

State of Arkansas
Social Work Licensing Board
Spring 2012 Information Update



BOARD ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2012

Elections were held January 9, 2012 to elect officers for the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board. Listed below are the current Board Members and their positions on the Board.

- Nancy Streit, Licensed Certified Social Worker, Chairperson
- Kelley Williams, Licensed Certified Social Worker, Vice Chairperson
- Laura Printz, Licensed Social Worker, Secretary
- Dr. Steven Domon, Psychiatrist
- Gary Gray, Licensed Certified Social Worker
- Tealisa Allen, Licensed Master Social Worker
- Angela Sanders, Licensed Master Social Worker
- Mae Nunn-Isom, Public Consumer
- Betty Rhodes, Representative of the Elderly

Board members are appointed by the Governor of Arkansas to serve a three year term. They may apply to serve a second term. If you are interested in serving on the Board please contact the Governor's office. Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month during the day. Each of the individuals above volunteers their time to serve on the Board.



SWCE & Renewal

(Social Work Continuing Education)

Social Work Continuing Education (SWCE) has been defined as those formalized activities that are directed at developing and enhancing an individual's social work knowledge base and service delivery skills in the applicable areas of social planning, administration, education, research or direct service with individuals, couples, families, and groups. These activities may include short academic courses, audit courses in colleges and universities, independent study courses, Internet courses, workshops, seminars, conferences, and lectures oriented toward enhancement of social work practice, values, skills, and knowledge.

The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board does not preapprove SWCE courses. The social worker needs to make sure that the course they are taking meets the definition listed above.

The Board is currently requiring that you list courses separately and not in a single large group. An example is MidSouth Summer School. The Board requests you list each course taken and not just MidSouth, 30 hours.

Each month Board members review all applications for renewal received since the last Board meeting. They are looking at your renewal to make sure you have listed at least 48 hours and that no more than 20 of those hours are independent study. (Independent study courses are courses that are not face-to-face or live and interactive.) They also verify that you have listed 3 hours in Ethics training. In most cases, it is easy for the Board to determine if a course fits the definition of SWCE but there are times when the Board is not able to determine by the name of the course if it is related to social work. In the event the Board is not able to tell by the name of the course, you may be sent a letter requesting clarification. You would then be responsible to explaining the content of the course and how it meets the definition. Should the Board request clarification, your license renewal may be delayed until the next meeting but your license would be considered valid until the Board has met to review the clarification. This will be stated on the letter.

Making Renewal Easier for You and the Board

Want to make sure your renewal is approved? There are a few things you can do to make sure the Board doesn't have to request clarification or delay renewal of your license.

- Renew Online. This gives you an instant receipt and you can print the completed application for your records.
- If you print and mail in the application, please print legibly. You might be surprised at how unreadable some renewal forms are. If we can't read your writing, you will be asked to clarify. We are working on a form that will allow you to type into the form online and then print it and mail it in. Coming soon, we hope!
- Pay attention to deadlines. You have until your expiration date to submit your renewal but your employer may require your new card in hand prior to expiration. The current deadline is always listed on the Board's website.



Supervision for LCSW Licensure

There are two types of supervision. First, all LSW and LMSW's (includes PLSW and PLMSW) must be supervised as a part of their jobs. This type of supervision is the employer's responsibility. Second, LMSW's wishing to advance to the LCSW level. This article will address supervision towards the LCSW license.

The LCSW Supervision Guidelines, Supervision Plan and Supervision Evaluation Form are all available on the Board's website. Please make sure you use current forms.

Post graduate documentation of two-years (24 full months) of supervision by a LCSW **and** 4,000 hours in a social work position is required before an applicant may apply for the LCSW license.

It is equally important for LCSW Supervisors and LMSW level social workers to be aware of the regulations regarding supervision. Valuable time may be lost if the supervisor and supervisee are not fully aware of the documentation requirements.

Supervision towards the LCSW level may begin with the provisional master's license (PLMSW). The supervisee and supervisor must complete a Supervision Plan and send the original documentation to the Board within 60 days of beginning supervision. The Board will only count back 60 days from the received or postmark date of the supervision plan so it is very important to make sure to complete the form and submit it to the Board in a timely manner.

If you are under supervision and your supervisor changes you must have your former supervisor complete the Supervision Evaluation Form and your new supervisor complete a new Supervision Plan. If you change jobs but maintain the same supervisor you should submit a revised Supervision Plan noting the new employer. If your supervisor is not employed by your agency you will need to have your agency's permission to have them supervise you. Please see the second page of the Supervision Plan.

The Board does not currently require documentation of your weekly supervision sessions. It is however recommended that a log is kept of the times that you meet for supervision. Things happen and this could be your verification of supervision should something happen to your supervisor. A log should list the date you met, a brief description of what was covered in your session, the time spent in supervision, if it was individual or group and should include both the supervisor and supervisee's signatures.

At the end of your supervision period, you will need to meet with your supervisor and complete the Supervision Evaluation Form. This form should also be mailed to the Board within 60 days of completion of supervision. Once you have completed 24 full months of supervision and worked at least 4,000 hours during that period, you would then need to apply for the LCSW license. Currently there is not a restriction on the time frame in which you have to apply for licensure after you have completed supervision.

Disciplinary Action

Disciplinary Action Update Action taken since September 2009

Name: Geneva Lawson Smith, LCSW

Date of Action: January 9, 2012

Action Taken: Suspension

Violations: Geneva Lawson Smith was found to have violated Regulation XI of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board. The specific violations are: Standard B. Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; Standard D. Permitting, aiding, or abetting an unlicensed person to perform activities requiring a license; Standard I. Failing to keep proper records and documentation of services; Standard M. Giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered.

Name: Mary Guin, LMSW

Date of Action: October 10, 2011

Action Taken: Letter of Reprimand

Violations: Practicing without a license in the state of Arkansas. Ms. Guin's license expired on September 30, 2010 and she failed to renew it within the allowed time period. Ms. Guin applied for licensure through reciprocity with Kansas and was issued a new license on June 14, 2011. Ms. Guin admitted practicing social work after her license expired on September 30, 2010.

Name: Marianne Margaret Falk, PLSW

Date of Action: August 8, 2011

Action Taken: Revocation of Provisional License

Violations: Failed to submit a request to the Board within the required period.

Name: Perry K. Parsons, License 2100-C

Date of Action: July 19, 2011

Action Taken: Summary Suspension

Violations: Mr. Parsons violated Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice, Board Regulation X, Standard G(2) which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client and Arkansas Social Work Act, 17-103-307 (f)(32) Computer Child pornography, as prohibited in § 5-27-603.

Name: Katherine Ann Carpenter, License 2350-M

Date of Action: July 11, 2011

Action Taken: Revocation

Violations: Ms. Carpenter violated Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations X. Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice Standard G(2) which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations XI, which defines unprofessional conduct in the practice of social work, (A) Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations published by the board, (B) Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently, (G) Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client, (I) Failing to keep proper records and documentation of services, (K) Neglecting or abandoning a client in need of immediate care or who is under the social worker's care, (L) Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board, (M) Giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered.

Name: Kenyatta Abdoul-Shinte, License 2020-C

Date of Action: July 11, 2011

Action Taken: Revocation

Violations: Mr. Abdoul-Shinte violated Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations X. Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice Standard G(2) which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; G(4) which prohibits social workers from entering into, or promising, a relationship if the relationship might harm or exploit the other party.; G(5) which prohibits social workers from violating client-therapist boundaries; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations XI, which defines unprofessional conduct in the practice of social work, (A) Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations published by the board, (B) Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently, (G) Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client, (L) Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board.

Name: Charles Allen Livingston, License 161-C

Date of Action: May 9, 2011

Action Taken: Agreed Order of Revocation

Violations: Mr. Livingston violated State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations, Section X. Code of Ethics/Standard for Practice and Section XI Unprofessional Conduct of the State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION CONTINUED

Name: Richard Cameron Dahlquist, License 2162-C

Date of Action: May 9, 2011

Action Taken: Revocation

Violations: Mr. Dahlquist violated State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations, Section X Standard G (2) which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; Standard G (4) which prohibits social workers from entering into, or promising, a relationship if the relationship might harm or exploit the other party; Standard G(5) which prohibits social worker from violating client-therapist boundaries; The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation XI (A), (B), (G), and (L).

Name: Halee Fawne Roberts, LCSW, No. 2168-C

Date of Action: May 9, 2011

Action Taken: License fully restored.

Name: Demetra Roberts

Date of Action: February 14, 2011

Action Taken: Revocation

Violations: Ms. Robert failed to comply with an audit of the social work continuing education she listed for August 31, 2010 renewal of her license.

Name: Robert Todd Jorgensen

Date of Action: February 14, 2011

Action Taken: Letter of Reprimand and requirement to complete additional Social Work Continuing Education (SWCE) hours in the area of client/therapist boundaries.

Violations: Mr. Jorgensen violated State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations, Section X. Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice Standard G and Section XI, Unprofessional Conduct.

Name: Charles M. Gibbs

Date of Action: December 13, 2010

Action Taken: Revocation

Violations: Mr. Gibbs violated State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations, Section X. Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice and Section XI. Unprofessional Conduct. Mr. Gibbs admitted to submitting billing and documentation for services that were not performed on the dates and times contained in the documentation and forged signatures on some paperwork.

Name: Katie Wolfe, LCSW

Date of Action: September 13, 2010

Action Taken: Letter of Reprimand

Violations: Ms. Wolfe was audited on the social work continuing education courses, which she submitted for the June 30, 2010 renewal of license number 1553-C. Certificates of attendance for two of the courses did not agree with the information submitted by Ms. Wolfe. Ms. Wolfe was also not able to produce a certificate for one of the courses listed. Ms. Wolfe was able to produce additional documentation of other social work courses, which had not been listed. The Board voted to approve her audit but issue a Letter of Reprimand due to inaccurate reporting of the actual hours in attendance.

Name: Cheri Hill, LCSW

Date of Action: August 9, 2010

Action Taken: Suspended License for 90-days. Twelve Months' Probation to follow once employed in a social work position.

Violations: Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-107 which provides that no licensed social worker may disclose any information he or she may have acquired from persons consulting her in her professional capacity to those except with the written consent of the person or persons. Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulation X, Standard A: Confidentiality, which requires that a social worker must safeguard information given by clients. Stand G: Client Relationships, which provides that the social worker must not exploit relationships with clients, students and supervisees for personal gain and that the social worker must not violate client-therapist boundaries. Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulation XI defining unprofessional conduct as (A) violations of The Social Work Licensing Act or the Regulations published by the Board and (L) violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board.

Name: Robert Jorgensen, LCSW

Date of Action: August 9, 2010

Action Taken: License completely restored.

Name: Johnny L. Payne, Unlicensed

Date of Action: July 12, 2010

Action Taken: Cease and Desist Order issued.

Violations: Practicing without a license. Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulations XI. Definition of Unprofessional Conduct: (17-103-203) A.; B.; E. Arkansas Social Work Licensing Act 17-103-105 (1); (3); (4).

Individual was working and representing himself to be a social worker. The wallet licensure card and his diplomas were fraudulent.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION CONTINUED

Name: Leslie A. Mussington
Date of Action: March 18, 2010
Action Taken: Provisional License Revoked.
Violations: Failure to comply with Board's request.

Name: Halee Fawne Roberts, LCSW, No. 2168-C
Date of Action: March 8, 2010
Action Taken: License placed on probation March 8, 2010 until one year from Board approval of Supervision and Counseling Plans. Date to be determined at that time.

Violations: Ms. Roberts' conduct violated the Social Work Licensing Regulations Section X, Standard G (2) which provides that a social worker must not violate such position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client, student or supervisee; Standard H(1) which requires that a social worker shall make and maintain record of services provided to a client.; Section XI, Section B which defines unprofessional conduct as negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently, Section XI, Section I which defines unprofessional conduct as failing to keep proper records and documentation of services. Section XI, Section K which defines unprofessional conduct as neglecting or abandoning a client in of immediate care or who is under the social worker's care. Section XI, Section L, which defines unprofessional conduct as violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board.

Name: Lisa Barber Martin
Date of Action: March 8, 2010
Action Taken: Revocation of License
Violations: Lisa Barber Martin held Arkansas licensed certified social worker (LCSW) license 867-C that expired on January 31, 2009; Ms. Martin continued to practice social work until issued a Cease and Desist by the Social Work Licensing Board on December 15, 2009 which is a violation of Arkansas Code § 17-103-105 (1), (4) and the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulation XI: Definition of Unprofessional Conduct (A), (B), (E).

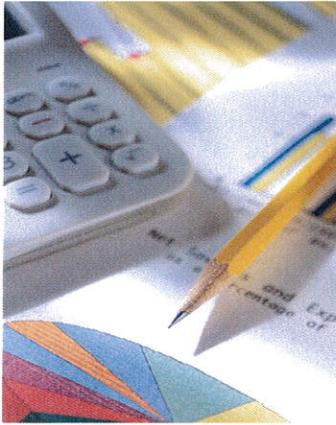
Name: Robert E. Pruitt, Jr.,
Date of Action: March 8, 2010
Action Taken: Surrender of License

Name: Robert E. Pruitt, Jr., LMSW, No. 1766-M
Date of Action: January 11, 2010
Action Taken: License Suspended. Hearing Date of July 12, 2010 has been set for review.
Violations: Mr. Pruitt's conduct as described in the Board's Finding of Facts paragraph 6 constitutes

unprofessional conduct in violation of A.C.A. § 17-103-101 *et seq.* and the Rules and Regulations of the Board.

Name: Patricia A. Stricker, LCSW, No. 265-C
Date of Action: January 11, 2010
Action Taken: License completely restored.

Name: Candice Evetta Cox, LMSW, No. 2304-M
Date of Action: December 14, 2009
Action Taken: Letter of Reprimand
Violations: Ms. Cox's conduct violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-105 (1), Representing oneself to be a social worker, licensed social worker, licensed master social worker, or licensed certified social worker unless licensed as such under this chapter or under titles or descriptions offering to give or giving services to individual, groups, agencies, or corporations without a license, and (2) Entering the private independent practice of social work without being certified by the board. Ms. Cox was also found to have violated the Social Work Licensing Regulations Section VI. Subsection (A) (2) The social work practice of an LMSW should be supervised by an LCSW or other qualified professional from a related field. The supervision should be provided at a minimum on a weekly basis; Section X. Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice, Standard D, Misrepresentation, A social worker must not misrepresent his/her qualifications, training or experience. If a social worker engages in advertising, his education, training and expertise must be presented factually.; Section XI: Definition of Unprofessional Conduct, Subsections A, Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act (No. 791 of 1981) or the Regulations published by the Board and E, Misrepresenting type or status of education, training, expertise, licensure or professional affiliations.



Fact and Figures

Fiscal Year 2010

July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

23 Complaints

- 2 Revoked
- 2 Consent to Surrender
- 2 Suspended
- 1 Probation
- 2 Cease and Desist
- 2 Letter of Reprimand
- 10 Dismissed
- 2 Renewals or Applications Denied

Fiscal Year 2011

July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

16 Complaints

- 6 Revoked
- 1 Surrender of License
- 2 Letter of Reprimand
- 7 Dismissed

Current Active Licenses

Licensed Certified Social Workers (LCSW) – 1,523

Licensed Master Social Workers (LMSW or PLMSW) - 843

Licensed Social Workers (LSW or PLSW) – 530



Housekeeping

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please keep your mailing address up-to-date with the Board. Each month approximately 10% of the renewal notices are returned to the Board due to invalid addresses. It is important that you keep the Board informed of address changes. A change of address form is available on the Board's website, www.arkansas.gov/swlb. Email address and employment information may also be updated with use of this form.

NAME CHANGES

If you have married or divorced and wish to change your name on your license you must complete the Name and Address Change Form and submit it along with a copy of your official documentation indicating the change. (Official marriage license or divorce decree)



Contact the Board

Office Address:

2020 West Third Street, Suite 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Office Hours are 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

It is recommended you call first to make sure the office is open. A mail slot is located in the door for items to be dropped off when the office is closed.

Phone: (501) 372-5071

Fax: (501) 372-6301

Mailing Address:

PO Box 251965
Little Rock, AR 72225

Email: swlb@arkansas.gov

Website: www.arkansas.gov/swlb