

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER

VOL. 10 NO. 4



BOARD CHAIR MESSAGE

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Chris Jones

I hope that all of you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer and are enjoying the cooler fall weather. I am excited to work with my students and clients as they venture into a new year of learning. I am also excited about the work we have done through the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) to support consumers and stakeholders alike.

I am pleased to announce that during our May meeting, the Board unanimously voted to continue with the current leadership. I will continue to serve as Chair, with Wendy Strack as Co-Chair. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Governor Gavin Newsom for my reappointment and extend my congratulations to Nick Boyd on his reappointment as well.

On a celebratory note, I would like to acknowledge Yvette “Yvie” Casares Willis for her dedicated service as a member of the Board from February 2021 to March 2024. Her contributions have been invaluable, and we are grateful for her commitment to the Board.

We are also excited to announce the appointment of new public Board member Lorez Bailey. Welcome Lorez and congratulations!

I want to remind everyone of the ongoing discussions regarding the acceptance of the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Board’s (AMFTRB) Marital and Family Therapy National Examination for licensure in California. During the May 2024 Board meeting, the Board directed staff to draft the necessary legislative or regulatory language with legal counsel, address content and measurement concerns with AMFTRB, and ensure accessibility for exam candidates during the transition. This discussion will continue during upcoming Board meetings.

In legislative news, I am thrilled to report that Senate Bill 1024, introduced by Senator Rosilic Ochoa Bogh, has been signed into law by Governor Newsom. This bill marks an advancement in modernizing mental health services and supervision standards. It updates the requirement for a licensee or registrant to physically display a license or registration to account for services delivered via telehealth. It also clarifies who counts as a “supervisee” for purposes of group supervision and specifies who is

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THE BOARD’S MISSION IS TO PROTECT AND SERVE CALIFORNIANS BY SETTING, COMMUNICATING, AND ENFORCING STANDARDS FOR SAFE AND COMPETENT MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE.

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included in the limit of six supervisees receiving individual or triadic supervision per supervisor in non-exempt settings. BBS recognizes the importance of this legislation in furthering consumer protection and extends its deepest thanks to Senator Ochoa Bogh, her office, and our stakeholders for their collective efforts in bringing this bill to fruition. For more information about this bill, see page 2.

Finally, to achieve our strategic goal of engaging stakeholders through continuous communication about the practice and regulation of the professions and mental health care, we are forming the Outreach and Education Committee. This committee will be chaired by Dr. Annette Walker and is tasked with enhancing consumer education, extending the Board’s reach to more diverse populations, increasing engagement with schools, and boosting participation in Board meetings.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate the ever challenging landscape of mental health. We have had so many meaningful conversations about how to better serve the consumers of California, and how to support our associates and licensees over these past few months. I believe we are moving in the right direction. I encourage all of you to attend and participate in both the committee and board meetings so your voice can be heard, and you can be part of the positive changes we are making.

Chris Jones
Board Chair

STAY INFORMED ABOUT WHAT’S HAPPENING WITH BBS!

Are you an applicant, registrant, licensee, or consumer who would like increased access to BBS activities and updates? Join our email subscriber’s list! You can also follow the Board on Facebook and X. Scan or click on a graphic or go to www.bbs.ca.gov to connect!



**EMAIL
SUBSCRIBERS
LIST**



IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING A VALID EMAIL ADDRESS WITH THE BOARD

The Board strongly encourages all licensees, associates, and individuals in the exam process to ensure that their current email address is on file with the Board. The email address you provide will not be disclosed to the public.

This is important for everyone, but especially registrants working on passing an exam. This is because candidates are notified of approval to test via email. Without an email address on file, they will not receive notification of how to register for and schedule the exam.

DID YOU KNOW?

The email address you provide when creating a BreEZe account is not automatically uploaded into your record. Even if you have

created a BreEZe account, your email address may not be accessible to Board staff.

HOW TO ADD OR UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

You can easily add or update your email by accessing the “Change of Address Application” located within the drop-down menu under “Manage Your License” on BreEZe. See **BreEZe Helpful Hints** for further details.

EMAIL ADDRESS REQUIRED EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022

All licensees, registrants, and applicants who have an email address are legally required to provide it to the Board. The Board must be notified of any changes to your email address within 30 calendar days of the change.

SB 1024 PASSES: UPDATES SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS AND CLARIFIES DISPLAY OF LICENSE FOR TELEHEALTH

A new law, **SB 1024**, sponsored by the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS), becomes effective on January 1, 2025, with the goal of furthering consumer protection. It clarifies two key points pertaining to supervision, and modernizes the display of license requirement to account for telehealth. FAQs regarding these new laws are available on the home page of the Board's [website](#).

Clarification of who Counts Toward the Limit of Eight in Group Supervision

The bill clarifies who counts toward the limit of eight supervisees in group supervision. Effective January 1, 2025, the law specifies that the group may contain no more than eight persons "receiving supervision for providing clinical mental health services in all settings."

Specifying Who Counts Toward the Limit of Six Individual or Triadic Supervisees in Nonexempt Settings

This bill also specifies who is included in the limit of six supervisees receiving individual or triadic supervision per supervisor in nonexempt settings. Currently, only registered associates count toward that limit. Effective January 1, 2025, the law specifies that persons who are not fully licensed at the highest level for independent clinical practice and who are receiving supervision for providing clinical mental health services count toward the six supervisee limit per supervisor in nonexempt settings. This includes associates, trainees and other individuals not licensed at the highest level.

In addition, the law now also clarifies that the limit of six

supervisees per supervisor applies across all nonexempt settings in which the supervisor is working, if they work for multiple employers.

*(Note: A **nonexempt** setting is any setting that does not qualify as an exempt setting. It includes private practices, professional corporations, and any other types of entities that don't meet the definition of an exempt setting. An exempt setting is defined in law as a governmental entity, a school, a college, a university, or an institution that is both nonprofit and charitable.)*

Display of License

This bill implements a change to the legal requirement that licenses and registrants display their license or registration in a conspicuous location at their primary place of practice. To account for the increasing use of telehealth, and the difficulty of physically displaying a license or registration when providing telehealth services, effective January 1, 2025, licensees and registrants are only required to display their license or registration in a conspicuous place in their primary place of practice when rendering professional clinical services in person. The license or registration does not need to physically be displayed when services are provided via telehealth.

To ensure that all clients maintain access to essential information, the law requires additional information to be included in the required "Notice to Clients" that a Board licensee or registrant must provide each of their clients upon initiating psychotherapy services. **For all new clients for whom services are initiated on or after July 1, 2025**, the "Notice to Clients" must contain the following information **in addition to** the information currently required to be in the notice:

- The licensee or registrant's full name as filed with the Board.
- Their license or registration number.
- The type of license or registration (for example, licensed marriage and family therapist, associate clinical social worker, etc.).
- The expiration date of the license or registration number.

The "Notice to Clients" containing the new information must only be provided to clients whom you begin serving on or after July 1, 2025. There is no requirement to provide an updated notice to your current clients.



BBS CONSIDERS MOVING TO AMFTRB NATIONAL EXAMINATION

The Board discussed moving to the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) exam for use as the California MFT clinical exam at its May 17, 2024 Board meeting. The Board voted to begin the process of pursuing legislation and/or regulations regarding the national exam, assuming some conditions can be met including: addressing examination content and measurement scope concerns, addressing accessibility for testing candidates to ensure they are not adversely affected, and ensuring that the transferring of eligibilities and exam information is automated. Board staff is in the process of working with AMFTRB to address the Board's concerns, as well as examining legislative and regulatory changes that will be needed. Staff will provide status reports at future Board meetings.



BBS VIDEO GUIDES AVAILABLE

Over the past year, BBS has been working with the Department of Consumer Affairs to produce various guides for applicants and consumers. The complete list of videos can be found on **YouTube** or by navigating to the Updates/FAQs page of **bbs.ca.gov**.

- What is the Board of Behavioral Sciences
- Seven Steps to CA Licensure (LMFT, LCSW, LPCC)
- Degree Requirements for Licensure (LMFT, LCSW, LPCC)
- Becoming a California Licensed Educational Psychologist
- CA Law and Ethics Exam
- Helpful Tips for Registrants
- The 90-Day Rule
- CA Supervision Requirements
- Applying with a Conviction or Disciplinary Action

ONLINE IS EASIER AND FASTER!

A Variety of Online Services Available via BreEZe

For faster service, manage your registration and license online! BreEZe provides services for applicants, registrants and licensees that can save you weeks of processing time compared to paper applications. BreEZe allows payment via major credit card in a secure environment. Services available include the ability to:

- Apply for an Associate Registration **Coming Soon!**
- Request a Name Change **New!**
- Submit an address change (takes effect instantly)
- Add or change your email address
- Verify a license and obtain proof of renewal status
- Obtain a certification of licensure
- Renew a license or registration instantly (up to 90 days in advance)
- Submit an application to change from Inactive to Active status
- Request a replacement registration or license (allow 2 weeks for delivery)
- Apply for your initial Law and Ethics Exam
- Apply for Initial License Issuance

Consumer complaints can also be filed on BreEZe.

Visit www.BreEZe.ca.gov.

HELPFUL TIPS

If you are new to the Board's online services, helpful tips are available online:

BreEZe Helpful Hints

BreEZe Help Tutorial Videos, including:

- An overview of BreEZe services
- How to search for a license
- How to register for BreEZe
- What to do if you forgot your password or user ID
- How to submit a renewal
- How to update license information
- How to make a payment

If you need additional assistance using BreEZe, technical support can be reached at (855) 227-9633.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS





GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES AWARENESS DAY

Governor Gavin Newsom issued a **proclamation** declaring May 11, 2024, as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Awareness Day.

As part of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, the California Surgeon General launched an **ACEs and Toxic Stress Healing-Centered Awareness Campaign** to improve our understanding of ACEs and toxic stress and connect youth, young adults, and those who support them with strategies that promote healing.

PROCLAMATION

Ensuring that the youngest Californians have a healthy start in life is one of the best investments we can make in our state's future. Today, we shine a light on the importance of preventing and addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences and their wide-ranging impacts on individuals, communities, and our state as a whole.

Adverse Childhood Experiences are highly stressful and potentially traumatic experiences that, without proper care, can lead to toxic stress—a prolonged activation of the stress response systems that can disrupt the development of brain architecture and other organ systems. **Toxic stress is a root cause of many chronic health and societal challenges**, from heart disease to homelessness. ACEs affect millions of Californians. A recent **survey conducted by RAND** found that 60% of surveyed individuals have experienced at least one ACE, and 23% of youth and 30% of parents and caregivers have experienced four or more ACEs.

California has taken significant action to prevent and address the negative health impacts of ACEs. The **ACEs Aware Initiative**, led by the Department of Health Care Services in partnership with the California Surgeon General, provided the funding to move the needle on ACE screening and treatment of toxic stress. To date, **more than 35,300 individuals have been trained** to screen for ACEs and more than 2.3 million screenings of more than 1.5 million Medi-Cal members have taken place.

As part of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, the California Surgeon General is this month launching an **ACEs and Toxic Stress Healing-Centered Awareness Campaign** to improve our understanding of ACEs and toxic stress and connect youth, young adults and those who support them with strategies that promote healing.

On Adverse Childhood Experiences Awareness Day and throughout Mental Health Awareness Month, I urge all Californians to learn about evidence-based prevention and healing strategies to help the next generation of Californians lead happy and healthy lives.

NOW THEREFORE I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim May 11, 2024, as “Adverse Childhood Experiences Awareness Day.”

AVOID LOSING YOUR HARD-EARNED EXPERIENCE HOURS

This two-part article is designed to help applicants and registrants avoid the pitfalls that can cause them to lose their hard-earned supervised experience hours. Don't let this happen to you! Learn all about how you can avoid this.

PART 1: TIPS FOR ASSOCIATE APPLICANTS, NEW ASSOCIATES AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST (MFT) TRAINEES

- Read the FAQs for associates and refer to it often (available at www.bbs.ca.gov>Applicant>(License Type)>Forms/Pubs>Pubs).

FAQs for MFT Trainees and Associates
FAQs for ASWs
FAQs for APCCs

- **Know the 90-Day Rule.** The law allows applicants for Associate registration to count experience gained between the degree award date and the issue date of the registration if the Associate application is received

within 90 days of the qualifying degree award date. However, applicants who graduated on or after January 1, 2020, may only count post-degree hours of experience under the 90-day rule if their workplace required them to complete Live Scan fingerprinting prior to gaining the post-degree hours. If the applicant's employer does not require fingerprinting, or if the applicant cannot obtain a copy of the completed "Request for Live Scan Service" form, post-degree experience gained prior to the issue date of the Associate registration will not count. See the 90-day Rule FAQ for more information.

- **Be aware of the six-year age limit on supervised experience.** Ensure that you complete all required experience within the six years immediately preceding submission of your Application for Licensure. Otherwise, your application will be deficient. You will have one year to clear any deficiencies. Once cleared, you will be eligible to take the clinical exam.

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BBS
Board of Behavioral Sciences

IMPORTANT ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FOR ASSOCIATE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS AND MFT TRAINEES

1625 NORTH MARKET BLVD.
SUITE 5-200
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834
(916) 874-7830
WWW.BBS.CA.GOV

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
dca
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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- **Renew your Associate registration in a timely manner.** Your registration must be current for experience hours to count. To avoid lapses in your registration, make sure you schedule and take the Law and Ethics Exam for your registration type well in advance of your registration’s expiration date, a requirement for renewal. Once you pass the exam, you have satisfied the requirement and will not need to continue taking it each year.
- **Apply for a subsequent registration early.** If your registration is nearing its six-year maximum, you can apply for a subsequent registration up to 90 days prior to your registration’s cancellation date. Applying early allows time for the Board to process your application and issue your new registration. Also, be aware that applicants must have passed the Law and Ethics Exam to obtain a subsequent registration.
- **Ensure that your supervisor meets the licensure requirements.** A supervisor must have held an acceptable license for at least two years prior to supervising and maintains a current and active license while supervising. Supervisor qualifications can be found in the [Supervision Agreement](#). You can check your supervisor’s license status at www.breeze.ca.gov.
- **Ensure that you are employed as either a W-2 employee or a volunteer,** and not as an independent contractor while gaining your experience hours.
- **Ensure that you and your supervisor complete all required supervision forms** at the start of supervision. Keep these completed forms in a safe place.
- **Ensure your supervisor signs your experience log** on a weekly basis.
- **Have your supervisor sign your experience verification form upon conclusion of supervision.** Don’t wait until a later date, as unforeseen issues can arise with obtaining signatures later. Keep your signed form in a safe place.

** With the exception of 500 practicum counseling and supervision hours for LMFT applicants, which can be any age.*

PART 2: TIPS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE

- **Respond to Deficiency Notices Within One Year.** If you receive a deficiency notice, you must submit the information required to clear any deficiencies within one year from the notice date. If not, the law specifies that an applicant’s file shall be closed. If this occurs, the applicant needs to reapply, and their experience hours would only count six years back from the new application date.

- **Take the Clinical Exam at Least Once a Year.** An applicant must:

- Sit for the clinical exam within one year of being notified of eligibility to take the exam.
- Retake the clinical exam within one year of being notified of failing the clinical exam.

If an applicant fails to take the clinical exam within their one-year window, their file will be closed. The applicant would need to reapply, and their experience hours would only count six years back from the new application date.

To help ensure you meet your one-year timeframe for taking the clinical exam, make sure you do the following:

- **Don’t wait until your one-year timeframe is near its end** to schedule your exam. Leave yourself a cushion in case you are unable to take the exam and need to reschedule due to an unforeseen event (being sick, vehicle breaking down, etc.).
- **If you require testing accommodations, apply for them** well in advance of your desired test date.
- **Know the process and timeframes** for scheduling the clinical exam, including the testing vendor’s change/cancellation policy.
- **Know the requirements** for participating in the exam as specified in the Candidate Handbook, such as identification requirements and security requirements.

Knowing this information will help you avoid problems with obtaining a test date prior to the close of your one-year window, or being turned away at the test site due to noncompliance with the testing vendor’s requirements.

- **Submit your Request for Initial License Issuance in a timely manner.** If you fail to submit this request (including the initial license fee) within one year after notification by the Board of successful completion of examination requirements, your file will be closed. The applicant would have to reapply, and their experience hours would only count six years back from the new application date.

NEW STATE OF CALIFORNIA WEBSITE: MENTALHEALTH.CA.GOV

In May 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom announced a new state website offering life-saving resources, links to mental health support hotlines, and resources for all Californians—from youth and young adults, to older Californians, parents and families, veterans, and everyone in between: [Mentalhealth.ca.gov](https://www.mentalhealth.ca.gov). It also includes key information on California's behavioral health system transformation—accelerated by Proposition 1—and links to program and policy specifics.

On August 30, 2024, Governor Newsom unveiled a new slate of accountability tools on [mentalhealth.ca.gov](https://www.mentalhealth.ca.gov) to track progress on the implementation of Proposition 1 and other critical mental health and substance use initiatives to expand access to care and supportive housing. The website now features thermometers that will be continuously updated to show exactly how many new treatment slots are being built for outpatient visits, residential beds for inpatient treatment, permanent supportive housing units, and housing units for veterans.

The website also features new maps that show which counties have started **Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court**, an innovative program aimed at helping Californians with psychosis and schizophrenia. There are also separate maps to track which counties are implementing **reformed conservatorship laws** to support those unable to care for themselves.

HOLDING COUNTIES ACCOUNTABLE

The website features a new guide for Californians and local leaders that explains who to contact and what to ask to learn more about progress being made in your county. The guide can be found [here](#).

BIGGER PICTURE

California is transforming the behavioral health delivery system to improve access, accountability, transparency, and capacity of behavioral health care settings for Californians. This includes Proposition 1, which has two parts: a \$6.4 billion Behavioral Health Bond for treatment settings and housing with services, and historic reform of the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) to focus on people with the most serious illnesses, provide care to people with substance disorders, and support their housing needs.

RECENT UPDATES

In July, **Governor Newsom announced** the release of up to \$3.3 billion in competitive grant funding from Proposition 1 to expand the number of treatment facilities and beds for individuals experiencing mental health conditions and substance use disorders—with a particular focus on people who are most seriously ill, vulnerable, or homeless. The **Proposition 1 Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP)** round 1: Launch Ready **Request for Application (RFA)** is now live and applications are due to the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) on December 13, 2024. A second round of funding from Proposition 1 bonds (up to \$1.1 billion) will support even more behavioral health facilities in 2025.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR PROP. 1?

Up to \$2 billion in Proposition 1 funds to build permanent housing with onsite services for veterans and others who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and have mental health or substance use disorder challenges will be issued by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in collaboration with the California Department of Veterans Affairs. HCD is expected to provide guidance for potential grantees by late 2024.

Together, these rounds of bond funding will invest the voter-approved Proposition 1 \$6.4 billion in local communities by 2026 to build California's behavioral health care system and improve health and wellness for all.

Reforming the Mental Health Services Act into the Behavioral Health Services Act is the other half of Proposition 1. In early 2025, DHCS will issue guidance to counties about creating a single county plan for the use of all local behavioral health dollars. Counties will report on all local behavioral health needs, inequities, services, and outcomes. These new, united county plans go into effect July 1, 2026. The website features a new guide for Californians and local leaders that explains who to contact and what to ask to learn more about progress being made in your county. The guide can be found [here](#).

GET TO KNOW BBS STAFF MEMBERS



SHARI BRUNNER
Associate Clinical Social
Workers Lead Analyst

Tell us a little bit about yourself and your career journey so far:

I'm 36 years old and have been working for the state for three years. I started as a call center representative, then became the supervisor of the call center.

How did you become a part of the BBS?

I have always heard about how BBS was a great board to work for, so when I saw the SSA position, that was basically what I did at my supervisor job. I was also looking for a job where there was a constant workload.

What is your position at BBS and what does a day at the office look like for you?

My position here at BBS is the ASW Lead Analyst. I start my day off with responding to any emails that are in the ASW box. Then I will check through my deficiency folders to see if we've received any new documents from deficient applicants. Once all of that is complete, I evaluate and process applications for ASW registration.

What are the most interesting aspects of the work you do for BBS?

Every day is different here and I like that I always have something to do. I am still learning something new every day. My previous job did not use the statutes and regulations like BBS does, so it has been interesting to learn the laws and why we do things.

What is one thing that you wish more people knew about BBS?

I wish they knew that BreZEe is not a part of BBS but just a tool we use for our online applications. I receive a lot of emails that they are trying to put their license number on BreZEe, but it isn't letting them.

Who or what inspires you?

My friends and family inspire me. They have helped me to become a better version of myself. They believed in me even when I didn't believe in myself and make me a better person. I have always tried to set a good example for my nieces and nephews, to show them a good work ethic and what hard work can do for you.

What is one fun fact about you that few people know?

Even though I do not have any children I have volunteered at a nonprofit soccer organization for seven years. I also coach 6- and 7-year-olds, which can be exhausting, but I love watching them improve and knowing I have a part in that.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATE



Lorez Bailey Appointed

Welcome Lorez Bailey to the Board! Lorez was appointed by the Senate as a public member in June 2024. Lorez is an accomplished media professional and community advocate, most recently serving as publisher of the North Bay Business Journal. Known as “The Connector,” she excels in building professional networks and fostering collaboration. She was honored as Woman of the Year by U.S. Congressman Mike Thompson for her impactful work with Sonoma County students. Lorez holds degrees from Sacramento State University and Sonoma State University. She has led significant workforce development initiatives and served in leadership roles at Chop’s Teen Club and Social

Advocates for Youth. She is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and serves on several advisory boards in her community.

Chris Jones and Nick Boyd Reappointed

We are happy to announce that Chris Jones, licensed educational psychologist (LEP), and Nick Boyd, licensed professional clinical counselor, have had their terms extended until June 1, 2028. We look forward to their continued collaboration and the insightful contributions they bring to the team.

Board Chair and Vice Chair Reelected

Chris Jones, LEP, was reelected as the Board’s Chair, and Wendy Strack, public member, was reelected as the Board’s Vice Chair at the May 2024 Board meeting. We look forward to their continued work in these important leadership roles. Congratulations Chris and Wendy!

Goodbye to a Departing Board Member

We extend our deepest gratitude to Yvette “Yvie” Casares Willis, who served as a public Board member from February 3, 2021, to March 31, 2024. Yvie’s dedication and collaborative spirit greatly enhanced the Board’s work. Her contributions have been invaluable, and we are sincerely thankful for her service.

THE BOARD IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE NEW ROLES FOR TWO OF ITS STAFF MEMBERS



Syreeta Rizzo is the Board’s new Special Projects and Research Analyst. Syreeta was previously an analyst in the Board’s Consumer Complaint and Investigations unit. Syreeta said, “In my role as Special Projects and Research Analyst, some of my tasks involve researching topics affecting Board licensure and conducting

outreach efforts for the Board. So far, I’m enjoying my new role. I’m looking forward to expanding my knowledge with new experiences at BBS, from learning about the legislative and regulatory processes to navigating various research methods. I’m grateful to be part of the BBS team as I’m entering this new chapter in my state career.”



Tony Beasley is the Board’s new Administrative Analyst. Tony was previously an evaluator in the Board’s Marriage and Family Therapist Licensing unit. Tony said, “My role as an Administrative Analyst encompasses tech support for BreZE, social media, as well as handling purchasing and various

outreach activities. My goal is to bring a positive attitude and a strong work ethic to this position, aiming to be a productive asset for the Board.”



ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Citation and Fine—An administrative action used for minor violations. Citations and fines are public information but are not considered disciplinary action.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS April 1–July 31, 2024		
Name	License Number	Fine Amount
Paige E.P. Asawa	LMFT 31991	\$500
Jill Marie Bates	LPCC 1365	\$150
Joseph Nelson Christensen	LMFT 105970	\$500
Priscilla Chandwade Davey	LMFT 117169	\$150
Sherri K. Eason	LMFT 51402	\$1500
Mary Ann Fahlstrom	LMFT 47696	Citation no fine
Natalie Anne Hunter	LPCC 11052	\$300
Rowan Octavia Lommel	LMFT 130654	\$1200
Faith Grace Magdalena	LMFT 26060	\$300
Kelsi Marie Mc Martin	LMFT 49208	\$600
Rita Osoria	LMFT 97505	\$200
Scott Michael Shepherd	LCSW 14105	\$750
Christine Marie Waligora	LCSW 71708	\$150
Katy Renae Williams	ASW 100659	\$750
Jordanna Dawson Wood	LEP 3992	\$500

FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS APRIL 1–JULY 31, 2024

Select the individual's name for a link to more information.

Marco Antonio Alejandro II

AMFT 106606
Santa Clara

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: June 13, 2024

Nicole Marie Bertucci

LMFT 86248
Burlingame

UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Action: License surrendered
Effective: April 4, 2024

Stephanie Sheryel Casey

LMFT 86061
Temecula

FAILED TO COMPLY WITH PROBATION TERMS/CONDITIONS

Action: License revoked
Effective: June 13, 2024

Elizabeth Ann Eastlund

LCSW 24505
San Pedro

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License surrendered
Effective: June 13, 2024

Paul Ohnopee Chavez

LCSW 121834
Bishop

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: April 4, 2024

Andrew Jacob Godoy

LCSW 95370
Moreno Valley

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: June 13, 2024

Tamara E.D. Jackson

AMFT 99149
Stockton

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked
Effective: April 4, 2024

Saul Morales Jaime

ASW 121842
Santa Ysabel

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: April 4, 2024

Michael Aaron Kamins

LMFT 100384
Calabasas Hills

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License surrendered
Effective: June 13, 2024

Timothy John Keeley

LMFT 50879
Westminster

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ORDER TO COMPEL MENTAL AND/OR PHYSICAL EXAM

Action: License revoked
Effective: April 4, 2024

Joshua Sage Kendrick

LMFT 106469
Carpinteria

UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of four (4) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: April 4, 2024

Jerry Kith

ASW 93450
Oakland

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration surrendered
Effective: June 13, 2024

Jennifer Suzanne Knapp

LCSW 29753
San Jose

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: April 4, 2024

Giselle Isela Laguna

LCSW 105860
San Diego

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.
Effective: April 4, 2024

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FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS APRIL1–JULY 31, 2024

Julie Ann Longfellow

LCSW 121843
Crestline

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Jimmy Dario Maldonado

AMFT 146193/APCC 16240
Kerman

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registrations revoked, revocations stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Marc Melten

APCC 16750
Auburn

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: June 13, 2024

Mark Richard Needham

LCSW 22614
Rancho Palos Verdes

UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Action: License surrendered
Effective: April 4, 2024

Jennifer Lynn Pepper

LMFT 133601
Marina Del Rey

FAILED TO COMPLY WITH PROBATION TERMS/CONDITIONS

Action: Probation extended by eighteen (18) months.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Robert Reyes Perez

AMFT 116049
Lathrop

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Tiffany Leigh Petrzelka

AMFT 147380
Chula Vista

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: June 13, 2024

Marlen Pomposo

ASW 96255
Hawthorne

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Jasmine Rhodes

ASW 115314
Hawthorne

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked
Effective: April 4, 2024

Alexandra Shamma

AMFT 146194
San Diego

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Sylvia Maria Soriano

LCSW 90197
Baldwin Park

FAILED TO COMPLY WITH PROBATION TERMS/CONDITIONS

Action: Probation extended by one (1) year.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Jennifer Jane Talley

ASW 100478
Grass Valley

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Raina Marie Thomas

LMFT 147986
Roseville

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: License revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: July 11, 2024

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FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS APRIL-JULY 31, 2024

Michael K. Tonjum

LMFT 12988

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Santa Rosa

Action: License surrendered

Effective: June 13, 2024

Lisa Marie Torres

ASW 103184

Redding

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 4, 2024

Britt Corrine Vazac

AMFT 146198

Newport Beach

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTIONS

Action: Registration revoked, revocation stayed, and placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with terms and conditions.

Effective: April 4, 2024

RECOVERY TREK: THE BOARD'S NEW DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING VENDOR

As part of the disciplinary process, a licensee or registrant may be required to test periodically for the presence of drugs or alcohol as a term and condition of their probation. The Board transitioned to a new drug and alcohol testing vendor on September 3, 2024, following the expiration of our contract with Vault Health. As part of the process, DCA solicited bids to secure a testing service, with Recovery Trek emerging as the selected provider. Board staff have worked diligently to ensure a seamless transition for probationers, and 100% have successfully enrolled. Under the new contract, probationers will be able to perform remote blood tests when ordered. The Board is optimistic that this new partnership will continue to enhance public safety.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2024



Board of Behavioral Sciences

CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S-200
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 574-7830



2024 UPCOMING MEETING DATES

BOARD MEETINGS

November 14–15

Policy and Advocacy Committee

2025 Meeting Dates TBA

Workforce Development Committee

2025 Meeting Dates TBA

EVENTS TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

Suicide Prevention Month

OCTOBER

National Domestic Violence
Awareness Month

National Bullying Prevention Month

OCTOBER 2–8

Mental Illness Awareness Week

OCTOBER 10

World Mental Health Day

Please visit the Board's [2024 Board and Committee Meetings webpage](#) or sign up for the [email subscriber's list](#) for updates.

CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES