

The Bulletin of the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners

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From the Board Chair

Sheila D. Scriggins, LCSW-C



How, I have been wondering, might the Board of Social Work Examiners best get the message out to social work students, BSW and MSW graduates, and employers that a person MUST be licensed to practice social work? Since the Newsletter goes out to licensees and our mailing lists are of licensees, the Board is stepping up educational efforts by contacting schools of social work. We will also look to licensees who are or will be supervising the MSW's and BSW's who are hired as social workers. If you are one of those who provides supervision to a social worker, we want to enlist your help in ensuring that the person you supervise is licensed. Ask to see your supervisee's license, or ask your employer to get a copy. If there is a circumstance where this does not provide assurance, the Board will accept calls from supervisors, employers and perspective employers to verify that a person is licensed. The Board has taken action to assist those students of social work who will be graduating by allowing them to take the licensing exam prior to graduation with a BSW or an MSW so they will be prepared to seek employment. New graduates who take the licensure exam prior to graduation will be issued the license after graduation. Once again, please remember that only post LGSW hours can qualify for a higher level of licensure. Thank you for your help.

The issue of online therapy is one that is getting a lot of attention. The spring 2001 Association of Social Work Boards educational meeting focused on this topic. The major thrust of the presenters was not "whether to provide" online therapy, but "how to" provide it. The major issues presented were proficiency in online communication, the differences in providing therapeutic intervention online as opposed to in person, and how one deals with emergencies. The latter would be particularly important if the online therapist did not live in the community (or even the state) where the client resides. The counsel for ASWB emphasized the need to establish that therapy takes place where the client lives and not where the therapist lives. Of course, this has implications not only for clients/patients, but also for licensees (where are they licensed?) as well as regulatory boards. This is a subject that the Board will continue to discuss in terms of actions needed.

The Board of Social Work is in the preliminary stages of sunset review. Sunset reviews are conducted periodically for a number of state agencies and Boards in Maryland. The sunset reviews were established through legislation in 1972, and our board is one of the 68 entities being currently reviewed. Our Board was last reviewed in 1992.

Speaking of sunsets, my term of office as Chair will be ending in November 2001. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as Board Chair. I look forward to continuing on the Board until my term expires.



STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

Standing L-R: Rick Kenney, (Investigator), Gloria Jean Hammel, (Staff Social Worker), Wanda W. Moore, Laurie T. Thomas, Anne E. Walker, and Emanuel (Mammy) Mandel.

Seated L-R: Harold G. Gordon, (Executive Director), Jane E. Pilliod, (Board Counsel), Sheila D. Scriggins, (Board Chair), Mary C. Burke, (Secretary), Isadora R. Hare, and Charles W. Griffin.

Not Pictured: Shelley N. Jennings, Maxwell C. Manning

State Board of Social Work Examiners

Currently Sanctioned Licensees as of February, 2001

NAME	STATUS
1. Beverly S. Allen Case #326	Licensee on Probation 06/29/00-06/29/02
2. Bonnie A. Cox Case #298	Licensee on Probation & Reprimanded 01/13/99-01/13/01
3. Barbara Dieterle Case #221	License Revoked 03/13/98
4. Ronald Doswell Case #272	License Revoked 06/15/98
5. Joseph R. Gulino Case #331	License Suspended 12/31/99-12/31/01
6. Cheryl Ann Hess Case#345	Licensee on Probation 06/8/01 - 06/8/02
7. Katherine High Cases #255 & #277	Licensee on Probation 06/29/00-06/29/03
8. Julia B. Jackson Case # 198	Licensee on Probation & Reprimanded 01/17/97-Present
9. Deboran Anne Kollman Cases #257 & #307	Licensee on Probation 02/24/00-02/24/02
10. Steven M. Mednick Cases # 130 & #189	Licensee on Probation 09/01/98-09/01/01
11. Leon Raesly Cases #145, #159 #160, & #166	License Revoked 10/21/96
12. Ronald A. Stanley Cases #329 & #330	Licensee on Probation 6/8/01 - 6/8/03
13. Patricia A. Tenanty Case #232	License Revoked 12/15/99
15. Keith A. Wagner Case #124	Licensee on Probation 05/13/94-Present
16. Melita Williams Case #104	License Suspended 03/08/96 - Present

New Sanctions

- Anita Parr Felps
Case #362
The Board voted to revoke Ms. Felps' license on January 12, 2001 based on a finding that the licensee had violated Article 19-311 (4), (5), (6), and (7) of the Health Occupations Article of the Maryland Annotated Code and Title 10.42.03.02 (A), (D), (G), (I), and (N) of the Code of Maryland Regulations. She was found to have engaged in fraud and deceit as a social worker by exploiting clients in order to borrow money from them and not paying the money back. She was found to have violated generally accepted professional social work standards by selling personal items to clients, attending social events with them, and engaging in personal relationships with them. She was also found to have failed to make her fees clear to her clients, and failed to properly terminate client relationships.
License Revoked 07/02/01
- Charles A. Fleming
Case # 414
Mr. Fleming decided to surrender his social work license to avoid prosecution under Article 19-311 (4), (5), (6), and (7) of the Health Occupations Article of the Maryland Annotated Code and Title 10.42.03.04, Section(s) A(4) and B(1) of the Code of Maryland Regulations. His charge was based on a complaint that he had entered into a sexually intimate relationship with a client while providing clinical counseling.
License Surrendered 07/02/01
- Leslie Faye Lewis
Case #374
Ms. Lewis decided to surrender her social work license to avoid further disciplinary action by the Board for acts committed in violation of Article 19-311 (8) of the Health Occupations Article of the Maryland Annotated Code. Her charge was based on a complaint that she had been convicted of a felony (theft of monies from client accounts).
License surrendered 04/23/01
- Larry Dexter Williams
Case #466
ALERT: Mr. Williams has fraudulently represented himself as a social worker in Maryland. He is NOT licensed at any level.

ATTENTION

In order to practice social work in Maryland, you must be licensed by the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners. You must be licensed as a LGSW in order to begin to accumulate the hours necessary to qualify for advanced licensure (LCSW & LCSW-C).

Legislative Updates

James D. Slade, Esq.
Legislative Officer

The 2001 Maryland legislative session ended in April, and all bills were signed or vetoed by May 2001. Although this is not an exhaustive review of the bills that were passed potentially relating to the practice of social work, below is a brief listing of certain bills that will affect the social workers in Maryland.

Senate Bill 569 -

Maintenance and Destruction of Medical Records

Further clarifications have been added to subsection 4-307 of the Health General Article concerning the maintenance and destruction of medical records. In general, the legislation requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to specify by regulation "the manner in which a health care provider shall maintain and store medical records. . .to ensure confidentiality; and. . .provide limited access to the medical records until the records are destroyed." Watch for these proposed regulations from the Department.

House Bill 770

Please see Gloria Jean Hammel's article entitled, "Emergency Petitions."

Senate Bill 786

Maryland Health Care Commission

Legislation passed in the 2001 session increased the availability of funds for this Commission from health care institutions and health care practitioners (including social workers). Presently the fee assessed is \$34.00 and is paid by LCSW-C's with each license renewal. The Commission intends to adopt regulations to permit a waiver of its fee for certain health care providers whose average "hourly wages" are "substantially below" that of other health care practitioners. The health care providers who may be exempted from the fee under this standard remain to be determined. The Board of Social Work Examiners contacted the Commission to note its interest in helping the necessary regulations. For more information, contact the commission at www.mhcc.state.md.us.

House Bill 1270

Auricular Detoxification

Auricular Detoxification is an acupuncture technique used in treating persons undergoing detoxification from chemical dependency. Certain LCSW-C's who work in the area of chemical dependency may perform this technique under the direct supervision of licensed acupuncturists. Regulations outlining the various requirements for LCSW-C's and other health care professionals are expected from the Acupuncture Board soon.

Where to find Developing Regulations:

Regulations that are being developed may be viewed in the Maryland Register. Once published in the Maryland Register, the public may comment for a period of 30 days, as indicated in the publication. For further information on obtaining the Maryland Register, please contact the Division of State Documents at 1700 Margaret Avenue, Annapolis, Md., 21401 or call 410-974-2486, or FAX: 410-974-2546. The Division's website is www.dsd.state.md.us

New Board Members

Harold G. Gordon
Executive Director



Since the publication of our last newsletter in the Spring of this year, four (4) additional persons have joined the Board of Social Work Examiners. The addition of these persons to the Board was mainly a result of an increase of Board membership mandated in the Board's Statute that became effective October 1, 2000. Even though one of the additions is a replacement of a retiring Associate level Board position that became vacant on June 30, 2000, the Board now has a total of four (4) newly appointed Board members.

The new members are **Shelley N. Jennings, LSWA**, appointed February 16, 2001, **Anne E. Walker, LCSW-C**, appointed March 2, 2001, **Isadore R. Hare, LCSW**, appointed April 13, 2001, and **Dr. Maxwell C. Manning, LCSW - C**, appointed April 13, 2001. Mrs. Shelley N. Jennings, who filled the Associate level vacant position on the Board, comes to the Board from the Alzheimer's Association, located in Timonium, Maryland. Ms. Anne E. Walker comes to the Board sponsored by the Maryland Department of Human Resources, and hails from the Frederick County Department of Social Services. Isadore Hare is actively employed by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services as a Public Health Analyst from Rockville, Maryland. Dr. Maxwell C. Manning joins the Board from the ranks of the academic world at the School of Social Work at Howard University, in Washington, D.C. The Board takes great pride in welcoming these persons to its ranks.

State Board of Social Work Examiners

Board Members	Terms of Office
Sheila D. Scriggins, LCSW-C <i>Board Chairperson</i>	07/01/99 - 06/30/03
Mary C. Burke, LCSW-C, BCD <i>Board Secretary</i>	07/01/01 - 06/30/05
Charles W. Griffin, Ed.D <i>Consumer Board Member</i>	07/01/00 - 06/30/04
Isadora R. Hare, LCSW <i>Board Member</i>	04/13/01 - 06/30/03
Shelley N. Jennings, LSWA <i>Board Member</i>	02/16/01 - 06/30/04
Emanuel (Manny) Mandel, LCSW-C <i>Board Member</i>	07/01/99 - 06/30/03
Maxwell C. Manning, Ph.D, LCSW-C <i>Board Member</i>	04/13/01 - 06/30/02
Wanda W. Moore, LCSW-C <i>Board Member</i>	07/01/98 - 06/30/02
Laurie T. Thomas <i>Consumer Board Member</i>	07/01/01 - 06/30/05
Anne E. Walker, LCSW-C <i>DHR Board Member</i>	07/01/01 - 06/30/05
Vacancy <i>LGSW Board Member</i>	

Maryland Electronic Government Initiative Update

*Emanuel (Manny) Mandel, ACSW, LCSW-C
Chair, Budget Committee*



The Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners, as an agency of the State of Maryland is mandated to provide information and services to the public over the Internet as a result of the passage of HB274 and SB197 that became effective on July 1, 2000. The legislative bills have an implementation calendar that requires 50% of information and services provided by the Board to be provided on the internet by the beginning in calendar year 2002, 65% by calendar year 2003, and 80% by calendar year 2004. This initiative, by Governor Parris N. Glendening, legislative sponsors, Casper Taylor, Speaker of the House, Sandy Rosenberg, House of Delegates, and others, is an "eGovernment" effort to make Maryland the number one E-Commerce state in the nation.

Even though this plan has been put into motion, no government funding has been put in place for implementation. The plan will be 100% self funded by the Board of Social Work Examiners. The Board has received cost estimates for the implementation of this plan in cooperation with other Health Occupations Boards. These estimates range from a low of around \$250,000 to a high of \$950,000. To date, only the Board of Nursing and the Dental Board have made significant investments and progress towards meeting the mandated deadlines. The Board of Social Work Examiners has advised the Department of Health Secretary's Office that we will be at least one year behind in our attempt to implement this program due to our current funding not being able to absorb the needed expenditures. The Board is committed however, to take on this initiative beginning July, 2002.

Since this initiative involves so many of the advances that are so needed by the Board's operation to stay current, we must make every effort to implement the program fully to better serve the Maryland public and to offer the very best to our licensees. This update is the first of many to be provided to our newsletter readers as we progress in our digital advancement efforts.

House Bill 770 – Emergency Evaluation – Clinical Social Worker

*Gloria Jean Hammel, LCSW-C
Staff Social Worker*



Beginning October 1, 2001 social workers licensed at the Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical level may file a petition for an emergency evaluation of an individual... "if the petitioner has reason to believe that the individual has a mental disorder and that there is clear and imminent danger of the individual's doing bodily harm to the himself / herself, or another." The ability to file such petitions was previously limited to physicians and psychologists. This authorization does not extend to social workers licensed at the LSWA, LGSW or LCSW levels. Please note that social workers licensed at any level are not authorized to issue a certification for involuntary admission of an individual to a psychiatric facility. This was not included in the statutory changes.

For the exact text of the statute, which HB 770 amended, see Health General Article Sections 10-601, 620, 622, 623 and 624(a)(1) Annotated Code of Maryland.

If you are a LCSW-C in private practice, it is advisable for you to develop a relationship with staff at your area emergency rooms, district police stations and district court. You need to educate yourself as to how to complete an emergency petition. The form should be completed in its entirety with an accurate and specific description of your client's risk of imminent harm to self or others. Your description does not have to be limited to the space on the form and additional pages can be attached to the form. LCSW-Cs may wish to consult with their own attorney to determine what could happen if they do an inadequate job of following the law. LCSW-Cs in agency settings should know what the agency's policies and established protocols are concerning emergency petitions for clients of the agency.

To place your name on a mailing list for the next training you can contact Stacey Diehl at Mental Hygiene Administration, 410-767-6610, and request that your name and address be added to the mailing list for the next IVA training.

Emergency petition forms are available at local court offices, district court offices, police departments and emergency rooms. The following two quotes are from the training session held on July 20, 2001: "if you follow the form you follow the law" and "remember to think clinically before you act legally."

Supervision Committee Update

The Board continues to review and refine regulations developed by the Supervision Committee. Board affiliated personnel involved in the process are the Staff Social Worker, the Legislative Officer, and the Board Counsel. Once the Board has approved the final draft, you will be informed.

This has been a lengthy process and I'm sure that many of you are anticipating how the new regulations will impact your employment or your practice. We believe that the new regulations will enhance your role as a social worker because you will understand more clearly what you are expected to do as a supervisor or as a supervisee.

*Wanda W. Moore, LCSW-C
Chair, Supervision Committee*



During this interim period, while you await the completion of the new regulations, I suggest that you think seriously about the function of supervision and the elements that create a productive supervisory relationship. To help and stimulate your thinking, you might try reading an article or a book, or enrolling in a class or course on supervision.



Mary C. Burke, far left, and Harold G. Gordon, far right, met with Professor of Social Work Yasuhiro Saito of Japan and Louise Knight, Assistant Director of Oncology Social Work at Johns Hopkins Hospital on Thursday, April 26, 2001. Professor Saito was interested in learning about licensure and getting information to improve the status of social work in Japan.

The Board of Social Work Examiners and staff wish to offer condolences to the many people who were affected by the tragic events of September 11, 2001. We express our respect for the many social workers who have provided and are providing counseling and support and are contributing to the healing.



AS WE GO TO PRESS...

Burke Elected New Chair, Mandel New Secretary

The Board has just elected Mary C. Burke as its Chairperson, and Emanuel (Manny) Mandel as its Secretary. Mary has served as Board Secretary and Editor of the Newsletter for the past two years. Manny has chaired the Budget Committee. We congratulate them and look forward to their leadership. Much appreciation is due to Sheila D. Scriggins for her work as the Board Chairperson for the last two years.



BSWE Committee Chairpersons

Disciplinary Case Review Committee

Charles W. Griffin, Ed.D, Consumer Member

Continuing Education Committee

Laurie T. Thomas, Consumer Member

Supervision & Credentialing Committee

Wanda W. Moore, LCSW-C

Budget Committee

Emanuel (Manny) Mandel, LCSW-C

Newsletter Committee

Mary C. Burke, LCSW-C, BCD

"FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS"

Mary C. Burke, LCSW-C, BCD



Q: Am I a licensed social worker in Maryland after I pass the examination required for the level of licensure I am seeking?

A: No. An individual is not a licensed social worker until the Board of Social Work Examiners has issued a license to the individual.

Q: The social work statute, which went into effect on October 1, 2000, limits inactive status to a five-year period. Is the five-year period restricted to a one-time only period of time?

A: The Board is in the process of revising the social work regulations due to the statutory changes. The Board has not finalized whether or not the five-year time limit will be for a one-time only period of time, or if a licensee will be able to request inactive status additional times if they periodically reactivate their license. Licensees should review future newsletters and / or revised regulations for an update on this regulatory provision. When revisions to the regulations are complete, the Board will mail out copies of the regulations to all licensees. Therefore, licensees will need to thoroughly review the regulations for changes in this and other areas.

Q: If I am seeing a couple in private practice, and their insurance will not pay for marriage counseling, can I submit the billing for an individual session?

A: No. If you are providing marriage counseling, it must be billed that way or it could be perceived as fraud. Some insurance companies will allow for "conjoint" sessions on a limited basis. Some of this may be semantics, but generally, they do not pay for marriage counseling, and the safest approach for clinicians is to make this very clear at the outset, and not risk a possible complaint in the future.

"Frequently Asked Questions" will be an ongoing column in the newsletter. Please submit questions you would like to have addressed to:

Newsletter Editor
C/O The Board of Social Work Examiners
4201 Patterson Ave. Ste. 323
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Continuing Education Committee

Laurie T. Thomas, Chair
Continuing Education Committee



At long last the **new continuing education regulations have been submitted and printed in *The Maryland Register*, Issue 14 dated July 13, 2001.** The Board received and reviewed comments regarding the regulations. Revisions were made to the regulations based on the comments the Board received. Due to the revisions, the proposed regulations will once again be submitted to The Maryland Register for publication.

A 3% Audit of the licenses renewed in October 2000 is almost complete. It is apparent that many licensees did not keep appropriate documentation for their credit hours earned from Category I programs. It is imperative that licensees make certain that sponsors of Category I programs provide them with a certificate of participation which shows: 1) the date and title of the program, 2) the sponsor's name, 3) the sponsor's authorizing signature, 4) the number of credit hours earned in Category I and 5) the name of the licensee. The current continuing education regulations require licensees to keep their continuing education documentation for 4 years. The new regulations will require a licensee to keep their documentation for one year.

The new continuing education regulations go into effect on November 1, 2003. Therefore, a licensee renewing in:

October 2001 will need 24 credits to renew their license.

October 2002 will need 24 credits to renew their license.

October 2003 will need 24 credits to renew their license.

October 2004 will need 40 credits to renew their license.

October 2005 will need 40 credits to renew their license.

Only Board Authorized Sponsors can give Category I credit. An organization or individual can be a Board Authorized Sponsor by meeting the requirements for automatically authorized sponsorship (as indicated in the continuing education requirements - please refer to your copy of the regulations). If they do not fall into the automatically authorized group then they must complete an approval process through the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners. In addition, the Board recognizes and accepts the continuing education approval process conducted by the Association of Social Work Boards (www.aswb.org) and the National Association of Social Workers (www.socialworkers.org). Please note that NASW Chapter level approval of a sponsor must be as a "Co-Sponsor." Be sure that the certificate of participation carries the name of the local NASW Chapter as well as the name of the organization or individual that submitted the program to the NASW Chapter for approval.

If you wish to obtain a **list of approved providers and/or programs** you should review the information listed on the above mentioned web sites for ASWB and NASW. Within the next several months the Board plans to list on its web site the names of the Board approved Category I sponsors.

Currently a licensee can earn continuing education credits from **Home Study courses.** Credits earned from completing home study courses are Category III credits and the maximum number of credits a licensee can earn from Category III is 4 credits.

The requirement to obtain 3 credits in Category I (every two years) in **"Ethics and Professional Conduct, including Boundary Issues"** begins on November 1, 2003.

The Continuing Education Committee will continue to meet at various times during the year. These are open meetings and anyone is welcome to sit in on them.

BOARD STAFF MEMBERS

Harold G. Gordon
Executive Director

Gloria Jean Hammel
Staff Social Worker

Bernnadette Staten-Evans
Administrative Specialist

Kevin D. Brydie
Office Secretary

Theresa Eastman
Office Secretary

Juanita Rhone
Office Clerk

Sharain K. Thompson
Office Clerk

OTHER SHARED STAFF POSITIONS WITH THE BOARD

Jane Pilliod, Board Counsel
Assistant Attorney General

Anna D. Jeffers, Esq.
Legislative/Regulations Specialist

James D. Slade, Esq.
Legislative Officer

Roberta L. Gill (*Prosecuting Attorney*)
Assistant Attorney General

Rick Kenney
Health Occupations Investigator

Henry Harle
Computer Network Specialist

Vacant
Database Specialist

BOARD NEWSLETTER STAFF

Mary C. Burke, LCSW-C, BCD
Editor

Harold G. Gordon
Executive Director

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www.dhmh.state.md.us/bswe

**Maryland State Board of Social Work
Examiners**
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Note: The Board will soon be sending out copies of the revised statute. The following alert will be attached to the statute.

TO ALL MARYLAND LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS

Please be alerted to the fact that anyone practicing social work in the State must be licensed by the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners. The previous law did not make this requirement absolutely clear. Thus, if you are working with or supervising another person in the practice of social work, you must be certain that person is properly licensed. Hours of supervision provided to persons who are not licensed will not count toward supervision to obtain advanced licensure. **Supervisors should not sign off on hours of supervision for an unlicensed person.**

The Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners is providing each licensed social worker with a copy of the revised Social Work statute, which took effect on October 1, 2000. Because a redrafting of the regulations (which spell out in detail some provisions of the statute) are not yet completed, only the text of the statute itself is provided. Many of the provisions track the former statute, but you will note some important changes, too.

- Each of the four levels of social work licensure is defined along with the responsibilities of each level;
- Only LCSW-C's may provide psychotherapy without supervision;
- Inactive licensure status is limited to 5 years;
- Failing to maintain adequate patient records has been added as a disciplinary ground;
- Persons found in violation of a disciplinary ground are required to pay the costs of the disciplinary hearing.

We hope this distribution will assist you in your practice and in keeping up to date with the current provisions of the social work statute. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Board at 410-764-4788 (local to Baltimore) or 1-877-526-2541 (toll free)