

STATE OF ARIZONA BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS 1740 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 2430 PHOENIX, AZ 85007 PH: 602.542.8162 WEBSITE: psychboard.az.gov

KATIE HOBBS Governor HEIDI HERBST PAAKKONEN Executive Director

Sent USPS Regular & Certified Mail #9589 0710 5270 1957 6198 47 Also sent by email to:

April 15, 2025

John Bradford, Psy.D.

RE: NOTICE OF APPLICATION DENIAL

Dear Dr. Bradford:

At a virtual public meeting held on April 4, 2025, the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board"), considered your application for licensure as a psychologist in Arizona. You did not appear despite having been properly noticed. After consideration of the application, supporting documentation and results of the Board's investigation, the Board voted to deny your application.

The factual basis for the denial of your application includes:

- 1. From July 15, 2021 June 20, 2023, you held a psychologist license in Arizona; license no. PSY-005389. That license expired on June 20, 2023 due to your failure to submit a renewal application by the expiration date.
- 2. On December 4, 2024, you submitted your application for licensure; you applied via Universal Recognition (A.R.S. §32-4302). This statute at (A) states: Notwithstanding any other law, an occupational or professional license or certificate shall be issued, in the discipline applied for and at the same practice level as determined by the regulating entity, pursuant to this title to a person who establishes residence in this state. The Board's Substantive Policy Statement No. SP.08-19 lists examples of objective evidence that an applicant may submit to demonstrate they have established residency in Arizona. Among those examples is a dated residential rental contract with proof of payment.
- 3. On your application, you listed your Arizona residence as an address in Scottsdale, Arizona. Publicly available property records indicated this address is a residential parcel owned by another individual, AB, who is an Arizona licensed psychologist.
- 4. One of the supporting documents you supplied with your application is a Chase Bank Deposit Account Balance Summary document for a Limited Liability Company called

Psychogenic, LLC. The bank statement reflects an address in Scottsdale, Arizona. However, the Articles of Organization from the California Secretary of State indicate Psychogenic, LLC is registered to an address in Rancho Cucamonga, California.

- 5. On January 31, 2025, the Board's Application Review Committee ("Committee") reviewed your Universal Recognition application. The Committee noted that the Chase Bank document you submitted with your application as proof of having established residence in Arizona indicated the account was for a business entity, Psychogenic, LLC, and not a residence. Additionally, the name of your business could not be located in the Arizona Corporation Commission's records, but was found to be registered in California. The Committee determined that the bank document does not meet requirements relative to objective evidence that Arizona residence has been established as required by A.R.S. § 32-4302. After deliberation, the Committee voted to table the matter tabled and to issue you a First Additional Information Request ("FAIR") requiring that you supply documentation which demonstrates that you have established residence in Arizona in compliance with the statutory requirement.
- 6. Shortly after the Committee meeting, you emailed Board staff on January 31, 2025, in which you represented that AB rents a room to you at his residence while you await issuance of an Arizona psychologist license. You further indicated: "I have a job contracted For with the Core Civic (AZ dept of Corrections) in Florence starting on 2/10 I have gone trough [*sic*] their privilege and credentialing process, I have Worked for the AZ dept of corrections in the past. I was working in GA and Simply forgot to renew my AZ license. I have completed all the paper work and process. [AB] agreed to rent me a room temporarily while I obtained My AZ license because he also works at Central prison. I will have my new Address on 2/10 and submit that to the Board on 2/10 my first day at work."
- 7. Despite a request to you in the FAIR, you failed to submit any documentation in support of your representation to Board staff that you had a rental arrangement with AB.
- 8. On February 28, 2025, Board staff emailed AB in an attempt to confirm the rental arrangement that you represented that you entered.
- 9. In a reply sent to the Board on March 3, 2025, AB advised: "Sorry. I do not know Dr. Bradford. I do recall that months ago I was asked if such an arrangement was possible for a psychologist from California. Perhaps this was for Dr. Bradford. I heard nothing since."
- 10. On March 20, 2025, you were notified by email that the Board would be reviewing your application at its scheduled meeting on April 4, 2025, and that information recently received from AB contradicts the assertion you previously made that you are renting a room at AB's residence in Scottsdale, Arizona. You did not reply to Board staff's correspondence nor attend the April 4, 2025 Board meeting.

Given the foregoing, the Board voted to deny your application for psychologist licensure based upon your failure to demonstrate that you meet the requirements as set forth in A.R.S. §32-4302(A) in that you failed to establish residency in the State of Arizona.

The Board also found that you violated A.R.S. §32-2061(16)(j), making a fraudulent or

untrue statement to the board or its investigators, staff or consultants; A.R.S. §32-2061(16)(m), using fraud, misrepresentation or deception to obtain or attempt to obtain a psychology license or to pass or attempt to pass a psychology licensing examination or in assisting another person to do so; and A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(dd), violating an ethical standard adopted by the Board as it pertains to the following section of Standard 5 (Advertising and Other Public Statements) of the APA ethics code: 5.01 – Avoidance of False or Deceptive Statements.

NOTICE

Notice of Appealable Agency Action. Right to Hearing on Denial of Application

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.03, you have the right to appeal the denial of application for licensure by requesting a hearing. To obtain a hearing, you must submit a written request for a hearing to the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners, 1740 West Adams St., Suite 2430, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007. Pursuant to A.R.S. §41-1092.03(B), the request for hearing must be received at the Board's office within thirty-five (35) calendar days of the date of this Noticer. The request must state your name, your address, the action being appealed (denial of licensure), and <u>must contain a concise statement of the reasons for the appeal</u>. The hearing will be held within sixty (60) calendar days after the Board receives your request for hearing (A.R.S. § 41-1092.05(A)). At the hearing, you will have the burden of proof to demonstrate that you are qualified for licensure regarding the matter set forth in this Notice of Application Denial. The Office of the Attorney General will represent the State of Arizona at the hearing.

Please contact me if you have questions: heidi.paakkonen@psychboard.az.gov or 602-542-3018.

Sincerely,

Hudi Horest Raaskonin

Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, MPA Executive Director

Sent by email to: Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General