

INDIANA STATE PSYCHOLOGY BOARD

JANUARY 8, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Dr. Ross called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. through video and audio conferencing at <https://IndianaEnhanced.Webex.com/join/PLAWebex> or by calling 1-240-454-0887 and declared a quorum in accordance with Indiana Code § 15-5-1.1-6(c).

Board Members Present:

Stephen G. Ross, Psy.D., Chair
Raymond W. Horn, Ph.D., Member
Jere Leib, Ph.D., Member
Amber Finley, JD, Consumer Member
Gregory Hale, Psy.D, Member

Board Members Not Present:

State Officials Present:

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

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Hale/Leib
Motion carried 5-0-0

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 6, 2020 minutes were tabled to be reviewed at the next Board Meeting.

IV. REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Nick Hart, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, reviewed the consumer complaint report with the Board. Mr. Hart stated their office has twenty-seven (27) open complaints. Mr. Hart stated that the average time a complaint is open is twelve (12) months, and most complaints revolved around COVID mask protocols. Currently there is one (1) new litigation case pending with two (2) current cases. The Attorney General's Office is working with a new system which has caused a delay with closing cases.

V. PERSONAL APPEARANCES

A. Probation

- 1. Sana Samardzija, Psy.D., License No. 20043349A**
Cause No. 2020 ISPB 0001

Appeared as requested to discuss current probation status. Dr. Samardzija appeared previously on January 10, 2020 to discuss her application and her license was initially issued March 9, 2020 on indefinite probation. While she was required to appear at every other Board meeting, COVID has delayed her appearances. Dr. Samardzija has requested financial aid or a waiver by the Board regarding the completion of Complete a PBI Professional

Boundaries Course – Enhanced Edition: PBI Professional Boundaries and Ethics: Enhanced Edition (PB-24EN) which is one of the terms of her probation. The Board cannot provide any waivers or financial aid. Dr. Samardzija stated that during COVID she did not work for a few months and did not generate any income. This caused difficulties in obtaining the required continuing education as unemployment only covered her bills. She is currently employed at St. Joseph’s Carmelite Home located in East Chicago, Indiana as a volunteer and Independent Medical Examiners located in Chicago, Illinois. The Board advised Dr. Samardzija to thoroughly read her probation agreement in order to make sure she is submitting everything the Board has required for her. They reminded her to seek clarification if something is not clear. She has informed her employers verbally about her probation. The Board requested that she inform them in a written format, so she has written documentation of such. Dr. Samardzija is scheduled to appear at the May 7, 2021 Board meeting.

B. Reinstatement

C. Application

1. Kimberly S. Nelson-Arrington, Ph.D.

Appeared as requested to discuss why she did not say yes to question number four (4) on the application “ Except for minor violations of traffic laws resulting in fines, and arrests or convictions that have been expunged by a court, have you ever been arrested; have you ever entered into a prosecutorial diversion or deferment agreement regarding any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state; have you ever been convicted of any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state; have you ever pled guilty to any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state; or have you ever pled nolo contendere to any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state?” Dr. Nelson-Arrington stated that she misread the question as she was under the impression it was only for felony convictions and the arrest had been lowered to a misdemeanor, so she did not disclose the information. She stated it was not her intention to be deceptive. In November 1997 Dr. Nelson-Arrington was arrested for forgery but the charged was reduced to theft for forging a name on a check. She has completed her supervised probation and had no other incidents. In October of 1998 she was granted early release and the theft charge was dismissed. The Board reminded her to read all questions thoroughly to ensure she is giving correct responses.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Dr. Nelson-Arrington’s application to take the EPPP examination.

Hale/Horn
Motion carried 5-0-0

2. Deep Kaur Battu, Ph.D.

Dr. Battu did not appear as requested. He will be rescheduled for the next board meeting.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Election of Officers

After discussion it was determined that Dr. Ross will remain chair with Dr. Hale as Vice Chair. Dr. Horn will remain as liaison for the Attorney General's Office.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the election of officers.

Horn/Hale
Motion carried 5-0-0

B. Multicultural Competence Continuing Education

The Board discussed adding a multicultural competence continuing education as a requirement for licensure renewal. Licensees would be required to complete a two (2) hour program in Category I for each renewal cycle. This requirement would not add to the total hours required for completion; however, it would function like the ethics requirement. Ethics would still be required to be completed, and licensees would not be able to count the Multicultural and ethics into one CE program. There is still discussion that needs to occur to determine what constitutes as multicultural continuing education and it is understood that it will be up to the CE Provider to make that Multicultural distinction. Currently the State of California, Florida, and Maryland have language on what constitutes multicultural competence continuing education and the Board will be reviewing the language from other state boards statute and rules. Further discussion will be held at the March 5, 2021 meeting.

C. Internship/Fellowship Verification

With the impact of COVID and the increase in the use of telepsychology in order to provide supervision the Board held discussion on how they would verify that their programs are completed. It is known to the Board that in April of 2020 6 to 8 weeks of did not occur as the office and programs were closed. Currently supervision and experience are being completed using telepsychology in order to meet hour requirements as the hour requirements were determined by statute. Currently the Board does have to accept telepsychology hours due to the Governor's Executive order 20-05 which allows mental health professionals to work virtually. The Board has determined that with so many factors to consider, they will have to review applications on a case-by-case basis once submitted rather than creating a general rule. The Board determined that they might revisit this discussion once more information has been reviewed.

VIII. APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

A. Limited Scope Temporary Psychology Permit

B. Psychology by Examination/Endorsement

C. HSPP Endorsement

1. Jay Douglas Summers, Ph.D.

Dr. Summers HSPP application was reviewed. He has submitted a copy of his Arizona license application since he could not locate his previous supervisors to verify his post internship hours. All other information was submitted.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Dr. Summer's HSPP application.

Horn/Leib
Motion carried 5-0-0

D. Continuing Education

1. Adam David Dell

Re: Advanced Master Program on Treatment of Trauma

Dr. Dell submitted the program for review and approval. This is a virtual program. The Board determined that it meets all requirements.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve the continuing education program.
Ross/Leib
Motion carried 4-0-0 Findley not present

2. Bryn Dungan

Re: IACP Networking and Educational Forum

Dr. Dungan submitted the program for review and approval. Based upon the information provided it appears that some of the seminars are directed to the legal side of the practice. The Sponsor must provide seminars that are directed in the clinical practice of psychology. The Board requested that additional information to be provided on the content to the seminars being provided for further clarification.

Board Action: The continuing education application was tabled in order to obtain more information.

IX. INDIANA PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr. Dick Rhoades of the Indiana Psychological Association reported that legislation is looking at the Psy-Pact agreement that will allow psychologists to have a compact license between States. A new bill was proposed for the legislation session, Senate Bill. There have been positive examples of a compact license working, such as the Telehealth Care Registry that is currently in use in Indiana, other states, like Virginia as one example, has provided telehealth for many years. This allows continuance of care for the psychologist and their patients. Currently the IPA is working with the ASPPB regarding better definitions on the Psy-Pact. IPA stated that the current bill makes this compact license valid only for telepsychology and does not work like the Nursing Compact. In the past when a similar bill has been proposed, it has not passed due to the proposed budget for the bill. The IPA is hoping that the bill will pass as changes with COVID have shown that having a compact license for psychology is needed.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and having completed its duties, the meeting of the Indiana State Psychology Board adjourned at 10:53 a.m. by general consensus.

Stephen G. Ross, Psy.D., Chair

Date