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TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

**Ad Hoc Committee on CE for Child Abuse Credit
Regular Session Minutes**

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

1400 W. Washington, Suite 235
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

1. CALL TO ORDER

The first meeting of the Arizona State Board of Psychologist Ad Hoc Committee on CE for Child Abuse Credit was called to order by Chairman Donaldson at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 18, 2012.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Participating by Telephone

Joseph C. Donaldson – Chair
Janice K. Brundage, Ph.D.
John P. DiBacco, Ph.D.
Dan Schulte, Ph.D.
Lisa Merrin, Ph.D.

Staff Present

Cindy Olvey, Psy.D., Executive Director
Megan Martin, Deputy Director
Heather Duracinski, Licensing Coordinator

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Donaldson recognized that Committee members were introduced during roll. Chairman Donaldson requested that Board staff introduce themselves.

4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION, REGARDING THE CHARGE TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FROM THE BOARD

Dr. Olvey summarized this item indicating that the Board office received email correspondence from a psychologist, Dr. Richard Gray, who inquired whether the Board would accept the topic of bullying as meeting the child abuse requirement for continuing education. The Board considered Dr. Gray’s correspondence on June 4, 2012, and voted to form an Ad Hoc Committee to further study this inquiry and report findings and recommendations at a future Board meeting.

5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION INCLUDING POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD PERTAINING TO WHETHER CONTINUING EDUCATION IN BULLYING SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION IN CHILD ABUSE PURSUANT TO A.A.C. R4-26-207(B)(2)

Chairman Donaldson invited Dr. Gray to address the Committee. Dr. Gray introduced himself and expressed that bullying and child abuse have commonalities; stated that the law requires schools to report bullying; and discussed the challenges finding continuing education in the areas of child abuse and domestic violence.

Committee members expressed an interest in the history behind the rule. Discussion focused on the state and federal definitions of child abuse. While acknowledging the importance of this topic, some Committee members expressed concern that the definitions do not allow for bullying, because the perpetrator of child abuse is generally defined as a parent or caretaker. Bullying is a very important subject, but it does not qualify as child abuse. Other Committee members discussed that there are similarities or correlations between bullying and child abuse. Further, the area of child abuse can include the victim experience, perpetrators, and reporting. Educational requirements should not be limited to only understanding the definition of child abuse, but could be interpreted more broadly.

A member of the Committee discussed that the rule specifically indicates that continuing education in child abuse is required; however, bullying is not included in the legal definition of child abuse. Discussion included the possibility of changing the rule by including bullying in requirement for continuing education or eliminating the child abuse requirement. An issue was raised regarding whether there are enough continuing education programs in the areas of domestic violence and child abuse to accommodate psychologists. As social and economic issues change, jurisdictions may need to make changes to rules or statutes in order to address relevant issues.

Various ideas were expressed by Committee members including the important of raising awareness about bullying as well as treating it proactively; bullying can take place on the internet; power differential and dominance can be factors; definitions of bullying were briefly discussed; psychologists should not limit their knowledge to being familiar with definitions, but should be aware of bullying within the context of child abuse.

6. SCHEDULE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on CE for Child Abuse will be held on July 27, 2012, at 8:00 a.m.

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

The Committee requested that Board office research the history of the rule pertaining to mandatory child abuse and domestic violence continuing education.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Ad Hoc Committee adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

**Joseph C. Donaldson
Ad Hoc Committee Chair**