

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 June 13, 2025 at 9:00 AM

1740 West Adams Street, Boardroom C, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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 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
Leannette Henagan, LCSW, LIAC
Crystal Krueger, LMFT
José 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. May 9, 2025, general meeting minutes

B. May 9, 2025, executive session minutes / Agenda item 7A

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. 2025-0302, Dawn Copps, LPC-23447*
- 2. 2025-0281, Kelly Finn, LCSW-13043, LIAC-10886*
- 3. 2025-0257, Kari Hansen, LPC-23100*
- 4. 2025-0256, Grethel Hassell, LCSW-20736*
- 5. 2025-0390, Barbara Kiffmeyer, LMSW-12917*
- 6. 2025-0354, James McCreary, LPC-20946*
- 7. 2025-0280, Marina Melkumov, LAC-16449*
- 8. 2025-0294, Tanja Mundt, LPC-17307*
- 9. 2025-0196, Lizzette Peregrina, LPC-18305*
- 10. 2025-0295, Lizzette Peregrina, LPC-18305*
- 11. 2025-0289, Polly Thomas, LCSW-0181*
- 12. 2025-0293, Lisa Tolhurst, LPC-14500*

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. 2025-0324, Regina Thompson, LCSW-22387*

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. 2025-0303, Rachel Campbell, LMSW-19627*
- 2. 2025-0296, Joseph Gaunt, LCSW-1291*
- 3. 2025-0306, Michele Mitchell, LAAC-15558, LPC-23245*
- 4. 2025-0255, Jade Pickings, LMSW-19146*
- 5. 2025-0268, Darlene Summers, LPC-12996*

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. *Sophia Greenrock, LCSW-21306*
2. *Joseph Meade, LMSW-12938*

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. *2025-0258, Lauren Goldbach, LCSW-16034*

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):

N/A

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. *Karina Chandler Ziegler, LAMFT-10892*
2. *Nina Fox, LCSW-18213*
3. *Donald Hupp Jr, LCSW-22054*
4. *Andria Soderquist, LMSW-20076*
5. *Randy Soderquist, LCSW-12612*
6. *Anna Vargas-Leveriza, LPC-21451*
7. *Radesa Wade, LCSW-21237*

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. *2024-0223, Keli Dersch-Baldonado, LPC-17337 (Active Restricted)*
2. *2023-0084, Cristina Felix Origel, LMSW-18244 (Active Restricted)*
3. *2025-0108, Molly Fritsch, LMSW-19451*
4. *2023-0129, Jennifer Lohmeyer, LAC-19254 (Active Restricted)*
5. *2023-0208, Gigi Marteney, LPC-2540 (Active Restricted)*
6. *2023-0066, Lekeshia Mathis, LMSW-19141*
7. *2024-0324, Laura Nunez, LPC-20664*
8. *2025-0269, Brigid O'Connor, LMSW-16428*
9. *2024-0299, Ronald Ruanto, LMFT-15456*
10. *2025-0270, Randi Whittington, LAAC-15467 (Active Restricted)*
11. *2024-0161, Tamara Woodard, LCSW-22218*

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. 2025-0229, Horace Bailey, LPC-19199

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint.

B. 2025-0151, Kayla Byrd, LPC-23618

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint and results of comprehensive psychological evaluation.

C. 2025-0230, Patricia Davila, LAC-21461

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint.

D. 2025-0245, James Escalada, LMSW-22354

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint.

E. 2025-0317, Matthew Lasslo, LPC-19275

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint.

F. 2025-0128, Marcy Mevorach, LAAC-13047, LCSW-12448

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

G. 2025-0249, Betty Wittels, LPC-0371

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint.

H. 2025-0261, Betty Wittels, LPC-0371

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint.

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: 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 denied applications for licensure

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

1. Igor Meystelman

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding rescinding the June 14, 2024 motion to deny Igor Meystelman's LAMFT application.

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 April financial report

B. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding May 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. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding utilizing EBAS-Ethics for Public Protection for disciplinary matters

B. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding the Chair and Secretary/Treasurer Position

C. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding Courtney Bennett reviewing endorsement applications

D. Review, consideration, and possible action regarding the 6 month follow up from the Auditor General's Office

E. Discussion regarding the impaired professional program

F. Discussion regarding the 2025 Engagement Survey

G. Discussion regarding the conflict of interest forms

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).

N/A

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, July 25, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., at 1740 W. Adams St., Boardroom C.

17. Adjournment

June 6, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tobi Zavala", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tobi Zavala
Executive Director