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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MIKE KENNEALY
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Occupational Licensure
Board of Registration of Social Workers

1000 Washington Street, Suite 710
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

EDWARD A. PALLESCHI
UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
REGULATION

LAYLA R. D'EMILIA
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Public Session Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Quanesha Fuller, Chair
Richard Powers, Vice Chair (left the meeting at 12:33 p.m.)
Scune Carrington
Yvonne Ruiz
Marie Andree Pierre-Victor
Tamara Lundi

STAFF: Brian Bialas, Executive Director
Kristina Gasson, Deputy General Counsel

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m.

Board Business

- **Resignation of Board Member Shaynah Barnes Munro:** Mr. Bialas reported that Ms. Barnes Munro, a public member of the Board, has resigned.
- **Public Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2022:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Ruiz, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2022, with changes. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Executive Session Minutes of September 27, 2022:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Lundi, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of September 27, 2022, with changes. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Board Meeting Dates for 2023:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Pierre-Victor, seconded by Ms. Ruiz, to approve the meeting schedule for 2023 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.



Monitoring Interview

- **Sarah Chhum, 2018-001367-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Stayed Suspension**
 - **Interview of Sarah Chhum and Supervisor Maryann Paleologopoulos:** Ms. Chhum appeared with Ms. Paleologopoulos to discuss Ms. Chhum's petition. Ms. Chhum explained that her current consent agreement is for not arranging monitoring for another consent agreement, and that the first consent agreement was based on violations when she left a position. Ms. Chhum stated that she has tried to avoid conflicts with clients in her practice, and that is something she has been working on in supervision. She now understands that some conflicts can be healthy. Ms. Chhum moved from a private practice to work at DCF during her supervision. Ms. Paleologopoulos explained that Ms. Chhum went on maternity leave and had to learn how to terminate with clients. She "rose to the occasion" at DCF, especially during the pandemic, and received support from her supervisor there, who knows about her consent agreement. Ms. Chhum continues to work on avoiding conflicts and is not sure how that will impact her prospects for eventually working in adoption, her long-term goal.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Pierre-Victor, seconded by Mr. Powers, to terminate Ms. Chhum's stayed suspension. The motion passed by a majority vote, with Ms. Fuller voting no, and Ms. Carrington abstaining.

Application Reviews – Negative Reference

- **Scott Johnson, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Mr. Johnson's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Carrington, seconded by Ms. Lundi, to allow Mr. Johnson to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed by a majority vote, with Ms. Ruiz and Ms. Pierre-Victor voting no, and Ms. Fuller abstaining.
- **Elena Nolan, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Nolan's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Carrington, seconded by Ms. Lundi, to allow Ms. Nolan to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Alberto Chang, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Mr. Chang's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Carrington, seconded by Ms. Ruiz, to allow Mr. Chang to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Deena DiMaria, Applicant for LCSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. DiMaria's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Ruiz, to allow Ms. DiMaria to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed by a majority vote, with Ms. Carrington voting no.
- **Jorge Santana, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Mr. Santana's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to

ask Mr. Santana to obtain an additional reference from someone who is familiar with his professional work.

- **Heather Colangelo, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Colangelo's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Ms. Colangelo's former supervisor who wrote the reference to a meeting for an interview.
- **Ian James, Applicant for LCSW:** The Board reviewed Mr. James's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Lundi, to allow Mr. James to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Jack Guthrie, Applicant for LCSW:** The Board reviewed Mr. Guthrie's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to allow Mr. Guthrie to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Rosalee Heaney-Balf, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Heaney-Balf's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Ms. Heaney-Balf's former supervisor who wrote the reference to a meeting for an interview.
- **Shannon Secrist, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Secrist's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Ms. Secrist to a meeting for an interview.
- **William Sullivan, Applicant for LCSW:** The Board reviewed Mr. Sullivan's application, including a negative reference. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to allow Mr. Sullivan to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously.

Application Reviews – Discipline in Another Jurisdiction

- **Joanne Werther, Applicant for LICSW:** The Board reviewed Ms. Werther's application, including discipline on her license in Maine. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to deny Ms. Werther's application because of that discipline. The motion passed unanimously, with Ms. Ruiz and Ms. Pierre-Victor abstaining.

Monitoring Reports

- **Aimee Monette, Conditional Licensure Agreement, 1st and 2nd Quarterly Monitoring Reports:** The Board reviewed Ms. Monette's reports. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Lundi, to accept the reports. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Donna Ebsary, 2020-001600-IT-ENF, Approval of CE Course:** The Board reviewed Ms. Ebsary's proposed CE course. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms.

Fuller, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve the proposed CE course. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session (Closed Session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), individual character rather than competence, and under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B, to review sensitive medical information)

At 11:06 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to exit the public meeting and enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), individual character rather than competence, to interview two applicants regarding their good moral character, and under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B, to review sensitive medical information in an application review and two requests for CE extensions. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The Board entered executive session at 11:06 a.m.

Investigative Conference (Closed under G.L. c. 112, § 65C)

The Board entered investigative conference at 12:06 p.m.

During the investigative conference, the Board took the following actions:

Cases

2021-001085-IT-ENF (PC):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions
2022-000376-IT-ENF (JM):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions

Mr. Powers left the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

2020-001725-IT-ENF (RC):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions
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Adjournment

At 1:02 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Pierre-Victor, seconded by Ms. Carrington, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

The above Minutes were approved at the public meeting held on October 25, 2022.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting:

- Agenda for Meeting of October 18, 2022
- Public Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2022
- Executive Session Minutes of September 27, 2022
- Board Meeting Dates for 2023
- Sarah Chhum, 2018-001367-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Stayed Suspension, including previous monitoring reports
- Scott Johnson, Application for LICSW
- Elena Nolan, Application for LICSW
- Alberto Chang, Application for LICSW
- Deena DiMaria, Application for LCSW
- Jorge Santana, Application for LICSW
- Heather Colangelo, Application for LICSW
- Ian James, Application for LCSW
- Jack Guthrie, Application for LCSW
- Rosalee Heaney-Balf, Application for LICSW
- Shannon Secrist, Application for LICSW
- William Sullivan, Application for LCSW
- Joanne Werther, Application for LICSW
- Aimee Monette, Conditional Licensure Agreement, 1st and 2nd Quarterly Monitoring Reports, 2nd Quarterly Report (Revised), and 9.2.22 Email from K. Moriarty re: Revised Reports
- Donna Ebsary, 2020-001600-IT-ENF, Proposed CE Course