 1, 2023 effective date are detailed on the Board's updated [CE Information Brochure](#) and below:

NEW LICENSEES: OVERALL HOURS REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL

For Licensees Whose Renewal is Received AFTER July 1, 2023 (Regardless of Expiration Date), or Whose License EXPIRES AFTER July 1, 2023:

You are required to complete a minimum of 36 hours of CE prior to every renewal. This includes the first renewal of your initial license. Previously, only 18 hours was required at first renewal because first renewal periods could be as short as one year. Now, all first renewal periods are a full two years.

COUNTING COURSES TAUGHT TOWARD CE

For Licensees Whose Renewal is Received AFTER July 1, 2023 (Regardless of Expiration Date), or Whose License EXPIRES AFTER July 1, 2023:

You may claim a maximum of 18 hours each renewal period for teaching a course if taught for a Board-accepted CE provider. You can claim the same amount of credit as an attendee would receive (up to 18 hours). Previously, the number of hours for teaching was unlimited. However, through CE audits the Board found that some licensees would claim their full hours for the same courses taught each renewal period. This change will help ensure that all licensees are continuing to update their professional knowledge.

SUPERVISORS OF ASSOCIATES AND MFT TRAINEES

For Supervisors Whose Renewal is Received AFTER July 1, 2023 (Regardless of Expiration Date), or Whose License EXPIRES AFTER July 1, 2023:

You may apply your supervisor course training hours to your CE requirement if the training has been taken from a Board-accepted CE provider, with one exception:

A course on law and ethics designed specifically to meet supervisor training requirements cannot also be accepted toward meeting the six-hour law and ethics course required of all licensees each for renewal period. In other words, the course cannot be used to fulfill both requirements. However, such a course does count toward the overall 36-hour CE requirement.

For Supervisors Whose Renewal is Received PRIOR to July 1, 2023, IF the License Expiration Date is Also PRIOR TO July 1, 2023:

You may apply your supervisor course training hours to your CE requirement if the training has been taken from a Board-accepted CE provider.

CE WAIVERS

For licenses that expire after July 1, 2023, CE waiver criteria has been modified. Waivers will no longer be granted for those residing in another country or for those absent from California due to military service. These outdated provisions were set in law before CE was widely available online and are no longer necessary. CE waiver criteria for licensees with a physical or mental disability or medical condition, or who are a primary caretaker of a disabled family member, have also been modified. Watch for the new CE waiver request forms to be posted in spring of 2023.



BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

BBS Welcomes a New Board Member



Eleanor Uribe was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom to the Board of Behavioral Sciences as an LCSW member in August 2022. Uribe has been the faculty field liaison at California State University, Fresno, since 2012. She worked as a LCSW for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from 2008 to 2012. She was a social worker practitioner at the Fresno County Department of Social Services from 1994 to 2008. Uribe earned her Master of Social Work degree from California State University, Fresno. Welcome, Eleanor!

New Vice Chair Elected



Christopher (Chris) Jones, LEP and nationally certified school psychologist, was elected vice chair in July 2022. Jones is the president and CEO of Dynamic Interventions and has earned multiple awards for his leadership and innovative work as a school psychologist. He was originally appointed to the Board by Governor Newsom in June of 2020. Congratulations, Chris!

DEPARTING BOARD MEMBERS



Diana Herweck served as an LPCC Board member from October 2021 to June 2022. She served on the Licensing and Telehealth Committees. The perspective and insights she shared via her background as a counselor educator were extremely helpful.



Crystal Anthony served as an LCSW Board member from October 2019 to June 2022. She was elected vice chair in July 2021 and served until June 2022. The perspective and insights she shared via her background serving clients at the Program for Torture Victims and as the co-executive director for Underground GRIT were extremely valuable.

We are grateful to Crystal and Diana for their contributions and service to the Board!



FREE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

The mission of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities. SAMHSA provides a variety of free training and technical assistance to mental health professionals on many topics. For more information, see: www.samhsa.gov/practitioner-training.

The California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS) is a nonprofit agency that helps health professionals, agencies and funders improve the lives of people with mental health and substance use challenges through policy, training, evaluation, technical assistance, and research. For more information, see www.cibhs.org.



BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: JOHN SOVEC

Reprinted with permission from the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists.



JOHN SOVEC, M.A., LMFT

TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR CAREER JOURNEY SO FAR.

Looking back, I think it was inevitable that I would become a therapist and coach. Without really realizing it or trying, I have always been someone people feel comfortable revealing their life story to. I can't count the number of times that people I've interacted with have ended up saying, "Wow, I have never told that to anyone before." Though my circuitous career path seemed random while I was living it, it ultimately helped me to develop the tools and instincts I use every day as a therapist.

Over the years I have been an actor/singer/dancer, a massage therapist, a yoga teacher (which I still am), an executive for a multinational Fortune 500 corporation (those were interesting years), and, for more than 30 years, a volunteer emotional support facilitator in the HIV/AIDS community. It wasn't until I was in my forties and feeling burned out by my corporate job that I chose to pursue my graduate education. I wanted to apply my natural affinity for empathy, listening, and caring, which my varied working life had helped me hone, to my future career. The journey has not always been clear-cut and simple, but I know I have finally landed on the path that gives me deep fulfillment while continually challenging me to grow and learn.

As an openly queer therapist (pronouns he/him), I have had the honor of working closely with my community since creating a therapy practice that specializes in supporting LGBTQ adolescents and their families during the coming-out process. This specialization developed as I witnessed and experienced how almost all graduate-level psychology education failed to address the needs of the LGBTQ community, especially LGBTQ kids. This gap in training awakened in me not only a need to deepen my education and training in supporting LGBTQ clients but also a desire to step up and become a leading expert in training others to create LGBTQ-affirming practices.

More recently my journey as a therapist has included joining BBS, which has presented me with another enormous opportunity for learning and growth.

HOW DID YOU BECOME A PART OF BBS?

I was appointed to BBS by Governor Gavin Newsom in December 2019. The process involves an in-depth application process, multiple interviews with the Governor's Office, a questionnaire and interview with the Senate, final approval of the Senate, and appointment by the Governor. I am one of two LMFTs on the Board, which also includes seven public members, two LCSWs, one LPCC, and one LEP. Our quarterly meetings are a mixture of disciplinary hearings, committee reports, executive officer reports, and policy and legislative actions. They take place over two days, and although the days are long I always feel a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment when the meeting is adjourned. The Board's committees include telehealth, supervision, and policy and advocacy, the committee I'm on.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF BEING A BOARD MEMBER?

My favorite part, which was actually a surprise to me, is the work we do on legislation and policy. When I attended my first board meeting as a newly appointed member, I remember finding the first day of disciplinary hearings fascinating. The hearings aligned with my skill set as a therapist, and I became an active participant with insight into the cases before us. On day two, the Board focused on considering legislation, and while I felt a little overwhelmed, I was also exhilarated by the conversations. The discussions about upcoming bills and what positions we as the Board would take on them was intriguing. I found myself asking lots of questions not only to broaden my understanding of the issues but also to deepen the conversation and dig further into the implications of the bills while assessing their potential benefit to our state. I became deeply invested in making a productive contribution to the Board's final positions on the bills it's tasked with evaluating. I can't necessarily pinpoint which part of my mind, heart, or spirit was most activated by this work, but I was hooked.

Becoming a member of the Board has also expanded my professional connections. I have had the opportunity to meet and work with people from a broad array of licensures represented by the BBS. I've learned about their different approaches to work and gained insight into the various ways we all contribute to the development and expansion

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of behavioral sciences in California. And while I have been able to nurture many professional connections on the board, I've also created new friendships with people who are committed to making positive change in the world. It's inspiring, and each time we connect I find myself learning something new and powerful.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO SOMEONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING INVOLVED IN GROWING THE PROFESSION?

For anyone who's intrigued by the idea of being an advocate for the field of mental health, I think the first step is to start at the local level. Most regions have a CAMFT chapter, and becoming involved is a great way to get your feet wet exploring a leadership position. It also affords the opportunity to meet other mental health professionals who share a passion for supporting and growing our professions. Most chapters are always looking for volunteers at all levels of the organization. Another step is to attend a BBS meeting, either virtually or in person in Northern or Southern California. It's a great way to observe the process, and there are many opportunities for public comment during which your voice and insight can be part of the policymaking process. For those with the time and interest, I would also suggest running for election to the CAMFT Board or volunteering on a CAMFT committee. This is another opportunity to learn about how change and growth can occur in our profession. All these opportunities allow for your voice to influence the growth and development of our profession as we move into the future.

WHO OR WHAT INSPIRES YOU?

I find inspiration everywhere but especially in the people I meet as a part of this expansive profession. The opportunities to learn in our work are boundless, and whether it's having coffee with a colleague, interacting with new associates, or learning from thought leaders in the profession, I am continually challenged to grow as both a therapist and a person by all the beautiful, intelligent, inspiring people in our field. And in my private life I'm inspired by my 13-year-old Great Dane, who reminds me each and every morning to slow down, sniff the good smells, and be open to whatever wonders the world has to share today.

HOW DO YOU PRACTICE SELF-CARE?

I am a big believer in radical self-care whatever your profession but especially if you're a mental health care provider. I refer to it as radical because the kinds of self-care I advocate go against the norms of success that our culture tells us we should embrace, such as no pain no gain, do whatever you have to do to get to the top, more is better, and the "insta-perfect" life. I see rejecting these pressures as a radical act of defiance that prioritizes individual well-being over the unhealthy, unrealistic expectations now common in our society and, unfortunately, our profession. Given what mental health care providers do for a living—sit with and be present for people who are moving through some of the most challenging and vulnerable moments in their lives—it's easy to imagine how susceptible we are to overwhelm and burnout. By committing to radical self-care, we can care more effectively for our clients.

My radical self-care includes managing my schedule so that I only see clients four days a week, staying connected to colleagues for consultation when I need it, engaging in meditation and yoga, experiencing nature regularly, and prioritizing family. It's important that I remember I am more than just a therapist: I am also a husband, a gardener, a person who loves and values good friends, a baker, and, as mentioned above, a devoted co-guardian of a geriatric Great Dane. Staying in touch with all the facets of my life plays a huge part in helping me to thrive and avoid burnout in my work.

WHAT IS ONE FUN FACT ABOUT YOU THAT FEW PEOPLE KNOW?

Most of my close friends know this, but colleagues may be surprised to know that I am a passionate baker! Baking is a fun place for me to create, relax, and play, and everybody is happy when there are freshly baked cookies on the table.

PLEASE ADD ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT MAY BE APPLICABLE.

I am very excited that my manuscript is currently at my publisher and that I have a new book coming out in the near future entitled *Out! A Parent's Guide to Supporting Your LGBTQ Kid*. This book is a practical hands-on guide for how parents and clinicians can best support LGBTQ kids during the coming-out process. Writing this book has been an intense, and intensely personal, journey for me, and I am very proud of the results.



EXPLANATION OF DISCIPLINARY TERMS AND ACTIONS

Accusation—Formal statement of charges against the registrant/licensee.

Statement of Issues—Formal statement of reasons why an application for registration/license should be denied.

Effective Date—The date the disciplinary decision goes into effect.

Revoked—The registration/license is canceled, voided, rescinded. The right to practice is terminated.

Revoked, Stayed, Probation—“Stayed” means the revocation is postponed. Professional practice may continue so long as the registrant/licensee complies with specific probationary terms and conditions. Violation of probation may result in the revocation that was postponed.

Suspension—The registrant/licensee is prohibited from practicing for a specific period of time.

License Surrender—To resolve a disciplinary action, the registrant/licensee has given up his or her registration/license—subject to acceptance by the Board. The right to practice is terminated.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Citation and Fine—An administrative action used for minor violations. Citations and fines are public information but are not considered disciplinary action.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS January–September 2022		
Name	License Number	Fine Amount
Ronald D. Austin	LMFT 41803	Citation, no fine
Gretchen Castle Bernfeld	Unlicensed	\$5,000
Murdis Latoya Boston	LMFT 88006	\$500
Andrew Thomas Castro	AMFT 92071	\$2,500
Christine Elizabeth Erickson	LMFT 36009	\$200
Vivian D. Brown Johnson	AMFT 96773	Citation, no fine
Michael E. McClary	LMFT 16463	\$1,000
Nancy L. Ronne	Unlicensed	\$1,500
Camille Marie Rose	LCSW 20223	\$1,500
Kimberly Michelle Strong	LCSW 29475	\$1,000
Liane Yoko Tanahara-Chacon	LCSW 27990	\$200
Claudia Villarreal	LMFT 58025	\$250
Laura Weiss	LMFT 27592	\$1,200

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FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS JANUARY–SEPTEMBER 2022

Karine Babayan

AMFT 106816

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked
Effective: August 25, 2022

Sarah Elizabeth Cassese

ASW 71127

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked
Effective: February 24, 2022

Heather Noel De Los Reyes

LCSW 27302

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked
Effective: July 7, 2022

Robert Oliver Bailey

LMFT 15081

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked
Effective: February 24, 2022

Jorge Alberto Chavez

AMFT 117192

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: February 24, 2022

Barbara Michelle Dixon

LMFT 90853

UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of four (4) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: March 30, 2022

Gary Lavon Callahan-Smith

ASW 108953

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: July 7, 2022

Deborah Gail Davidson

LCSW 25354

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License surrendered
Effective: May 12, 2022

Marie Elizabeth

LMFT 18832

UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Action: License surrendered
Effective: May 12, 2022

Auriel Quambao Camacho

LCSW 86513

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked
Effective: February 24, 2022

Kelli Marie Davis

ASW 70399

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: January 6, 2022

Guadalupe Victoria Emerick

LMFT 96680

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License surrendered
Effective: August 25, 2022

Rigoberto Cambray

AMFT 113643

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: July 7, 2022

Kia Rose Davis

AMFT 91874

FRAUD

Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: February 24, 2022

Rachel Cecelia Engh

LMFT 99316

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked
Effective: March 30, 2022

Judy De Leon

LMFT 41569

DISCIPLINE BY ANOTHER AGENCY

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: August 25, 2022

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FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Shirley Escobar

LMFT 104438

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License surrendered

Effective: July 7, 2022

Tami Sue Foster

AMFT 99375

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 14, 2022

April Irene Franklin

APCC 10789

**DISCIPLINE BY ANOTHER
AGENCY**

Action: Registration surrendered

Effective: August 25, 2022

Angel Vicente Guillen

LCSW 28537

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: May 12, 2022

Michelle Francine Harris-Feller

LMFT 38073

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked

Effective: February 24, 2022

Kaitlin Elizabeth Hedge

ASW 107654

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 14, 2022

Chris Gonzalez Herrera

AMFT 97865

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: January 6, 2022

Chara Lynn Howard

LMFT 104485

MENTAL/PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT

Action: License surrendered

Effective: May 12, 2022

Amanda Ann Ingalls-Brunzell

LPCC 8332

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked

Effective: July 7, 2022

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FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Maria Kahros
ASW 95418
**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**
Action: Registration revoked
Effective: July 7, 2022

Steven Craig Lund
APCC 9957
**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**
Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: August 25, 2022

Candice Christine McCoy
ASW 85678
**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**
Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: January 6, 2022

Yvette Renee Lane
AMFT 116654/APCC 7392
**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**
Action: Registrations revoked
Effective: July 7, 2022

Alexander Rand MacAdam
LCSW 73542
**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**
Action: License revoked,
revocation stayed, and placed
on probation for a period
of five (5) years with terms and
conditions.
Effective: February 24, 2022

Aubrie Nicole Nuno-Pelayo
AMFT 102029
**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**
Action: Registration revoked,
revocation stayed, and placed
on probation for a period
of three (3) years with terms
and conditions.
Effective: January 6, 2022

Wayne Wai-Ming Li
LMFT 45086
**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**
Action: License surrendered
Effective: May 12, 2022

Amanda Lynch Machi
AMFT 126987
**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**
Action: License surrendered
Effective: May 12, 2022

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FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Gail J. O’Connell

LMFT 134403

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of (2) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: August 25, 2022

Edward Pena Jr.

LMFT 47450

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License Revoked
Effective: January 6, 2022

Jennifer Lynn Pepper

AMFT 106241

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: July 7, 2022

Halide Marcella Porras

ASW 76882

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: January 6, 2022

Shavonne L. Powell

AMFT 111594

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: July 7, 2022

Mary Lynn Rochlitz

LMFT 36981

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License surrendered
Effective: July 7, 2022

Shaylja Supreya Singh

AMFT 101876

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: September 29, 2022

Alexandra Leanne Tillapaugh

AMFT 107193

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: August 25, 2022

Stephanie Ann Trecha

LCSW 106426

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: January 6, 2022

Edgar Gustavo Villamarin

LMFT 18116

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License surrendered
Effective: August 25, 2022

Ashley Maria Wang

LMFT 101762

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of four (4) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: May 12, 2022

Jennifer Marianne Williams

AMFT 116152

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of four (4) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: September 29, 2022

Alexander Grier Young

LCSW 71624

**CRIMINAL CHARGES/
CONVICTIONS**

Action: License revoked
Effective: August 25, 2022



Board of Behavioral Sciences

CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S-200
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 574-7830



2023 UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Board Meetings

February 2–3

March 16*

May 4–5

June 15*

August 17–18

September 21*

November 16–17

* Disciplinary hearing dates only.
These dates may be canceled
if the Board does not receive
any petition requests.

Policy and Advocacy Committee

January 13

April 14

July 21

October 13

Telehealth Committee

Dates TBD

Licensing Committee

January 13

April 14

July 21

October 13

EVENTS TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY 6–10

National School Counseling Week

MARCH

National Social Worker Month

Please visit the Board's 2023 [Board and Committee Meetings](#) webpage or sign up for the [email subscriber's list](#) for updates.

CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES