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## Complaint Screening Committee REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

*November 18, 2020*

*Held via Zoom*

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners Complaint Screening Committee was called to order by Chairman Dynar at 8:31 a.m. on November 18, 2020.

### 2. ROLL CALL

#### Committee Members Present

Aditya Dynar, Esq. – Chair  
Bob Bohanske, Ph.D., FNAP  
Matthew A. Meier, Psy.D.

#### Attorney General's Office

Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General

#### Staff Present

Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, Executive Director  
Jennifer Michaelsen, Deputy Director

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 14, 2020 Regular Session

Dr. Meier made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bohanske, to approve the October 14, 2020 regular session minutes as drafted. The motion carried unanimously (3-0), by a voice vote.

### 4. CASE DISCUSSION/DECISION

#### a. Carol Gandolfo, Psy.D., Complaint No. T-20-08

Mr. Dynar summarized the case, including salient points of the investigation and pertinent records, noting that the Board voted to open a complaint for further investigation at its meeting on April 3, 2020, regarding concerns that Dr. Gandolfo may be providing psychological services in Arizona based on the information that she provided to Board staff during the licensure application

process. The Respondent and her attorney, Jonathan Riches, Esq., participated, made a statement, and answered questions from the Committee.

The Committee expressed concern with regard to the consulting services that Dr. Gandolfo provided to institutional entities prior to receiving her psychologist license in Arizona, as it was not entirely clear if psychological services or supervision of trainees or other providers was provided. After deliberation, Dr. Meier made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bohanske, to forward Complaint T-20-08 to the Board for further review based on a possible violation of A.R.S. § 32-2084. The motion carried (2-1) on a roll call vote, with Mr. Dynar opposing.

**b. Robert Mastikian, Psy.D., Complaint No. 21-03**

Dr. Bohanske summarized the case, including salient points of the investigation and pertinent records.

*At 9:04 a.m., Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Meier, to go into Executive Session to receive confidential legal advice. Open session reconvened at 9:12 a.m.*

Upon reconvening in open session, Dr. Bohanske completed the remainder of his case summary.

The Complainant participated, made a statement, and answered questions from the Committee. The Licensee and his attorney, Natalya Ter-Grigoryan, Esq., participated, made a statement, and answered questions from the Committee.

The Committee expressed concerns with regard to several aspects of the “Consultation Summary” written by Dr. Mastikian for this case. After deliberation, Dr. Meier made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bohanske, to forward Complaint 21-01 to the Board with a recommendation to dismiss with a non-disciplinary Letter of Concern. The motion carried (3-0).

Dr. Meier indicated that, for notification purposes to Dr. Mastikian, that there may be evidence of a possible violation of A.R.S. §32-2061(16)(dd), violating an ethical standard adopted by the Board as it pertains to section 9.01 (Bases for Assessments) of the American Psychological Association’s Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. Dr. Bohanske concurred with the violation cited. Mr. Dynar stated that he was not in support of this potential violation.

*The Committee took a break at 10:09 a.m. and resumed at 10:15 a.m.*

**c. Michael Epstein, Ph.D., Complaint No. 20-10**

Dr. Meier summarized the case, including salient points of the investigation and pertinent records. The Complainant participated, made a statement, and answered questions from the Committee. The Licensee and his attorneys, Jeffrey Carver, Esq., and Sara Stark, Esq., participated, made a statement, and answered questions from the Committee.

The Committee expressed concern with regard to the Navy’s decision to revoke Dr. Epstein’s clinical privileges and with the fact that Dr. Epstein may not have provided accurate or truthful information regarding this decision on his renewal application for licensure.

After discussion and deliberation, it was the consensus of the Committee to table the review of the complaint given that the Naval Board of Inquiry review is pending. The Committee indicated that the complaint will be reviewed again in twelve months but may be reviewed sooner should the Board of Inquiry proceedings be completed before the twelve-month mark. The Committee

directed Dr. Epstein to provide an update in six months regarding the status of the Board of Inquiry proceedings.

## **5. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. Meier made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bohanske, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried (3-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.