

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology
100 N. Union Street, Suite 880
Montgomery, AL 36104

September 8, 2023

- Members Present: Edwin W. Cook, III, Ph.D. – Chair (In person)
Nancy W. Berland, Ph.D. – Vice Chair (Zoom)
Michael A. Carlton, Ph.D. – Psychologist Member (In person)
Candice D. Lewis, M.S. – Psychological Technician Member (In person)
Kimberley S. Ackerson, Ph.D., ABPP – Psychologist Member (Zoom)
C. Jeffrey Terrell, Ph.D., ABPP – Psychologist Member (In person)
- Others Present: Brice M. Johnston – Legal Counsel (In person)
Angela D. Ledbetter – Executive Assistant (In person)
Lori H. Rall – Executive Director (In person)
Susan Nettles Han (In person)
Ellen L. Spence, Ph.D. – Alabama Psychological Association Liaison (Zoom)
- Not Present: Dale Wisely, Ph.D. – Psychologist Member
Carmen Douglas, SHRM-SCP, SPHR – Public Member

Opening by Cook: The time is 9:03 a.m. We are gathered in the Board Office and on Zoom for a regular meeting of the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology. As required by the Open Meetings Act, we have a lawful quorum of at least four (4) members and at least three members (3) are present in person, and sufficient prior notice of this meeting has been posted for the Public on both the Board's and the Secretary of State's websites, to include a link for Zoom meeting participation information at both websites because one (1) or more of our Members is participating remotely and for remote Public access. All unanimous votes will be announced aloud by the Chair and non-unanimous votes will be held by Roll Call. Board Members with a close personal or professional relationship to a subject of, or party to, an action are reminded to recuse themselves from participation in that part of the Meeting Agenda.

As a reminder of why the Board gathers, Cook read the BOARD's **MISSION STATEMENT:** The Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology seeks to promote and protect the public's health, welfare, and quality of life by licensing and regulating the practice of psychology and by promoting access to psychological services delivered in a safe, competent, and ethical manner.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Review of the July 14, 2023 Minutes. Motion by Terrell that the Minutes be approved. Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF NEW APPLICANTS:

Psychologists & Psychological Technician

- 1) BATT-RAWDEN, Ashley Partidge – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Cook & Carlton) Specialization requested in Clinical and School; Motion by Cook to table the application, and ask the applicant to 1) remove reference of Clinical Psychology from her Specialization Statement, and 2) provide evidence and explain how her Internship met the following legal requirements: a) there were at least two (2) licensed psychologists on staff, and b) provide a brochure about the Internship Site, and c) that didactics were integrated into the internship’s supervised experience. Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2) BEAN, Anthony Martin – Candidate for Licensure (Ackerson & Cook); Motion by Ackerson to table application pending receipt of 1) additional information regarding the current suspension of his Certificate of Professional Qualification (CPQ) - which is both issued and suspended by ASPPB, and 2) more information about his period of residency at Pacifica Graduate Institute - pursuant to Code of Ala §34-26-41(c)(3) and (7) and -41(d) and corresponding Administrative Code Rules, and 3) pending replacement of any reference providers who are individuals under his supervision or employment, and 4) a revision to his Specialization Statement as it is written in third person plural, but must be submitted in first person, for clarity that it is the applicant alone who will be providing services via an Alabama license and not the other individuals working in the group practice, or corporation, where the applicant is the CEO. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3) BERRY, April Tashay – Two (2) Applications (Lewis & Carlton)
 - a. EPPP Candidate - Second Psychologist Application; if admitted, applicant cannot sit for the exam earlier than December 22, 2023. Clinical and Counseling Specialization.
 - b. Candidate for Licensure as a Psychological Technician, pursuant to Admin Code Rule 750-X-2A-.04(5)(i2).

Motion by Lewis to issue Psychological Technician licensure (**License No. 2327**) and to admit applicant to EPPP under Psychologist Application. Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4) BOLSTAD, Courtney Jo – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Berland & Ackerson) Clinical Specialization; Motion by Berland to admit applicant to EPPP and PSE. Seconded by Ackerson. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5) BROWN, Savannah Lee – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Terrell & Ackerson) Clinical Specialization; Motion by Terrell to admit applicant to EPPP and PSE. Seconded by Ackerson. Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) FOX, Alexis Monica Lauren – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Carlton & Terrell) Clinical Specialization; Motion by Carlton to admit applicant to EPPP and PSE. Seconded by Terrell. Motion passed unanimously.
- 7) GIBSON, Emily Noel – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Cook & Berland) School Specialization; Motion by Cook to admit applicant to EPPP and PSE. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed unanimously.
- 8) HAMILTON, Jillian Claire – PSE Candidate (Berland & Terrell) School Specialization; Motion by Berland to admit applicant to PSE. Seconded by Terrell. Motion passed unanimously.
- 9) HESS, Courtney Leanne – Candidate for Licensure (Terrell & Lewis) Clinical Specialization; Motion by Terrell to issue licensure at the doctoral level. (**License No. 2328**) Seconded by

Lewis. Motion passed unanimously.

10) MAHONY, David –Candidate for Licensure (Terrell & Carlton) Clinical Specialization.

Motion by Cook at 10:24 a.m. to enter Executive Session to enter Executive Session to discuss the potential threat of, or possibility of, litigation, and to discuss the good name and character of an individual, for approximately 15 minutes. Seconded by Terrell. Motion passed unanimously. Zoom attendees were asked to exit the meeting and enter the meeting Waiting Room again in 15 minutes. Han exited the Board room. Ackerson and Berland joined Executive Session by Doxie platform (approved by the Examiners of Public Accounts).

Motion by Terrell at 10:51 a.m. to return from Executive Session. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed. Ackerson and Berland closed their Doxie connections; Han returned to the Board room; and, Ackerson, Berland, and Spence returned to the Zoom meeting.

The Board took a Break at 10:51 a.m. and returned at 11:13 a.m.

Motion by Terrell to issue licensure to Dr. Mahony. **(License No. 2329)** Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously.

11) MALESPINI, Maegan Theresa – Candidate for Licensure (Berland & Lewis) Clinical Specialization; Motion by Berland to issue licensure to Dr. Malespini. **(License No. 2330)** Seconded by Lewis. Motion passed unanimously.

PREVIOUSLY REVIEWED APPLICANTS:

- 1) ATTERBERRY, Elizabeth Charlie – Candidate for Licensure (Ackerson) License No. 2315 issued at July 2023 Meeting; requested revised Specialization Statement to provide more clarity about practice plans in Alabama. Ackerson reviewed response. Motion by Ackerson to accept revised statement. Seconded by Terrell. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2) RAMLER, Taylor Randall – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Carlton & Ackerson) Admitted to exams at May 2023 Meeting. Requested applicant either remove or defend reference to forensic in Specialization Statement; removed forensic from statement, and was accepted at July 2023 Meeting. At July Meeting, requested to strike “Correctional Psychology” from the Application. Ackerson and Carlton reviewed response. Motion by Carlton to accept revised specialization statement. Seconded by Ackerson. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3) TALLENT, Desiree Anne – EPPP & PSE Candidate (Cook & Carlton) Admitted to exams at May 2023 meeting. Requested applicant revise Specialization Statement to indicate her own practice plan; reviewed at July 2023 Meeting. Requested applicant revise Specialization Statement once more to either provide evidence of education and training in both individual and group psychotherapy and in personality assessments, including projective testing, or strike those elements. Cook reviewed response. Motion by Cook to accept revised specialization statement. Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously.

SCORE REVIEW:

Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP), &/or the Professional Standards Exam (PSE), &/or Licenses Issued since the July 2023 Board Meeting

Psychologists: Pass or fail for each candidate is based upon the ASPPB recommended passing score for psychologists, and it is 500. The passing score for the PSE is 80% (34 correct).

Psychological Technicians: The EPPP passing score for psychological technicians is 400. The passing score for the PSE is 80% (34 correct).

<i>NAME of Applicant / Licensee</i>	<i>Degree</i>	<i>Application Level</i>	<i>EPPP Passed?</i>	<i>PSE Passed?</i>	<i>License Number</i>	<i>Date of Licensure</i>	<i>Area of Specialization</i>
HESS, Courtney Leanne	M.S.	Psychological Technician	Yes, previously	Yes	2318	07/17/2023	N/A
STEELE, Stephanie Michelle	Psy.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes, previously	2319	07/26/2023	Clinical
PHILLIPS, Kathryn Ann	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes, previously	Yes	2320	08/02/2023	Clinical
TITTLER, Meredith VanderHorst	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes (in OR)	Yes	2321	08/11/2023	Counseling
GROSSL, Alyssa Bailey	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2322	8/14/2023	Counseling
McRAE, Elizabeth Massebeau	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2323	9/1/2023	Clinical
CHAVERS, David Joseph	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Yes	2324	9/5/2023	Clinical
RYU, Jung Ho	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes; 2 nd attempt	Yes	2325	9/5/2023	Clinical
BONTEMPS, Andrew Price	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Not yet attempted	-	-	Clinical
HENDRICKSON, Harifah	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Not yet attempted	No; may sit again	-	-	Counseling
CUMBERLAND, Michael Reid	Psy.D.	Psychologist	Scheduled for 10/30	Yes	-	-	Clinical
<i>NAME of Applicant / Licensee</i>	<i>Degree</i>	<i>Application Level</i>	<i>EPPP Passed?</i>	<i>PSE Passed?</i>	<i>License Number</i>	<i>Date of Licensure</i>	<i>Area of Specialization</i>

FOREMAN, Amber Hope	Psy.D.	Psychologist	No – 2 nd attempt; must reapply	Not yet attempted	-	-	Clinical
GARDINER, James Thomas	Ph.D.	Psychologist	No; may sit again	Not yet attempted	-	-	Combined Counseling & School
LaMAR, Kristy Lynette	Ph.D.	Psychologist	No – 4 th attempt; must reapply	Yes, previously	-	-	Counseling
DARNELL, Leslie Sue	Psy.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Scheduled for 9/11	-	-	Clinical
MORALES LUCIANO, Charlyn Melanie	Psy.D.	Psychologist	No; may sit again	No; may sit again	-	-	Clinical
TYKOL, Lauren Meaux	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Not yet attempted	-	-	Clinical
MOLLOY, Anthony	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Scheduled for 9/22	-	-	Clinical
SAVINI, Jonathan Michael	Psy.D.	Psychologist	No; may sit again	Yes	-	-	Clinical
DANIELS, Kimberly Stewart	Ph.D.	Psychologist	Yes	Scheduled for 9/12	-	-	School
CRAIN, Carol Jean	M.S.	Psychological Technician	Yes; 2 nd attempt	Yes	-	10/16/2023	N/A

COMPLAINTS:

Against Licensed Psychologists

Old

- 1) 20-007 – On-going investigation
- 2) 20-008 – On-going investigation
- 3) 20-009 – On-going investigation
- 4) 21-004 – On-going investigation
- 5) 21-007 – On-going investigation
- 6) 21-012 – On-going investigation
- 7) 21-013 – On-going investigation

- 8) 22-004 – On-going investigation
- 9) 22-007 – On-going investigation
- 10) 22-012 – On-going investigation
- 11) 23-001 – On-going investigation
- 12) 23-002 – On-going investigation
- 13) 23-004 – On-going investigation
- 14) 23-005 – On-going investigation
- 15) 23-006 – On-going investigation
- 16) 23-007 – On-going investigation
- 17) 23-008 – On-going investigation
- 18) 23-009 – On-going investigation
- 19) 23-010 – Kristen Triebel Gerstenecker, Psy.D., Emergency Suspension effective July 14, 2023; Hearing Scheduled for October 10, 2023. Review of Consent Order agreement accepted by Respondent Triebel Gerstenecker on September 7, 2023.

Motion by Cook at 11:29 a.m. for the Board to enter Executive Session to discuss the potential threat of, or possibility of, litigation, and to discuss the good name and character of an individual, allowing for approximately 20 minutes of discussion. Seconded by Terrell. Motion passed unanimously. Cook recused himself from the meeting and exited the meeting. Han exited the meeting. Zoom attendees were asked to exit the meeting with instructions to re-enter the meeting Waiting Room again in 20 minutes. Ackerson and Berland joined Executive Session by Doxie (approved by the Examiners of Public Accounts).

Motion by Carlton to return from Executive Session at 12:00 p.m. Seconded by Lewis. Motion passed. Cook returned the Board room. Ackerson and Berland closed their Doxie connections; Han returned to the Board room; and, Ackerson, Berland, and Spence returned to the Zoom meeting. Motion by Carlton to accept Consent Order as written in Complaint No. 23-010 against Kristen Triebel Gerstenecker, Psy.D. Seconded by Lewis. Motion passed. Cook abstained from voting.

New

No new Complaints to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Executive Order No. 734, *Promoting Transparency in State Government Through Enhanced Accessibility to Public Records*. Motion passed to update the Fee Schedule; Notice of Intended Action published in the Alabama Administrative Monthly, Volume XLI, Issue No. 11, August 31, 2023, and on the Board’s website. Intended action, and any response, will be reviewed at the November 2023 Board Meeting. Rall reviewed, published, pending, will be reviewed for approval at November Board meeting.
- 2) Executive Order No. 734, *Reducing “Red Tape” on Citizens and Businesses Through a Moratorium on New Administrative Rules and by Establishing Goals for the Reduction of*

Existing Regulatory Burdens. Phase I – Inventory of existing rules is due by Sept 15. Committee members Cook, Wisely, Johnston, and Rall have met two (2) times and have shared Rule review responsibilities, and feedback and / or commentary was requested from licensee stakeholders, via both email on June 13, 2023, and a post at the Board’s website on the same, with the opportunity for discussion, or the floor, at the July 2023 meeting. No responses were received in the requested timeframe (i.e., end of business July 7, 2023), nor have any been received since. Rall will submit Phase I data to the Governor’s Legal Office by the due date.

- 3) SB156 – Introduced in 2023 Legislative Regular Session, to add Chapter 9B to Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, to establish the Occupational Licensing Boards Division in the office of the Secretary of State. A meeting with Senator Chris Elliott, the Bill Sponsor, is scheduled for Thursday, September 7, 2023. Cook, Terrell, Brice, Rall, Ashley attended. Cook reported on visit. Senator Elliott stated that he understands the distinction between professions and occupations and that, if a new consolidation bill is presented in the future, it would address three (3) distinct areas: 1) licensure issued by the State (banking, securities, insurance), 2) licensure issued to professions (psychology, medicine, dentistry, law) and those agencies would be exempted from the consolidation effort, and 3) occupational licensure, and the focus of consolidation of staff would be in this area.
- 4) ASPPB Annual Meeting: *The Nuts and Bolts of Regulation: Practical Skills and Strategies*, Wednesday, September 27 through Sunday, October 1, 2023, in Cleveland, OH at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown. Cook, Ledbetter, and Rall to attend, and Cook will be the voting delegate (no registration fee). Rall will be presenting in two (2) Sessions. Rall will speak about master’s level licensure standards and about legislation.
- 5) Alabama Psychological Association Meeting & Conference: *The Intersection of Psychology & Medicine*, August 25 – 27, 2023 in Orange Beach, AL at the Hampton Inn. Rall and Ledbetter attended; Rall presented. Rall expressed desire to combine board meeting with aPA conference in the future. Cook, Carlton and Terrell attended. Carlton feels the relationship between the Board and aPA is good.
- 6) Professional Services Contract – Michael C. Garver, DMD, Wellness Provider Services, LLC, for Management of the Alabama Psychology Professionals Wellness and Monitoring Program; Current contract expires December 15, 2023. In July 2023, the Board voted to issue a new Contract extending from December 16, 2023 to December 15, 2025, with no other changes to terms, conditions, or costs. Rall provided an update: New regulations provide for only one (1) year Contracts with providers, with the possibility of Finance approving for an additional second year. Therefore, the Board could be required to issue an RFP for wellness and monitoring services in 2024. Rall reported that the Contract is pending approval by the Department of Finance and Joint Contract Review Committee, and the Governor.
- 7) Susan N. Han, Nettles Han Law, LLC. Presented as potential new Legal Counsel for the Board when Johnston’s contract ends December 15, 2023. The Board previously reviewed Han’s Resume & Curriculum Vita and voted to offer her a Contract with the same terms, conditions, and costs as Johnston’s, pending a meeting with the Board Chair. Cook, Johnston, and Rall met with Han on July 28, 2023, and Han accepted the Contract, effective October 16, 2023. A Deputy Attorney General Appointment was issued to Han by Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall on August 23, 2023, effective December 1, 2023. Rall reported the Contract is pending approval by the Department of Finance, the Governor’s Legal Office, and Joint Contract Review Committee, and the Governor.
- 8) November 2023 Board Meeting moved to Wednesday, November 8, 2023. Meeting on this day due to Veteran’s Day Holiday observed on Friday, November 10, 2023.

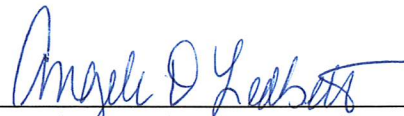
NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Annual Renewal Season for Licensure Year 2024 – August 15 thru October 15, 2023. Update by Rall on the new e-payment platform provided by Tyler Technologies, working with the State of Alabama Office of Information Technology.
- 2) August 2023 Newsletter issued to coincide with the Renewal Season.
- 3) PSYPACT – Second Quarter 2023 Compliance Report: No issues identified. Update by Rall.

Motion by Terrell to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Carlton. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 12:48 p.m.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: November 8, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,



Angela D. Ledbetter, Recorder
Executive Assistant



Edwin W. Cook, III, Ph.D.
Board Chair