

Fall / Winter  
2005 / 2006

# News Link



## Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board



### New Web Site Design

The Board has redesigned the web site at <http://cswmft.ohio.gov>. The redesign offers a much more user-friendly design and incorporates a lot more detail.

All of the forms on the web site have been converted to Adobe active PDF files. Active PDFs allow the user to open the file in Adobe Reader and click on check boxes and data lines to type in the information requested. You can then print the form to mail to the Board. You can't save the form in Adobe Reader so be sure to complete the whole form and then print it.

The web site also has a list of CEU Providers and Programs. CEU Providers are approved agencies/companies/colleges etc. that have been approved by the Board

to offer CEU courses without prior approval of the Board. The CEU Programs are individually approved programs and are listed.

We have also added minutes from 2003, 2004 & 2005 for Board meetings and each of the Professional Standards Committees.

The picture above is currently displayed on the web site front page and is a Microsoft public domain picture. We would like some pictures of licensees at work or in groups and will post any picture we receive. Just email the digital picture smaller than 1 MB to the Board.

Be the first to accept and be recognized in the next newsletter.

### A "Job Well Done" to Our Retiring Board Members

The Board is losing some of its corporate memory as Dr. Rose Quinones-DelValle and Gwendolyn DaCons-Taylor have both completed their second terms on the Board as of October 10, 2005. They will be missed for their professionalism and grace. Dr. Rose was our most recent past Board chair and led the Board through the stormy period of 2004-2005.

Dr. Julianne Serovich is also leaving the Board as an MFT member who worked tirelessly to establish MFTs as licensees and once appointed to develop the rules under which MFTs are regulated.

All three Board members are congratulated for a "job well done"!

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*All forms on the new web site have been converted to Active PDF files. This means you can download the file and type in your information using Adobe Reader software! You then need to print the document as it cannot be saved without the full Adobe suite of software.*

## Counselor Licensing Examination Changes

The counselor examination has been proposed to be changed to a two tier examination. We plan to use the NBCC NCE exam for PC applicants and NCMHCE for PCC applicants. We expect that change to go into effect on January 1, 2006.

There will be a Public Hearing on the

proposed rules at 2:00 p.m. on November 18, 2005 at the regular Board meeting.

PCs who have taken the existing PCLE examination have until 12/31/2007 to complete their 3000 hours of supervision and apply for the PCC license without the requirement to take the NCMHCE.

## In-State Post CEU Approvals

The Board voted at the last meeting to no longer accept In-State CEU Post Program approvals. This means you need to ensure all CEU courses taken have been approved when taking them In-State with the exception of MFTs due to the shortage of providers.

Academic courses offered in accredited education institutions by social work, counseling, and MFT degree programs as defined in the Administrative Code, are automatically granted program approval.

## Social Work Examinations

The Board has been working with ASWB to reduce the waiting time from payment of fees to scheduled examination date. Effective September 1, 2005, ASWB reduced the waiting time from fourteen days to seven days from payment of fees to first available scheduled examination date.

The Board appreciates the cooperation of the ASWB in streamlining the process for our applicants and those of all other entities as well.



## New Licensing System and License Statuses

The Board implemented a new licensing system in June 2005. A number of changes resulted from that implementation that has confused licensees.

When the renewals are sent out for the next six month group due for renewal the license status is changed from "ACTIVE" to "Active-in-Renewal". That change allows the system to recognize that license as one that is eligible for renewal online. Once the license is renewed the status changes to "Active-in-

Renewal - Paid". Once a wallet license card is printed, the status changes to "ACTIVE" again. When going online to the License Lookup feature at <https://license.ohio.gov> an "Active-in-Renewal" status may be active or expired and can only be differentiated by clicking on the status and seeing the expiration date, which if passed means the license is in an expired status and needs to be renewed immediately if the licensee is practicing. You can call the Board for your UserID and Password.

## Renewals for January through June 2006

We have mailed the January through June 2006 renewals as of early November 2005. If you have not received a renewal by December 15 and renew in January to June 2006 please contact the Board immediately. The phone number for renewal questions is 614-466-5436.

The renewal notices have the UserID and password for online renewals. Renewing

online saves time and money – no money order needed nor a notary signature. You also receive a proof of payment document that you can print on your computer.

If you need to find a continuing education program in your area, go to the Board web site and look at the CEU Program and Provider lists to find options in your city or county.

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*Renew online and save postage, waiting time and have an immediate receipt showing you have renewed your license! Following is one of the many comments the board has received:*

*"This is wonderful - I am so glad we can renew online!"*

## Discipline Action Taken Against Licensees

**The following actions were taken against the licensees listed below:**

### Social workers

H. Darlene Brown. Felony Conviction. Revoked.

Beverly Frierson – Non-sexual boundary issues. Reprimand and additional ceu's.

Traci Keesee – Non-sexual boundary issues. Restrictions on scope of practice and required to take an ethics course.

Cynthia Parish – Non-sexual boundary issues. Reprimand and additional ceu's.

Evelyn Rase – failed to keep accurate records. Surrendered license in lieu of discipline.

George Sheppard – Inappropriate conduct. 30-day suspension, required to take an ethics course, and pre-approved supervision.

### Counselors

Susan Rusinoff – Record keeping issues and practiced on a lapsed license. Revoked.

Frederick Sinay – Felony Conviction. Revoked.

Prior actions can be read on Spring /Summer 2005 newsletter on web site.



## The 2005 SAMFC/T Dr. John J. Zarski Memorial Award

The Society for the Advancement of Marriage and Family Counseling/Therapy (SAMFC/T) in the Department of Counseling at the University of Akron recognized posthumously Dr. John J. Zarski's contribution to the professional growth and development of marriage and family therapy students and practitioners. Dr. Zarski was instrumental in supervising a multitude of masters' and doctoral level students during practicum and/or internship. He provided exemplary supervision and guidance to prepare students for careers as licensed professionals.

Dr. Zarski was committed to the professional development of mental health practitioners. He did not allow his students to believe that their professional growth ended with licensure. Instead, Dr. Zarski taught his students the importance of building a professional identity throughout their careers, and demanded from his supervisees a commitment to professional growth.

In order to better train and supervise MFT students, Dr. John Zarski established the Clinic for Individual and Family Therapy on the campus of The University of Akron. In this clinic, counselors in training become more confident of their skills under the supervision of licensed faculty members, while providing valuable community mental

health services to underserved populations.

This award recognizes his overall pride and dedication to his roles as supervisor, teacher, mentor, and professional. We will forever remember his invincible spirit, his sharp wit, his keen insights, and his quest to live every moment to its fullest. While many continue to grieve his untimely loss, we cherish his many contributions to his family, students, colleagues, community, and the profession of marriage and family therapy.

Dr. Zarski was also very active in the professional development of master's and doctoral level counseling students. He taught supervision classes at the doctoral level for Counselor Education students, participated as a university supervisor for masters and doctoral level trainees, and served on many dissertation committees for Counselor Education doctoral students. He gave freely of his time and enthusiasm to train and mentor students from different disciplines. Dr. Zarski's love of the mental health profession was not limited by his professional identity.

*By Laura Tejada, PC, NCC, RPT, Newsletter Editor SAMFC/T and Lisa Giovannelli, MEd, CDCCI, President SAMFC/T*

*Please make sure you pay attention to keeping proper records. Too many people are getting in trouble for issues well within their control!*



## *News Link*

### COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER & MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD

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*The Board regulates the practice of counseling, social work and marriage and family therapy for the State of Ohio.*

## Meet Terry Cluse-Tolar, our Board Chair

Dr. Cluse-Tolar is the chair of the social work department at University of Toledo and holds a doctorate in social work from Ohio State University. Terry also has fourteen years of social work practice in agencies and hospitals. She has also been a Board member since October 2001.

Dr. Cluse-Tolar has published many articles in social work journals covering a broad range of subjects from "Moving Beyond Words: Image Theatre Use in Postmodern Social Constructivist Family Therapy" to "I Want Justice: The Impact of Procedural and Distributive Justice on Social Service Workers." She has also participated in numerous presentations and conferences from subjects like "Freirian Administrators: An Oxymoron or Possibility?" Presented with M. Coconis at the Pedagogy & Theatre of the Oppressed Conference, Toledo, Ohio, April, 2002 to "Questioning the Questions: Dialogue about Questions, Questioners, and Answers" Presented with M. Coconis at the Pedagogy of the Oppressed Conference, Omaha, March 1998.

Dr. Cluse-Tolar is exceptionally active in the community as the following demonstrate: Council on Social Work Education Site Visitor, Spring 2004 – present Academic Administrative Leadership Steering Committee, UT (2003); Policy and Procedure Subcommittee (2003); Technology Fee Committee, HHS (2003); Parent Center Development Committee (2003); Citizen's Review Committee, City of Toledo (2002). Terry has also been appointed to the Lucas County Children Services Board by Lucas County Commissioners to a second two year term beginning 1/2005.

Terry has earned a number of awards including: Dean's Merit Award (2000) and Who's Who Among American Teachers (Student Nominated, 2000 & 2002).

Dr. Cluse-Tolar is also an active member of the following professional organizations: Academy of Certified Social Workers; Council of Social Work Education; Baccalaureate Program Directors' Association; National Association of Social Workers

## Ethics Issues – Mandatory Reporting

### **Focus on Ethics.....**

Many of the calls to the Board investigators surround issues of reporting. As licensed professionals you are ethically responsible to protect clients from possible harm. This may mean reporting a professional peer. Remember, clients of mental health providers have a right to competent, informed, and confidential treatment that includes appropriate termination of services.

If you are aware of an unethical, impaired or incompetent professional, you have a mandatory professional obligation to report the licensee to the Board. Some licensees struggle with reporting a peer, and may feel that they have to investigate and substantiate their allegations before they report. The fact that your agency investigates unethical behavior does not remove the mandatory requirement to report that fact to the Board.

**OAC 4757-5-01 (J) Mandatory reporting.**  
(1) All licensees, registrants, supervisors and

*trainees have a responsibility to report any **alleged** violations of this act or rules adopted under it to the counselor, social worker, and marriage and family therapist board. Also, if they have knowledge or reason to suspect that a colleague or other licensee is incompetent, impaired or unethical they shall report that practitioner to the board. All mandatory reporting must be in writing and bear the name and license number or registration of the reporter.*

The rule on mandatory reporting continues on to elaborate requirements of "duty to report child abuse or neglect, and duty to report abuse, neglect or exploitation of an adult" and lists the State statutes regarding mandatory reporting. The Board website also lists the statutes and links to all relevant reporting statutes. Please refer to the statutes under the "laws and regulations" icon on the Board website <http://cswmft.ohio.gov>.