

BEHAVIOR ANALYST COMMITTEE

Minutes
July 21, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Ms. Jesseca Hartman called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. in Room W064 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, and virtually/electronically through Zoom and declared a quorum in accordance with Indiana Code § 15-5-1.1-6(c).

Board Members Present:

Jesseca Hartman, BCBA, Chair
Dr. Jill Forte, Ph.D., BCBA
Leila Allen, BCBA
Dr. Richard Turner, M.D.

Board Members Not Present:

Vacant, Consumer Member

State Officials Present:

Cindy Vaught, Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency
Dana Brooks, Assistant Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency
Adam Harvey, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended.

Forte/Turner
Motion carried 4-0-0

III. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes of June 16, 2025.

Allen/Forte
Motion carried 4-0-0

IV. PERSONAL APPEARANCE

A. Dalton Hicks (LBA)

Mr. Hicks appeared as requested to discuss his background. He provided a statement and supporting documents for the Committee to review. He stated he completed a pre-trial diversion agreement seven years ago when he was “young and dumb.” He

discussed with the Committee his professional development, and that it was an isolated incident.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Mr. Hicks' application for behavior analyst licensure.

Turner/Forte
Motion carried 4-0-0

B. Keather Kent (LBA)

Ms. Kent appeared as requested to discuss her previous employment termination. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Committee to review. She discussed the personal stresses she was managing at the time and reported to the BACB. Ms. Kent stated that the BACB completed their investigation and closed the matter with no action for her to complete.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Kent's application for behavior analyst licensure.

Turner/Allen
Motion carried 4-0-0

C. Sami Knoll (LBA)

Ms. Knoll appeared as requested to discuss her background. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Committee to review. She stated that she has been sober for the past six years and has had no negative reports while she has been employed. She stated that she does not attend AA but does have follow-up therapy appointments as needed. She discussed her self-care routine with the Committee.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Knoll's application for behavior analyst licensure.

Hartman/Turner
Motion carried 4-0-0

D. Jayden York (LBA)

Mr. York appeared as requested to discuss his background. He provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Committee to review. He discussed the circumstances that led to his DUI, and the high stress he was handling. Mr. York stated that he completed all requirements for the court, including a substance abuse evaluation. He indicated that he had read the BCBA handbook, and as the incident was isolated, he did not have to report his first offense. Mr. York stated that he will complete his court supervision by June of 2026.

Board Action: A motion was made to approve Mr. York’s application for licensure on probation for the duration of the court supervision.

Allen/

Motion died with no second.

Mr. York stated that he is currently employed and discussed his coping strategies including personal therapy. The Committee discussed precedence for similar cases going forward.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Mr. York’s application for behavior analyst licensure.

Allen/Turner

Motion carried 4-0-0

V. DISCUSSION

A. Renewal of License

Ms. Vaught stated that IPLA did receive confirmation that the renewal fees for the December 2025 renewal will be waived. She also stated that those who appeared before the Committee regarding employment terminations and arrests for their license will not need to appear for their license renewal unless there has been a new incident since the issuance of their license. She indicated those reviews can be completed “in house.”

B. BCBA Licensure

Ms. Vaught stated that IPLA has received email correspondence from universities inquiring if faculty members are required to hold a license. The Committee inquired how other professions handle the question. Ms. Vaught indicated that it depends on the profession, and their laws. She stated that some professions have licensure exemption language in their statute for faculty members, but there is no language in the behavior analyst laws. Mr. Harvey stated that the role of the Committee is for protection of the public, and that while there is no expressly listed language, they must discuss this situation thoroughly with that goal in mind. The Committee discussed the roles that faculty members play per the standards of the university, and if faculty members are required to hold board certification. Dr. Turner provided an overview of what is required for the Medical Board, and that people (i.e. the public) would want their doctors trained by someone who holds a license and board certification. Ms. Hartman stated that she understands that it might be considered nuisance to obtain their license. The Committee agreed that it can become a “slippery slope” of license exemption, and that a license should be required.

Mr. Harvey stated that this email came before the Committee for discussion purposes, and that as there is no case, they cannot officially rule on the matter. Universities should consider best practices and consult with their own legal counsel as well.

C. Clarification on Licensure Requirement for Fieldwork Experience

The Committee received an email from a professional inquiring if a student attending a university in another state can come to Indiana to complete a practicum/internship, does that student need to be supervised by a BCBA licensed in Indiana. The Committee stated that the students should be supervised by BCBA standards. The Committee discussed the concerns regarding practice across State lines. Mr. Harvey stated that in cases like this, it will depend on where the clients are located. If the clients are located in Indiana, the supervisor should be licensed in Indiana. The Committee discussed how post-graduate training is completed, and how hours are accrued to receive the full BCBA credential. There were discussions on what would be considered potential unlicensed practice standards, and the possibility of changes in laws going forward for more clarification on post-degree training and work.

Mr. Harvey stated that this email came before the Committee for discussion purposes, and that as there is no case law, they cannot officially rule on the matter. Supervisors should consider best practices and consult with their own legal counsel as well.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and having completed its duties, the meeting of the Indiana Behavior Analyst Committee adjourned at 11:07 a.m.