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ABPP



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Board of Psychologist Examiners**

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**Complaint Screening Committee
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

Wednesday, May 7, 2014
Capitol Center Building
3rd Floor South Conference Room
15 South 15th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85007

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners Complaint Screening Committee was called to order by Chairman DiBacco, at 8:32 a.m. on May 7, 2014.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present

John P. DiBacco, Ph.D. - Chairman
Ramona N. Mellott, Ph.D.
Tamara Shreeve, MPA
Frederick S. Wechsler Ph.D., Psy.D., ABPP (8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.)

Staff Present

Cindy Olvey, Psy.D., Executive Director
Lynanne Chapman, Deputy Director
Heather Duracinski, Licensing Coordinator

Attorney General's Office

Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General

3. CASE DISCUSSION/DECISION

a) G. Joseph Bluth, Ph.D., RFI 14-07

Dr. DiBacco recused from this case. Dr. Wechsler summarized the case, including salient points of investigation and pertinent records. The Licensee was present, requested to speak, made a statement and answered Committee members' questions. The Complainant was not present. After deliberation, Dr. Wechsler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Shreeve, to forward this case to

the full Board for possible violations of A.R.S. §32-2061(13)(o) for possibly providing services that are unnecessary or unsafe or otherwise engaging in activities as a psychologist that are unprofessional by current standards of practice; (13)(p) for possibly falsely or fraudulently claiming to have performed a professional service, charging for a service or representing a service as the licensee's own when the licensee has not rendered the service or assumed supervisory responsibility for the service; (13)(q) for possibly representing activities or services as being performed under the licensee's supervision if the psychologist has not assumed responsibility for them and has not exercised control, oversight and review; and (13)(dd) for violating ethical standards adopted by the board as well as A.A.C. R4-26-106 as it pertains to issues with client records. The motion carried unanimously (3-0), by a voice vote.

At this time, Dr. Wechsler excused himself from the meeting.

b) Steven Fox, Ph.D., RFI 14-06

Dr. DiBacco summarized the case, including salient points of investigation and pertinent records. The Licensee was present and was represented by legal counsel, Mr. Forest Hall. Both the Licensee and his counsel requested to speak and made a brief statement. The Complainant was present and made brief statement. After discussion and deliberation, Dr. Mellott made a motion, seconded by Ms. Shreeve, to forward the case to the full Board for further investigation and possible violations of A.R.S. §32-2061(13)(g) engaging in or offering to engage as a psychologist in activities not congruent with the psychologist's training; (13)(h) failing or refusing to maintain and retain adequate business, financial, or professional records pertaining to the psychological services provided to a client; (13)(o) providing services that are unnecessary or unsafe or otherwise engaging in activities as a psychologist that are unprofessional by current standards of practice; and (13)(dd) for violating an ethical standard adopted by the board as it pertains to the 2002 APA Code of Conduct 6.06 involving accuracy of reports to payors and funding sources. The motion carried unanimously (3-0), by a voice vote.

The Committee recessed from 9:58 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

c) Aileen Lee, Ph.D. RFI 14-05

Ms. Shreeve summarized the case, including salient points of investigation and pertinent records. The Licensee was present and was represented by legal counsel, Mr. Arthur Eaves. Both the Licensee and her counsel requested to speak and made a brief statement. The Complainant was not present. After deliberation, the Committee members voted to table this matter and request further information from the Licensee, including patient records. The Committee noted that they would review this matter at a subsequent meeting once requested records were timely obtained.

d) Julio Ramirez, Ph.D., RFI 14-08

Dr. Mellott summarized the case, including salient points of the investigation and pertinent records. The Complainant was present and made brief statement. The Licensee was present, requested to speak and made a brief statement. After discussion and deliberation, Ms. Shreeve made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mellott, to forward this case to the full Board for review and possible violations of A.R.S. §32-2061(13)(a) for obtaining a fee by fraud or misrepresentation; (13)(o) providing services that are unnecessary or unsafe or otherwise engaging in activities as a psychologist that are unprofessional by current standards of practice; and (13)(r) for failing to obtain a client's informed and written consent to release personal or otherwise confidential information to another party unless the release is otherwise authorized by law. The motion carried unanimously (3-0), by a voice vote.

4. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Ms. Shreeve made a motion, seconded by Dr. DiBacco to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried (3-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John P. DiBacco, Ph.D. 6/11/14
Chair Date