



Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board

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July 30, 2010

The Honorable Ted Strickland
Governor's Office
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Dear Governor Strickland,

Pursuant to the requirement of ORC 149.01, this annual report for FY 2010 of the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board is being submitted. I am pleased to highlight the Board's accomplishments.

The mission of the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board is to protect the citizens of the state of Ohio through the effective and efficient regulation of the practices of counseling, social work and marriage and family therapy as identified in Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code Chapters 4757. This mission is accomplished by the review of applicants' credentials, the administration of licensure examinations, and the establishment and enforcement of professional and ethical standards of practice.

Since July 1, 2009, the Board has welcomed three new board members: Dr. Deirdre Petrich, IMFT, PCC, LSW, on the Marriage and Family Therapist Professional Standards Committee; Mary Venrick, PC, on the Counselor Professional Standards Committee; and Donald McTigue, public member, on the Social Worker Professional Standards Committee.

The Board held regular meetings of the Professional Standards Committees (on each of the following first-listed dates) and of the full Board (on the second-listed of the dates for each month): July 16 & 17, 2009, September 17 & 18, 2009, November 19 & 20, 2009, January 21 & 22, 2010, March 18 & 19, 2010 and May 20 & 21, 2010.

The Board held 7 hearings of which three were disciplinary and four were licensure denials. Eleven licenses were revoked through the Goldman process. The Board entered into 33 consent agreements to resolve complaints. The Investigations Unit opened 263 investigation cases, which covered the following complaint areas or alleged issues:

The Board opened 263 new cases in fiscal year 2010.

<u>Alleged Issues</u>	<u>Number Made</u>
• Boundary Violation (Non-Sexual)	32
• Boundary Violation (Sexual)	10
• Breach of Confidentiality	9
• Competency	54
• Custody Dispute Issues	37
• Failure to Report	2
• Felony Conviction	5
• Impaired Practitioner	9
• Improper Billing	6
• Improper Renewal	40
• Misrepresentation of Credentials	2
• Non-Specific	3
• Not clearly determined to date	1
• Poor Record Keeping / Falsification of Record	14
• Practice outside of Scope	9
• Practicing on a Lapsed License	5
• Practicing without a License/Forged Licensure	20
• Sexual Harassment at Work	1
• <u>Soliciting Agency Clients for Private Practice</u>	<u>4</u>
• Total	263

The board concluded 280 cases in the fiscal year, 74 of which opened in prior fiscal years.

<u>Found Issues</u>	<u>Number Closed</u>
• Boundary Violation (Non-Sexual)	15
• Boundary Violation (Sexual)	3
• Breach of Confidentiality	8
• Competency	21
• Custody Dispute Issues	10
• Failure to Report	1
• Felony Conviction	3
• Impaired Practitioner	6
• Improper Renewal	35
• Misdemeanor in Course of Practice	1
• Misrepresentation of Credentials	9
• No Violation	137
• No Found Issues	3
• Poor Record Keeping / Falsification of Record	11
• Practice outside of Scope	1
• Practicing on a Lapsed License	6
• Practicing without a License/Forged Licensure	9
• <u>Soliciting Agency Clients for Private Practice</u>	<u>1</u>
• Total	280

The board concluded 280 cases in the fiscal year, 78 of which opened in prior fiscal years. CA indicated below means the case closed by a consent agreement.

<u>Issue Results</u>	<u>Number Closed</u>
• CSW - CA Ethics Coursework	1
• CSW - CA OTHER	2
• CSW - CA Reprimand	5
• CSW - CA Reprimand/Ethics	1
• CSW - CA Supervision	2
• CSW - CA Supervision/Ethics	4
• CSW - CA Supervision/Mental Health Treatment-Evaluation	1
• CSW - CA Surrender	7
• CSW - CA Suspension	7
• CSW - CA Suspension/Ethics	1
• CSW - CA Suspension/Ethics/Supervision	2
• CSW - Cannot Substantiate	38
• CSW - Close - Complainant withdrew	5
• CSW - Close - Referred to other agency	4
• CSW - Close No Jurisdiction	17
• CSW - Close No Violation	80
• CSW - Close Refer to Prosecutor	2
• CSW - Close With Caution	87
• CSW - Notice OTHER	1
• CSW - Notice/Revocation	12
• <u>CSW - Notice/Suspension</u>	<u>1</u>
• Total	280

The Board licensed or registered 4,077 new professional licenses, registrations and designations:

- 69 Social Work Assistants
- 1232 Social Workers
- 21 Social Worker Temporaries
- 308 Social Worker Trainees
- 398 Independent Social Workers
- 112 Supervising Independent Social Workers
- 530 Professional Counselors
- 265 Professional Counselor – Clinical Residents
- 582 Counselor Trainees
- 220 Professional Counselor Provisional
- 6 Supervising Professional Counselors
- 216 Professional Clinical Counselors
- 88 Supervising Professional Clinical Counselors
- 21 Marriage and Family Therapists
- 9 Independent Marriage and Family Therapists

The Board's testing vendors in calendar year 2009 offered:

- 883 Basic examinations for licensure as a social worker with a pass rate of 76.6%;
- 82 Advanced examinations for licensure as an independent social worker with a pass rate of 48.8%; and
- 775 Clinical examinations for licensure as an independent social worker with a pass rate of 59.5%.
- 487 National Counselor Examination (NCE) for Professional Counselor with a pass rate of 89.0%.
- 213 National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination (NCMHCE) for Professional Clinical Counselor with a pass rate of 75.0%.
- 29 examinations for Marriage and Family Therapist with a pass rate of 82.8%.

(These pass rates reflect the total number of candidates who have taken the examination, including results from candidates who may have experienced multiple failures.)

The Board receives all of its funding through licensee fees and does not receive any general revenue funds. The Board disbursed \$1,047,853.67 for FY 2010 in expenses and transferred \$37,103 in cost savings days to the Office of Budget and Management. The Board also expended \$23,450.53 from FY 2009 encumbrances paid in FY 2010. The Board has encumbrances of \$32,164 against the remaining FY 2010 appropriation. The Board revenues were \$1,185,037.18. The Board budget for fiscal year 2010 included new fees for late renewals and license verification to other state boards, which began in October 2010.

Processed 1,847 applications for continuing professional education program approval and reviewed 1,835 requests for post program approval. The Board currently has 659 active continuing professional education provider organizations of which 266 renewed in FY 2010 (two year approvals) and 44 new providers were approved.

The board established goals for FY 2010 at a planning meeting held in July 2010.

- Significant progress has been made in the areas of electronic service delivery and our statute's civil service exemption. The board filed an ethics rule on electronic service delivery, which includes using telephone, Internet, email and other mediums in licensees' service delivery.
- The board worked with interested associations and state agencies that have licensed counselors, social workers and marriage and family therapists and has reached a general agreement that the civil service exemption is no longer needed. House Bill 62 passed the House by a vote of 97-0 and included the removal of the civil service exemption.
- The Board is focused on improving its use of technology, which includes refining the use of the eLicensing system. The eLicensing system has allowed us to implement an online renewal process used by over 97.0% of renewing licensees. This process is quicker, easier and more cost effective for licensees and the Board. The Board has online applications for most of its license and registration processes. The Board is updating its web site regularly based on feedback from users to make it more efficient and effective. The Board started an online laws and rules exam for new applicants and uses it as a continuing education source for licensees. This program has greatly improved understanding and knowledge of the laws and rules that apply to our licensees.

- The continuing education program review procedures continue to grow and tax our ability to effectively provide oversight. The Board has a committee to review these processes to look for improvements in many areas including the approval process, required documentation, forms, program content, etc.
- The Board has a committee reviewing the disciplinary process to look for improvements in a number of areas including monitoring of disciplined licensees by an appropriate supervisor, training opportunities in specific discipline infraction subjects, and working with professional associations for input and help to improve the overall processes.

Board member attendance at board meetings averages 88.6% with 66.7% attendance being the lowest attendance rate. Six board members have perfect attendance.

The Board believes that this report provides evidence that the Board has accomplished its mission in Fiscal Year 2010. Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Rough', written in a cursive style.

James R. Rough
Executive Director

CC: President of the Senate Bill Harris
Speaker of the House Armond Budish
State Library