



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

July 31, 2014

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 section 149.01 of the Revised Code, this annual report for Fiscal Year 2014 of the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board is 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.

Within fiscal year 2014, the Board welcomed two new board members: Dr. Carl Brun was appointed to the Social Worker Professional Standards Committee; and Dr. Alan Demmitt, IMFT, to the Marriage and Family Therapist Professional Standards Committee; and three reappointed members for second terms: Maureen Cooper, LPCC, Dr. Terri Hamm, LPCC and Dr. Otha Gilyard to the Counselor Professional Standards. The Board looks forward to future appointments of one additional member to complete all board appointments.

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 18 & 19, 2013, September 19 & 20, 2013, November 21 & 22, 2013, January 16 & 17, 2014, March 20 & 21, 2014 and May 15 & 16, 2014.

The Board held one hearing for disciplinary action. 33 licenses were revoked through the Goldman process. The Board entered into 37 consent agreements to resolve complaints. The Investigations Unit opened 285 investigation cases, which covered the following complaint areas or alleged issues:

<u>Alleged Issues</u>	<u>Number Made</u>
• Boundary Violation (Non-Sexual)	25
• Boundary Violation (Sexual)	22
• Breach of Confidentiality	16
• Competency	59
• Custody Dispute Issues	21
• Failure to Report	1
• Felony Conviction	5
• Impaired Practitioner	10
• Improper Billing	3
• Improper Renewal	75
• Misrepresentation of Credentials	3
• None	1
• Poor Record Keeping / Falsification of Record	17
• Practice outside of Scope	7
• Practicing on a Lapsed License	3
• Practicing without a License/Forged Licensure	14
• Sexual Harassment at Work	2
• <u>Soliciting Agency Clients for Private Practice</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	285

The Board concluded 202 of the cases received in FY 2014. The board concluded 86 cases from prior fiscal years for a total of 288 closed in FY 2014.

<u>Found Issues</u>	<u>Number Closed</u>
• Boundary Violation (Non-Sexual)	22
• Boundary Violation (Sexual)	5
• Breach of Confidentiality	5
• Competency	28
• Custody Dispute Issues	12
• Felony Conviction	3
• Impaired Practitioner	6
• Improper Billing	2
• Improper Renewal	82
• Misrepresentation of Credentials	2
• Poor Record Keeping / Falsification of Record	21
• Practice outside of Scope	2
• Practicing on a Lapsed License	3
• Practicing without a License/Forged Licensure	4
• Sexual Harassment at Work	2
• <u>None</u>	<u>89</u>
Total	288

The board concluded 288 cases in fiscal year 2014 of which 86 opened in prior fiscal years. We averaged 316 days to close these cases with a high of 1172 days, which was a felony court case that resulted in no action by the board, and with a low of one day, which was closed with a caution. CA indicated below means the case closed by a consent agreement.

<u>Issue Results</u>	<u>86 Closed from Prior FYs</u>
• CSW - CA OTHER	8
• CSW - CA Reprimand	1
• CSW - CA Reprimand/Ethics	1
• CSW - CA Supervision	2
• CSW - CA Supervision/Ethics	3
• CSW - CA Surrender	19
• CSW - CA Suspension	6
• CSW - CA Suspension/Mental Health Evaluation	1
• CSW - Notice/Revocation	38
• CSW - Notice/Suspension	2
• CSW - Close With Caution	117
• CSW - Cannot Substantiate	29
• CSW - Close - Complainant withdrew	1
• CSW - Close - Referred to other agency	2
• CSW - Close No Jurisdiction	6
• <u>CSW - Close No Violation</u>	<u>52</u>
Total	288

The Board licensed or registered 4,841 new professional licenses, registrations and designations:

- 726 Professional Counselors
- 539 Professional Counselor – Clinical Residents
- 605 Counselor Trainees
- 22 Professional Counselor Temporary
- 423 Professional Clinical Counselors
- 158 Supervising Professional Clinical Counselors
- 61 Social Work Assistants
- 1,134 Social Workers
- 14 Social Worker Temporaries
- 372 Social Worker Trainees
- 498 Independent Social Workers
- 276 Supervising Independent Social Workers
- 33 Marriage and Family Therapists
- 22 Independent Marriage and Family Therapists

The Board's testing vendors in calendar year 2013 offered 2,916 examinations:

- 983 Basic examinations for licensure as a social worker with a pass rate of 75.5%;
- 40 Advanced examinations for licensure as an independent social worker with a pass rate of 62.5%; and

- 823 Clinical examinations for licensure as an independent social worker with a pass rate of 60.4%.
- 567 National Counselor Examination (NCE) for Professional Counselor with a pass rate of 91.9%.
- 463 National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination (NCMHCE) for Professional Clinical Counselor with a pass rate of 70.8%.
- 40 examinations for Marriage and Family Therapist with a pass rate of 87.5%.

(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 following numbers represent the laws and rules examinations and Ethics CEUs completed in FY 2013.

• Laws & Rules Exam Counselors	1,096
• Ethics CEUs Counselors	85
• Laws & Rules Exam MFTs	56
• Ethics CEUs MFTs	2
• Laws & Rules Exam Social Workers	1,908
• <u>Ethics CEUs Social Workers</u>	<u>38</u>
Total	3,185

The Board processed 1,344 applications for continuing professional education program approval and reviewed 2,209 requests for post program approval. The Board currently has 564 active continuing professional education provider individuals or organizations of which 250 renewed in FY 2013 (two year approvals) and 53 new providers were approved for one year.

Including all of the applications for licenses, registration, renewals and other services plus CEU post program approvals and examinations the board processed 34,152 actions, which does not include the Board meetings, minutes, agendas and many BCI & FBI reports, transcripts, personal statements, exam reports, supervision documents for licensure or myriad activities involved in investigations.

The Board receives all of its funding through licensee fees and does not receive any general revenue funds. The Board disbursed \$228,181 for FY 2013 in expenses and \$976,373 in payroll for a total of \$1,204,553. The Board also expended \$22,617 from FY 2013 encumbrances paid in FY 2014. The Board has encumbrances of \$48,335 against the remaining FY 2014 appropriation. The Board revenues were \$1,392,564.

The board established goals for FY 2014 at a planning meeting held in July 2013.

- 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 passed Representative Sears' House Bill 232 in the 130th General Assembly, which includes a provision to amend the current exemptions for civil service employees. The bill also includes many other significant changes to improve the administration and efficiency of the board's processes. The bill also amends many sections of the Revised Code to include the board's

licensees in the professional associations, professional corporations and limited liability companies, which aides our licenses setting up private businesses.

- 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, which in FY-2014 was used by 15,188 of 15,338 licensees or 99.0% of renewed 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 social work department has implemented several of the technology options in the eLicensing system not used previously and has greatly improved the process of social worker licensure with 96.7% using the online application. Due to our excellent use of the system our Board is among the first four scheduled for the eLicense2 system coming in November. We are working hard to ensure it works for us!
- The Board continues use of a Listserv that documents a very high rate of email delivery to licensees and registrants. The Board's newsletter is promulgated via the Listserv to all licensees for which we have an email. This process eliminated the printing costs and reaches more licensees with updates on law and rule changes and important information on issues of concern across a broad spectrum of licensees. The Board continues a Facebook presence with links to the newsletter articles and other matters of interest. These communication tools have greatly improved FY-2014 notification of legislation and rule making. Use of the Listserv for the Common Sense Initiative rule filings greatly simplified that process.
- The continuing education program review has become a more thorough process resulting in additional requirements needed to uphold the quality and reliability of continuing education for Ohio counselor, social worker and marriage and family therapist licensees. The continuing education program quality review process has provided a new tool due to a rule change that was worked out through the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR), which aided the Board and continuing education companies to come to agreement on a quality standard. We are working on how to implement a quality assessment for continuing education programs.

Board member attendance at board meetings averages 88.5% with 61.0% attendance being the lowest attendance rate. Six of fourteen board members have perfect attendance.

The Board believes that this report provides evidence that the Board has fulfilled its mission in Fiscal Year 2014. Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

James R. Rough
Executive Director

CC: President of the Senate Keith Faber
Speaker of the House William G. Batchelder
State Library