



Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board

50 West Broad Street, Suite 1075
Columbus, Ohio 43215-5919
614-466-0912 & Fax 614-728-7790
www.cswmft.ohio.gov & cswmft.info@cswb.state.oh.us

August 2, 2011

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

Dear Governor Kasich,

Pursuant to the requirement of ORC 149.01, this annual report for FY 2011 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, approving professional education program offerings, and the establishment and enforcement of professional and ethical standards of practice.

Since July 1, 2010, the Board has welcomed two new board members: Dr. Terri Hamm, PCC, and Ms. Maureen Cooper, PCC, both on the Counselor 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 15 & 16, 2010, September 16 & 17, 2010, November 18 & 19, 2010, January 20 & 21, 2011, March 17 & 18, 2011 and May 19 & 20, 2011.

The Board held ten hearings of which one was disciplinary and nine were licensure denials. Eleven licenses were revoked through the Goldman process. The Board entered into 25 consent agreements to resolve complaints. The Investigations Unit opened 234 investigation cases, which covered the following complaint areas or alleged issues:

The Board opened 234 new cases in fiscal year 2011.

<u>Alleged Issues</u>	<u>Number Made</u>
▪ Boundary Violation (Non-Sexual)	22
▪ Boundary Violation (Sexual)	12
▪ Breach of Confidentiality	12
▪ Competency	61
▪ Custody Dispute Issues	18
▪ Failure to Report	4
▪ Felony Conviction	4
▪ Impaired Practitioner	7
▪ Improper Billing	7
▪ Improper Renewal	29
▪ Misrepresentation of Credentials	3
▪ Not clearly determined to date	6
▪ Poor Record Keeping / Falsification of Record	17
▪ Practice outside of Scope	6
▪ Practicing on a Lapsed License	8
▪ Practicing without a License/Forged Licensure	15
▪ Sexual Harassment at Work	1
▪ <u>Soliciting Agency Clients for Private Practice</u>	<u>2</u>
▪ Total	234

The board concluded 230 cases in the fiscal year, 45 of which opened in prior fiscal years.

<u>Found Issues</u>	<u>Number Closed</u>
▪ Boundary Violation (Non-Sexual)	11
▪ Boundary Violation (Sexual)	4
▪ Breach of Confidentiality	6
▪ Competency	17
▪ Custody Dispute Issues	4
▪ Failure to Report	1
▪ Felony Conviction	4
▪ Impaired Practitioner	5
▪ Improper Billing	8
▪ Improper Renewal	28
▪ Misrepresentation of Credentials	8
▪ None	98
▪ Poor Record Keeping / Falsification of Record	15
▪ Practice outside of Scope	10
▪ Practicing on a Lapsed License	5
▪ Practicing without a License/Forged Licensure	4
▪ Sexual Harassment at Work	1
▪ <u>Soliciting Agency Clients for Private Practice</u>	<u>1</u>
▪ Total	230

The board concluded 230 cases in the fiscal year, 45 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	2
▪ CSW - CA Mental Health Treatment-Evaluation	1
▪ CSW - CA OTHER	1
▪ CSW - CA Reprimand	2
▪ CSW - CA Reprimand/Ethics	1
▪ CSW - CA Supervision	2
▪ CSW - CA Supervision/Ethics	3
▪ CSW - CA Surrender	8
▪ CSW - CA Suspension	3
▪ CSW - Cannot Substantiate	24
▪ CSW - Close - Complainant withdrew	1
▪ CSW - Close - Referred to other agency	1
▪ CSW - Close No Jurisdiction	11
▪ CSW - Close No Violation	63
▪ CSW - Close Refer to Prosecutor	1
▪ CSW - Close With Caution	96
▪ CSW - Notice/Revocation	9
▪ CSW - Notice/Suspension	1
▪ Total	230

The Board licensed or registered 3,827 new professional licenses, registrations and designations:

- 55 Social Work Assistants
- 1064 Social Workers
- 28 Social Worker Temporaries
- 331 Social Worker Trainees
- 398 Independent Social Workers
- 215 Supervising Independent Social Workers
- 552 Professional Counselors
- 265 Professional Counselor – Clinical Residents
- 541 Counselor Trainees
- 36 Professional Counselor Provisional
- 8 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 2010 offered:

- 833 Basic examinations for licensure as a social worker with a pass rate of 74.8%;
- 48 Advanced examinations for licensure as an independent social worker with a pass rate of 29.2%; and

- 777 Clinical examinations for licensure as an independent social worker with a pass rate of 53.2%.
- 576 National Counselor Examination (NCE) for Professional Counselor with a pass rate of 88.0%.
- 289 National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination (NCMHCE) for Professional Clinical Counselor with a pass rate of 65.1%.
- 23 examinations for Marriage and Family Therapist with a pass rate of 86.9%.

(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 \$1,106,876.80 for FY 2011 in expenses and transferred \$43,027.17 in cost savings days to the Office of Budget and Management. The Board also expended \$30,878.30 from FY 2010 encumbrances paid in FY 2011. The Board has encumbrances of \$29,864.10 against the remaining FY 2011 appropriation. The Board revenues were \$1,195,901.23.

Processed 1807 applications for continuing professional education program approval and reviewed 1,845 requests for post program approval. The Board currently has 585 active continuing professional education provider organizations of which 265 renewed in FY 2011 (two year approvals) and 55 new providers were approved.

The board established goals for FY 2011 at a planning meeting held in July 2011.

- Significant progress has been made in the area of our statute's civil service exemption. 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 in the 128th General Assembly passed the House by a vote of 97-0 in May 2010, but was not addressed by the Senate. Representative Gonzalez has agreed to sponsor a bill to address this issue in the current General Assembly.
- The Board is focused on improving its use of technology, which includes refining the use of the eLicensing system. The eLicensing system continues to be effective in the 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. The Committee has been made a standing committee of the Board and board members directly involved in review of investigative cases particularly liked the opportunity to discuss proposed disciplinary actions across a broad spectrum of cases. These board members felt better prepared to make decisions about final disciplinary recommendations.

Board member attendance at board meetings averages 90.2% with 79.0% attendance being the lowest attendance rate. Eight of fifteen board members have perfect attendance.

The Board believes that this report provides evidence that the Board has accomplished its mission in Fiscal Year 2011. Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

James R. Rough
Executive Director

CC: President of the Senate Thomas E. Niehaus
Speaker of the House William G. Batchelder
State Library