

The South Carolina Board of Social Work Examiners

Letter From President Rick Hepfer, LMSW

It's been a year and a half since the new Practice Act was signed into law. The new rules are in effect for newly licensed social workers, and the applications for conversion have been reviewed. Since the last issue, new Board members Carl Algood, LISW-CP, professor of social work at South Carolina State, and Marjorie Hammock, LISW-CP, professor of social work at Benedict College, have joined.



A few issues involved in implementing the new Act were addressed by the Board:

Throughout the Act, there were several references to "independent" practice and "private" practice of social work. It was decided by the Board that the terms had to be interchangeable within the Act for the conversion and the practice parts of the Act to be consistent.

Due to the way the new Act was passed, many licensees desired to obtain training in psychodiagnostics and psychopathology. This was difficult because, under the Act, the coursework has to be offered by a program accredited by an accrediting body for social work education. There was no such separate course, although some content could be demonstrated within existing curricula. Fortunately, several courses of this training were offered under the auspices of

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Message from Administrator Patti Glenn

1. The Social Work Board welcomed two new members appointed by Governor Jim Hodges in 2002. The new appointees are: Carl L. Algood, LISW-CP, of Orangeburg, who replaced Jane A. Anker, LISW-CP of Columbia, and Marjorie B. Hammock, LISW-CP, of Columbia, who replaced Karen P. Rembert, LMSW, of Charleston. All social workers should recognize these former Board members for their dedication and service to the Board. *We have learned, with regret, of the death of Karen P. Rembert, LMSW. The Board and Board staff extends its condolences to her family, friends and professional colleagues.*

2. The main thrust of our work has been implementing the new statute requirements. Staff has been very busy answering questions from licensees regarding the new statute requirements and conversion process, revising applications and forms so that they are in

compliance with new statute requirements, preparing conversion applications for Board members' review, and preparing for an increased number of Board meetings regarding implementation of the new statute. By now, all of the conversion applications have been reviewed by the Board and staff has corresponded to the hundreds of conversion applicants.

3. **New Changes in Board Policy:**

(A) Students may be allowed to take the basic or intermediate exam prior to receipt of their BSW/MSW degrees if they are in the final semester of their social work program and have a letter from the Dean of their social work program to verify that information. The exam is only one component of the application package, and the license will not be issued until the Board is in receipt of their completed application package including



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Release of Confidential Patient Information

Confidential patient information disclosures are governed by §19-11-95 (D)(1). This section of the law requires disclosure "when required by statutory law or by court order." Subpoenas from attorneys in civil litigation are conspicuously absent from the list and, therefore, should not be honored by practioners who receive

them. If the attorney wants the information, then he/she will have to go to the judge to obtain a court order, as provided by §19-11-95, before a practioner may lawfully be required to make the necessary disclosure.

2003 Board Members

Richard G. Hepfer, LMSW
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Vice President
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Carl L. Algood, LISW-CP
(803) 533-3989

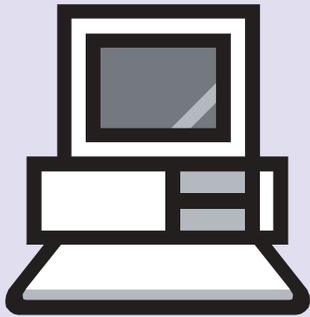
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Public Member
Vacant

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Disciplinary Actions

During the 2002-2003 fiscal year (beginning July 2, 2002), the Board of Social Work and its staff received and processed 23 new complaints against licensees.

The results of the investigation of those complaints are as follows:

- One complaint form was not completed sufficiently to allow an investigation.
- Two complaints were dismissed after full investigations revealed that there were no violations of the Social Work Practice Act or of the Code of Professional Conduct.
- One complaint was found to be outside the jurisdiction of the Board of Social Work and was referred to another state agency.
- Fourteen complaints are on going and under continued investigation by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.
- One complaint was dismissed with an accompanying Letter of Concern to the licensee. The licensee was cautioned concerning the need to identify and notify the client of any possible dual relationship, which could have interfered with the therapeutic relationship.
- One complaint was dismissed with an accompanying Letter of Concern to the licensee. The licensee was cautioned concerning the need for sensitivity to medical conditions and the need to make appropriate referrals for such conditions. In this case, the client exhibited "swallowing problems" and significant weight loss. The client was also taking

at least five psychiatric medications.

- On January 27, 2003, the Board voted to approve the voluntary surrender by Nancy Dallas, LISW, of her license to practice in South Carolina for a period of five years. The consent order was based upon the following allegations, which were denied by Dallas:
 1. During the period of June 1995 to September 1996, Dallas engaged in a social worker-client relationship with a minor female at the request of the child's grandmother and incident to a custody action brought by the grandmother against the mother. The grandmother was the custodial guardian of the minor client and of her sister. In November and December of 1996, Dallas babysat for the client's sister on several occasions. In December 1996, Dallas took custody of the sister. In 1997, the child was returned to the grandmother for a period before Dallas again assumed custody. In 1998, Dallas adopted the client's sister.
 2. Dallas received information, which could have been determined to constitute abuse or neglect of minor children in a second case, but failed to make efforts to follow up or document the events. She did not file a report of abuse or neglect.
 3. Dallas maintained incomplete records concerning the treatment of the minor children in the above case. The records did not

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Did the Board of Social Work go to a biennial renewal? When do I renew my license?

A. Yes. Licensees will renew every two years. Licensees will not renew their license this year but will renew by the renewal deadline of December 31, 2004.

Q. I have not been able to take time away from work to attend C.E. workshops. Can you help?

A. There are many home study courses approved by the Board and available on the Internet or audio/video cassettes (also, see this newsletter for a listing).

Q. Are students allowed to take the basic or intermediate exam prior to graduation?

A. Yes. Students may be allowed to take the basic or intermediate exam prior to receipt of their BSW/MSW degrees if they are in the final semester of their social work program and have a letter from the Dean of their social work program to verify that information. The exam is only one component of the application package, and the license will not be issued until the Board is in receipt of the completed application package; including passing exam score and transcript with degree reflected on it.

Q. Must I have a social work degree to be licensed as a social worker?

A. Yes. Graduation from an accredited program is a requirement for licensure. Persons who have degrees in sociology, psychology or related disciplines and who are interested in practice as a social worker are encouraged to contact one of the accredited programs in this state. Many courses from those degree programs may transfer to a social work degree.

Q. How do I become an approved LISW supervisor?

A. To become an approved supervisor, one must first be a Licensed Independent Social Worker, CP or AP and have a minimum of 4,500 hours of clinical/advanced practice earned over a period of not less than three years beyond receipt of LISW CP/AP and have obtained 45 academic coursework or continuing education hours in supervision. The Consortium of Social Work Educators is providing the supervision course. Contact Dr. Kuhn at (803) 252-8397 for information.

Q. Can a Licensed Masters Social Worker, who is under Board-approved LISW supervision, accept additional or changed duties or modify his/her area of practice during the period of supervision?

A. The LMSW may accept additional or changed duties so long as those duties fall within the defined scope of practice for which supervision was approved. Supervision is required for both LISW-CP and LISW-AP. Supervision of clinical practice does not qualify an applicant for LISW-AP. Similarly supervision of advanced practice does not qualify an applicant for LISW-CP. However, the applicant may take on a variety of clinical or advanced practice duties during the time of supervision.



2003-2004 Board Meeting Dates

November 17, 2003
 January 26, 2004
 March 22, 2004
 May 24, 2004
 September 20, 2004
 November 15, 2004

License Statistics

Current # of Licensees

LBSW	1,327
LMSW	1,815
LISW	86
LISW-CP	692
LISW-AP	46
TOTAL	3,966

Current # of Applicants

LBSW	147
LMSW	314
LISW	302
TOTAL	763

ASWB Test Results July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003

BASIC

Pass – 36 Fail – 30

INTERMEDIATE

Pass – 188 Fail – 100

CLINICAL

Pass – 68 Fail – 27

ADVANCED

Pass – 2 Fail – 2

Columbia Attorney Youmans Named LLR Director

Adrienne Riggins Youmans, a Columbia attorney, is the new director of the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. Governor Mark Sanford appointed her to the post in January, and the South Carolina State Senate confirmed her appointment on Feb. 20, 2003.

“Worker safety is a top priority for this administration, and I am going to work to insure that the state OSHA plan is fully funded,” she said.

South Carolina was the first state to receive approval from the U.S. Department of Labor in 1973 to administer its own OSHA program, she noted, and the state has successfully administered the plan for more than 30 years.

“Governor Sanford and I realize that having a state-run OSHA plan is very important to the South Carolina business community,” she said. “Businesses encouraged the state in 1973 to seek approval of a state-administered program, and they have supported the program since that time. I want businesses to know that this administration fully supports a South Carolina-run OSHA plan, and we will do everything necessary to insure its continuation.”

Youmans is no stranger to the Department of LLR. She was the agency’s first deputy director for the Division of

Professional and Occupational Licensing from 1994 to 2000, following restructuring of state government and the creation of LLR by the state legislature in 1993.

She earned a bachelor of arts degree from Virginia State University and a master’s in human resource management from Pepperdine University. She attended the University of South Carolina where she received a Juris Doctorate degree.

During her military service, Youmans served as an executive officer and human resource manager for the United States Army at Fort Jackson. Her responsibilities included on-the-job safety and health.

From 1984 to 1994, she was the assistant division director for the Division of General Services in the South Carolina Budget and Control Board.

From 2000 until her appointment to head the Department of LLR, she was the senior assistant general counsel for the South Carolina Department of Public Safety.

Her public service activities have included membership on the Richland School District Two Strategic Planning Committee and Superintendent Selection Committee. She has been an active volunteer in the schools attended by her daughter and son.

2002 SOUTH CAROLINA PASS/FAIL RATES				2002 NATIONAL PASS/FAIL RATES			
EXAM CATEGORY GROUP TYPE	TOTAL # OF CANDIDATES	PASS RATE		EXAM CATEGORY GROUP TYPE	TOTAL # OF CANDIDATES	PASS RATE	
		NUMBER	PERCENTAGE			NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
BASIC				BASIC			
1ST TIME	41	23	56.1	1ST TIME	3961	3322	83.9
REPEAT	16	5	31.3	REPEAT	730	280	38.4
TOTAL	57	28	49.1	TOTAL	4691	3602	76.8
INTERMEDIATE				INTERMEDIATE			
1ST TIME	134	93	69.4	1ST TIME	7161	5660	79
REPEAT	48	16	33.3	REPEAT	2128	851	40
TOTAL	182	109	59.9	TOTAL	9289	6511	70.1
ADVANCED				ADVANCED			
1ST TIME	1	0	0	1ST TIME	156	106	67.9
REPEAT	2	1	50.0	REPEAT	53	16	30.2
TOTAL	3	1	33.3	TOTAL	209	122	58.4
CLINICAL				CLINICAL			
1ST TIME	48	42	87.5	1ST TIME	6207	4540	73.1
REPEAT	9	1	11.1	REPEAT	2299	864	37.6
TOTAL	57	43	75.4	TOTAL	8506	5404	63.5
TOTAL	299	181	60.5	TOTAL	22,984	15,819	68.8

Newly Licensed Social Workers July 2002 - June 2003

LBSWs

Janet Lynn Allen
 Meredith Canty Anderson
 Hollye H. Ansell
 Tora Coleman Armstrong
 Edna L.A. Black
 Mary Lou Brown
 Janie M. Brown
 Elizabeth Kauffman Brown
 Sandra Faye Brown-Wright
 Lesley Nicole Burgin
 Lisa L Cook
 Sonia A. Crisp
 Joyce A Ford
 Susan A Goetcheus
 Alicia Kay Howell
 Pamela Annette Huber
 Erin Kelley Johnson
 Stephen Alexander Jones
 Alan D Kerr
 Caron Marjorie Kirkpatrick
 Myretta Hickson Lane
 Lynnette M LaVoy
 Shea Deyan Lowry
 Dana R Madanski
 Karen S Malson
 Harvey L Massengale
 Latoshia Veenell McKinney
 Tracy Metge
 Velvin D Miles
 Alisa La'Shaun Nichols
 Barbara Paul
 Julieann Hennessy Pesce
 Lynn Lollis Riddle
 Shelley Lynn Rohrbaugh
 Stephanie Belue Russell
 Denise E Schwenk
 Erica Anne Staab
 Shannon Burlington Stokes
 Christina Chante Strickland
 Ella M. Timmons
 Derek Michael Toth
 Churise Shauntay Turner
 Stacey Lynn Werner
 Horace Wilson

LMSWs

Heidi Lorraine Allen
 Ellen V. Andersen
 Carol E.O. Anderson
 Henry Trott Barron
 Patsy Zetina Battle
 Disha EE' Lodus Benn
 Samicca Lashun Berry
 Michael A. Bloom
 Julia Todd Bolin
 Latasha S. Bomar
 Corri H. Bond
 Margaret G. Branham
 Solange Marie Brollier
 Jacquelyne Tilson Brooks
 Kathy Hickman Brown
 Mark Stanley Butkus
 Brandi Hardison Canfield
 Robert L. Carlton
 Mary Jacqueline Carroll

Anita Michele Case
 P. Ann Case
 Nicole Marie Cavanagh
 Greshan Alexander Charlton
 Stephen Paul Chasteen
 Connie Marie Chisolm
 Phyllis Heaton Cochrane
 Shawnta Denise Cohen
 Carol L. Conway
 Stephanie Helbeck Cornfield
 L. Colleen Crafton
 Tania Marie DeMaggio
 Lori Ann DePace
 Emily Love Dilworth
 Katherine Covington DuBose
 Christina Lee Easler
 Karen M. English
 John Edward Epps
 Brenda Ann Evans
 Kristin Shinn Faulkner
 Cassandra E. Fischer
 Sally E. Foster-Brannon
 Mary D. Francis
 Martha B. Fry
 Andrea Elizabeth Gantt
 Marisa D. Glover
 Donald Case Gorrell
 Alison Goslee
 Felicia Eleanor Grant
 Stephanie F. Greene
 Tiffany Jeanine Greene
 Amber Megan Hilton Gregory
 Rachel L. Halka
 Shannon Rae Hammond
 Diana Robinson Hansen
 Muhammad A. Harisuddin
 Deborah Jeanne Harnish
 Melanee Loraine Harwell-
 Taylor
 Polly Suzette Hawkins
 Shannon Lenora Hazelton
 Carrie Heldman
 Latasha Rene High
 Jennifer Elaine Hipp
 Amanda Lynn Hood
 Darlene Hood-Johnson
 LaTonia McKissick Hopper
 R. Nythosia Hudson-Snipes
 Leslie Hull-Kimball
 Kathleen Rouse Hunter
 Christina Gloria Hutchinson
 Kandice Kathleen Hyatt
 James Arthur Jenkins
 Stacy Black Jones
 Margaret Jill Jones
 Patricia R. Kelly
 April Joy Kerr
 Joyce Elizabeth Kirchman
 Deborah Ann Klick
 Mary Katharine Kresser
 Kelly Lynn Larkins
 Karyn C. Lee
 Laurie Elizabeth LeGrand
 Eunice Kuring Lehmacher
 Ewa Letki
 Krista Nicole Lewis

Shannon N. Linton
 Christine Mulamba Lunda
 Carl D. Maas
 Stephen Ralph Mauriello
 Sharon Tyler McGee
 Sherta LaRue McIver
 Melanie Salynn McKie
 Catherine Elizabeth Meek
 Robyn Bailey Mekow
 Sandra L. Miller
 Erin M. Mills
 Amy Kathleen Butler Mitchell
 Danielle Mozie
 Tina Maria Nelson
 Eileen Ross Newman
 Rebecca Ilyse Nussbaum
 Heidi Jenea Osburn
 Meredith Ellen Pate
 Anna Adair Patterson
 Amber L. Pennington
 Laura Christine Percy
 Jorge Antonio Perdomo
 Heather Bratt Phelps
 Gary Lee Pinkerton
 Renee G. Reagan
 Brian A. Reed
 Todd Emanuel Reynolds
 Angela Denise Reynolds
 Addison Ronald Richardson
 Frances White Ricks
 Joyce A. Rinzel
 Hayward B. Roberts
 Molly Kathryn Robertson
 Alice Marie Comeaux Robin
 Sylvia J. Rogers
 Shannon Marie Rogers
 James Stott Rosenberger
 Brenda Jean Lawrence Ross
 Judith Rorex Russell
 Leslie Lynn Russell
 Monica Huskey Sanders
 Janel R. Saurborn
 Beth Ann Schmitt
 Gayle Ashe Schreyer
 Cheryl Anne Schumpert
 Sarah Elizabeth Schuster
 Elizabeth C. Shealy
 Gayle Bockman Shellenberg
 Natasha Allison Simeon
 Jennifer Wood Simon
 Sabrina Lea Sims-Kredich
 Katherine Frances Sippel
 Michelle Ali Smith
 Christie Stella Smith
 Vicki Lynn Smorhay
 Thomas Dalton Snipes
 Jennifer L. Stallard
 Jennifer Lynn Stewart
 Benita Kristen Stoddard
 Anne Lea Suleski
 Jennifer Leigh Sullivan
 Jodi M. Sumpter
 Mary E. Taylor
 John Thomas Taylor
 Robert Christopher Taylor
 Joel Andrew Ternes

Marcy N. Thomas
 Alexandra Guignard
 Thompson
 Jacqueline Darby Thompson
 Linda Lee Thompson
 Stephanie Nodine Thompson
 Tina Lowe Tolson
 Sari Amanda Travis
 Erin D. Turner
 Lucille Rosenberger Tyson
 Jill Marie Vermillion
 Katherine Elaine Walter
 Katherine Elizabeth Watts
 Sarah Nichole Weeks
 Angelique Sheree Whitmire
 Lisa Matthews Wigfall
 Jamie Michelle Wiles-Smith
 Renee' LaChele Williams
 Sarah Anne Wilson
 Griffin Dawn Witte
 Ashley Mitchell Wright
 Shin Won Yun
 Priscilla B. Zanker
 Kris Zdechlik

LISW-APs

Teresa Lipscomb
 John Thomas Mullen
 Lucinda M. Tyo

LISW-CPs

Judith Alexander
 Aretha Neicole Allison
 George Appenzeller
 Deborah B. Bailey
 Kathleen Rolfs Barr
 Terry J. Blum Haas
 Carleen S. Britton
 Carolyn L. Burke
 Patrick W. Butler
 Maureen Butterworth
 Elizabeth Ann Carbonneau
 Arlene Carper
 Rebecca L. Cartright
 Dan Catoe
 Melinda Hoilman Clontz
 Erin Elizabeth Cobb
 Janet D. Cochran
 Ramelle T. Coker
 Nicholas Cooper-Lewter
 Melissa Lorick Craft
 Elizabeth Crosland-Minnis
 Jennifer A. DeHoff
 James Patrick Donovan
 Sister Mary Jean Doyle
 Sarah Jean Edwards
 Leah Rebecca Eichelbaum
 Carole Berry Elliott
 Ruth Strait Ellis
 Renda Kay Faulkenberry
 Sandra Lea Fehrman
 Beverly Jean Firmin
 Marilyn Gora Fong
 Amy A. Frain
 Marcia Brandt Frezza

Donald Godbey
 Kathy Greene
 Genice E. Hall-Summers
 Peggy Webb Hamrick
 Pamela Harrison
 Katharine Meriwether Hartley
 Tonya Hart-Strickland
 Lynne Miller Harvel
 Jacqueline F. Hillesland
 Mary Horton
 JoAnn Marie Inglut
 Anna Williams Johnson
 Michelle Holloman Jones
 Alan Edward Jones
 Jolie Glassman Kerenick
 Jonathan Nelson Kessler
 Carol Kitson-Jongenburger
 Debra Lee Knight
 Salley Lesley
 Ann Elizabeth Lichliter
 Sadye L.M. Logan
 Adrienne Nikisha Logan
 Susan Van Lear Logan
 Brigit Luper Mancini
 Della T. Marshall
 Lorry G. May
 Lara Kennedy Mayers
 Jane Ann McLean
 Rebecca Zerby Moise
 Bonnie Mooney
 Shannon Michelle.Morales
 John.W. Ollis
 David Beach Orvin
 Robert Jay Palmer
 Karen Pearson
 Donna Alexis Pietrewicz
 Mary Lou Pittman
 Nancy Donovan Reed
 Tracey Lynn Reyes
 Patricia C. Riordan
 Patsy Robinson
 Pamela Demosthenes Rustin
 Stephen Joseph Scoff
 Barbara Moore Scott
 Jacquelyn Melinda Skinner-
 Johnson
 Lisa Smith Snyder
 Sima H. Stillings
 Penni Ann Sutton
 Sharon B. Taylor
 Andrea L. Thomas
 William E. Thompson
 Anne Osborne Tibbals
 Georgia Yearwood Tiessen
 Carlos Miguel Torres
 John A. Ulrich
 John Barrington Vance
 Jane B. Venable
 Pamela Marie Wallace
 Linda Elaine Weinbaum
 Jenne Lee Wietecha
 Suzanne Waltman Wu
 Julia DeBruhl Yungman

Disciplinary Actions, *continued from page 2*

reflect the nature or extent of services provided. Some entries were not legible, dated nor signed. The records did not show the type of therapy, the time spent in session, nor who was present at the session.

- On May 19, 2003, the Board voted to approve a voluntary surrender of licensure for a period of one year by Kay White-Drakeford, LMSW. Reinstatement of her license at the end of that period is subject to the following conditions: (a) enroll and successfully complete a Board-approved graduate level course in ethics within 12 months of the order; (b) for a period of 12 months after reinstatement, limit her practice to Board-approved settings which provide multilevel supervision of her activities and quarterly reports by her supervisor of her progress and (c) an appearance before the Board at the conclusion of the period of supervision for the purpose of determining whether she shall be permitted to practice without restriction. The consent to surrender licensure was based upon the following admitted facts.

1. During her employment at DJJ, White-Drakeford provided social work services to a male adolescent.

2. She was aware of inappropriate transference by the adolescent.
3. She telephoned, visited the adolescent at home and consulted with him alone, knowing that he harbored inappropriate affectionate feelings for her.

- On June 12, 2003, the Board issued a Cease and Desist order to Lisa M. Hines for engaging in the practice of social work without first being duly licensed as required by law.

Seven Investigations from fiscal year 2001-2002 resulted in the following:

- Four investigations resulted in Formal Accusations issued to four licensees. These Formal Accusations will result in administrative hearings before the Board unless the licensees negotiate consent orders for Board consideration.
- On September 16, 2002, the Board voted to approve the "Consent Agreement" signed by Glendolyn Harrison, LISW. Harrison received a Public Reprimand for failure to seek a transfer or referral for a minor patient incident to the untimely closing of her practice.
- On November 13, 2002, the Board voted to approve a "Consent Order" signed by Lynne Ravenel, LISW. Ravenel

admitted that between February and May of 2002, she engaged in conduct, which constituted the practice of social work as defined at S.C. Code Ann. §40-63-60 during a period in which her license was lapsed. In addition to accepting a Public Reprimand, Ravenel agreed to complete eight hours of Board-approved continuing education courses in ethics and to pay a fine of \$250.

- On May 19, 2002, the Board voted to approve a "Consent Order" signed by Lydia Scruggs, LMSW. Scruggs admitted failure to keep proper clinical notes over a four-year period and that on three separate occasions she dispensed medication without a doctor's authorization. The Board noted that during this period she had a very heavy caseload and that the clinic practices may have suggested that dispensing medication was approved. In addition to accepting a Public Reprimand, Scruggs agreed to complete six hours of a Board-approved course in record keeping and to pay a fine of \$500.

Administrator, *continued from page 1*

passing exam scores and transcript with degree reflected on it.

(B) In December 2003, Board staff will send out LISW supervisor applications to all LISW-CPs and APs. Staff will then be able to formulate a list of pre-approved supervisors for applicants seeking to find an approved supervisor to provide LISW CP/AP supervision.

An LISW-CP and/or AP can qualify as an approved LISW CP/AP supervisor in one of three ways as established in Chapter 63:

1) New LISW CPs or APs must meet statute requirements of 40-63-240(C)(D).

- be a Licensed Independent Social Worker – Clinical or Advanced Practice;
- have successfully passed an examination prescribed by the Board;
- have a minimum of 4,500 hours of clinical or advanced practice earned over a period of not less than three years beyond receipt of an LISW-CP or LISW-AP;
- have obtained 45 academic contact hours or 45 continuing education contact hours in supervision.

or

2) Prior to March 12, 2002, LISWs who had already passed the clinical/advanced exam with at least three years practice as an LISW would immediately qualify to be an approved LISW CP/AP supervisor per the requirements in Chapter 63, Section 2(A)(1)

or

3) Prior to March 12, 2002, LISWs with at least 13 years of practice as an LISW may submit their qualifications for evaluation and determination by the Board to be an approved clinical or advanced supervisor per the requirements in Chapter 63, Section 2(A)(2).

If you are an LISW-CP/AP and meet the requirements outlined above and want to become an approved LISW supervisor, you will be asked to complete an LISW supervisor application and submit it to the Board.

(4) Our area is next in line to be upgraded to the new computer system at LLR. By next year we will be up and running on the new system, which will expand capabilities and provide more advantages for licensees.

(5) The biennial renewal went well last renewal period. Licensees will not renew this year but will be required to renew their licenses by the deadline of December 31, 2004. Please make sure you keep the office updated with change of address or name changes.

President, *continued from page 1*

accredited South Carolina social work schools. In addition, Carl and Marj spent hours evaluating course content from those with out of state degrees.

Quite a few individuals, based on their years of traditional social work practice and experience in both areas, elected to apply for dual certification in advanced and clinical practice. This seems clearly allowed under the Act, and the Board did not believe that this would in any way diminish the overall competence of the practice or supervisory pool.

The new Act does not provide for temporary licensure. In the past, a considerable period of time would pass between graduation and taking and getting the results of the test for licensure. Without a temporary license provision, agencies could not provide social work services by new graduates in the interim. The Board and the Board staff, through contact with the testing organization, were able to shorten this time by allowing students to take the test at the end of their last year of study and receive a license upon graduation if the other criteria were also met.

Any piece of legislation ends up as a compromise. No doubt, over the years, the practice Act will be amended, revised and improved. The goal of the licensing Board, and of the profession, must be to improve the competence and professionalism of those who offer social work to South Carolinians. Other professions will take an interest in future developments as they took an interest in the 2002 Act. That is as it should be, and the interest should be welcome. Nevertheless, will social workers not ultimately be responsible for defining a uniquely social work approach and for always improving the profession's ability to practice it?

S.C. Statute on Confidentiality Pertaining to Social Workers

Reprinted by Request

Act No. 163(R249,H3599)

Introduced by Judiciary Committee; AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 19-11-95 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT CONFIDENCES OF A PATIENT IN THE COURSE OF DIAGNOSIS OR TREATMENT OF A MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL CONDITION MAY NOT BE REVEALED BY PROVIDERS, AS DEFINED BY THIS ACT, SUBJECT TO EXCEPTIONS, TO PROVIDE IF DISCLOSURE IS MADE BY AUTHORITY OF SOME OF THE EXCEPTIONS, THE SAME DEGREE OF CONFIDENTIALITY APPLIES TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE DISCLOSURE AS APPLIES TO THE PROVIDER, AND TO ALLOW A CAUSE OF ACTION FOR VIOLATION OF THE SECTION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina: Confidences of patients of mental illness or emotional conditions

SECTION 1. The 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 19-11-95.

(A) For purposes of this section:

(1) ‘Provider’ means a person licensed under the provisions of any of the following and who enters into a relationship with a patient to provide diagnosis, counseling, or treatment of a mental illness or emotional condition:

(a) Chapter 55 of Title 40;

(b) Chapter 75 of Title 40;

(c) Section 40-63-70 as a licensed master social worker or a licensed independent social worker;

(d) Section 40-33-10 as a registered nurse who meets the requirements of a clinical nurse specialist and who works in the field of mental health.

(2) ‘Patient’ means a person who consults or is interviewed by a provider to diagnose, counsel, or treat a mental illness or emotional condition as authorized in item (A)(1) of this section.

(3) ‘Confidence’ is a private communication between a patient and a provider or information given to a

provider in the patient-provider relationship.

(4) ‘Written authorization after disclosure,’ or a similar phrase, includes an authorization in the application or claims procedure of an insurer or a person providing a plan of benefits.

(5) ‘Mental illness or emotional condition’ is defined consistent with accepted diagnostic practices.

(B) Except when permitted or required by statutory or other law, a provider knowingly may not:

(1) reveal a confidence of his patient;

(2) use a confidence of his patient to the disadvantage of the patient;

(3) use a confidence of his patient for the advantage of himself or of a third person, unless the patient gives written authorization after disclosure to him of what confidence is to be used and how it is to be used.

(C) A provider may reveal:

(1) confidences with the written authorization of the patient or patients affected, but only after disclosure to them of what confidences are to be revealed and to whom they will be revealed;

(2) confidences when allowed by statute or other law;

(3) the intention of the patient to commit a crime or harm himself and the information necessary to prevent the crime or harm;

(4) confidences reasonably necessary to establish or collect his fee or to defend himself or his employees against an accusation of wrongful conduct;

(5) in the course of diagnosis, counseling, or treatment, confidences necessary to promote care within the generally recognized and accepted standards, practices, and procedures of the provider’s profession;

(6) confidences in proceedings conducted in accord with Sections 40-71-10 and 40-71-20;

(7) confidences with the written authorization of the patient or patients affected for processing their health insurance claims, but only after disclosure

to them of what confidences are to be revealed and to whom they will be revealed.

(D) A provider shall reveal:

(1) confidences when required by statutory law or by court order for good cause shown to the extent that the patient’s care and treatment or the nature and extent of his mental illness or emotional condition are reasonably at issue in a proceeding; provided, however, confidences revealed shall not be used as evidence of grounds for divorce;

(2) confidences pursuant to a lawfully issued subpoena by a duly constituted professional licensing or disciplinary board or panel;

(3) confidences when an investigation, trial, hearing, or other proceeding by a professional licensing or disciplinary board or panel involves the question of granting a professional license or the possible revocation, suspension, or other limitation of a professional license.

(E) A disclosure pursuant to subsection (C) or (D) is limited to the information and the recipients necessary to accomplish the purpose of the subsection permitting the disclosure.

(F) A person to whom a disclosure is made pursuant to subsections (C) (1), (5) and (7), an employee to whom a disclosure is made pursuant to subsection (G), and any other person to whom a confidence, written or oral, is disclosed by a provider are bound by the same duty of confidentiality as the provider from whom he received the information.

(G) A provider shall exercise reasonable care to prevent his employees, associates, and others whose services are utilized by him from disclosing or using confidences of a patient, except that a provider may reveal the information allowed by

See *Confidentiality* on page 9

Required Coursework for LISW CP/AP Applicants

Under the auspices of the SCNASW, South Carolina Social Work Education Programs have been actively working to improve both social work practice and education in our state. In response to the needs of the recent changes in the South Carolina social work licensure requirements the social work educators have formed the South Carolina Consortium of Social Work Educators (SCCSWE). The Consortium represents all of the social work education programs in South Carolina. These include: Benedict College, Coker College, Columbia College, Limestone College, SC State University, College of Social Work, University of South Carolina, and Winthrop University.

The Continuing Education Program of the College of Social Work-USC will coordinate the efforts of Consortium members to provide the required social work educational contact hours for both LISW applicants and LISW supervisors in the following areas:

- Social Work Ethics – 15 academic contact hour course
- Psychopathology – 45 academic contact hour course
- Psycho-diagnostics – 45 academic contact hour course
- Social Work Supervision – 45 academic contact hour course

The consortium feels strongly about licensure and to that end uses only S.C. LISW-AP & CP licensed, tenure track, full-time and/or retired social work faculty to teach the classes.

Confidentiality, *continued from page 8*

subsections (C) and (D) through an employee.

(H) A provider releasing a confidence under the written authorization of the patient or under the provisions of this section is not liable to the patient or other person for release of the confidence to the person authorized to receive it; provided, however, a patient has a cause of action for damages against a provider, associate, agent, employee, or any other person who intentionally, willfully, or with gross negligence violates the provisions of this section.

(I) Nothing in this section alters the existing requirements of non providers to preserve confidences or the requirements of providers subject to Sections 44-23-1090 and 44-52-190. Time effective SECTION 2. This act takes effect six months after approval by the Governor. Approved the 8th day of June 1989.

Licensee Look-up

The public is now able to verify licenses on the "Licensee Look-up" on our Web site at www.llr.state.sc.us. Interested parties will also be able to verify license renewals and expiration dates at the end of the renewal period. The information is continually updated every 24 hours. By using the licensee look-up, employers, insurance companies, hospitals and the public will have instant access to licensees' renewal information, licensees' expiration dates and disciplinary actions.



One more course is scheduled this year:

Ethics Columbia (Nov 12)

The Consortium will be posting the spring 2004 schedule in late October 2003. It will be posted on the S.C. Board of Social Work Examiners Web site and included in NASW Chapter newsletters.

The Consortium is committed to taking the courses across the state and will schedule a class anywhere in the state for a minimum of 12 participants. Based on comments from course participants, the Consortium suggests that all LMSWs carefully review their practice status to make sure that they are not going to be impacted by the changes in the law regarding Independent Practice. LMSWs should be proactive and verify their status to avoid difficulties and disruptions in services to their clients.



Continuing Education: Approved Home Study C.E.

All licensees must maintain their own record and documentation of continuing education for three years. The Board will not maintain continuing education files for licensees. The licensee should only send continuing education certificates to the Board if he/she has been selected for mandatory audit.

The Board conducts the random audit annually, at which time selected licensees must provide individual records and verification of completed continuing education documentation and certificates.

If you happen to be one of those licensees who cannot seem to find the time away from work to attend continuing education seminars or your work does not provide continuing education for you, there are "at-home" continuing education programs available. You may contact any of the following for "at-home" or Internet continuing education information:

ASWB:	1-800-225-6880 or www.aswb.org
On Good Authority:	1-800-835-9636
Healthcare Training Institute:	1-812-332-1366
PRIMEDIA Healthcare:	1-800-624-2272
Psycho Educational Resources:	1-800-892-9249
Medical Update	1-888-359-9600 or www.athome.medicalupdate.com

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Recently Moved Or Had A Name Change?

Have you recently moved or had a name change, and you're not quite sure what the Board office needs from you?

If you have recently moved, you need to notify the Board office in writing of your new address. You may contact the Board office with this information by fax, mail or e-mail. However, it is important that you contact the Board office as soon as possible, so that we can ensure proper delivery of your renewal form.

If you've recently had a name change, the Board office needs a copy of your legal document (marriage certificate, court document, driver's license, etc..) showing your name change. If you have any questions on this process, please contact the Board office.

Phone number: (803) 896-4665
Fax number: (803) 896-4687
E-mail: croomh@llr.sc.gov

Address: SC Board of Social Work Examiners
P.O. Box 11329
Columbia, SC 29211-1329