

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY NEWS

FALL 2024 EDITION



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A Word from the Executive Director

Greetings. Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Todd Younkin, and I am the new Executive Director for the Mental Health Regulatory Agency. I started the first week in August and have spent my time here immersed in and learning all things MHRA. I have prior experience in licensing, having previously spent 7 years with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry, overseeing 40 professional and occupational licensing boards and programs.

It has been a busy two and a half months here so far. When I arrived, we were down several staff members due to extended absences and vacancies. Candidly, we were stretched to the point where we were even unable to provide consistent live phone support to BLPCT licensees. The licensing team approached me for assistance with getting back to the level of customer support they are accustomed to providing. We temporarily paused live phone support and messaged that on the website. This allowed the remaining team members to focus on processing and responding to emails and voicemails. We rapidly recruited and onboarded a former staff member, getting them in place within 2 weeks and on the phones 2 weeks after that.

I am passionate about customer service, and you can expect us to seek continuous improvement in that area. To that end, we are placing an emphasis on training, process improvement, and sharing of best practices within the team. We are also exploring methods to solicit additional and focused customer feedback. One example of this is the link to our customer service survey in this edition of the newsletter. Please take the time to let us know about your experience, so we can continue to evaluate and improve our service to you.

With the legislative session coming up in January, we have seen increased interest from legislators on multiple topics. On September 23rd, I and several of my peers from other healthcare-related boards had the opportunity to speak to the House Interim Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare. We discussed topics such as licensing timelines, customer service, staffing, and licensing compacts. Afterwards, the Committee expressed its gratitude for the good discussion of these timely topics.

Thanks for reading our newsletter. I look forward to serving you as the MHRA Executive Director!

Todd Younkin, Executive Director, Mental Health Regulatory Agency

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How are we doing?

Please take a moment to help us improve our services to our applicants, residents and licensees by taking this survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OBOP>

Continuing Education Requirements

Refresh your Understanding of the Board's Continuing Education Requirements (there have been some changes in recent years!)

The OBOP has been working to shape a number of requirements, including Continuing Education (CE), to accommodate learning styles, career demands, work schedules, practice specialties, and rural/urban resources. Those of you who are licensed in other states may have noticed more stringent rules outside of Oregon.

The basic requirements for CEs in Oregon include (see [OAR Ch. 858, Div. 40](#) for complete detail):

- 40 credits of psychology learning in the 2 years preceding renewal;
- Of the 40, there are continuous requirements (must be met every renewal) for at least **4 credit hours** of Professional Ethics and/or Oregon State laws, at least **1 credit** of Pain Management, at least **4 credits** of Cultural Competency, and at least **2 credits** of Suicide Risk Assessment, Treatment, and Management (note that many of these requirements are legislatively mandated);
- No more than 20 of the total 40 hours may be home study (including a maximum 4 credits for reading books/articles) and study group hours

(combined); The Board created a temporary accommodation for renewals due between March 31, 2020 and July 31, 2022 that waived the home-study limitation, but this has now expired. Please remember that an online presentation or webinar that you attend in real time which is interactive - meaning you can communicate with the presenter and other attendees as if you were physically present at a presentation - is not considered "home study," and therefore **not subject to any limitation**.

- No more than 20 of the total 40 hours may be instructor, discussion leader, or speaker and published material (combined);
- When audited, licensees will need to provide a certificate of completion for each professional psychology training by a qualified instructor, but note that the event does not need to be APA certified.

We hope that this was a good refresher! Please refer to the [CE Webpage](#) for more information.

~ OBOP Education / Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee: Elizabeth Goy, Ph.D.; Catherine Miller, Ph.D.; Renée Diaz del Rio, Psy.D.



If you would like to submit an 'In Memoriam' tribute for a member the psychologist community please email psychology.board@mhra.oregon.gov.

Though you are no longer with us, you will never be forgotten.

Tips from the Licensing Team

- **Renewal tips:** Check your portal early to start your renewal process. The portal opens for renewal 45 days before your license expires. A friendly reminder that renewals for your license are due at the end of your birth month every two years.
- For new licensees, your first renewal occurs in your next birth month following licensure. Your license expiration date is synonymous with your renewal due date. If you're unsure when this is, check online [License Search](#).
- **Credit card tips:** Verify the address entered for payment matches with the credit card company, not necessarily the address from your profile. If you are using a business card, the address you enter for payment should be the same address that you receive statements for the credit card. If you receive an error message for an address or AVS error, do not attempt to make additional payments with the same card until pending charges have been released from your bank or credit card company. Questions? Call us at 503-378-4154.

Administrative Rulemaking



Please visit our [Administrative Rulemaking Webpage](#) for more information.

Enforcement Actions

During the period of time from February 23, 2024, to October 8, 2024, the Board took the following actions:

Johnna Voght, Psy.D (Licensee) was licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. At all times relevant, Licensee was licensed by the Board and practiced as a psychologist in Oregon, working in a relatively small community. In the course of her professional work, Licensee provided counseling to an adult client. After the termination of professional services, when less than two years had elapsed since Licensee's last professional contact with the client, Licensee ran into the client in the community. After a period of friendship, Licensee and the client entered into an intimate relationship. Licensee was aware that an intimate relationship with a former client was a violation of the ethical standards adopted by the Board and she wound down her practice, transitioning her clients to new providers, and surrendered her license to the Board on January 12, 2024, before receiving notice from the Board that it would open an investigation. The acts and conduct of Licensee described above violates ES 10.08. Licensee's license to practice psychology in Oregon was surrendered and Licensee shall not apply for any form of licensure by the Board for a period of ten years.

Shaunta Hemingway, LPC (Respondent) is not licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. Since July 2021, Respondent has been licensed as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) by the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists. Respondent may practice mental health services within the scope of her LPC license outside the scope of the Board's jurisdiction provided that she does not use the title "psychologist" in connection with her practice. In May 2023, Respondent received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in "Clinical Psychology" from Walden University. After receiving her degree, Respondent began to describe herself in her email signature block as a "clinical psychologist," including in emails sent to third parties and insurance companies in Oregon. Respondent's conduct violated ORS 675.020(1) (b), in that Respondent

described herself to the public as a "clinical psychologist" when she included that designation in emails sent to third parties. The investigation was closed by Default Order, effective July 12, 2024. Respondent was ordered to pay a civil penalty.

Lewis Bank, Ph.D (Licensee) is licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. In August 2022, Individual A, an adult parent going through a highly contentious divorce, hired Licensee as a reunification therapist between Individual A's minor child and her former spouse. Individual A's insurance was to cover at least some of the reunification therapy sessions. In September 2022, Licensee began telehealth therapy sessions with the minor child and, later, the former spouse, as agreed with Individual A. Licensee continued these services until March 2023, shortly before the custody trial that was part of the contentious divorce proceedings. Individual A met privately with Licensee on approximately two occasions to discuss the progress toward reunification and the minor child's response to the reunification therapy. Licensee billed the first meeting as an "evaluation" of Individual A. Licensee again billed the second meeting to Individual A's insurance company as a psychotherapy session (although Individual A was not seeing Licensee for therapy). Following the second meeting with Individual A, Licensee filed a specific clinical diagnosis for Individual A with her insurance company even though Individual A had not consented to an evaluation or diagnosis by Licensee. At no time did Individual A consent to evaluation, diagnosis or therapy with Licensee. At no time did Licensee attempt to engage Individual A in a process of informed consent regarding his providing such services to her or about his reaching a diagnosis and filing it with her insurance company. Licensee neither admits nor denies but the Board finds violations of ES 3.10(a), ES 10.01 and ES 6.04(a). Licensee was ordered to pay a civil penalty.

Jennifer Twyford, Ph.D (Licensee) is currently licensed by the Board to practice psychology in Oregon. From March 20, 2023, to June 18, 2023, Licensee

Enforcement Actions Cont.

held a Temporary Permit to practice psychology in the State of Oregon issued by the Board. Licensee had ninety days to take the Oregon jurisprudence examination, which is available online, so that she could become fully licensed in Oregon. Licensee mistakenly believed that she had until June 30, instead of June 18, to take the exam. On June 29, 2023, Board staff notified Licensee that her Temporary Permit had expired on June 18, 2023. At that time, Board staff asked Licensee to confirm whether she had continued to practice psychology or represent herself as a psychologist in Oregon since the date her permit expired. On June 30, 2023, in an email to Board staff, Licensee acknowledged that she had mistakenly calendared the date by which she had to complete the jurisprudence exam before she could become fully licensed in Oregon, while she was practicing under her Temporary Permit. Licensee accepted responsibility and immediately took steps to cease practice until she could take the jurisprudence exam. Licensee was transparent with the Board that she had mistakenly practiced psychology on June 19 and June 28, 2023, when her permit had expired and before she had completed the jurisprudence examination to become fully licensed. The acts and conduct of Licensee described above constitute violations of ORS 675.020(1)(a). Licensee was ordered to pay a civil penalty.

David Gleave, Psy.D (Licensee) is licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. On July 8, 2022, in Board Case No. 2020-048, the Board found that Licensee violated ES 6.01 when he was untimely in providing a patient's psychological evaluation report. In 2023, Licensee provided psychological evaluation services to an adult patient (Patient). Licensee completed the second of two evaluation sessions with Patient on January 24, 2023. Licensee provided Patient with a verbal summary of his findings at the second session. On March 1, 2023, Patient contacted Licensee to inquire about when she would receive a written evaluation report and on the same date, Licensee replied that he would finish the report "this week" and send a copy to Patient and her referring provider. Patient made a subsequent inquiry about the status of the report on April 11, 2023, and Licensee promised to provide it by April 14, 2023, and then revised that date to April 17, 2023. When she still had not received the report, Patient inquired about it again on May 5, 2023. Licensee provided the written evaluation report on May 6, 2023. Licensee neither admits nor denies but the Board finds violation of ES 6.01. Licensee was ordered to pay a civil penalty.



Photo by [Aaron Burden](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Joshua Laubacher, Psy.D (Licensee) was licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. For approximately seven years, ending in or around March 2024, Licensee worked at a group practice in Oregon. As part of Licensee's duties, he was responsible to record his session notes and other records for professional psychological services he provided to patients. The employer had an electronic medical records (EMR) system where session notes and other reports were stored and from which billing was generated to patients or third-party payors (insurers). In the winter of 2021, an ice storm caused glitch with the EMR which prevented remote access to the EMR for a short period. From this point on, Licensee failed to record session notes going forward (even after EMR access was restored) for many patient sessions and services. Between 2021 and 2023, Licensee failed to record session notes for at least 1067 sessions involving 150 patients. However, Licensee electronically signed off on the records as if they were complete. Licensee was instructed to email his colleagues at the practice regarding the missing session notes, so that they could assess how missing records might impact their own work with the practice's patients. On October 26, 2023, he informed his colleagues that a glitch in the EMR was to blame for the incomplete records. On October 30, 2023, he again emailed his colleagues at the clinic, this time admitting that the initial glitch in the EMR was not the reason for the magnitude of his incomplete records, but that he had failed to keep up with his recordkeeping for personal reasons. In addition to failing to enter treatment records, Licensee

Enforcement Actions Cont.

had failed to complete specific reports or assessments which individual patients needed. In one instance, Licensee wrote in a report that a patient's Rorschach assessment was "normal" but there was no record in the patient's file of the scoring. Licensee should have performed on the Rorschach. In another instance, Licensee's delay in completing an assessment resulted in a patient not receiving an Individual Education Plan (IEP) at school for six additional months. The investigation into Licensee's record keeping practices also uncovered instances of unprofessional conduct with patients, such as by playing games with patients during session instead of providing therapeutic services, or failing to provide guidance to parents of patients about how to best support their children with respect to the child/patient's diagnosis. In some instances, Licensee disclosed his personal problems to patients or their parents to a degree that disrupted the therapy services the patients needed. The acts and conduct of Licensee described above constitute violations of ES 3.04, ES 3.09, ES 5.01, ES 6.01, ES 9.02, 9.06, Principle B and Principle C. Licensee's license to practice psychology in Oregon is revoked.

Dustin Adamo, Ph.D (Applicant) has applied for a license with this Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. Applicant submitted his application dated December 11, 2023, for licensure as a psychologist in the State of Oregon. Applicant answered "no" to questions 7 and 11 on the application which ask:

"Have you ever been convicted or plead guilty or no contest to any misdemeanor or felony offense in any city, county, state, federal or tribal court, or any other country?"

"Have you ever been named a defendant in a civil case or criminal prosecution, including malpractice?"

However, Applicant had previously been convicted in St. Charles, Missouri in 2014 for driving while intoxicated (DWI), a Class B misdemeanor. The acts and conduct of Licensee described above constitutes a violation of OAR 858-010-0020(6). Applicant was ordered to pay a civil penalty.



Did you know that Oregon has over 500 species of spiders? Curious to know more, check out this publication from Oregon.gov. [Oregon Spiders: Facts and Fiction](#).

Important Reminder!

The [OHA Health Care Interpreter Registry](#) contains a listing of OHA **registered interpreters** and explains the qualifications and process to become an interpreter. Questions about the requirements of [ORS 413.559](#) or [OAR 333-002-0250](#), should be directed to [OHA](#). Ψ



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<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OBOP>

OBOP News is the official newsletter of the Oregon Board of Psychology and is edited by board staff. Please visit our website at Oregon.gov/psychology, email, or contact us with any comments or suggestions.

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Upcoming Events

October 2024

10/17: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting
 10/18: Education & DEI Committee Meeting

November 2024

11/8: Board Meeting
 11/9: Strategic Planning Meeting
 11/11: Office Closed, Veteran's Day
 11/15: Education & DEI Committee Meeting
 11/28-11/29: Office Closed, Thanksgiving

December 2024

12/19: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting
 12/20: Education & DEI Committee Meeting
 12/25: Office Closed, Holiday

January 2025

1/01: Office Closed, New Year's
 1/10: **Board Meeting**
 1/17: Education/DEI Committee Meeting
 1/20: Office Closed, MLK Day

February 2025

2/17: Office Closed, President's Day
 2/20: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting
 2/21: Education/DEI Committee Meeting

March 2025

3/14: **Board Meeting**
 3/21: Education/DEI Committee Meeting

** Committee meetings are tentatively scheduled.* Please also visit our [Board Meetings Webpage](#).



Celebrating the Season

Oregon Fall Events

October 2024

Bend Film Festival
 Rock the Locks Music Festival
 Roseburg Blocktober Fest
 Great Columbia Crossing
 Hood River Valley Harvest Fest
 Halloween Train
 Westcoast Giant Pumpkin Regatta
 Eastern Oregon Film Festival
 Mount Pisgah Mushroom Show

November 2024

Quiltopia Oregon
 Stormy Weather Arts Festival
 Portland Book Festival
 Yachats Celtic Music Festival
 Pendleton Leather Show
 Verboort Sausage & Kraut Festival
 Wild Rivers Mushroom Festival
 Night of 10,000 Lights



Information from the Travel Oregon website: [Oregon's Fabulous Fall Events - Travel Oregon](#)

Adventure Awaits! Looking for the perfect fall adventure? Try exploring one of Oregon's amazing covered bridges! Most of Oregon's covered bridges were built between 1905 and 1925 and once topped 450 across the state. Today, the 50 remaining bridges are a peak into the history of our beautiful state. For more information visit these informative websites: [Covered Bridges - Travel Oregon](#) or [Journey Through Time: Oregon's Historic Covered Bridges - Oregon Discovery](#).



Gresham, OR, Jake Givens, Unsplash