MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

It has been my privilege to serve as the governor’s appointed licensed educational psychologist (LEP) member of the Board of Behavioral Sciences (board) since August 2012. I recently was elected to serve as board chair and look forward to serving in that capacity.

At the May 2018 meeting we recognized three well-respected and long-serving members of the board for their terms of service and bid them farewell: Renee Lonner, licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) member appointed in 2007; Sarita Kohli, licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) member appointed in 2011; and Samara Ashley, public member, appointed in 2010. Their many years of experience and valuable contributions to the board will be missed. I am very pleased to announce that Jonathan Maddox, LMFT member, was unanimously confirmed by the full Senate on June 4, 2018 and Massimiliano “Max” Disposti, public member, was elected by the board to serve as the board’s vice chair.

Board Executive Officer Kim Madsen was extremely well received at her recent presentation at the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Ms. Madsen was invited by ASWB to present on license portability and the tremendous progress that has been made toward addressing this issue in California. Ms. Madsen shared the framework developed by the License Portability Committee and the many stakeholders who participated. Several states are exploring license portability and related issues, but California is poised to be the first state in the nation to create a framework that will facilitate true license portability. We are a national leader in this area and have Kim to thank for this accomplishment as a result of her tremendous leadership.

The License Portability Committee, which was established in August 2017 to review requirements in California as they pertain to this issue and to identify barriers to licensure for out-of-state licensees, concluded its efforts in June 2018. The recommendations of the committee will be presented at the August meeting of the Policy and Advocacy (P&A) Committee. Once the recommendations have been approved by P&A, they will move to the board for a full discussion at the September or November 2018 board meeting.
REGULATION CHANGES

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATION

Effective Oct. 1, 2017, candidates may apply for time and one-half (1.5) to take an examination if English is the candidate’s second language, and he or she meets the qualifications set by this new regulation. The “Request for Testing Accommodation—English as a Second Language” describes the new requirements and is available on the board’s website.

REGISTRANT ADVERTISING

Effective March 14, 2018, the board’s advertising requirements were updated to reflect the title change from “Intern” to “Associate” that took effect Jan. 1, 2018. This new regulation adds “Registered Associate Marriage and Family Therapist” and “Registered Associate Professional Clinical Counselor” to the list of acceptable titles in advertising, and allows the use of abbreviated titles “Registered Associate MFT” and “Registered Associate PCC.” This regulation allows the use of abbreviations “APCC,” “AMFT,” or “ASW” but only if the full registration title also appears in the advertisement (for example: “Registered Associate Clinical Social Worker”). For more information on advertising requirements, see the “Advertising Guidelines” available on the board’s website.

BOARD STAFF MILESTONES

The board’s mission and goals cannot be accomplished without dedicated staff. These staff members have reached the following service milestones with the board during 2018:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Trish Winkler</td>
<td>License Analyst</td>
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<td>Cynthia Burnett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Glassmoyer</td>
<td>Special Investigator</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Dawn Herrera</td>
<td>Budget Analyst</td>
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<td>Gena Kereazis</td>
<td>Enforcement Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim Madsen</td>
<td>Executive Officer</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racquel Pena</td>
<td>Enforcement Analyst</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurie Williams</td>
<td>Personnel Liaison</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darlene York</td>
<td>License Evaluator</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
After approval by the board, we will seek a legislative author. The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee chair, Dr. Leah Brew, and committee members Christina Wong and Renee Lonner for their efforts on this important issue. We would also like to thank our many stakeholders who provided valuable information and recommendations to the committee, as well as the hard work of our board staff.

The Exempt Setting Committee is nearing its conclusion as well and is finalizing language and recommendations. The committee has been addressing the need to more clearly define the many settings in which our licensees practice, aligning language across license types to provide more clarity and guidance to licensees, and strengthening consumer protection.

In closing, I would like to thank all the stakeholders and licensees who attend our board and committee meetings throughout the year. Board meetings are informative and collaborative, and discussions are always thoughtful, meaningful, and occasionally passionate with the single purpose of providing a valuable service to the public and our licensees. I know I speak for my fellow board members and board staff when I say that every voice is heard and that your input helps determine the ultimate outcome and recommendations of the board. If you have not had the opportunity to attend a board meeting, please consider doing so.

Together we are better!

Elizabeth “Betty” Connolly, LEP

You no longer need to wait for mailing and processing of renewals and address changes. You can visit the BreEZe website by going to www.breeze.ca.gov.

HELPFUL TIPS

If you are new to our online services, there are tutorial videos to help you use the BreEZe system. Tutorials include:

- An overview of BreEZe online services
- How to search for a license
- How to register for BreEZe
- 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 BreEZe, technical support can be reached at (855) 227-9633.
WHEN A CLIENT THREATENS THE THERAPIST: GUIDELINES FOR MITIGATING RISK

It’s not something that most of us would ever imagine having to deal with in our careers—a client makes or poses a threat of violence against you.

Therapists seem to be uniquely challenged in terms of knowing what to do to protect themselves based on either their nature or education and training, or a combination of both. Therapists sometimes joke that theirs is one of the oddest professions: many spend their entire professional lives sitting in a room with clients listening to the most intimate thoughts and feelings (and pain) and their only curative tool is the spoken word. The therapy office is a most private world, and it must be so for the kind of work done there.

Individuals who enter the mental health field tend to be, by definition, other-oriented: people who want to improve the human condition and lessen the suffering of others. They are in the “people business” and people, not things, are their interest and field of study; they are “caretakers” of a particular sort, taking care of the hearts and minds of their clients, helping them to feel heard and understood, some for the first time in their lives.

It should not be a surprise that therapists often do not take good care of their professional selves; they are too busy taking care of the client. Usually, when supervisors tell them to pay attention to their own feelings, it is in the service of the client, or countertransference, feelings that the client often unconsciously provokes in the therapist that are a most useful kind of communication for the therapeutic process. But therapists often deny or minimize feelings of risk to themselves, anxiety, or fear. The importance of observing and addressing risk to personal or professional well-being as it develops in the assessment or treatment process—in other words, the ability to identify red flags and intervene constructively—will be our main focus here.

In addition to direct risk posed by the client, threats to the therapist may develop from an indirect high-risk situation. The therapist may have met a legal obligation to warn a potential victim (Tarasoff) and inadvertently provoked the client’s anger, or the therapist may be viewed by the client as having sides in a highly contentious divorce or custody matter. In these situations, the therapist may become one of the objects of the client’s anger.

Many therapists who have contacted the authors about a threatening client have observed, and then denied or ignored, weeks or months of warning signs and signals which are, notes Gavin de Becker, “pre-incident indicators” (1998). It is important to recognize, and, more importantly, pay attention to those signs and become appropriately concerned for one’s safety, a psychological position that is unfamiliar and nearly always uncomfortable for mental health professionals. Therapists need to know when to consult, when to assess and not begin treatment with a client, when to refer and when to terminate. Though we are emphasizing the need for therapists to learn they have a basic right to safety and self-protection, the client’s needs are served here also—no therapist who is frightened for her or his own safety can provide effective treatment and clients who present such risks usually need to be seen in environments other than a sole practitioner’s private practice office.

RED FLAGS DURING ASSESSMENT

There are potentially dozens of red flags that a therapist may observe in the first couple sessions with a client and many resources are devoted to that subject (see professional resources section). Most individuals who eventually make or pose a threat have a personality disorder (sociopathic, narcissistic) that renders them devoid of empathy, thus making it easier for them to justify harming another person physically or psychologically. However, having either a personality disorder or many of the traits thereof, in and of itself, does not make someone a risk of violence—for that, one needs to add situational factors having to do with actual loss or narcissistic injury, often combined with the abuse of alcohol or drugs. Being able to observe these red flags at any point in the assessment or treatment phases requires the therapist’s intuition, as well as paying attention to the client’s words (and behavior), and then acting quickly and appropriately to address the risk. Following are statements reflecting incidents related to a client who presented a risk of violence:

- My practice specialty is personality disorders and I take pride in helping a lot of these clients make progress; I guess the fact that she had seen several therapists before me and did not feel helped by any of them, I took as sort of a professional challenge and I wanted to demonstrate to her that she could get help.

- He pushed the boundaries of the therapeutic relationship from the beginning and did not respond positively when I set limits; however, it never occurred to me that I could or should terminate him for that behavior and I just became increasingly anxious.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5
GUIDELINES FOR MITIGATING RISK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

- He was extremely depressed and suicidal when I started to see him and I was so concerned that he would kill himself that I entirely missed the violent part of his suicidal thinking. I never thought he could become homicidal until he made the actual threat. Now, I recall that he told me in the first couple sessions that he collected antique guns and had a fascination with them.

- The father in a high-conflict divorce and custody situation admitted that he had struck his child on a couple of occasions, but he said that he did not hit him hard and considered that it was appropriate discipline, and "it worked." He added that if I told anyone, he would "make sure" I was "sorry."

- I was uncomfortable with the way he looked at me during the initial session and he asked a couple of very personal questions. I felt shaky by the end of the hour, but I'm an intern and I didn't think my supervisor would react well to my not wanting to see him.

These situations developed over time into cases of stalking and homicidal threats, and consultation involved very sensitive and strategic interventions aimed at reducing the threat and protecting the therapist. DeBecker makes the point in The Gift of Fear, while referring to workplace situations, the range of interventions narrows and the risk increases if the threat is allowed to develop and increase over time. Though not involving the context of the usual "workplace," the authors see this phenomenon regularly in consultations. Many therapists who seek consultation after weeks or months, or in rare cases, even years, of a client's presenting a risk of harm learn that their options are far fewer than they would have been with early intervention. This phenomenon is created, on a most basic level, because the person who is making or posing the threat has become more and more empowered by the absence of consequences. The relatively simple setting of a limit or boundary usually does not work at advanced stages of risk. That timeline is the dynamic at play in some consultation cases where the situation is so dangerous that it is advisable to terminate the client by phone or in writing, but in no circumstances in the office, in person.

At a most basic level, the therapist's concern about risk in general (therapist or other-directed) should be activated by clients who assume no responsibility for their behavior, have a level of anger or rage that is excessive for almost any situation, have a history of violence and/or make threatening statements (even if they are implied, conditional or indirect) and have substance abuse issues. Often in such situations, the therapist's anxiety takes over and he or she seeks the client's assurance or a verbal contract regarding safety. By expanding the conversation briefly at this point, the therapist can be in a position to take appropriate action, if that is indicated; such action might be to not see the client and refer him or her to a clinic or specialized practice setting. Such questions might be:

"You mentioned that you 'got even' on social media with your last girlfriend for breaking up with you—what did you post, how often and how do you know her response?"

"You said that you saw your last therapist for several years, but it turned out she was not helpful and you think she was not ethical on some occasions. Would you be willing to sign a release so that I could speak with her?"

Generally, the authors only hear from therapists whose case situations have become very difficult, and those are the examples provided here. With that caveat, we have observed that some therapists seem averse to either not accept a client who arouses concerns during the assessment phase, or to terminate clients who are not following the key elements of the treatment plan. Often during these consultations, the view expressed by the authors that "responsibility is a two-way street" comes as a surprise to the consulting therapist, and he or she responds with 1) Isn't that abandonment? 2) I have no colleagues to whom I can refer this client, or 3) I don't want to reject him and repeat his early history with his parents.

HELPFUL FORMS

Informed consent. Younggren, Fisher, Foote, and Hjelt (2011) make the basic point of mutual responsibility in “A Legal and Ethical Review of Patient Responsibilities and Psychotherapist Duties”; however, this almost common-sense, legally and ethically sound position seems to be rarely communicated in education and training. Also, not emphasized before licensure is the potential depth and breadth of the informed consent process. Here, the therapist has the opportunity to discuss, among other things, the protection and limits of confidentiality, details of the treatment plan, the clients’ responsibilities to cooperate and participate in order for effective treatment to be provided, and the conditions under which termination (and not always a mutually desired termination) may be necessary.

Some therapists are uncomfortable with this process, rush through it, and see it as simply the need to obtain...
GUIDELINES FOR MITIGATING RISK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

a signature—not as a discussion of the content and an opportunity to determine if roadblocks to effective treatment posed by the client may be foreseen. An open discussion at the point of assessment may not only prevent serious issues from developing later in treatment, such a discussion also opens the door to these issues before a crisis arises. It communicates to the client that the therapist is in control of the treatment process; that is, the therapist sets and maintains the framework and boundaries for therapy. That responsibility includes ensuring that the treatment setting, for example, outpatient therapy on a regular basis, provides the correct level of care. If at any point in the treatment process outpatient treatment is not enough to ensure that treatment goals can be met, the therapist needs to initiate a discussion with the client and recommend the correct level of care. The patient’s willingness, or not, to move to that level of care should not control the therapist’s next move; that move may need to be an appropriate termination and referral.

Authorization for disclosure of confidential information. The “release of information” form is another opportunity for the therapist to communicate boundaries and scope of the therapeutic relationship. In some cases, the client requests the therapist communicate with another health care professional or family member; in other situations, the therapist believes it is in the client's best interests to communicate with another person in the client's life and the client may or may not wish such communication to occur. Alternatively, the client may not object in concept to the sharing of information with a third party, but may prohibit the therapist from discussing certain issues or facts relative to his or her situation. The therapist must assess whether any limits imposed by the client could potentially cause the client harm or interfere with the treatment process, and if so, communicate that information to the client. If the client continues to refuse (for example, that the therapist discuss current drug or alcohol use with the psychiatrist prescribing medication), the therapist needs to determine if safe and effective treatment under those circumstances can be provided. Of course, these situations can become contentious and may be viewed by the client as a power struggle rather than the therapist acting in the client’s best interests. The therapist should explain the reason the communication with another professional or other third party is important for the treatment process; ultimately, the therapist must be the one to make the decision as to whether treatment can move forward under those circumstances.

WHEN THE THREAT TO OTHERS TURNS TOWARD THE THERAPIST

In the execution of legal or ethical duties, therapists may become an additional, or even the main, focus of anger for the client. Some of these case situations become quite complicated, from a risk management point of view. For example, when a client makes a credible threat of violence toward a third party and the therapist warns and takes action intended to protect the intended victim (such as calling the police), the client may become infuriated with the therapist. In such cases, the client may deny intent or means, even though he or she may have communicated this clearly to the therapist in a session and claim that the therapist misunderstood “expression of feelings.” The client may feel that the action by the police, for instance, caused embarrassment in the community or, if the threat was communicated to an employer, threatened employment standing. Clients with these feelings may threaten legal action (such as filing a complaint against the therapist) and/or harm to the therapist. Particularly risky are domestic violence situations and therapists are well advised to protect themselves with early consultation in these cases. A private practice office can be a difficult setting in which to treat either the perpetrator or the victim in a domestic violence situation; in many of these cases, a clinical setting where there are other professionals present is a safer environment.

Also, child abuse situations may present risk if the parent-client is also the suspected perpetrator of the abuse. In most of these situations, it is not appropriate for the therapist to continue to provide treatment (there are exceptions), and referrals are in order. There are similarities here to “duty to warn” situations in terms of the client feeling humiliated and embarrassed as well as not in control, and the therapist may become a target of the ensuing anger or rage. In short, anytime the therapist moves to protect a third party (a child, spouse/partner, supervisor, or teacher) and gets in between the threatening client and third party, there may be risk in terms of physical or psychological violence. Therefore, almost at the same time as taking action to protect others, the therapist needs to assess the risk to self and take appropriate security precautions. Consultation at this point can be very useful and can help the therapist feel, and actually be, more in control of a volatile situation.
GUIDELINES FOR MITIGATING RISK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

THE ROLE OF CONSULTATION

Connected with therapists’ commonly positive and expansive view of what kinds of issues may be dealt with in therapy and their occasional minimizing of their sound clinical intuition on the front-end, is their reluctance to obtain appropriate legal or clinical consultation early in the treatment process. For the reasons previously mentioned, assessment or consultation is most effective when it is obtained early on. Therapists should not hesitate to contact an attorney who specializes in mental health law if they believe that their treatment, referral, or termination of a client may raise legal concerns. The fact that the therapist may feel as if he or she has already made an error with the client or records are not pristine, should not deter one from seeking a legal consult—in fact, it should hasten one. Alternatively, when seeking a clinical consult, the therapist should seek a peer consultant (expert) who has extensive experience in assessing risk and the potential for violence. A qualified consultant should be able to quickly assess the situation and make clear recommendations to protect therapist safety, as well as assisting the therapist in identifying appropriate treatment resources for the client.

Therapists are encouraged to identify red flags in the assessment and treatment process and take the initiative to gather more information to assess the level of risk and make an informed decision as to the wisdom of accepting a client into practice and/or terminating the client. Clinical and/or legal consultation is encouraged in any case situation involving risk of violence and therapists are reminded that, in these cases, they need to pay attention to their basic need for safety at the same time they are addressing the client’s treatment needs.

Renee Burns Lonner, MSW, LCSW, maintains a private practice in Sherman Oaks, providing individual, marital and family psychotherapy with children, adolescents, and adults. She is a consultant for mental health clinicians and organizations in general practice areas, as well as the specific area of risk assessment. She is an AAMFT Clinical Fellow.

Michele Licht, JD, is an attorney specializing in the representation of mental health practitioners on a wide range of issues. Over the past 35 years, she has represented over 2,500 psychotherapists in legal and ethical consultations, before licensing boards, in disputes regarding hospital and medical staff privileges, and general practice issues. She represented psychology before the California Supreme Court in CAPP v. Rank, setting a precedent for psychologists’ scope of practice in hospital settings.

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REFERENCES


PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES


BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

DEPARTURES

Renee Lonner (LCSW) served as a board member from Jan. 17, 2007, to June 30, 2018. She acted as board chair from June 2009 to May 2011 and as chair for the Policy and Advocacy Committee and the LCSW Education Committee. She also served on the License Portability Committee and the Compliance and Enforcement Committee.

Sarita Kohli (LMFT) served as a board member from June 21, 2010, to June 1, 2018. She served as a member of the Continuing Education Appeals Committee, Supervision Committee and the Licensing and Examination Committee.

Samara Ashley (public) served as a board member from January 1, 2010, to June 1, 2018. She served as a member of the Policy and Advocacy Committee and the Compliance and Enforcement Committee.

CONFIRMATIONS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Jonathan Maddox (LMFT) was unanimously confirmed by the full Senate on June 4, 2018.

The reappointments of Christina Wong (LCSW) and Deborah Brown (public) were confirmed on April 19, 2018.

Betty Connolly (LEP) was elected as the board chair and Massimiliano Disposti (public) was elected as the board’s vice chair on May 11, 2018.

FOLLOW BBS ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

These two social media venues will provide licensees, registrants, applicants, and consumers increased access to the BBS activities and updates. Join the nearly 3,000 followers of BBS and become one of the first to know what’s new at BBS. Simply “like” us on Facebook and follow BBS on Twitter to stay current on all BBS activities.
TREATMENT OF COUPLES AND FAMILIES AND SUPERVISION BY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL COUNSELORS

Are you a licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) who wants to treat couples and families? Are you interested in providing supervision to an associate marriage family therapist (AMFT) or MFT trainee, or an LPCC or associate professional clinical counselor (APCC) who is gaining the required 500 hours of experience to treat couples and families? If so, you need to be aware that there are specific requirements that must be met.

ASSESSING AND TREATING OR SUPERVISING

Effective Jan. 1, 2017, LPCCs assessing and treating couples and families or supervising the above-named registrants, are required to have written confirmation from the board stating that they meet the requirements set forth in the California Code of Regulations, § 1820.7.

A copy of the written confirmation must be provided to:

- Clients prior to commencement of couple or family treatment
- Supervisees who are:
  1) AMFTs or MFT trainees
  2) LPCCs or APCCs who are gaining supervised experience necessary to treat couples and families

For more information about the requirements, and to find the forms for requesting this confirmation, go to the board’s website, www.bbs.ca.gov, under “Applicant-LPCC”:

- Request for Confirmation to Assess and Treat Couples and Families
- LPCC Couples and Families Requirement Qualifying Coursework
- FAQs

If you need to receive written confirmation that you have met these requirements, you must submit a “Request for Confirmation to Assess and Treat Couples and Families” form to the board. There is no fee required.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Remember that there is also a six-hour minimum continuing education requirement each renewal cycle specific to marriage and family therapy for an LPCC who chooses to do any of the following:

- Assess or treat couples or families
- Supervise an AMFT or MFT trainee
- Supervise an LPCC or associate PCC gaining experience with couples or families

CE COURSE COMPLETION: MAKE IT COUNT!

After completing a continuing education course, please ensure that you receive a record of course completion that contains the following information:

- Your name and your license number or other identification number.
- Course title.
- Provider name and address.
- Board-recognized approval agency name, or a statement that the provider is an entity recognized by the board to provide continuing education.
- Date of course.

- Number of hours of continuing education credit.
- Signature of course instructor, provider, or provider designee.

If you receive a completion certificate that is missing one of these items, your hours of continuing education will not count. Also, remember that you are required to maintain completion certificates for a period of at least two years from the date of license renewal for which the courses were completed. These certificates will be requested by the board if you are audited.
# 2018 Legislation Considered by the Board of Behavioral Sciences

Detailed bill information may be found by clicking the links in the "Bill Number" column below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Version Considered</th>
<th>Board Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>AB 93</td>
<td>Medina</td>
<td>Board of Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>Healing Arts: LMFTs; LCSWs; LPCCs: Required Experience and Supervision</td>
<td>5/29/2018</td>
<td>Sponsor</td>
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<td>AB 456</td>
<td>Thurmond</td>
<td>Seneca Family of Agencies; Lincoln Families</td>
<td>Healing Arts: Associate Clinical Social Workers</td>
<td>5/7/2018</td>
<td>Support</td>
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<td>AB 1436</td>
<td>Levine</td>
<td>The Steinberg Institute</td>
<td>Board of Behavioral Sciences: Licensees: Suicide Prevention Training</td>
<td>4/23/2018</td>
<td>Support</td>
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<td>AB 2088</td>
<td>Santiago</td>
<td>California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists</td>
<td>Patient Records: Addenda</td>
<td>2/7/2018</td>
<td>Support</td>
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<td>AB 2117</td>
<td>Arambula</td>
<td>Board of Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>Marriage &amp; Family Therapists: Clinical Social Workers: Professional Clinical Counselors</td>
<td>4/30/2018</td>
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<td>AB 2138</td>
<td>Chiu and Low</td>
<td>Anti-Recidivism Coalition; East Bay Community Law Center; Legal Services for Prisoners with Children; Root &amp; Rebound</td>
<td>Licensing Boards: Denial of Application: Revocation or Suspension of Licensure: Criminal Convictions</td>
<td>4/2/2018</td>
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<td>AB 2143</td>
<td>Caballero</td>
<td>California Psychiatric Association</td>
<td>Mental Health: Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program</td>
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<td>AB 2296</td>
<td>Waldron</td>
<td>California Association for Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors</td>
<td>Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors: Licensed Clinical Social Workers</td>
<td>4/26/2018</td>
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<td>AB 2302</td>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Child Abuse: Sexual Assault: Mandated Reporters</td>
<td>3/15/2018</td>
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<td>AB 2608</td>
<td>Stone</td>
<td>Journey House</td>
<td>Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program: Former Foster Youth</td>
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<td>AB 2968</td>
<td>Levine</td>
<td>Board of Psychology</td>
<td>Psychotherapist-Client Relationship: Victims of Sexual Behavior and Sexual Contact: Informational Brochure</td>
<td>3/23/2018</td>
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<td>California Faculty Association; SEIU</td>
<td>Postsecondary Education: Mental Health Counselors</td>
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<td>SB 1491</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Business, Professions &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>Board of Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>Healing Arts</td>
<td>4/2/2018</td>
<td>Sponsor</td>
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2018 CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDIT RESULTS

A licensee who fails a continuing education (CE) audit is subject to a citation and fine. The following chart reflects the most recent results of the board’s CE audits for 2018.

<table>
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<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>TOTAL AUDITED</th>
<th>PASS</th>
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<th>% FAIL</th>
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<td>LEP</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPCC</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If a licensee did not respond to two audit letters, they fail.

EXAMS ADMINISTERED for Fiscal Year 2017–18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam Type</th>
<th>Exams Administered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LMFT Law &amp; Ethics</td>
<td>5,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCSW Law &amp; Ethics</td>
<td>5,339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPCC Law &amp; Ethics</td>
<td>1,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMFT Clinical</td>
<td>5,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCSW ASWB Clinical</td>
<td>3,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPCC NCMHCE</td>
<td>233</td>
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<tr>
<td>LEP Standard Written</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Exams Administered</td>
<td>20,949</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LICENSING TOTALS as of July 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>License Type</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMFT</td>
<td>17,614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASW</td>
<td>15,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APCC</td>
<td>3,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMFT</td>
<td>44,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCSW</td>
<td>27,723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEP</td>
<td>2,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPCC</td>
<td>1,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>112,476</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LICENSES ISSUED for Fiscal Year 2017–18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>License Type</th>
<th>Number of Licenses Issued</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate Marriage and Family Therapist (AMFT)</td>
<td>2,930</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Clinical Social Worker (ASW)</td>
<td>2,861</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Professional Clinical Counselor (APCC)</td>
<td>922</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)</td>
<td>2,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)</td>
<td>2,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC)</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Educational Psychologist (LEP)</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Licenses Issued</td>
<td>12,147</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>License Number</th>
<th>Fine Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unprofessional Conduct</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenna Askay</td>
<td>ASW 71363</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Landstedt</td>
<td>AMFT 86998</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Kilborn</td>
<td>LMFT 102674</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Pasillas</td>
<td>AMFT 78721</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pete Herron</td>
<td>LMFT 48564</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanne Williams</td>
<td>LCSW 22409</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alissa Gundberg</td>
<td>LCSW 27735</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alison Brevier</td>
<td>LMFT 93426</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dori Covarrubias</td>
<td>ASW 75020</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unlicensed Practice</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Barkal</td>
<td>Unlicensed</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derrick Weathersby</td>
<td>Unlicensed</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Scott</td>
<td>Unlicensed</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Failed the Board’s Continuing Education Requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lori Alford</td>
<td>LCSW 14610</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobbe Knoller</td>
<td>LCSW 13088</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan Archer</td>
<td>LCSW 14615</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Manning</td>
<td>LCSW 17527</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maegan Black</td>
<td>LMFT 90550</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Markewich</td>
<td>LMFT 39836</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monica Lang</td>
<td>LMFT 44712</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christie Coffin</td>
<td>LMFT 47638</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nga Tran Ryan</td>
<td>LPCC 997</td>
<td>$900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elana Schlafman</td>
<td>LCSW 20546</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frances Brown</td>
<td>LCSW 1836</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Villegas</td>
<td>LCSW 60689</td>
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<td>Kristen Paul</td>
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<td>Shyla Harris</td>
<td>LCSW 69615</td>
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<td>David Hersh</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Vendig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randi Steinman</td>
<td>LMFT 38875</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cynthia McDonald</td>
<td>LMFT 54035</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Lauwers</td>
<td>LMFT 78875</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Greer</td>
<td>LMFT 80076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Parsons</td>
<td>LMFT 24076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joan Moynihan</td>
<td>LMFT 24052</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Norton</td>
<td>LMFT 19062</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew James Mauldon</td>
<td>LMFT 52113</td>
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<td>Emmett Thomanson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joyce Kougl</td>
<td>LMFT 51745</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonja M. Fisher-Carrington</td>
<td>LMFT 77145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miriam Magdy Robb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanessa Marie Rodriguez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maricsa Evans</td>
<td>LMFT 48838</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theresa Thoits</td>
<td>LMFT 48141</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>LaJean Griffin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Aguilar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sachiko Cohen</td>
<td>LMFT 42498</td>
<td>$600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janice Gail Yee</td>
<td>LMFT 43542</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gina Michelle Nicola</td>
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<td>Nora Ghodsian</td>
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<td>Claudia Robsham</td>
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<td>Melvin Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Rodriguez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christina Dawson</td>
<td>LMFT 92407</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornelia Concannon</td>
<td>LCSW 6857</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camilia Barreto</td>
<td>LMFT 90005</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nina Jane Segal</td>
<td>LCSW 70996</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julieanne Collins</td>
<td>LCSW 14731</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natale Seka Cohen</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Gilham</td>
<td>LEP 634</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Gilmore</td>
<td>LCSW 17718</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Wyman</td>
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<td>Debra Williams</td>
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<td>Patricia Ortiz</td>
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<td>Doris Castro</td>
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<td>Melinda Drake</td>
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<td>Cynthia Rogers</td>
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<td>Ada Revels</td>
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<td>Morris Bean</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Lau</td>
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<td>La Trena Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbus Sanders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ferdinand Diva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carly Ketchum</td>
<td>LMFT 81406</td>
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<td>Diana Sjostrom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patricia St. Claire</td>
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<td>Susan Jager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Zax</td>
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<td>Marylo Donnelly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabel Ybarra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Brecheen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diane Kato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Dunn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cathy-Yung Tsang-Feign</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maggie McLain</td>
<td>LMFT 45916</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Binns</td>
<td>LMFT 51819</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Deeths</td>
<td>LMFT 45346</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alicia Garcia</td>
<td>LMFT 77774</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 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.

**Default**—The registrant/licensee failed to file a Notice of Defense or has otherwise failed to request a hearing, object, or otherwise contest the accusation.

**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.

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

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### FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Code/Registration</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Action Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gregory Barajas</td>
<td>LCSW 27672</td>
<td>Catheys Valley, CA</td>
<td>CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS Action: License revoked. Effective: 2/1/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evalyn Joann Beauchamp</td>
<td>ASW 81721</td>
<td>Hanford, CA</td>
<td>CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions. Effective: 2/21/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luis Manuel Carias</td>
<td>AMFT 99609</td>
<td>Whittier, CA</td>
<td>UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT Action: Registration surrendered. Effective: 3/22/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Ann Coats</td>
<td>LMFT 51221</td>
<td>Corona, CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Gallegos</td>
<td>AMFT 71751</td>
<td>Paramount, CA</td>
<td>CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS Action: License revoked. Effective: 2/21/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Haywood Galyean</td>
<td>AMFT 104696</td>
<td>San Pedro, CA</td>
<td>CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of four (4) years with terms and conditions. Effective: 2/21/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Catherine Holden</td>
<td>LCSW 25830</td>
<td>Citrus Heights, CA</td>
<td>CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS Action: License surrendered. Effective: 3/22/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krystal Jaydenne Howard</td>
<td>APCC 2363</td>
<td>Perris, CA</td>
<td>UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT/ FRAUDULENT ACT Action: Registration surrendered. Effective: 2/1/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cindy Colleen Johnston</td>
<td>AMFT 83262</td>
<td>Santa Rosa, CA</td>
<td>UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT Action: Registration surrendered. Effective: 3/22/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Marie Jones</td>
<td>AMFT 105311</td>
<td>Huntington Beach, CA</td>
<td>CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions. Effective: 3/22/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lanelle Patrice Laws</td>
<td>AMFT 104697</td>
<td>Bakersfield, CA</td>
<td>CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions. Effective: 3/22/2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14
FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: 2/21/2018

Jose Margarito Martinez
AMFT 104695
Lakewood, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: 2/21/2018

Gabriel Mejia
LCSW 26412
Patton, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: Licensed revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of four (4) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: 2/1/2018

Angiolina Campo Mohi
AMFT 80458
Chula Vista, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: Registration revoked.
Effective: 2/1/2018

Julann Laurie Nickolaisen
LCSW 14377
Thousand Oaks, CA
UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
Action: Licensed revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: 3/22/2018

Laura Elizabeth Robbins Rios
AMFT 105512
Modesto, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: 3/29/2018

Elsa Salguero
LMFT 32896
North Hollywood, CA
FRAUD
Action: License surrendered.
Effective: 2/1/2018

Jessica Steffan
AMFT 104313
Escondido, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: Registration to be issued, then revoked, revocation will be stayed, and placed on probation for a period of four (4) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: 2/1/2018

Azadeh Taefi
AMFT 68747
San Dimas, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: Registration revoked.
Effective: 3/22/2018

Robert Lee Teister
LCSW 13627
Walnut, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: License revoked.
Effective: 2/1/2018

Monica Pauline Thirant
LMFT 104312
Redlands, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: License to be issued, then revoked, revocation will be stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: 2/1/2018

Titus A. Thompson
AMFT 71449
Lawndale, CA
CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS
Action: Registration revoked.
Effective: 2/1/2018

DISCIPLINE CASES JAN. 1—MAY 31, 2018

PROBATION
Wyatt Darling
LMFT 54058
Case No. 2002015001785
(1 year)

Kelly Marie Leon
LMFT 53047
Case No. 2002015001232
(3 years)

Ani Anna Marjianian
ASW Applicant
Case. No. 2002017001727
(5 years)

Olga Nikolaevna Palmer
LMFT 47624
Case No. 200-2015-001649
(4 years)

Laura Julie Allyn Tomlinson
LCSW 28337
Case No. 200-2015-001093
(5 years)

Jamila Joelle Banks
IMF 69839
Case No. 2002017000991*
*Probation continued until July 16, 2022, under terms and conditions ordered under Case No. IM-2012-1387. Additional cost recovery in the amount of $3,200.

Michael John Rubino III
LMFT 33900
Case No. 2010-27*
*Probation extended by a year, to make a total of six years on probation, and required to take and complete a two-semester course on professional boundaries.

Gregory Barajas
LCSW 27672
Case No. 200-2016-000265
(3 years’ probation)

Gabriel Mejia
LCSW 26412
Case No. 200-2016-001534
(4 years’ probation)

Jessica Steffan
IMF Applicant
Case No. 2002018000232
(4 years’ probation)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15
Monica Pauline Thirant  
LMFT Applicant  
Case No. 2002018000197  
(3 years' probation)

Luis Manuel Carias  
AMFT 99609  
2002015001646  
(4 years' probation)

Edward Gallegos  
AMFT 71751  
2002016002061  
(5 years' probation)

Mark Haywood Galyean  
AMFT Applicant  
2002017000755  
(4 years' probation)

Lanelle Patrice Laws  
AMFT Applicant  
2002016001012  
(5 years' probation)

Jose M. Martinez  
AMFT Applicant,  
2002017000808  
(3 years' probation)

Evelyn Joann Beauchamp  
ASW Applicant  
2002017000808  
(3 years' probation)

Julann Laurie Nickolaisen,  
LCSW 1437  
Case No. 2002015001619  
(3 years' probation)

Anna Marie Jones  
AMFT Applicant  
Case No. 20020170006778  
(5 years' probation)

Laura Elizabeth Robbins Rios  
AMFT Applicant  
Case No. 2002017000789  
(3 years)

Rochell L. Pierre  
ASW Applicant  
Case No. 2002016002131  
(5 years' probation)

Terri Jean Decker-Chandler  
LMFT 47830  
Case No. 200-2016-000461  
(5 years' probation)

William Kempton Bumiller  
LMFT 53735  
Case No. 200-2016-001330  
(5 years' probation)

Wendy Maria Thomas  
ASW Applicant  
Case No. 2002018000239  
(4 years' probation)

Tina Aghai  
AMFT Applicant  
Case No. 2002016000875  
(DAR – 4 years)

Guadalupe Victoria Emerick  
LMFT 96680  
Case No. 200-2017-001315  
(5 years)

Jessica Katherine Gasior  
LMFT 88541  
Case No. 200-2017-001411  
(5 years)

Caroline Rose Iscovitz  
AMFT 73243  
Case No. 2002016001435  
(DAR – 3 years)

Richard King Sinkiewicz III  
LMFT 48353  
Case No. 2002016001807  
(5 years)

Lonnie Omer Woodley  
LEP 2441  
Case No. 2002015000385  
(3 years)

Zulekha Pearl Williams  
APCC Applicant  
Case No. 2002017001833  
(5 years)

DEFAULTS

Angiolina Campo Mohi  
IMF 80458  
Case No. 200-2017-000783

Robert Lee Teister  
LMFT 13627  
Case No. 2002018000679

Titus a. Thompson  
IMF 71149  
Case No. 200-2017-00327

RE V O C A T I O N

Sabry E. Ramirez  
AMFT 89648  
Case No. 2002017002585  
(Default)

Scott Richard Yettman  
LMFT 38255  
Case No. 2002017002379  
(Proposed Decision)

Jessica Ann Coats  
LMFT 51221  
Case No. 2002017001838  
(Proposed Revocation)

Azadeh Taefi  
AMFT 68748  
Case No. 2002016000646  
(Proposed Revocation)

Shelley Diane Droeschel  
LCSW 20527  
Case No. 200-2017-001438

Shabana Malone  
AMFT 71059  
Case No. 2002016001558  
(Default)

Beth-Ann Ogulnick  
LCSW 23987  
Case No. 200-2017-000995  
(Default)

Amber Rose Morton Bedell  
LMFT 46258  
Case No. 200-2017-000628  
(Default)

Adam Tavares  
AMFT 75002  
Case No. 2002017000855  
(Default)

Kelly-Jo Chastain-Carlton  
LCSW 21057  
Case No. 2002017000088  
(In-house)

SURRENDERS

Krystian Jaydene Howard  
APCC 2363  
Case No. 2002018000220

Elsa Salguero  
LMFT 32896  
Case No. 2002016001158

Susan Catherine Holden  
LCSW 25830  
Case No. 2002018001442  
(In-house)

Cindy Colleen Johnston  
AMFT 8362  
Case No. 200-2015-002042  
(Stipulation)

Gary B. Robertson  
LMFT 39996  
Case No. 2002017001695

Debra Ann Bush  
AMFT 82165  
Case No. 200-2017-001825  
(Stipulation)

Edgar Josue Rivera  
ASW 66278  
Case No. 200-2016-000253  
(Stipulation)

Peter M. Bernstein  
LMFT 7549  
Case No. 2002016001955

Melissa R. Hazen  
LMFT 35012  
Case No. 2002017001438

Melissa Catherine Merrill,  
AMFT 88054  
Case No. 2002017000047

Patricia Ann Reynolds  
APCC 1722  
Case No. 2002017000970

Mark Ronald Sabo  
AMFT 83627  
Case No. 2002018001895  
(In-house)

Sheila Rae Smith  
LMFT 33287  
Case No. 2002016001577
UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Board Meetings
Sept. 12–14 .................................. Sacramento
Nov. 28–30 .................................. Orange County

Policy and Advocacy Committee
Oct. 19 .......................................... Sacramento