



STATE OF ARIZONA
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS
1740 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 3403
PHOENIX, AZ 85007
PH: 602.542.8162 FX: 602.542.8279
WEBSITE: WWW.PSYCHBOARD.AZ.GOV

KATIE HOBBS
Governor

HEIDI HERBST PAAKKONEN
Executive Director

Complaint Screening Committee REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

November 15, 2023

Held by 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 8:30 a.m. on November 15, 2023. No executive sessions were held.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present

Aditya Dynar, Esq. – Chair
Diana Medina, Ph.D.
Joseph Stewart, Ed.D.

Attorney General's Office

Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General

Staff Present

Heidi Paakkonen, Executive Director
Jennifer Michaelsen, Deputy Director

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. August 16, 2023 Regular Session and Executive Session Minutes

Dr. Medina recused from this item. Mr. Dynar made a motion, seconded by Dr. Stewart, to approve the minutes as drafted. The motion carried unanimously (2-0), by a voice vote.

b. October 18, 2023 Regular Session and Executive Session Minutes

Mr. Dynar recused from this item. Dr. Stewart made a motion, seconded by Dr. Medina, to approve the minutes as drafted. The motion carried unanimously (2-0), by a voice vote.

4. CASE DISCUSSION/DECISION

a. Dane Higgins, Ph.D., Complaint No. 24-05

Dr. Stewart summarized the case, including salient points of the investigation and pertinent records. The Complainant participated, made a statement, and answered questions from the Committee. Dr.

Higgins and his attorney, Robert Beardsley, participated, made a statement, and answered questions from the Committee.

The Committee expressed concerns regarding the neuropsychological evaluation that Dr. Higgins completed for the Complainant to include multiple issues with his report and the appropriateness of a nonlicensed employee at the practice completing the clinical interview.

Dr. Medina made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dynar, to forward Complaint No. 24-05 to the Board for further review regarding a potential violation of A.R.S. §32-2061(16)(o), providing services that are unnecessary or unsafe or otherwise engaging in activities as a psychologist that are unprofessional by current standards of practice. The motion carried unanimously (3-0), by a voice vote.

5. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Dynar made a motion, seconded by Dr. Medina, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried (3-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.