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## Director's Update

Greetings everyone. I hope you are all having an enjoyable summer. We are now into the dog-days of summer with record heat in some parts of our country. In Oregon we are well into the wildfire season, and on some days we must endure the smoke that drifts in from near or far away. During my college days I worked for the USFS and I spent 8 years working the fire lines to save enough money for college tuition. These days, I am thankful for a job that offers an office and air conditioning. I also think of those men and women out on the fire lines for days at a time risking their lives. I never take for granted the value of a college education, nor how hard I had to work to be able to earn the right to walk and be presented with my diploma by Dr. Carl H. Stoltenberg from OSU. During my early working years, and while raising my two sons back in the "80's" it became even more clear to me that a good college education enabled me to better provide for my family. Every penny counted towards being able to put food on the table, clothes on our backs, and a roof over our heads. Therefore, I am pleased to announce in this newsletter that there will be a license fee decrease which becomes effective January 1, 2024.

In the [Spring 2023 Newsletter](#) I gave a brief on the growth of the licensee base for the BOP and the BLPCT. I presented five pages of statistics and graphs and if you missed that article, please check it out. I also talked about MHRA's 2023-2025 budget proposal, House Bill (HB) 5024, and we discussed HB 3300 as it tracked alongside our budget bill. As the 82<sup>nd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly got off to a start, it soon became apparent we were in for a bumpy ride. Due to the Senate walkout, there was a lot of drama and bills were not heard for lack of a quorum. I watched and listened every day for news on our budget. Finally, some senators returned to work and with just 5 days remaining in the session our budget bill, HB 5024 passed its third reading in the Senate chamber and was headed to the Governor's desk for signature or veto. With numerous bills on her desk for consideration our HB 5024 was signed into law on July 18, 2023. The highlights of our HB 5024 budget bill include:

- License fee decreases for both the BOP and the BLPCT. Please see the **Table**, below for an overview of fee decreases, which will become effective January 1, 2024. There were three main factors contributed to our ability to decrease fees.
  - Continued growth among our licensee base, meaning our revenue has outpaced projections.
  - A decrease in contested case hearings, meaning expenditures have been less than projections.
  - Sound fiscal management.



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## Director's Update, Cont.

- Approval of a change in our cost allocation model from 70/30 to 75/35. The BLPCT licensee base continues to grow at a faster rate than does the BOP licensee base. With this adjustment, the BLPCT will pay for 75% of the MHRA administrative expenses, while the BOP will pay for 25%.
- HB 5024 will allow MHRA to establish a new Administrative Assistant position while converting a Limited Duration Investigator position to permanent. Moving forward, MHRA will have 15 FTE positions.

<b>Board of Psychology – FEE REDUCTIONS</b>			
<b>Fee Type</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>NEW 2024</b>	<b>Change</b>
Active License Biennial Renewal	\$780	\$600	-23%
Semi-Active License Biennial Renewal	\$390	\$300	-23%
Inactive License Biennial Renewal	\$105	\$90	-14%
Temporary Practice Authorization	\$900	\$700	-22%

HB 3300 was signed into law on July 27, 2023 and below are the highlights:

- Allows the BLPCT to move away from annual renewals. Effective January 1, 2024 the BLPCT will transition to a two-year renewal cycle.
- Allows the BLPCT to establish a limited permit which will have a \$100 permit fee. The limited permit will be good for 30 days during a 12-month period. This will also become effective January 1, 2024.

## COMING SOON

Continuing education audits will begin soon with notifications being sent to BOP licensees on or around August 1, 2023 for those licensees randomly selected for audit. A new feature will be added to the Licensee Portal, and licensees will be able to upload CE certificates directly through their portal account. Continuing education audits for the BLPCT will begin later this year as soon as our licensing system vendor completes the portal programming work.

## THANK YOU DR. LINDA NISHI-STRATTNER

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to **Dr. Linda Nishi-Strattner** who termed off the Board on June 30, 2023. Dr. Nishi-Strattner served faithfully on the BOP for an amazing 7 years. She was instrumental in leading the BOP Social Media Committee and presenting to the ASPPB as well as heading up the COVID-19 Workgroup which kept licensees updated throughout the pandemic. I could always count on Dr. Nishi-Strattner for her unwavering support—Linda has left her mark on the BOP. **Dr. David Greaves** replaced Dr. Nishi-Strattner effective July 1, 2023.

—Charles Hill, Executive Director, Mental Health Regulatory Agency

*“Plans are nothing, but planning is everything” – Dwight D. Eisenhower*

## Psychology and Psilocybin in Oregon

Since the passage of [Measure 109](#) in November 2020, which authorizes the use of psilocybin (under specific, limited circumstances) in Oregon, there have been questions about what the new statute means for the psychologists in the state. The Oregon Board of Psychology is aware that [some psychologists are interested](#) in how psilocybin might be used in their practice.

*Please note: as explained below, currently, a Board licensee, resident, or temporary practitioner may **not** use psilocybin with their patients in Oregon.*

### The Current State of Psilocybin Services in Oregon

Oregon's psilocybin program is administered by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), which has a detailed website with information about its [program](#). Non-profits and industry are also interested stakeholders in the psilocybin program. At the public Board meeting held on May 12, 2023, the Board heard from Sam Chapman, the Executive Director of the Healing Advocacy Fund (HAF). HAF, formed shortly after Measure 109 passed, is a non-profit organization whose goal is to help foster implementation of psilocybin services in Oregon. The [minutes](#) of this meeting and Mr. Chapman's presentation are available on the Board website.

According to Mr. Chapman, the psilocybin program is expanding rapidly in Oregon:

- OHA's psilocybin program opened for business in January 2023
- OHA has approved [22 educational programs](#) to train psilocybin facilitators
- Approximately [700 facilitators](#) will graduate and be licensed by the end of 2023
- OHA licensed the first service center in May 2023
- Approximately [12 service centers](#) are expected to be licensed by the end of 2023

The training requirements and curriculum are developed and approved by OHA, consistent with its statutory role to oversee the psilocybin program under Measure 109. To [train as a facilitator](#), a person must be at least 21 years old, have a high school diploma or equivalent, be an Oregon resident for the past 2 years (this requirement expires in 2025), and pass a criminal background check. The curriculum requires a student to participate in 120 hours of didactic training and 40 hours of practicum training. Upon completion of the training course, applicants must pass a written exam before OHA will issue a facilitator license.

Mr. Chapman reported his understanding that these psilocybin administration sessions will last 4-6 hours and cost clients between \$1500 and \$3000. According to Mr. Chapman, insurance companies are unlikely to pay for psilocybin services, as psilocybin is still an illegal substance under federal law ([Schedule I](#)).

### Delivery of Facilitation Services by OHA Licensed Centers and Facilitators

By law, OHA is responsible for the implementation, oversight and administration of psilocybin services in Oregon. OHA has set out a [three-step process for psilocybin services](#): preparation, administration, and integration. OHA has adopted rules specifying that people are not eligible for psilocybin services if, during the preparation session, they report [certain factors](#), including taking lithium in the preceding 30 days, active psychotic symptoms, or current thoughts of harming themselves or others.

OHA requires that psilocybin must be administered only at a [licensed service center](#) with the assistance of an OHA-licensed facilitator. Integration sessions are not required following an administration session, a policy set forth in [ORS 475A.360\(1\)](#). However, facilitators are [required to offer](#) them to their psilocybin services clients.

## Psychology and Psilocybin in Oregon, Cont.

### Open Issues for the Board and Licensed Psychologists, Associates, and Permit Holders

The Board is aware that many licensees are interested in psilocybin and how it might be incorporated into the practice of psychology. However, there are some open questions that do not have definitive resolution at this point.

First, OHA's rules currently prohibit a licensed facilitator from acting under any other professional license while providing psilocybin facilitation services. OHA has instructed its licensed facilitators that "If a facilitator holds a professional license in another field, the facilitator shall not exercise the privileges of that license while providing psilocybin services to clients." [OAR 333-333-5130\(3\)](#). OHA rules reiterate that requirement applies during integration sessions. [OAR 333-333-5260\(2\)](#).

At the same time, there is the consideration of ethical practice as a psychologist. The [APA Ethics Code adopted by the Board](#) prohibits psychologists from entering into multiple roles with a patient—a circumstance that might be created if a psychologist invites a patient to enter into a facilitator-client relationship alongside the psychologist-patient relationship.

Second, because Oregon is the first state to authorize the use of psilocybin in any circumstance, the Board has not had time to develop a well-informed perspective on how psilocybin can be safely and ethically integrated into the practice of psychology. For that reason, the Board has so far taken a thoughtful approach, waiting to see how psilocybin services develop in Oregon and conferring with OHA about how the two agencies can partner in these matters.

As Oregon moves forward with developing psilocybin services, the Board reminds psychologists who are considering seeking licensure as psilocybin facilitators that they should be aware of the current rules of both agencies (OHA and the Board) and the uncertainty that remains about how to practice ethically while holding both licenses. The Board will continue to monitor the development of the program and consult with the OHA as psilocybin services continue to roll out in Oregon. As with all policy issues, the Board welcomes feedback from licensees about this important topic.

- Catherine Miller, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist and Board Member

### Highlights Of The 2022 BOP Customer Satisfaction Survey

I would like to take some time to address our 2022 Customer Satisfaction Survey. Our Agency sends out the Survey annually to both boards as required per Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 291.110. State legislators use this information to monitor an Agency's KPMs (Key Performance Measures). The Boards will use this information to gauge trends from year to year and to adjust to address performance issues.

As the Executive Director, I also use this data to try to analyze where we can make improvements. The Agency's 2023 Annual Performance Progress Report to the Legislature contained the 2022 survey results. I have been analyzing this measure for several years and have also investigated survey results from many years ago. Here are some notable observations along with my comments.

In 2022, we sent the survey to 2410 psychologists, psychologist associates, and applicants including residents. We received approximately 200 responses for a rate of about 8.3%. In reviewing past surveys, the response rate falls between 6-9%, so the 2022 rate is consistent with past years' results. In looking at past survey results over a decade old, I note that many comments are the same, or nearly the same.

## Highlights Of The 2022 BOP Customer Satisfaction Survey, Cont.

What does the survey response rate tell me? To boil it down, we know what approximately 8% of the license base is thinking, but we don't know what the other 92% is thinking. From the 8.3% that responded in 2022, we generally heard more negative comments than positive comments. Because we did not hear from the remaining 92% of stakeholders, I surmise that either the negative or positive concerns do not rise to the category of importance to respond to the survey. I can also surmise that most licensees feel that the BOP is doing a satisfactory job. Or I could surmise that the survey is not an effective tool for gauging our performance. I could also surmise that the licensee base is just too busy to respond. I reported to the Board members that I am perplexed on how to interpret the comments and results of the survey and on what possible changes to focus on. But, what I would like to do in this article is touch on the highlights of the comments that we did receive and report what the Board is doing.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION

I lumped what I would consider 9 negative comments related to continuing education (CE). I noticed that there were zero positive comments focusing on CE. Most professions across the country require CE for maintenance of their licensees, and the reasoning of course is that CE helps professionals stay sharp and on top of their game. ORS 675.110(15) states that the Board shall formulate and enforce continuing education requirements for duly licensed psychologists to ensure the highest quality of professional services to the public, while Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 858, Division 40 lays out the CE requirements for Oregon licensees. The 9 negative comments on CEs represent 0.37% of the licensee base which from a statistical standpoint is insignificant. But, that does not mean that we do not want to hear from you, because your comments are meaningful. The nine comments that we did hear were all different and varied. One comment especially resonated, and I will share. "...some improvement of how CE's are tracked and reported would be awesome..." Beginning in 2023, we will be making a change to our audit reporting process. We have been working with our licensing database vendor and after much testing we are finally ready to roll out our new reporting system. Starting with the next audit cycle, licensees will begin using the online Licensee Portal integrated system to enter program information and upload certificates. We hope that this process will be an improvement over the current system and allow for a quicker turn around by staff.

### BOARD IS TOO RIGID

I recorded 9 comments citing in one way or another that the BOP is too rigid and inflexible. Like the CE discussion above, these comments represent 0.37% of the licensee base and were all different and variable. Notable comments were that the BOP was too rigid with enforcing laws and rules. One licensee cited that the investigative process was too rigid. Another licensee complained that Board staff will not offer legal counsel.

One of the key findings of the Diversity Study completed by Keen Independent Research in December 2022 was a high level of confusion for Oregon licensees about the role and scope of the Board. One area of confusion involves the Board's advisory role. Board members and staff cannot provide clinical or legal advice, interpretations or advisory opinions on Oregon law, or an opinion as to how the Board would vote on any given case or scenario. Oftentimes, the Board's website or staff may be able to direct individuals to relevant information such as applicable laws, rules, ethical code provisions, or official guidelines. But it is not the role of Board personnel to perform analysis of the law or to research clinical standards and provide advice on how those apply to a person's specific situation.

## Highlights Of The 2022 BOP Customer Satisfaction Survey, Cont.

In the 2021-23 biennium, the Board has been actively reviewing its policies and Oregon Administrative Rules and making positive improvements to support its mission, including DEI initiatives, while maintaining high standards for consumer protection. In June of 2021, the Board formed a joint committee that also included members of the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors to explore revisions to the MHRA Character and Fitness Policy, with particular consideration of potential barriers to licensure. The committee worked over several meetings to form recommendations that were ultimately adopted by both Boards. The revised policy removed some procedural hurdles in the application process, including revisions to the character and fitness questions, and a more expedited review process to avoid licensing delays. Recent rulemakings have removed some hurdles to application processing, updated the renewal process, adding clarifications around conditions and requirements for renewal, including deadlines, expiration dates, delinquent fee hardship waiver, license lapse, and reinstatement. Also, the Board recently moved to an online based Oregon Jurisprudence Examination, a well-received change that allowed psychologists to become licensed more conveniently and expediently.

### STAFF RESPONSE TO PHONE CALLS AND EMAILS

The 2022 Survey contained 17 comments that referred to staff. Most comments stated that either phone calls and emails were quickly returned or not returned at all. Often, they cited how friendly and helpful staff were or were not. These 17 comments represent 0.7% of the licensee base. Of the 17 comments received, 10 responses were favorable towards staff (0.4% of the licensee base) and 7 comments were unfavorable (0.3% of the licensee base). At MHRA, we endeavor to provide excellent customer service. The 2022 survey results were an improvement over the 2021 results. While we are not perfect in this category, we do try to be. One notable change that we made in 2022 is that we diligently try to staff the phone during the workday. Our Licensing Manager staggered lunch time for staff so that the phones are always tended to. We also log all calls that come into the office so that we can get back to licensees with a return call. The other part of the equation is retention of our staff, and quick recruitment when we have a vacancy; this part of the equation is more difficult to control, but we are doing our best.

### PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT (PSYPACT)

We had a total of 7 responses from licensees stating that they would like BOP to enter into a PSYPACT agreement. The BOP is hearing the licensee base and actively engaging into research and weighing options around PSYPACT. The one thing that I want to emphasize is that entering a PSYPACT agreement will require a statutory change—in other words, a change made through the Oregon State Legislature. This means that a legislative bill would need to be advanced, the House of Representatives and Senate would each need to approve the measure, and the Governor would need to sign any PSYPACT language into law. This is a long-term project.

In March of 2023, the Board sent out a survey to all licensees and applicants/residents asking their opinions on the best direction for Oregon in terms of the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) and PSYPACT.

The response rate to this survey was relatively high, at 32%. In sum, 84.0% of respondents (60% of applicant/residents, 84.7% of licensees) indicated that they believed the best direction for Oregon would be to move toward adoption of legislation to join PSYPACT, even though it means retaining the EPPP requirement, including EPPP Part 2 starting January 2026. 8.3% of respondents (28% of applicant/residents, 7.7% of licensees) indicated that they believed the best direction for Oregon would be to move toward removal of the EPPP as a requirement for licensure, even though it means Oregon cannot then be a PSYPACT state. The remaining 7.2% (12% applicant/residents) were in favor of status quo—maintaining the EPPP requirement and not becoming a PSYPACT state. 0.5% of licensees provided feedback but gave no answer to this question.

## Highlights Of The 2022 BOP Customer Satisfaction Survey, Cont.

### RENEWAL AND RECIPROCITY

We recorded 5 comments regarding the renewal process. One comment stated how simple and streamlined the portal process is, and the other 4 comments came from people who struggled with the process. We recorded 4 comments from out of state applicants that cited how difficult and cumbersome the process was for applicants from out of state applying for an Oregon license. As mentioned above, the Board has taken recent action to improve licensing policies and rules. The Board's Education Committee is currently tasked with exploring additional ways to expedite application processing, in particular for endorsement (out-of-state) applicants.

These are the highlights from the 2022 customer satisfaction survey. As I mentioned above, analyzing these results is difficult with such a low number of responses. It's especially difficult to analyze when comments range the spectrum from satisfied to dissatisfied on the same topics, with some being vague as to what is of concern. My overall message to all licensees and applicants/residents is that the MHRA is involved in a continuous improvement process and that we focus on the issues that we can control. I want to thank everyone who took time to respond to our survey and encourage those who did not respond to do so at the next opportunity.

—Charles Hill, Executive Director, Mental Health Regulatory Agency

### 2023 Legislative Session

The 2023 Legislative Session began on January 17, 2023 and adjourned sine die on June 25, 2023. Most of the measures MHRA was monitoring did not pass. Here are a few that affect the agency which did pass:

- [House Bill 2002](#)- This is a large measure related to reproductive and gender-affirming healthcare. It includes changes that prohibit health boards—including BOP and BLPCT—from taking certain actions against a person because of a conviction in another jurisdiction for providing services relating to reproductive or gender-affirming care that are lawful in Oregon and meet an appropriate standard of care. Similarly, it prevents malpractice insurers from taking adverse action against health care providers.
- [House Bill 3300](#)- This is BLPCT's concept that was graciously introduced by Representatives McLain and Ruiz. It authorizes BLPCT to issue limited permits to qualified applicants, and removes the requirement that LPC and LMFT licenses be renewed annually.
- [House Bill 5024](#)- MHRA's budget bill, which funds the Boards for the 2023-25 biennium. It's useful to keep our doors open and our staff compensated. This also approved the Boards' proposal to reduce licensing fees, which will soon begin the required administrative rulemaking process.

This is provided for informational purposes only. Please note that the Board cannot provide additional information or advice about outside bills. Each Bill above includes a hyperlink where you can find more information on the Oregon State Legislature website.

—LaRee Stashek, MHRA Policy Advisor

## Enforcement Actions

**Bridget Fanning-Ono, Psy.D** (Licensee) is licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. From approximately July 2020, through approximately November 2020, Licensee provided psychotherapy to Client A, an 18-year old, whose treatment was covered by their parent's health insurance. On several occasions, sessions were cancelled when Client A was not available to meet as originally scheduled or terminated shortly after they began when Client A was calling in for a session from a public location. On or about May 3, 2021, following the completion of Client A's services, Licensee was audited by the health insurance provider that covered Client A, Providence Health Plans ("PHP"). PHP was examining the quality of Licensee's billing records to evaluate if they supported the billing claims Licensee filed with respect to Client A. On or about May 14, 2021, Licensee called Client A to confer about the PHP audit. Licensee told Client A that she had billed PHP for sessions when Client A had cancelled, explaining that she did that to avoid Client A being charged cancellation fees. This phone call was witnessed by Client A's parent, who was present while the conversation occurred on speaker phone. After the audit, Licensee reimbursed PHP for the full value of payment received for services to Client A, attributing the repayment to good faith errors in her billing. When Licensee responded to the Board's inquiries about this matter and provided records to the Board, she acknowledged that she could not confirm how many sessions she had with Client A due to the quality of her records. Licensee neither admits nor denies, but the Board finds that Licensee violated ES 3.04, 5.01, 6.01 and 6.06. Licensee was formally reprimanded, ordered to practice under supervision for a minimum of one year and pay a civil penalty.

**Aaron Perkins, Ph.D** (Licensee) was licensed by the Board to practice psychology in Oregon from September 20, 2020, to April 30, 2021, when his license expired. Licensee had the opportunity to complete a late renewal application through May 30, 2021, but did not. Licensee did not receive the correspondence sent to him by the Board reminding him to renew his license because he moved and did not notify the Board of his new address. Licensee continued to practice as a psychologist in Oregon until June 1, 2021, when his employer instructed him to stop seeing patients. Licensee left his employer on or about June 3, 2021. Shortly after separating from employment, Licensee returned his employer's computer and was asked to return the patient records he had prepared while working for the employer. Licensee transferred the patient records from his employer-issued computer to a cloud-drive and then deleted the files from the computer without verifying that all the files had successfully transferred to the cloud-drive before deleting them from the computer. When the employer asked for the files, the Licensee transferred them from the cloud-drive to a USB drive and deleted them from the cloud-drive, apparently without verifying that all the patient files had transferred before deleting them from the cloud-drive. Ultimately, the USB drive was found not to contain all the patient records that Licensee had prepared. The employer was not able to locate the patient records on any of its cloud-drives or other devices. The acts and conduct of Licensee described above constitute violations of ORS 675.020(1)(a), and ES 6.01. Licensee was formally reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty.

**Jason G. Richards, Psy.D** (Licensee) is licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. Between July 7, 2020, and November 10, 2021, Licensee provided therapy services to Client A, an adult woman for a total of 33 sessions. At the beginning of the therapeutic relationship, Client A reported a history of anxiety, including social anxiety and self-doubt in romantic relationships and friendships. The therapy ended when Licensee was preparing to move out of state. Licensee met with Client A at a local coffee shop the day after the final therapy session to say farewell. While Licensee resided out of state, he struck up a friendship relationship with Client A, communicating regularly by text, phone and Zoom meetings. Licensee returned to Oregon in the middle of March 2022, moving back to the same area he had lived in before. Beginning at this time, he met in-person with Client A for friendship-type activities. In late August 2022, Licensee and Client A discussed having romantic feelings for each other. Licensee engaged Client A in a discussion of the risk of such a relationship. Licensee involved Client A in making a "mutual" decision to "take the risk." In September 2022, Licensee entered into a romantic and sexual relationship with Client A. The acts and conduct of Licensee described above constitute violations of ORS 675.070(2)(d)(A) and ES 10.08. Licensee was ordered to practice under supervision for a minimum of six months. Licensee's license to practice psychology in Oregon is revoked.

## Enforcement Actions

**Jess J. McCall** (Respondent) is not licensed to practice psychology in the State of Oregon, but was found to have been doing so. Respondent denies, but the Board finds that Respondent violated ORS 675.020(1). Respondent was ordered to pay a civil penalty.

**Norma Kump, Ph.D** (Licensee) is licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon. Licensee provided professional psychological services to Client A in Oregon from approximately February 1991 until at least December 7, 2022. Sometime in 2020, Licensee shredded or otherwise destroyed her records of professional services provided to Client A until that date. During 2020, Licensee provided professional services to Client A at least 25 times between February 26, 2020, and December 10, 2020. When asked by the Board to provide Client A's entire file as it then existed, Licensee was unable to provide information regarding Client A's diagnosis, progress, treatment goals, or other matters pertaining to the course of psychological treatment. The acts and conduct of Licensee described above constitute violations of ES 6.01. Licensee was ordered to practice under supervision for a minimum of six months.

## Administrative Rulemaking

*On July 24, 2023, the Board filed a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the following rule amendment:*

**Oregon practice, foreign degree education, psychological records, investigations, communication and responsibility, alternative name, and cleanup.**

- Adopt OAR 858-010-0003: Defines when a person practices psychology or represents themselves as a psychologist in Oregon.
- Amend OAR 858-010-0005: Removes board member communication provision that is contrary to public meetings law, and strict deadlines for agenda and meeting minute distribution. Other technical fixes.
- Amend OAR 858-010-0010: Clarifies foreign degree program and evaluation requirement for psychologist licensure educational requirements. Removes requirement that program requirements must specifically be part of the doctoral degree, and allows requirements of the graduate program to be included.
- Amend OAR 858-010-0013: Removes obsolete reference to a repealed rule.
- Amend OAR 858-010-0034: Updates statutory citation following renumbering resulting from Senate Bill 40 (2017).
- Amend OAR 858-010-0060: Clarifies failure to comply provision of psychological records rule.
- Amend OAR 858-010-0061: Adds requirement to provide nickname or alternative personal name to the Board. Makes amendments to provide information consistent with new online licensing system.
- Repeal OAR 858-010-0080: Removes obsolete rule provision repealing other rules from 1974.
- Amend OAR 858-020-0015: Makes technical correction to Executive Director title, in conformance with other rule sections.

## Administrative Rulemaking

- Amend OAR 858-020-0035: Removes unnecessary requirements that complaints received must always include written statements, documentation, and submission of a signed complaint form, and that the Board provide complainants a copy of ORS 676.160. Clarifies that Board may initiate investigations.
- Amend OAR 858-020-0045: Expands provisions for failure to cooperate with a Board investigation and sets forth prohibitions including witness harassment and intimidation, retaliation, and deception. Other language clarifications.
- Amend OAR 858-020-0105: Clarifies the Board's responsibility to the public, which does not include the provision of advisory opinions or legal advice.

The agency requests public comment on whether the options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business. Please email your comments to [laree.stashek@mhra.oregon.gov](mailto:laree.stashek@mhra.oregon.gov) or mail them to the Board's office at 3218 Pringle Road SE, Ste. 130, Salem, OR 97302. All comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 23, 2023.

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

**Important Reminder!** The new requirement for **2 credits of Suicide Risk Assessment, Treatment and Management** has begun. Licensees who renew on or after July 1, 2022 must report this training within each reporting period.

### Free Online Suicide Prevention CE Opportunity

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has developed a no-cost, 3-hour online (home study) continuing education (CE) opportunity: "[Suicide Prevention – Responding with Care](#)." This course is designed to equip anyone working with clients to recognize warning signs for suicide, ask directly about suicide thoughts, basic safety planning, to refer to help, and strategies for follow up.

Per House Bill 2315 (2021), the Oregon Legislature required various healthcare professionals, including MHRA Board licensees (psychologists, LPCs, and LMFTs), to complete two hours of CE related to suicide risk assessment, treatment, and management every two years beginning on July 1, 2022. This new online course was developed by OHA to meet that requirement. Please note that this 3-credit course is more than the minimum 3 credits required, but the additional 1 credit can still be counted towards a licensee's general CE requirements.

Additionally, OHA had developed a [Recommended Suicide Prevention Training](#) guideline for practitioners considering which training is appropriate for their situation.

## Upcoming Events

### August

8/17: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting  
8/18: Education Committee Meeting

### September

9/4: Office Close for Labor Day  
9/8: Board Meeting  
9/15: Education Committee Meeting

### October

10/19: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting  
10/20: Education Committee Meeting

### November

11/3: Board Meeting  
11/4: Board Strategic Planning Session  
11/10: Office Closed for Veteran's Day  
11/17: Education Committee Meeting  
11/23-11/24: Office Closed for Thanksgiving

### December

12/15: Education Committee Meeting  
12/21: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting  
12/25: Office Closed for Holiday

**Reminder!** Contact information changes are now made in the Licensee Portal. Please make sure to update your email address if it changes so that you continue to receive correspondence. You can view and download your license card and receipts, update your qualified person designation, and complete your biennial renewal via the Portal.

**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](http://Oregon.gov/psychology), email, or contact us with any comments or suggestions.

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