

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY NEWS

WINTER 2026 EDITION



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A Word from the Executive Director

Greetings from MHRA. We hope that you and your family had the best of holidays. 2025 may have felt challenging for many of you, and it may have felt like your services were needed more than ever. We appreciate you and what you offer to the public we serve.

January is the lead-in to this year's short Legislative Session. Although (relatively) brief, a short session can be very intense and fast-moving. We encourage you to stay informed on legislative issues that may impact you. One way to do this is to use the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS) to review and track proposed legislation and observe legislative presentations, testimony, and deliberations. Useful links include:

- OLIS main landing page: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/> (Be sure to verify which session's information you are viewing. The default is the current phase, which is the 2025-26 interim. Once a session begins, the page will default to the current session's information.)
- e-Subscribe: https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement/Pages/e-Subscribe.aspx - This page allows you to follow committees and information of your choosing.
- *How Ideas Become Law*: https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement/Pages/How-an-Idea-Becomes-Law.aspx - Good general information on the creation of legislation and the path an idea takes on its way to becoming law.

It may also be helpful at this time to address the common question of "Why isn't the Board advocating for licensees on certain issues?" - The short answer is: that is not the Board's role. The Board is statutorily charged with protecting the public through setting and enforcing standards for entering into and practicing the licensed profession of psychology in Oregon. Therefore, it would not be appropriate in most cases for the Board to engage in issues such as recruiting, retention, workforce, etc. If the Board becomes aware of an opportunity to comment appropriately on an issue involving public protection, it may request permission from the Governor to take a specific position on a specific piece of legislation. Most often, you will see professional associations assume the role of advocacy for their relative membership base. Generally, the Board regulates and associations advocate.

Hopefully the legislative-related information is helpful to you in monitoring the upcoming session (and future legislative activities).

We wish you the best in the upcoming year, and appreciate what you do for Oregon's citizens.

Director's Update.....	1
Administrative Rulemaking.....	2
Enforcement Actions.....	2-3
Calendar & Upcoming Events...	3

Administrative Rulemaking: 2025 Overview

During 2025, the Board adopted 3 new rules, amended 4 rules, and repealed 1 rule. It did not adopt or amend any temporary rules. Please visit our [Administrative Rulemaking Webpage](#) for more information.

- **Implemented Senate Bill 1552, petition for predetermination based on criminal conviction, fee, and definitions.** *Filed: 5/12/25; Effective: 7/1/25*
Adopted OAR 858-010-0019 & Amended OARs 858-010-0001 & 858-030-0005
- **Implemented SB1557, prohibiting licensees from denying services to youth on basis of intellectual/developmental disability.** *Filed: 7/11/25; Effective: 7/11/25*
Adopted OAR 858-010-0301
- **Repealed OAR 858-010-0037, supervised work experience for psychologist associate licensure.** *7/11/25; Effective: 7/11/25*
Repealed OAR 858-010-0037
- **Board member compensation and expense reimbursement; Board record maintenance.** *Filed: 7/11/25; Effective: 7/11/25*
Amended OAR 858-010-0005
- **Amended psychologist educational requirements to accept programs accredited by the Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System.** *Filed: 9/22/25; Effective: 9/22/25*
Amended OAR 858-010-0010
- **Implemented Servicemembers Civil Relief Act by establishing new servicemember portability licensure requirements.** *Filed: 9/22/25; Effective: 9/22/25*
Adopted OAR 858-010-0057

Enforcement Actions

During the period of time from October 2, 2025, to January 12, 2026, the Board took the following actions:

Sylvia Randall, Ph.D (Licensee) has been licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. Licensee's license expired on August 31, 2024. Unaware that her license had expired, Licensee continued to practice psychology for approximately 10 months. Licensee ceased practice as soon as she became aware that her license had expired. Licensee was forthcoming and cooperative with the Board regarding its inquiries about her practice while lapsed. The acts and conduct of Licensee described above constitute violations of ORS 675.020(1)(a) and ORS 675.070. Licensee is ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500; however, the civil penalty is stayed until such date as Licensee applies to the Board for licensure.

Naomi Steinberg, Ph.D. (Licensee) is licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. Licensee's practice as a psychologist focuses on patients with trauma and diagnoses of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, a segment of the public who are at

elevated risk for suicidal ideation, self-harm, and completed suicide. Licensee's practice of psychology is informed by unproven assumptions about the professional discipline and standards of care, including the existence of mind-control and the ability of an outside person to "program" the mind of another. Licensee involves an unlicensed individual in her therapy sessions with clients, having him participate in an authoritative role in the client's treatment. The individual reinforces Licensee's unfounded assumptions and claims to be able to "deprogram" clients from the effects of trauma or mind-control by the use of key words or numbers, spoken aloud. This approach is not a validated treatment modality within the discipline of psychology and is completely unfounded. Licensee has involved this individual in approximately 40 of her professional treatment sessions with patients. At the site of a recent suicide attempt by one of her patients, Licensee attempted to engage the unlicensed individual in a telephone conversation with her patient, informing law enforcement personnel at the scene that the individual could remove the patient's suicidal intent by speaking a series of numbers to the pa-

Enforcement Actions, Cont.

tient over the phone. This intervention is not consistent with the standard of care applicable to patients suffering from acute suicidality. License admits and the Board finds that the acts and conduct of Licensee described above constitute violations of ES 2.04 and 2.05. Licensee retired her license while under investigation, agreed not submit a new application for licensure and agreed not to apply to any other Oregon board, agency or authority that licenses or otherwise authorizes behavioral, mental or emotional health practice in Oregon.

Jill Jones-Soderman (Respondent) is not licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. On August 19, 2023, Respondent wrote a letter to a circuit court judge in Jefferson County Circuit Court, in Oregon, regarding a family law/custody dispute to which Respondent was not a party. Respondent wrote the letter for a fee which was paid by a family member in Oregon who sought to have custody of the child awarded to the child's paternal grandmother. Respondent collected \$3,000 from the family member and entered into a "Memorandum of Understanding" with the paternal grandmother. Respondent's August 19, 2023, letter was captioned "Advisory/Ex Parte Notice to Judge" and was designed to influence the judicial determination regarding custody of the Oregon

child. In the letter, Respondent described herself as "a psychoanalyst, psychotherapist, family therapist, mediator and forensic expert by training and experience." Of the child whose custody was in dispute, Respondent wrote, "the dynamic that exists between mother and child is symptomatic of Munchausen by Proxy, which is a diagnosis that is understood to be the most diabolical pathology of a parent who seeks attention by sympathy by medical authorities because of the dire complex medical condition of the child." The letter offered a diagnostic conclusion ("is symptomatic of") of the behavioral health disorder Factitious Disorder Imposed on Another, a diagnosis listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-5) (diagnostic code 300.19), which is also known as "Munchausen by Proxy." In a document titled "Jill Jones-Soderman, Ph.D., MSHS, Expert Witness Testimony" Respondent listed "Areas of Expertise" which included "Child Psychotherapy" and described herself as "a specialist in dealing with children who suffer from poorly recognized syndromes such as Opposition Defiant Disorder (ODD), and early childhood mood disorders." Oppositional Defiant Disorder is a diagnosis listed in the DSM-5 (diagnostic code 313.81). The acts and conduct of Respondent described above constitute violations of ORS 675.020(1)(a) and (b).

Calendar/Upcoming Events

January 2026

01/09: **Board Meeting**
01/16: Education/DEI Committee Meeting
01/19: Office Closed, MLK Day

February 2026

02/16: Office Closed, President's Day
02/19: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting
02/20: Education/DEI Committee Meeting

March 2026

03/13: **Board Meeting**
03/20: Education/DEI Committee Meeting

April 2026

04/16: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting
04/17: Education/DEI Committee Meeting

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

OBOP News is the official newsletter of the Oregon Board of Psychology and is edited by board staff. Please contact us with any comments or suggestions. 3218 Pringle Rd. SE, Ste. 130, Salem, OR 97302

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If you would like to submit an 'In Memoriam' tribute for a member the psychologist community, please email us:

psychology.board@mhra.oregon.gov

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



Photo by [Rolf Schmidbauer](#) on [Unsplash](#)