



STATE OF ARIZONA  
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS  
1740 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 3403  
PHOENIX, AZ 85007  
PH: 602.542.8162 FX: 602.926.8095  
WEBSITE: [www.psychboard.az.gov](http://www.psychboard.az.gov)

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY  
Governor

HEIDI HERBST PAAKKONEN, M.P.A.  
Executive Director

## *Regular Session Meeting Minutes*

**Held virtually via Zoom on August 25, 2022**

### *Board Members*

Diana Davis-Wilson, DBH, BCBA – Chair  
Bryan Davey, Ph.D., BCBA-D – Vice-Chair  
Linda Caterino, Ph.D., ABPP – Secretary  
Aditya Dynar, Esq.  
Matthew A. Meier, Psy.D.  
Ramona N. Mellott, Ph.D.  
Tamara Shreeve, MPA  
Joseph Stewart, Ed.D.  
Todd Wynn, M.A.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Davis-Wilson called the Board's meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

The following Board members participated in the virtual meeting: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Ms. Shreeve, and Mr. Wynn. The following Board members were absent: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Mellott, and Dr. Stewart.

### **ALSO PRESENT**

The following Board staff participated in the virtual meeting: Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, Executive Director; Jennifer Michaelsen, Deputy Director; and Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General (AAG).

### **3. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION PERTAINING TO KEEVER K. CZLAPINSKI, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE POSSIBLE SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF HIS LICENSE TO PRACTICE PSYCHOLOGY, REFERRAL TO FORMAL HEARING, OR OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD**

Ms. Michaelsen provided the following summary of this matter to the Board:

On December 9, 2021, the Board received Mr. Czlapinski's application for psychologist licensure by Universal Recognition. On that application, the licensee disclosed having a license in Florida but not in any other states. Furthermore, he checked no to all of the background questions. Following a substantive review of the application he was issued a psychologist license by the Board on January 24, 2022.

Approximately 6 months later, on August 4, 2022, Board staff was notified by a representative from Community Health Associates in Yuma, Arizona, that the licensee's employment had been terminated from the agency when it was discovered that his Colorado license to practice psychology was summarily suspended on January 22, 2021, and subsequently revoked on December 2, 2021. Both events occurred prior to the date of Mr. Czlapinski completing his Arizona application and obtaining licensure in Arizona.

The representative indicated that the agency became aware of the disciplinary action taken by Colorado after receiving notification that AHCCCS, Arizona’s Medicaid system, denied credentialing licensee due to his license being revoked in Colorado, following the termination of his participation in the Colorado Medical Assistance Program.

According to the Colorado Order of Summary Suspension, dated January 22, 2021, on August 25, 2018, the licensee submitted his licensure application in which he misrepresented his educational credentials by falsely attesting to having a doctoral degree and falsely attesting to the number and level of his professional licenses in other states. The same misrepresentations occurred on subsequent renewal applications. Additionally, the licensee provided services to a client without adequate education and training to practice as a psychologist. Following the summary suspension of his license, the matter went through its formal hearing process in Colorado. On December 2, 2021, a Final Order was issued, revoking the license. The Board received his licensure application one week after his license was revoked in Colorado. The licensee failed to disclose the disciplinary action taken by Colorado on his licensure application as required or at any point during the application process. The background questions specifically ask “Have you ever been sanctioned or placed on probation by any jurisdiction”, “Has any state ever initiated disciplinary action against, or suspended or revoked your professional license, or certification,” and “Are you currently under investigation or have you been found to have violated a professional conduct of conduct by any jurisdiction”.

The report submitted to the National Practitioners Data Bank by the Colorado Board, which was submitted on December 2, 2021 when the revocation went into effects, notes that:

- In 2018, Respondent submitted an application to the Board in which Respondent misrepresented his educational credentials to the Board by falsely attesting to having a doctorate degree and the number and level of his professional licenses in other states. In 2019, the licensee submitted a renewal application for his license, making the same misrepresentations.
- “Respondent holds himself out as qualified to provide doctorate-level psychology services on professional websites advertising his services.”
- Respondent provided psychology services to client KB, without adequate education and training to practice as a psychologist in Colorado. “Respondent provided, and billed for, duplicative services to client KB by providing treatment for the same condition for which another provider was already treating KB. Respondent's treatment notes for client KB are identical throughout KB's medical records, except for the dates of service.”

During staff’s investigation in this matter, it was also discovered that the licensee previously held an educator credential in California that was issued by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing in 2016 and subsequently revoked in August 2021 for misconduct. That certification was revoked approximately 4 months before the licensee submitted his application to the Board. Mr. Czapinski failed to notify the Board of this action on his application as required. The background question specifically asks “Has any state ever initiated disciplinary action against, or suspended or revoked your professional license, certification, or registration?”

In response to a request for information, the California Commission provided various documentation to staff regarding the revocation, which reflects that their decision was based on three misdemeanor convictions in California that occurred between 2004 – 2020. In reviewing the police and court records provided, the following was noted regarding the licensee’s criminal history:

- A 2004 misdemeanor conviction for grand theft, which resulted in the licensee serving 3 years’ summary probation, paying fines, and a restriction that he could not work as a caretaker for dependent adults or elders. Approximately 9 years later, in 2013, the licensee was granted a dismissal by the Court in response to his petition under a California statute to have a guilty verdict set aside.

- A 2005 misdemeanor conviction for vandalism. In 2012, the licensee was granted a dismissal by the court.
- A 2020 misdemeanor conviction for disturbing the peace by loud or unreasonable noise, which resulted in the licensee serving 2 years' summary probation and paying fines.

The licensee failed to disclose his criminal history on his application with the Board as required. The background question specifically asks "Are you currently awaiting trial, under indictment, have been convicted of, pled no contest or guilty to a felony or misdemeanor, including any convictions that have been expunged, pardoned, or deleted."

Currently, Mr. Czlapinski holds an active psychologist license in Florida, which was issued in December 2020, and also in Wisconsin, which was issued in 2016. In addition, he previously held a psychologist license in Michigan which expired in 2016. Through this investigation, staff learned that he also has a pending application with Washington which has been pending since 2020 as he has not met the requirements. The licensee failed to disclose all states where he has ever been licensed, as he only listed having a license in Florida on the application. The question on the application specifically asks for all states where an application has been licensed or certified as an applicant. It is not known if Florida and Wisconsin are aware of the action taken by Colorado as their websites reflect that there are no disciplinary actions on file for the licensee.

At the conclusion of her summary, Ms. Michaelsen advised the Board that the purpose of today's meeting is to determine if emergency action is necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the public, or if other administrative options should be exercised.

Mr. Czlapinski was present for the review of this matter. He stated to the Board that the information provided to the Board constitutes only accusations. He indicated that his former attorney advised him with respect to how to respond to questions on Arizona's application. He further indicated that all of his criminal charges were dismissed and that he has never been found guilty.

In response to a question regarding his education, he reported having earned a doctoral degree in clinical psychology, post-doctoral training in pharmacology, as well as a masters degree. Ms. Michaelsen clarified that as a Universal Recognition applicant, he was not required to transfer his EPPP score.

The Board noted that Mr. Czlapinski is making contradictory statements with respect to his California criminal convictions. He requested the Board review the materials he submitted in response to his complaint. He stated that he works with a staffing company who assists him in securing licenses. He further stated that he made an error when he failed to list on his application all of the states in which he held a license, and denied having awareness of the revocation of his Colorado license. Mr. Czlapinski stated that he disputes the facts of the Colorado investigation into his conduct; he also indicated that he failed to provide a forwarding address to Colorado when he left the state to practice in Florida. Under further questioning, Mr. Czlapinski admitted that when he applied for the Arizona license, he was aware of the revocation of his Colorado license.

In response to questioning, Mr. Czlapinski stated that he was relying on his attorney to represent him before the Colorado board. Additionally, he reiterated that he made mistakes on his Arizona application and he has no further answers to supply to the Board. He admitted to having "a lack of attention to detail" but denied that he has deceived anyone. The Board asked how it could be that he answered five questions incorrectly. He again cited his lack of attention, and stated that he lacks the understanding of the outcome of the criminal charges in California. Additionally, he accused a former colleague of unjustly retaliating against him by filing the complaint in Colorado.

Under questioning, Mr. Czlapinski admitted that he completed his application; it was noted that he previously stated the staffing agency completed it on his behalf.

**MOTION: Dr. Davis-Wilson moved to meet in Executive Session for the purpose of receiving confidential legal advice.**

**SECOND: Ms. Shreeve**

**ROLL CALL VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Ms. Shreeve, and Mr. Wynn.**

**VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

The Board met in Executive Session from 9:10 a.m. to 9:27 a.m.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, the Board noted that had Mr. Czapinski been forthcoming about Colorado's actions, the Universal Recognition statute would have barred him from being granted a license in Arizona. Given his deceptiveness, the Board was unable to make a fully-informed and proper decision under Arizona's law. The discussion also reflected that ignorance is never an excuse with respect to these matters, but the record also reflects that Mr. Czapinski made several false statements to the Board. The Board stated concerns that, in light of this conduct, the public is a risk for harm should he be allowed to continue practicing.

**MOTION: Dr. Davey moved that, in light of the facts and circumstances, the Board adopt the interim findings of fact and conclusions of law in the draft order.**

**SECOND: Dr. Caterino**

**ROLL CALL VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Ms. Shreeve, and Mr. Wynn.**

**VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION: Dr. Davey moved that, given the adopted findings of fact and conclusions of law and in order to protect the public, license #5463 issued to Kever Czapinski be summarily suspended. The motion included the provision that the Executive Director schedule a prompt hearing with the Office of Administrative Hearings, and that all other state boards where Mr. Czapinski is known to hold a license, or be applying for a license, be notified of the action taken by the Board today.**

**SECOND: Ms. Shreeve**

**ROLL CALL VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Ms. Shreeve, and Mr. Wynn.**

**VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

Ms. Galvin asked whether the Board would accept from Mr. Czapinski the voluntary surrender of his license should he wish to circumvent the uncertainty and cost associated with an administrative hearing. She affirmed that a surrender has the same effect as a revocation, and that action would be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank for purposes of informing other states. It was the consensus of the Board that this would be an acceptable resolution of this matter.

#### **4. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: Ms. Shreeve moved to adjourn the meeting.**

**SECOND: Mr. Wynn**

**ROLLCALL VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Ms. Shreeve, and Mr. Wynn.  
VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting concluded at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda C. Caterino Ph.D., ABPP*

Linda C. Caterino, Ph.D., ABPP  
Secretary