

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

W I N T E R 2 0 2 5 N E W S L E T T E R

VOL. 11 NO. 1



BOARD CHAIR UPDATE



Chris Jones

As we turn the page on 2024, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing participation and collaboration with the Board. Your engagement has been invaluable in helping us move forward on key initiatives and ensuring the success of our work. Looking ahead, the Board will be focusing on several priorities that will impact licensees, registrants, and other stakeholders. These efforts will include strengthening workforce development, updating our strategic plan, and advancing initiatives that reduce barriers to licensure.

The 2024 legislative session concluded at the end of September, and I am pleased to share that the Board successfully sponsored SB 1024 (Ochoa Bogh), which was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom. This important legislation:

- Updates license and registration display requirements to account for telehealth practices.
- Clarifies supervision requirements, including who counts as a “supervisee” for group supervision and who is included toward the limit of six supervisees per supervisor receiving individual or triadic supervision in non-exempt settings.

For further details on SB 1024, including answers to frequently asked questions, we encourage you to visit our website.

We are excited to announce the creation of the Outreach and Education Committee. This committee will be dedicated to enhancing consumer education, expanding the Board’s outreach to diverse populations, increasing engagement with educational institutions, and boosting participation in meetings. The committee’s first meeting will take place in early 2025—sign up for our [email subscriber’s list](#) to be notified of the dates. We encourage stakeholders to get involved as we set the course for this important work.

In early 2025, the Board will submit its Sunset Review Report to the Legislature. This comprehensive report details the Board’s accomplishments over the last four years, identifies emerging issues, and outlines future priorities. The report is instrumental in helping the Legislature evaluate the Board’s performance and explore opportunities for improvement. The report will be available soon, and we hope you will support the Board’s efforts during the upcoming hearings.

IN THIS ISSUE

Board Chair Update.....	1
SB 1024: Frequently Asked Questions Now Available	2
Safe Spaces	3
Stay Informed about What’s Happening with BBS!	3
Board Executive Officer Part of Workforce Group and AI Discussion Group.....	3
Consumer Complaints Against Board Licensees Working in the Family Court System: Limits on the Board’s Jurisdiction.....	4
Online Is Easier and Faster!.....	5
Get to Know BBS Staff Members.....	6
State Announces Strategy to Expand Behavioral Health Workforce through Prop. 1	8
Enforcement Actions.....	9
Upcoming Meeting Dates.....	Back
Events to Remember	Back

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Board will also embark on the process of updating its Strategic Plan, which defines long-term goals, priorities, and strategies for addressing key issues. A critical step in this process is the environmental scan—a tool to identify potential risks and opportunities that may affect the Board’s operations. To ensure we capture stakeholder input, the Board will distribute an online survey to gather feedback. Your opinions matter, and we encourage you to take part and make your voice heard.

The Workforce Development Committee will continue discussions aimed at streamlining the licensure process, including potential changes to the examination process. Additionally, the Board will continue to explore the possibility of accepting the American Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Board’s Clinical Examination. We look forward to engaging with you at upcoming meetings and hearing your thoughts as we work together to support the workforce and reduce unnecessary barriers to licensure.

The Board’s success depends on collaboration with stakeholders like you. Whether participating in surveys, attending meetings, or sharing your insights, your contributions help ensure we effectively serve licensees, registrants, and the public. As we look ahead to a productive 2025, I invite you to join us in these efforts. Together, we can strengthen the profession, enhance public protection, and advance the Board’s mission.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Chris Jones

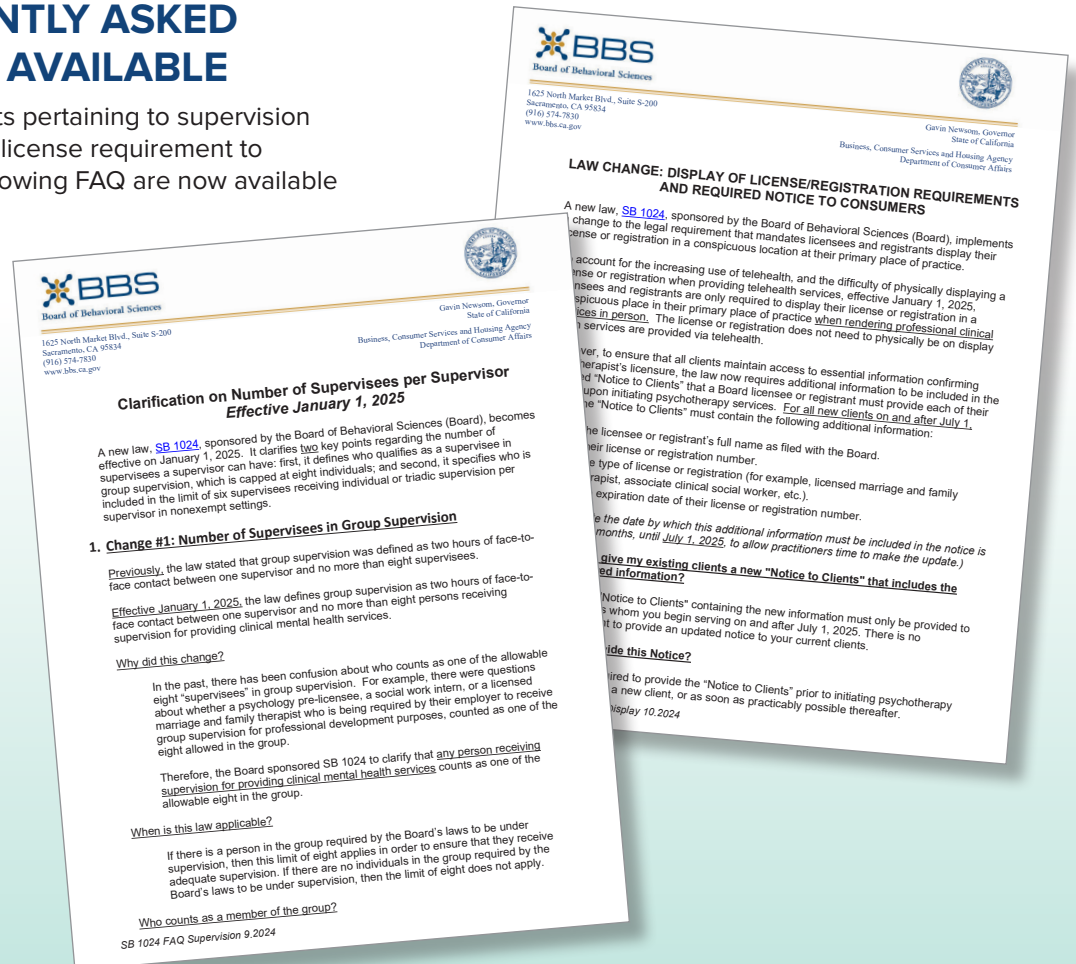
Board Chair

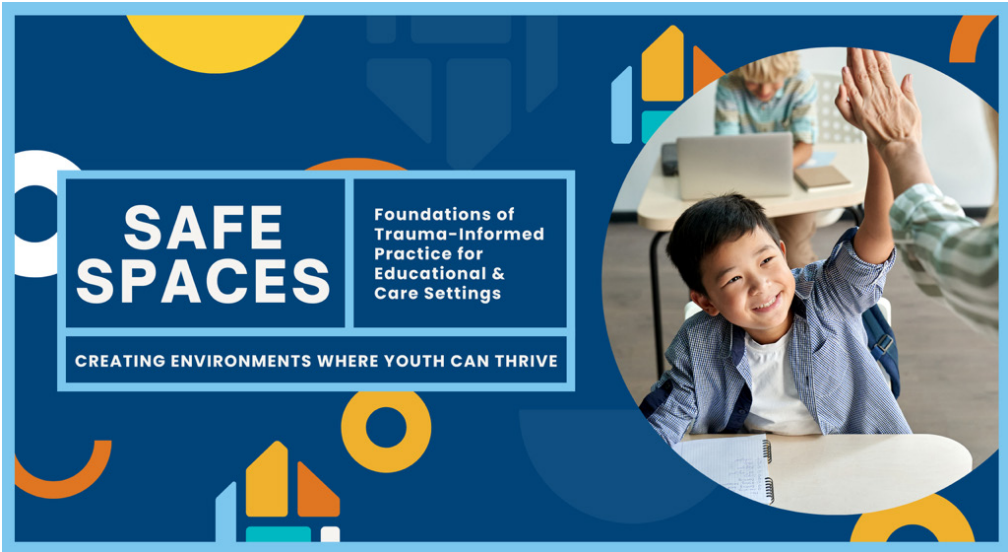
SB 1024: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS NOW AVAILABLE

SB 1024 clarifies two key points pertaining to supervision and modernizes the display of license requirement to account for telehealth. The following FAQ are now available on the Board’s website:

FAQ for New Law: Changes to Required Notice to Consumers

FAQ for New Law: Clarification on Supervisees per Supervisor





SAFE SPACES

Foundations of Trauma-Informed Practice for Educational & Care Settings

CREATING ENVIRONMENTS WHERE YOUTH CAN THRIVE

Safe Spaces: Foundations of Trauma-Informed Practice for Educational and Care Settings | OSG is a trauma-informed training from the Office of the California Surgeon General. This free, voluntary, two-hour online training is designed to help any individual working with children and youth respond to signs of trauma and stress. The training is self-paced and consists of three modules, two hours each, focusing on three age groups including 0-5, 5-11 and 12-18 and is accessible in English and Spanish.

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 X. Scan or click on a graphic or go to www.bbs.ca.gov to connect!



EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS LIST



BOARD EXECUTIVE OFFICER PART OF WORKFORCE GROUP AND AI DISCUSSION GROUP



Steve Sodergren

We are excited to announce that the Board’s Executive Officer Steve Sodergren has been invited to participate in the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) Behavioral Health Workforce Group. HCAI has partnered with Boston Consulting Group (BCG) to develop a data-driven strategy and analytical tool to address gaps in the behavioral health workforce. Over the next few months, BCG will

be working with HCAI and other agencies to analyze the current state of the workforce, identify strategic priorities and best practices, and build an actionable roadmap of initiatives.

Steve will also be participating in the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB)-Artificial Intelligence Committee. This committee will be looking at the different applications of AI in a therapeutic context, the benefits and risks of this tool, and what types of regulations may need to be put in place, if any, to protect the consumer. The committee had its initial brainstorming session in June and will be meeting monthly.



CONSUMER COMPLAINTS AGAINST BOARD LICENSEES WORKING IN THE FAMILY COURT SYSTEM: LIMITS ON THE BOARD’S JURISDICTION

The Board's enforcement staff reviews allegations of misconduct by licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFTs), licensed clinical social workers (LCSWs), licensed educational psychologists (LEPs), licensed professional clinical counselors (LPCCs), and registered associates.

As a licensing agency reviewing a complaint, the Board is required to adhere to the statutes and regulations governing the practices of marriage and family therapy, clinical social work, educational psychology, professional clinical counseling, administrative law, rules of evidence, and other applicable laws.

As a result, and due to the nature of certain complaints, the Board does not have the jurisdiction to pursue the following types of complaints:

COMPLAINTS AGAINST A COURT-CONNECTED MEDIATOR OR CHILD CUSTODY RECOMMENDING COUNSELOR

The purpose of mediation is to reduce acrimony that may exist between the parties and to assist the parties in developing a parenting plan that protects a child’s health, safety, and welfare, is in the best interest of the child, and optimizes the child’s relationship with each parent (California Family Code § 3161 and California Rules of Court § 5.210).

A professional license is not required to be a mediator.

Although mediators and child custody recommending counselors are required to have a master’s degree in psychology, social work, marriage, family, and child counseling, or other behavioral science substantially related to marriage and family interpersonal relationships, they are not required to hold a professional license (California Family Code § 1815).

The Board does not have the jurisdiction to pursue complaints against mediators and child custody recommending counselors, even if the individual holds a professional license. This is because neither the setting nor the services provided are clinical or psychotherapeutic services for which a license with the Board is required.

Persons who work in mediation and conciliation are preparing reports based upon protocols established by the Judicial Council. There is a formula concerning both the methodology and content of these documents and this governs their preparation. The use of these documents by the courts, as well as their confidentiality, is governed by the Family Code and regulations adopted by the Judicial Council.

To gain an understanding of the scope of such evaluations, please refer to section 5.210 of the [California Rules of Court](#), which are applicable to every family court in California. The rules of court summarize many sections of the Family Code and how litigants are supposed to comply with them, including

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

how to object to an evaluator's report during the dissolution proceedings. This information can be obtained online from court or government websites.

Since the work of a court connected mediator or child custody recommending counselor is specifically produced for the family court, and since each such court is required to maintain a complaint-handling mechanism, complaints should be directed to family court services.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST A SPECIAL MASTER OR PARENTING COORDINATOR

A special master, sometimes called a parenting coordinator, is a professional appointed by the court to act in a quasi-judicial manner to make day-to-day decisions. These appointments can be made for various types of court cases including civil and criminal cases. Special masters are usually mental health professionals, but they can also be attorneys. The Board typically receives complaints related to divorced families in high conflict cases where the parties are unable to come to an agreement.

California Family Code § 10005(a)(6) states, "By local rule, the superior court may designate additional duties of the family law facilitator, which may include, but are not limited to...Serving as a special master in proceedings and making findings to the court unless the family law facilitator has served as a mediator in that case."

The court and the parties involved will draft a detailed and specific order outlining the responsibilities and compensation of the special master. The special master will make recommendations to the court. In issues related to parental disagreements, California law is clear in its intent that the "best interests of the children" are paramount.

Although the special master is required to hold a "current professional license in good standing," the role of the special master "is a recommending role, not negotiation, mediation, therapy, or education." A complaint alleging violation of the Board's unprofessional conduct laws may only be pursued if it is directly related to the therapeutic relationship as defined in law. Therefore, any complaint involving special masters and/or parenting coordinators are not in the Board's jurisdiction and must be addressed by the court.

The court order/stipulation appointing the special master and/or parent coordinator should provide information on how to file a complaint if the individual has acted unprofessionally. Concerns may also be addressed with the county's Superior Court-Family Court Services manager, who should be able to assist with the process of filing a complaint with the court.

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. BreZE allows payment via major credit card in a secure environment. Services available include the ability to:

- Subscribe to license notifications.
- Apply for an associate registration. Coming Soon!
- Request a name change.
- Submit an address change (takes effect instantly).
- Add or change your email address.
- Verify a license and obtain proof of renewal status.
- Obtain a certification of licensure.
- Renew a license or registration instantly (up to 90 days in advance).
- Submit an application to change from inactive to active status.
- Request a replacement registration or license (allow two weeks for delivery).
- Apply for your initial Law and Ethics Exam.
- Apply for initial license issuance

Consumer complaints can also be filed on BreZE.

Visit www.BreZE.ca.gov.

HELPFUL TIPS AND TUTORIAL VIDEOS

If you are new to the Board's online services, helpful tips are available online:

BreZE Helpful Hints

BreZE Help Tutorial Videos, including:

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

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

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS



GET TO KNOW BBS STAFF MEMBERS



MARY COTO
Testing Accommodations
Analyst

Tell us a little bit about yourself and your career journey so far:

I started with the state in 1979 at the DMV. I was a seasonal clerk

and my job involved revoking licenses. Next, I worked for the state Department of Justice in the Fingerprints Unit. I moved to New York for a few years and then came back when my parents became sick and was hired at the Department of Water Resources. Next was the Board of Registered Nursing and the last job was my beautiful Board of Behavioral Sciences!

How did you become a part of BBS?

The Board's Examination Unit was part of another office in those days. I had an interview with a person who looked like Santa Claus—at least that what he looked like to me. He stated that the Examination Unit was all put together and everything was going to go smoothly. It was a mess when I started, and he said the key to working with the Board and longevity of this job is to keep your nose to the grind and work like it was your own business. Do not get involved with politics nor gossip. He said to run your own area like it was Forbes, and you will never be unhappy with your job.

What is your position at BBS and what does a day at the office look like for you?

When I started with the Examination Unit I learned so much. At that time we had oral exams, and I worked with Christy Berger setting everything up for the exam at hotel sites. I was even in a video for training the examiners! My most prestigious job (and my current job) is working with testing accommodations. I like this job because I work with a lot of disabled candidates, and I too am disabled. You must have patience and empathy when speaking with the candidates and I do have that. I also love to volunteer for the front desk because I love interacting with everyone and I always learn something new.

What is one thing that you wish more people knew about BBS?

The one thing I wish people would know is having patience with the Board. We want to help each candidate, but most of the information needed is right on the Board's website. Candidates sometimes overthink things and get excited and want us to fix things ASAP. We are not a large office and patience is sometimes needed.

Who or what inspires you?

What inspires me daily is I am alive and have seen a lot through my life. I get up each day wanting to learn something and the key to my long life is always keeping busy. What a lot of people do not know about me is that I lost my parents at a young age. Waking up daily and seeing my family is my greatest achievement. I do some volunteer work advocating for the Lupus and Arthritis Foundations and my youngest child did the same. I have a 50-year-old daughter and my 26-year-old "Board of Behavioral Sciences Baby" (I was pregnant with her while working here). My state job provided insurance for my children and that was an important goal in life.

What is one fun fact about you that few people know?

A fun fact is that I had four husbands. I outlasted my last husband as a widow. I was always being asked why haven't you retired yet? It was never about money for me—it was about wanting a fulfilling job. Believe it or not, I still have licensees and applicants calling me and asking me if I am still here because they needed help. I have testing accommodation candidates who refer their friends to call me for guidance and I am happy to give them that lifeline. I am retiring soon and I will never forget the Board—it was fun for me. Please let me emphasize I love working daily and knowing I am still here on this earth!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6



CYNTHI BURNETT
Examination and Cashiering
Unit Manager

**Tell us a little bit about yourself
and your career journey so far:**

My first and most rewarding career was as a stay-at-home mom for 20 years. I have seven children, 22 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They are all my very favorite people in the world! I began my second career with the state 26 years ago.

How did you become a part of BBS?

I worked for the Department of Public Health for the first 10 years of my state career. I learned of the Board of Behavioral Sciences through a former coworker and that it was a great place to be. (She was absolutely right!) I was an Enforcement Analyst my first 12 years with BBS and desired to broaden my horizons and became a manager four years ago.

**What is your position at BBS and what does a day
at the office look like for you?**

I am the Examination and Cashiering Unit manager and have the opportunity to collaborate with exceptional staff members, managers, and consumers. I don't necessarily have typical days at the office. They are varied due to my position, which I enjoy because a "day at the office" can bring something new and completely different from the day before.

**What are the most interesting aspects of the work
that you do for BBS?**

Though I have been with BBS for several years, I am always learning something new about various processes within the Board. It is heartwarming to see employees that work hard every day to do their part to protect the health, safety and welfare of California consumers, whether it is assisting someone to become licensed, renew their license, navigate the exam process, or carry out enforcement regulations. Everyone at the Board is providing assistance toward common goals.

**What is one thing that you wish more people knew
about BBS?**

BBS is a fun place to work and is filled with employees and managers who genuinely care about each other and the work they do to assist registrants and licensees.

Who or what inspires you?

My family, my church, my community, and my BBS family inspire me to continue to have integrity and be a good example. I am nowhere near perfect, so I strive every day to improve. There are many people in my little part of the world who inspire me to continue to grow.

**What is one fun fact about you that few people
know?**

Many, many decades ago, my cheerleading squad in high school was invited to cheer (along with other squads in the north Bay Area) at a San Francisco 49ers game. We also participated in a halftime performance on the field. It was a fun and enlightening experience to be part of a large event.

STATE ANNOUNCES STRATEGY TO EXPAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE THROUGH PROP. 1

This article was first published September 18, 2024, by the state Department of Health Care Access and Information.

The Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) presented its strategy on how to grow and diversify the behavioral health workforce to the [California Health Workforce Education and Training Council](#) after development with 200-plus stakeholders. This strategy is designed to better understand and equitably solve the workforce shortages in behavioral health services, fully leveraging ongoing funding available through Proposition 1 (estimated \$95 million annually), as well as other workforce investments.

These efforts will increase the supply of behavioral health workers in California by providing financial and training support for individuals seeking careers in behavioral health fields (e.g., scholarships, loan repayments, paid clinical and apprenticeship opportunities) and support for organizations and educational institutions that grow the workforce—with a goal of ensuring all Californians have access to equitable, affordable, and quality behavioral health care.

“This is a big step for the state of California in addressing the behavioral health crisis,” said HCAI Director Elizabeth Landsberg. “Having a statewide behavioral health workforce strategy to identify the gaps and grow this critical workforce in the Golden State is no small feat, and no single organization or agency will be able to solve our behavioral health workforce challenges alone. Through this strategy, we look forward to continuing to coordinate with other state departments, as well as our other partners, to identify common goals, use actionable data, and prioritize and coordinate to make the biggest impact as possible.”

Behavioral Health Transformation is the California Health and Human Services Agency’s (CalHHS) work to implement **Proposition 1**. This behavioral health workforce strategy focuses on modeling the supply and demand of California’s behavioral health workforce to better understand gaps now and in the future, while identifying strategic interventions that HCAI and other entities can implement to target key shortage drivers.

This strategy will be primarily funded through new behavioral workforce allocations approved through Proposition 1 and are expected to be matched through a new federal waiver that the state has applied for that will result in up to \$2.5 billion in workforce funding over a period of five years. Funds will focus on developing and diversifying the behavioral health workforce that serves Medi-Cal members and works in public and safety net settings.

WHY THIS MATTERS: The Behavioral Health Workforce Strategy facilitated a discussion with the California Health

Workforce Education and Training Council on how the state can identify regional workforce shortages for various behavioral health roles and create equitable and effective solutions to address those gaps. The strategy will guide HCAI and the broader ecosystem of behavioral health workforce partners on where to focus funding – as this initial unveiling of the strategy and modeling will not only benefit state agencies, but also the many partners who do this important work. Council members and members of the public provided feedback on the importance of training health workers who will work in safety net settings, expanding education capacity in areas with the greatest shortages, investing in allied health professions, and addressing moral injury and burnout among health workers—all with equity as a guiding principle.

There are many disparities in access to care, racial and geographic representation of professionals versus populations, and health coverage acceptance. Given persistent gaps in access to care, the strategy seeks to understand the greatest barriers to sufficient supply, equity, and optimization of the workforce, and will recommend role- and geography-specific interventions that are evidence- and experience-based.

With the release of the strategy, HCAI will continue to refine it and will incorporate input from the state’s behavioral health partners and agencies. Additional information about the strategy will be provided in the months ahead, including at the November 2024 meeting of the [California Health Workforce Education and Training Council](#).

Those wishing to provide input during the continued development of the strategy are encouraged to contact HCAI at behavioralhealthworkforce@hcai.ca.gov.

Additional materials that were presented in the council meeting can be found [here](#).

BIGGER PICTURE: The Behavioral Health Workforce Strategy is one part of this larger effort and builds on California’s other major behavioral health initiatives including the [California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal initiative](#), the [California Behavioral Health Community-Based Organization Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment Demonstration proposal](#), the [Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative](#), [Medi-Cal Mobile Crisis, 988 expansion](#), and the [Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program](#).

More information about Proposition 1 and Governor Gavin Newsom’s efforts to transform California’s entire mental health and substance use disorder system to provide better behavioral health care for all Californians can be found at mentalhealth.ca.gov.

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 August 1–October 31, 2024		
Name	License Number	Fine Amount
Mikhail Babayev	LCSW 106861	\$300
Gladys Dorantes Corado	LMFT 49636	\$300
Emily Nicole Daniel-Murphy	LCSW 106752	\$1,200
Cassandra Riedy Harms	LMFT 40501	\$200
Rosa Herm	AMFT 68223	\$5,000
Katrina Marie Huaman	LCSW 106656	\$400
Muang Chiem Kistler	LCSW 94125	\$150
Stephanie Anne Kubit	LMFT 43770	\$150
Kellye McKinna	UNLICENSED	\$5,000
Lillian Debbie Murad	LCSW 19888	\$400
Tanaz Naysan-Roofian	LMFT 38949	\$300
Michael John Piedade	LCSW 70051	\$750
Michelle Lianne Powers	LPCC 7615	\$200
Angela Ellen Riccelli	LCSW 14931	\$400
Fred Murray Rosen	LMFT 37186	\$1,200
Veronica Salinas	LEP 3205	\$300
Ryan Ramon Sanft	LCSW 23258	\$300
Tracee L. Moore Stewart	LEP 3797	\$1,200
Lori Anne Strauss	LCSW 22163	\$400
Katherine Anne Stromska	LMFT 84866	\$400
Hannah Ruth Swinney	LPCC 7673	\$400
Melanie West	LEP 2612	\$300
Benita Veronica Zuniga	LCSW 25086	\$200



FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AUGUST 1–OCTOBER 31, 2024

Select the individual's name for a link to more information.

Jesus Adan

ASW 125182

Anaheim

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

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

Effective: August 15, 2024

Richard Cross Bennett Jr.

AMFT 115336

Berkeley

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked

Effective: August 15, 2024

Jessica Dolores Bernal

ASW 95974

Reseda

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

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

Effective: August 15, 2024

Matthew Conway Bumpass

AMFT 106503

Orange

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked

Effective: August 15, 2024

Robin Christina Cofield

LMFT 95096

Santa Maria

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

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

Effective: August 15, 2024

Norma Malissa Contreras

AMFT 128216

Compton

UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Action: Registration surrendered

Effective: October 24, 2024

Natasha Michelle Cunningham

AMFT 143712

Lompoc

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration surrendered

Effective: August 15, 2024

Robert Laingen Duesler

APCC 17169

Rancho Santa Margarita

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

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

Effective: August 15, 2024

Fredrick W. Harlan, Jr.

AMFT 112234

Thousand Oaks

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

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

Effective: October 24, 2024

Broch Jeffrey Heidebrecht

AMFT 131176

Arcata

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

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

Effective: October 24, 2024

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AUGUST 1–OCTOBER 31, 2024

Wilbur Wardel Hurley

AMFT 150867
San Jose

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: October 24, 2024

Saul Morales Jaime

ASW 121842
Santa Ysabel

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration surrendered Effective: August 15, 2024

Candace Kunz Tao

LMFT 20175
Pleasant Hill

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License surrendered Effective: October 24, 2024

Frankie M. La Fuente

AMFT 123979
Corona

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration surrendered Effective: August 15, 2024

Nancy Elizabeth Larson

LMFT 50483
Long Beach

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: August 15, 2024

Veronica Luis O'Brien

AMFT 148865
San Jose

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: August 15, 2024

Joseph E. O'Toole

LCSW 106000
Ojai

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License surrendered Effective: August 15, 2024

Megann Marlys Rither

LMFT 48573
San Rafael

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions. Effective: August 15, 2024

Travis Robinson

LMFT 84331
San Francisco

UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Action: License surrendered Effective: October 24, 2024

Grecia Leyden Yolanda Sanchez-Estrada

ASW 115503
Turlock

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: October 24, 2024

Jennifer Jane Talley

ASW 100478
Grass Valley

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration surrendered Effective: August 15, 2024

Chaka Khan Denise Theus

LCSW 76678
Palmdale

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: August 15, 2024

Stephanie Vazquez Orozco

ASW 125184
Long Beach

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: August 15, 2024

Stefany Watson

AMFT 113335
Santa Clarita

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration surrendered Effective: August 15, 2024

Nelina Zavala

AMFT 150868
Santa Ana

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: October 24, 2024



Board of Behavioral Sciences

CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

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



UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Board Meetings

February 27–28

May 8–9

August 21–22

November 20–21

Policy and Advocacy Committee

January 24

April 11

July 31

October 2

Workforce Development Committee

January 30

April 4

July 31

October 23

EVENTS TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY 3–7

National School Counseling Week

MARCH 17–21

National LGBTQ Health Awareness
Week

MARCH

National Social Worker Month

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

CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES