



Board of Behavioral Sciences

# Memo

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**To:** Board Members

**Date:** April 28, 2025

**From:** Steve Sodergren  
Executive Officer

**Subject:** Election of Board Officers

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Business and Professions Code section 4990(g) mandates that the Board must annually elect a chairperson and vice chairperson.

Currently, Christopher Jones holds the position of Board chairperson, with Wendy Strack serving as vice chairperson. To adhere to legal requirements, the Board members need to elect a new chairperson and vice chairperson during this meeting. The newly elected individuals will hold their positions until the next round of Board elections scheduled for the May 2026 meeting.

The roles of the Board chairperson and vice chairperson extend beyond mere titles; they serve as the public representatives of the Board. Their primary responsibility is to execute the Board's mission. To achieve this, they collaborate closely with the Board's executive officer and other members. The duties of a Board chairperson include:

- Regular meetings and communication with the executive officer (weekly, monthly, quarterly).
- Communication with fellow Board members regarding Board matters.
- Chairing and facilitating Board meetings.
- Composing a message for the Board chair to be included in every quarterly newsletter.
- Assigning Board members to various committees and appointing committee chairs.
- Acting as the official spokesperson for the Board, which may involve attending legislative hearings, testifying on behalf of the Board, participating in meetings with the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) or Agency, and engaging with stakeholders and legislators.

During the voting process, the Board chairperson will ask for nominations for the Board chairperson. Members are welcome to nominate themselves. Each nomination must be seconded by another Board member. Nominees have the option to decline their nomination. After all nominations have been made, a vote will be conducted, and the nominee with a majority of votes will become the Board chairperson. The same process

will be followed for the vice chairperson position. The newly elected Board chairperson and vice chairperson will begin their duties immediately after the conclusion of this quarterly meeting.

A roster of Board members along with the expiration dates of their terms can be seen in Attachment A.

**Attachment**

Attachment A: Board Member Roster

## Attachment A- Board Roster

<b>Board of Behavioral Sciences-Board Member Roster (April 2025)</b> (Listed from earliest term expiration date/earliest date of appointment)					
<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Authority</b>	<b>Date Appointed</b>	<b>Term Expiration</b>	<b>Grace Expiration</b>
<b>Kelly Ranasinghe</b>	Public	Governor	6/29/20	6/1/25	8/1/25
<b>Justin Huft</b>	LMFT	Governor	9/23/21	6/1/25	8/1/25
<b>Abigail Ortega</b>	LCSW	Governor	11/10/21	6/1/25	8/1/25
<b>Annette Walker</b>	Public	Governor	11/10/21	6/1/25	8/1/25
<b>John Sovec</b>	LMFT	Governor	12/11/19	6/1/26	8/1/26
<b>Susan Friedman</b>	Public	Governor	3/5/20	6/1/26	8/1/26
<b>Eleanor Uribe</b>	LCSW	Governor	8/2/22	6/1/26	8/1/26
<b>Wendy Strack</b>	Public	Governor	1/29/20	6/1/27	8/1/27
<b>Lorez Bailey</b>	Public	Senate	8/7/24	6/1/27	6/1/28
<b>Christopher Jones</b>	LEP	Governor	6/29/20	6/1/28	8/1/28
<b>Nicholas Boyd</b>	LPCC	Governor	6/28/23	6/1/28	8/1/28