

NEWSLETTER



Staff Spotlight


Michelle Rassi

I am Michelle Rassi and I have been an investigator with the Board since March 2022. The Board has evolved in so many ways including hiring more staff and the opportunity to see staff be promoted to management positions. What motivates me as an Investigator is the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and the community by upholding the highest standards of professionalism and ethics in the behavioral health field. I am driven by the responsibility to ensure that those who seek care receive it from competent and ethical professionals who prioritize their own well-being. My motivation also comes from a deep commitment to fairness and integrity. I take pride in conducting thorough and impartial investigations, knowing that my work contributes to protecting clients, supporting ethical practitioners, and maintaining public trust in the profession.

Additionally, I am inspired by the Board's mission to promote public safety and professional excellence. Being part of that mission aligns with my personal values and fuels my dedication to approach each investigation with diligence, respect, and a focus on the greater good. The purpose of the Board of Behavioral Health Examiners is critically important to me as an Investigator because it embodies the principles of public protection, ethical standards, and professional accountability. Being part of this process is meaningful because it allows me to contribute to maintaining public trust in the behavioral health system. This not only protects clients from potential harm but also supports the reputation and credibility of the behavioral health profession as a whole.

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Direct Observation



At least 10 hours of the 100 clinical supervision hours for licensure must be direct observation hours. These observations can include the supervisor observing a session live in person or via videoconference or a supervisor reviewing an audio or video recording of a session.

Rule Making

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on February 25, 2025. Feedback from the public is currently being accepted. To view the filing or comment on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, go to bbhe.az.gov/proposed-rulemaking.

The Board will also host a hybrid oral proceeding scheduled for May 6, 2025 from 1:00pm - 5:00pm to allow for formal verbal comment from the public. The link to the proceeding will be posted on the webpage above at a later date.



A WORD FROM OUR BOARD

Kristina Groves
LMFT



I have had the privilege of serving as a board member for the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners (AZBBHE) since May 2024. My decision to join the board was driven by my deep commitment to the behavioral health field, particularly in supporting the autism and neurodivergent communities. As a counseling program supervisor, I work closely with individuals and families navigating unique challenges, ensuring they receive high-quality, ethical, and effective care. Additionally, I have the opportunity to shape the profession's future by teaching graduate-level courses, a role I cherish for its impact on developing skilled and compassionate counselors.

A great board member embodies integrity, adaptability, and a dedication to public service. Collaboration and open dialogue are essential in upholding the board's mission and ensuring ethical standards in behavioral health practice. Over time, the board has evolved to address the growing complexities of the field, integrating new policies and best practices to serve Arizona's diverse population effectively.

What motivates me most is the opportunity to contribute to meaningful change—both in my work with clients and through the education of future counselors. The board's purpose is deeply important to me because it safeguards the well-being of individuals and families while strengthening the field as a whole. I am honored to be part of this dedicated team, working to uphold the highest standards of care and ethical practice in Arizona.



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