

AZBBHE MISSION STATEMENT

To establish and maintain standards of qualifications and performance for licensed behavioral health professionals in the fields of counseling, marriage and family therapy, social work and addiction counseling and to regulate the practice of licensed behavioral health professionals for protection of the public.

**BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS  
NOTICE & AGENDA FOR REGULAR SESSION PUBLIC MEETING**

**Scheduled for February 14, 2025 at 9:00 AM**

1740 West Adams Street, Boardroom C, Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
1<sup>st</sup> Amended (February 10, 2025)

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the general public and to members of the Arizona State Board of Behavioral Health Examiners that the Board will hold a regular meeting open to the public on the date and at the time indicated above. A full meeting agenda and list of applications to be considered can be found online at [www.azbbhe.us](http://www.azbbhe.us) or in the lobby of the Board's office building in the binder adjacent to the case displaying meeting notifications.

The Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, except for those matters set for a specific time. The formal hearings and formal interviews are scheduled to be heard during specific time blocks. The Board Chairperson, however, reserves the right to call cases in random order. Please note that the recommendations listed on the agenda are merely suggested Board actions. Those recommendations do not become final until adopted by the Board. The Board has the authority to accept, reject or modify any recommendation listed on the agenda.

The Board, upon a majority vote of a quorum of the members, may hold an Executive Session on any of the listed agenda items to discuss or consider records exempt by law from public inspection, including the receipt and discussion of information or testimony that is specifically required to be maintained as confidential by state and federal law, or to obtain legal advice. A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) and (3). Executive Sessions are not open to the public.

The Board usually allows 3 – 5 minutes per person for public comment on any agenda item: however, depending on the issue presented, the Board Chairperson has the discretion to expand that time.

Americans with Disabilities Act: Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter or a copy of this document in alternative format, by contacting Allison Taylor at 602-542-1928 or the TDD number at 800-367-8939.

Board Members

Adalesa Meek, LIAC, LPC, Chairperson  
Diane Palacios, LIAC, LPC, Secretary/Treasurer  
Robert Charles, Public Member  
Brenda Dennis, Public Member  
Kristina Groves, LMFT  
Leanette Henagan, LCSW, LIAC  
Crystal Krueger, LMFT  
Jose Luis Madera, LPC  
Dominic Miller, LCSW  
Teresa Peña, Public Member  
Mark Shen, LPC  
Vacant, Public Member

If you need to speak to a member of the Board staff regarding an agenda item, please contact Allison Taylor at 602-542-1928 or the TDD number at 800-367-8939.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

**1. Call to order**

**2. Roll call (staff)**

**3. Minutes: review, consideration and action.**

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2), any discussion of the executive session minutes will take place in executive session.

*A. January 10, 2025, general meeting minutes*

*B. January 10, 2025, executive session minutes / Agenda item 12 E*

**4. Consent Agenda:**

Consent agenda items may be considered for approval as a single action unless a Board member or interested party wishes to remove an item for discussion.

The Board may go into executive session to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

**A. Cases recommended for dismissal.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

- 1. 2025-0088, Joel Covert, LCSW-14073*
- 2. 2024-0322, Megan Hall, LAC-13065 (Suspended)*
- 3. 2025-0217, Mellissa Hill, LPC-23264*
- 4. 2025-0146, Albin John, LMSW-15412*
- 5. 2022-0007, Kyle Irwin, LMSW-18895 (Expired)*
- 6. 2025-0058, Jeffrey Schwertfager, LAC-22972, LACT-15131*

**B. Cases recommended for dismissal with a letter of concern.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

- 1. 2024-0332, Diana Canfield, LPC-15756*
- 2. 2025-0085, Irene Kepler, LCSW-20256*
- 3. 2025-0081, Estevan Velasquez, LMSW-19556*

**C. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and dismissing with a letter of concern.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

*N/A*

**D. Cases recommended for acceptance of a proposed signed non-disciplinary consent agreement.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

- 1. 2024-0411, 2025-0095, Yvonne Crewse, LPC-12851*
- 2. 2025-0008, Jacqueline Sheppard, LPC-21823*

**E. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and acceptance of a proposed signed non-disciplinary consent agreement.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

- 1. Nancy Brown, LAMFT Applicant*

2. *Brigid O'Connor, LMSW-16428*

**F. Cases recommended for acceptance of a proposed signed disciplinary consent agreement.** The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

1. *2025-0116, Allison Dukat, LPC-16318*
2. *2024-0409, Brooke Lombard, LAC-21357 (Suspended)*
3. *2025-0020, Sigal Simhony Nalder, LPC-16418*

**G. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and acceptance of a proposed signed disciplinary consent agreement.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

1. *Randi Whittington, LAAC-15467*

**H. Cases recommended for opening a complaint and denying for unprofessional conduct.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

*N/A*

**I. Cases recommended for opening a complaint for further investigation.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

1. *Malik Ashe, LACT Applicant*
2. *Chel'sea Ryan, LCSW-17120*
3. *Mallory Waldrop, LMSW Applicant*
4. *Angela Wilson, LCSW-20384*

**J. Cases recommended for release from consent agreements.**

The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

1. *2024-0052, William Bilbray, LIAC-15063 (Active Restricted)*
2. *2024-0340, Crystal Boyd, LAC-21603*
3. *2023-0160, Christine Carrillo, LPC-21582 (Active Restricted)*
4. *2023-0070, Angelica Castano, LPC-13801 (Active Restricted)*
5. *2024-0301, Deborah Johansen, LPC-14026*
6. *2025-0027, John Lare, LAC-19160 & LIAC-15220*
7. *2022-0031, 2022-0128, Jade Shelton, LAAC-15330 (Active Restricted)*
8. *2023-0220, Sarah Sheridan, LMSW-16433 (Active Restricted)*

## **5. Administrative Hearings**

Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-3253(A)(10) and 41-1092.07, the Board will conduct administrative hearings in the following matter(s). During the administrative hearing, the Board may go into executive session to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

*N/A*

## **6. Formal Interviews**

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3281, the Board will conduct a Formal Interview in the following matter(s). During a formal interview, the Board may go into executive session to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

*N/A*

**7. Complaints and other disciplinary matters: review, consideration and action**

The Board may go into executive session to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

*Pending complaints represent unproven allegations. On investigation, many complaints are found to be without merit or not of sufficient seriousness to merit disciplinary action against the licensee and are dismissed.*

*A. 2024-0416, Cari Cruckson, LMFT-15378*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding accepting the proposed letter of concern.

*B. 2025-0092, Heba Elsaad, LCSW-22377*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding accepting the proposed letter of concern.

*C. 2024-0391, 2025-0075, Miguel Espinoza, LIAC-10127*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding complaint.

*D. 2025-0093, Anissa Fox, LPC-22937*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding accepting the proposed letter of concern.

*E. 2024-0183, Jacqueline Kaplan, LCSW-13492*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding accepting the signed proposed interim consent agreement.

*F. 2024-0373, Rodger Lee, LPC-17937*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding complaint.

*G. 2025-0059, Deborah McClish, LIAC-15096*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding complaint.

*H. 2025-0128, Marcy Mevorach, LCSW-12448, LAAC-13047*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding complaint.

*I. 2025-0082, Kelsey Peterson, LMSW-20884*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding accepting the proposed letter of concern

*J. 2025-0084, Alicia Stetler, LAAC-15309*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding accepting the signed proposed consent agreement.

*K. Mary White, LMFT Applicant*

Review, consideration and possible action regarding opening a complaint and possible disciplinary action regarding background information.

**8. Assistant Attorney General's Report: Mona Baskin, A.A.G.**

The Board may go into executive session to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

N/A

**9. Applications for licensure and educational programs: review, consideration and action**

The Board may go into executive session to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

*A. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding applications for licensure*

Names are posted for review in the building lobby of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of 1740 W. Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting.

*B. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding applications for educational programs*

**10. Report from the Chair**

The Board may go into executive session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1), discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

*A. Summary of current events*

By law, the summary of current events is limited to summarizing recent occurrences. The Board cannot propose, discuss, deliberate or take legal action on any matter in the summary unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

**11. Report from the Treasurer**

*A. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding December financial report*

*B. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding January financial report*

**12. Report from the Executive Director and/or staff**

The Board may go into executive session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1), to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2), or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

*A. Discussion regarding the phone system*

*B. Review, consideration and possible action on clinical supervision continuing education hours submitted by Brian McCullough*

*C. Discussion regarding Board staff's accomplishments*

*D. Update on Ms. Zavala's meeting with the Social Work Compact Commission*

*E. Update on Ms. Zavala's meeting with the Counseling Compact Commission*

*F. Update on Ms. Zavala's attendance at the American Association of State Counseling Boards conference*

*G. Discussion regarding the Board's Impaired Professional Program*

*H. Update on the Board's website migration*

*I. Update on the rulemaking process*

*J. Discussion regarding 2025 bills introduced to legislation*

*K. Review, consideration and possible action regarding selection of three individuals to attend the Counseling Regulatory Boards Annual Summit*

*L. Review, consideration and possible action in regards to A.R.S. § 32-3253 (A.) (4)*

**13. Request for extension of inactive status: review, consideration and action**

The Board may go into executive session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1), to discuss confidential records pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2), or to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

*A. Marilyn Driss, LCSW-12227 (Inactive Status Extension)*

*B. Geraldine Taylor, LMSW-16496 (Inactive Status Extension)*

*C. Gene Lullo, LCSW-1718 (Inactive Status Extension)*

*D. Golnar Zahedin-Labbaf, LMFT-15304 (Inactive Status Extension)*

*E. Steven Kachur, LAAC-15373 (CEU Reduction)*

**14. Future agenda items**

N/A

**15. Call for public comment**

Those wishing to address the Board do not need to request permission in advance; however, the Board may limit those persons speaking during this time to a reasonable number on any given public matter. In addition, each person wishing to address the Board will be given five (5) minutes to do so. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(I), the Board can only take action on matters listed on the agenda. Action on public comment matters that are not listed on the agenda will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or to schedule the matter for further discussion at a later date.

**16. Establishment of future meeting date(s)**

*The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 7, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., at 1740 W. Adams St., Boardroom C.*

**17. Adjournment**

February 7, 2025



Tobi Zavala  
Executive Director