



# Mississippi Board of Examiners For Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists

## Minutes for March 1, 2019 Board Meeting

The Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists (Board) held a Board meeting on Friday, March 1, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. in Suite 761, on the 1st floor of the Jackson Medical Mall, 350 W. Woodrow Wilson Avenue, Jackson, MS 39213.

Spencer Blalock called the regularly scheduled Board meeting to order at 10:47 a.m. A quorum of Board members were present.

Members present were Spencer Blalock, LCSW, Board Chair, Jamie Williams, LMFT, Chair MFT Discipline Specific Committee, Jennifer Fulcher, LSW, Chair SW Discipline Specific Committee, Sharon Adams, LMFT, Brenda Viverette, LSW, Victoria Murdy, LCSW, Candace Riddley, LCSW, Gerard Tarrant, LMFT, Beth Little, LCSW, and Pamela Rollins, LMFT. Also in attendance were Billy Dilworth, Executive Director, Gloria Green, Charles Araujo, and Erica Allen. Absent from this meeting were Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

A motion was made by Sharon Adams and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jamie Williams to approve the February 2019 minutes with no corrections. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

### Reports from NASW:

- ❖ Charles Araujo discussed Senate Bill 2803 and other legislative news.

### Expenditure Report:

Billy Dilworth, Executive Director, reviewed the Expenditure Report. Fiscal Year 2019 Fund Balances as of February 28, 2019 are: Monthly Expenditures- \$19,584.94; Carryover – \$240,766.00; and Ending Balance - \$239,326.21. A copy of the report is attached.

A motion was made by Jennifer Fulcher and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jamie Williams to accept the Expenditure Report for February 28, 2019. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

### Complaints File Report:

Billy Dilworth discussed the Complaints File Report, updating the Board on the status of pending complaints and investigations. A copy of the report is attached.

- ❖ Case number SW19-187 has been assigned to Candace Riddley.
- ❖ A motion was made by Jennifer Fulcher and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Victoria Murdy to dismiss case numbers SW18-175A, SW18-175B, and SW18-175C. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.
- ❖ A letter of warning will be sent to the subject of SW16-157 for violating the terms of his consent order and that the license will not be renewed until he responds to the letter.

### Executive Director Report:

- ❖ The Board approved a revised a work schedule for Erica Allen to complete her internship from the months of March to July 2019.
- ❖ A motion was made by Jennifer Fulcher and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jamie Williams to accept the Executive Director's Report. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

### Chair of the Board Report:

- ❖ There was no report given

### MFT Report:

- ❖ There was no report given.

### SW Report:

- ❖ There was no report given.

### Board Members Report:

- ❖ There was no report given

## Committee Reports:

### ❖ Continuing Education:

- ♦ SW Continuing Education offerings: Five application inquiries and no new offerings were reported.
- ♦ MFT Continuing Education offerings: There were no offerings submitted.

Social Work Licensure Report: The following Social Work Candidates were presented for Licensure:

### **LSW Level**

There were no candidates presented at the LSW level.

### **LSW Level by Reciprocity**

There were no candidates presented at the LSW level by Reciprocity.

### **LMSW Level**

Amber Owens

The staff has recommended the above listed candidate for licensure at the LMSW level on March 1, 2019. A motion was made by Brenda Viverette and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharon Adams to approve this candidate for licensure at the LMSW level. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

### **LMSW Level by Reciprocity**

There were no candidates presented at the LMSW level by Reciprocity.

### **LCSW Level**

Reginald Magee, Jr.

The staff has recommended the above listed candidate for licensure at the LCSW level on March 1, 2019. A motion was made by Brenda Viverette and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jamie Williams to approve this candidate for licensure at the LCSW level. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

### **LCSW Level by Reciprocity**

Chasity Thompson

The staff has recommended the above listed candidate for licensure at the LCSW level by Reciprocity on March 1, 2019. A motion was made by Brenda Viverette and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jamie Williams to approve this candidate for licensure at the LCSW level by Reciprocity. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

### **LSW Reinstatements**

Pearlie Holloway  
Ebony Johnson  
Maddison Lambert

The staff has recommended the above listed candidates for LSW Reinstatement on March 1, 2019. A motion was made by Brenda Viverette and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jamie Williams to approve these candidates for Reinstatement at the LSW level. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

### **LMSW Reinstatements**

There were no candidates presented for LMSW reinstatement.

### **LCSW Reinstatements**

There were no candidates presented for LCSW reinstatement.

Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure Report: The following candidate(s) were presented for licensure at the LMFT and/or LMFTA level:

### **LMFTA Licensure**

There were no candidates presented for LMFTA licensure.

### **LMFT Licensure**

There were no candidates presented for LMFT licensure.

### **LMFT Licensure by Endorsement**

There were no candidates presented for LMFT endorsement.

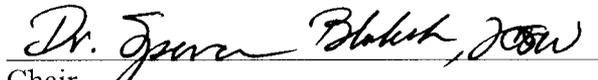
### **LMFT Reinstatements**

Heath Grames

A motion was made by Jamie Williams and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brenda Viverette to approve this candidate for reinstatement at the LMFT level pending an acceptable background check. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

A motion was made by Jennifer Fulcher and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jamie Williams to adjourn regular board meeting business to committee work. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following members voting aye: Sharon Adams, Pamela Rollins, Jamie Williams, Victoria Murdy, Spencer Blalock, Jennifer Fulcher, Candice Riddley, Brenda Viverette; Voting Against: None; Abstention: None; Recusal: None; Absence: Beth Little and Gerard Tarrant.

The next Board meeting will be held April 12, 2019, in Suite 761 on the 1st floor of the Jackson Medical Mall, 350 W. Woodrow Wilson Avenue, Jackson, MS 39213 at 10:30 a.m.

  
Chair

  
Recorder

**AGENDA**  
**Mississippi Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists**

*“Protect the Public”*

**March 1, 2019**

**10:30 a.m.**

- I. Convene Meeting: Opening Comments
- II. Public Comments
- III. Review Minutes and Agenda
- IV. Executive Director Report
  - a. Financial Report
  - b. Disciplinary Actions
    - i. New Complaints
    - ii. Reports on Current Investigations
    - iii. Reports on Disciplined Licensees’ Progress
- V. Board Chair Report
- VI. MFT Chair Report
- VII. SW Chair Report
- VIII. Legal Counsel Report
- IX. Committee Reports
- X. Board Member Reports
- XI. Licensure Votes
  - a. Social Work
  - b. MFT
- XII. Follow-Up Responsibilities

<b>Action Needed</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Report Date</b>

- XIII. Closing Comments & Adjourn to Committee Work

*All Public Comments Must Be Submitted to the Board Chair for Inclusion in Meeting*

**MMS Board of Examiners for Social Workers/Marriage Family Therapists**

**FY 2019 MONTHLY EXPENDITURE REPORT**

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
<b>PERSONAL SERVICES</b>												
Salaries & Fringe Benefits	\$ 13,053.22	\$ 13,585.22	\$ 13,053.22	\$ 13,053.22	\$ 13,169.22	\$ 13,086.22	\$ 13,086.22	\$ 13,086.22				
Travel	\$ 598.41	\$ 707.96	\$ 699.40	\$ 960.68	\$ 679.04	\$ 672.09	\$ 700.02	\$ 613.44				
<b>CONTRACTUAL SERVICES</b>												
Employee Training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Postage, Box Rent	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -				
Promotional Expenses(Exhibits, Displays)	\$ 550.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,355.00	\$ 1,250.00				
Rent	\$ 3,294.50	\$ 1,647.25	\$ 1,647.25	\$ 1,647.25	\$ 1,647.25	\$ 1,647.25	\$ 1,647.25	\$ 1,647.25				
Office Equipment Rental	\$ -	\$ 184.40	\$ 913.40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 184.40	\$ 184.40	\$ 913.40				
Personnel Service Contracts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,229.60	\$ 261.50				
ITS Fees	\$ -	\$ 84.13	\$ 85.33	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 256.31	\$ -	\$ 170.76				
MMRS Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,249.25	\$ 1,249.25				
Court Reporter	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Liability Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.41	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Fidelity Bonds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Membership Dues	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ -				
Public Network Access Charges	\$ 125.95	\$ 251.90	\$ 100.54	\$ -	\$ 261.90	\$ 130.95	\$ 128.09	\$ 128.09				
Cellular	\$ -	\$ 50.27	\$ 100.54	\$ -	\$ 50.27	\$ 64.28	\$ 50.29	\$ 50.29				
Total Contractual Services	\$ 4,220.45	\$ 2,217.95	\$ 2,746.52	\$ 1,647.25	\$ 3,607.53	\$ 2,283.19	\$ 8,593.88	\$ 5,670.54				
<b>COMMODITIES</b>												
Printing & Binding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Office Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 355.00	\$ -	\$ -				
Paper Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Other Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Other Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51.25	\$ -	\$ 30.75	\$ 10.25				
Procurement Card	\$ -	\$ 138.52	\$ 128.61	\$ 174.85	\$ 123.84	\$ 343.42	\$ 181.96	\$ 150.46				
Food For Board Meetings	\$ -	\$ 138.52	\$ 128.61	\$ 174.85	\$ 300.43	\$ 698.42	\$ 317.94	\$ 214.74				
Total Commodities	\$ -	\$ 138.52	\$ 128.61	\$ 174.85	\$ 300.43	\$ 698.42	\$ 317.94	\$ 214.74				
<b>EQUIPMENT</b>												
Office Machines/Furniture	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Total Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
<b>Total Monthly Expenditures</b>	\$ 17,872.08	\$ 16,649.05	\$ 16,617.75	\$ 15,736.00	\$ 17,756.32	\$ 16,739.92	\$ 22,698.06	\$ 19,584.94				
<b>Monthly Revenue</b>	\$ 9,598.95	\$ 26,696.95	\$ 52,274.63	\$ 21,439.95	\$ 10,881.95	\$ 3,990.00	\$ 8,671.95	\$ 8,671.95				
<b>Prior YR Revenue</b>	\$ 10,783.80	\$ 30,977.90	\$ 40,005.00	\$ 29,649.95	\$ 6,395.00	\$ 3,070.00	\$ 9,220.00	\$ 8,971.95	\$ 63,785.69	\$ 50,635.00	\$ 29,590.00	\$ 11,675.00

AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019



COMPLAINT STATUS REPORT AS OF 3/1/2019

CASE #	DATE OF ORIGIN	ASSIGNED TO	DATE ASSIGNED	ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATOR	INVESTIGATION COMPLETED	REPORT TO BOARD	STATUS/NOTES
SW16-156	3/23/2016	BLALOCK	reassigned 9/14/18			2/15/2019	DISMISSED
SW17-161	3/22/2017	LITTLE	reassigned 9/14/18			12/14/2018	Informal Settlement Offer
SW17-168	8/16/2017	MURDY	8/18/2017				Accepted informal offer
SW17-170	11/29/2017	BLALOCK	12/15/2017	6/8/2018			
SW18-171	1/8/2018	LITTLE	1/12/2018			12/14/2018	Informal Offer
SW18-175A	6/1/2018	FULCHER	6/8/2018				
SW18-175B	6/1/2018	FULCHER	6/8/2018				
SW18-175C	6/1/2018	FULCHER	6/8/2018				
SW18-177	7/17/2018	MURDY	8/10/2018				
MFT8-178	7/17/2018	TARRANT	8/10/2018				
SW18-180	8/10/2018	VIVERETTE	9/14/2018				Hearing date 4/12/19
SW18-182	10/9/2018	RIDDLEY	10/12/2018				
SW18-183	12/6/2018	MURDY	12/14/2018				
SW18-184	12/6/2018	MURDY	12/14/2018				
SW19-187	2/14/2019	RIDDLEY	2/15/2019				

**DISCIPLINED LICENSEES' PROGRESS REPORT AS OF 3/1/2019**

Licensee Name, #, Case #	License expiration date	Assigned To	Disciplinary action details	Probationary Period	1 Report completed	2 Report completed	3 Report completed	4 Report completed	Probation Completion Date
Chris Huff, C5077 SW15-151	4/30/2019	Bialock	3 yr. probation, \$3,000.00 fine. Paid \$1,000.00 on 3/14/2017. Paid \$1,000.00 3/4/2018. Balance left to pay is \$1,000.00	3 yrs beginning 4/8/2017	4/30/2018	9/26/2018			
Stark Farrell, C6287 SW16-157	4/30/2019	Bialock	3yr. probation, \$3,000.00 fine	3 yrs. Beginning 5/11/18					

**Mississippi Board of Examiners  
For**

**Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists  
Candidates for Reinstatement-February 27, 2019**

**LSW Level**

<b>Name</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>RIA</b>	<b>BG</b>	<b>License #</b>	<b>Addition Info</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Pearlie Holloway</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>02/14/19</b>	<b>W4174</b>		
<b>Ebony Johnson</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>02/19/19</b>	<b>W8320</b>		
<b>Maddison Lambert</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>02/19/19</b>	<b>W9108</b>		

**LMSW Level**

<b>Name</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>RIA</b>	<b>BG</b>	<b>License #</b>	<b>Addition Info</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>

**LCSW Level**

<b>Name</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>RIA</b>	<b>BG</b>	<b>License #</b>	<b>Addition Info</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>

**Mississippi Board of Examiners  
For**

**Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists  
Candidates for Licensure-February 27, 2019**

**LSW Level**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Photo</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>DARS</b>	<b>Background</b>
	Yes		BSW	P		
	Yes		BSW	P		

**LMSW Level**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Photo</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>DARS</b>	<b>Background</b>
<b>Amber Owens</b>	Yes	ASU	MSW	P	N	02/19/2019

**LCSW Level**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Photo</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>DARS</b>	<b>Background</b>
<b>Reginald Magee, Jr.</b>	Yes	USU	MSW	P	N	02/19/2019

**Reciprocity By LCSW Level**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Photo</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>DARS</b>	<b>Background</b>
<b>Chasity Thompson</b>	Yes	LSU	MSW	P	N	02/19/2019

# public policy



By  
**BRETT  
KITTRIDGE**

## Occupational licensing costing Mississippi

IT HAS OFTEN been said that government does not create jobs, it merely creates the environment that encourages, or in some cases, discourages, job growth. When it comes to occupational licensing, the emphasis is on discouraging job growth.

Because of these often burdensome laws, Mississippians are forced to spend time and money to receive permission from the government before they can earn a living.

While licensing was once limited to areas that most believe deserve licensing, such as medical professionals, lawyers, and teachers, this practice has greatly expanded over the past five decades. Today, approximately 19 percent of Mississippians need a license to work. This includes everything from a shampoer, who must receive 1,500 clock hours of education, to a fire alarm installer, who must pay more than \$1,000 in fees. All totaled, there are 66 low-to-middle income occupations that are licensed in Mississippi.

What is the reasoning behind new licensing? The public argument is generally centered around the belief that we must do this in the name of consumer safety to protect individual citizens. But the reality is often something less altruistic. Mainly, these occupational associations are more interested in building a moat around their industry with the help of government. The harder it is for someone to enter an industry, the less competition and consumer choice the industry incumbents face.

This may artificially raise the wages of industry practitioners by raising the prices of goods and services that require such licenses, but it does so at a cost. Consumer choices are limited and consumer costs are increased. And the added cost is not insignificant. Mississippians pay a hidden tax of more than \$800 each year due to onerous occupational licen-

sure requirements, according to a 2016 report from the Heritage Foundation.

In 2018, the Mississippi Legislature, with little discussion and few dissenting votes, passed a bill to make it more difficult to become a real estate broker. The proposed law sought to increase the time it would take to become a broker, going from the current one year to three years. Fortunately, Gov. Phil Bryant vetoed the legislation.

Who were the individuals supporting such legislation? Was it the Coalition of Mississippians Against Inexperienced Brokers? A group of citizens negatively impacted by brokers who had just one year of experience? No, it was, naturally, the Realtors Association.

**BUT THE BIGGER** problem isn't just one specific association pushing the legislature to limit competition, it is the cost of all unnecessary and burdensome regulations on Mississippi's economy.

According to a recent report from the Institute for Justice, Mississippi has lost 13,000 jobs because of occupational licensing and the state has suffered an economic value loss of \$37 million. To put that into perspective, just by legislative action to roll back unnecessary licenses, we can create two Nissan plants...without spending a dime of taxpayer dollars.

Instead of relying on government, these are the actions that will encourage and promote economic growth in Mississippi.

If that is our goal, we need to trust in the benefits of the free market and a "lighter touch" from government and occupational licensing regimes and we need to return to a belief in individual responsibility.

**THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED** in a number of ways. For example, voluntary certification offers an avenue for reform. This already occurs in many industries and allows private third-parties to set standards for individuals to voluntarily subscribe as one level of quality assurance.

One of the more widely recognized private certifications is the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certification for mechanics. You can open a garage tomorrow with – or without – the ASE certification and customers may or may not care.

But that decision is left to the entrepreneur and the customer, not to the government or the industry lobbyists or the board of licensure. We can do this with any number of professions currently licensed by the state. If we really want more jobs and fewer people dependent on government, it starts by creating an environment that encourages work: not one that encourages the creation of hurdles and obstacles.

**Brett Kittredge is the director of marketing and communications for Mississippi Center for Public Policy, the state's non-partisan, free-market think tank.**

## We Want Letters and Columns

The Northside Sun encourages readers to write letters and guest columns. Letters of diverse viewpoints are welcome. Just because a letter appears in the Sun does not imply a Northside Sun endorsement. In the interest of freedom of the press, we run many letters with which we strongly disagree. You can send letters to the Northside Sun, P.O. Box 16709, Jackson MS 39236. Or e-mail letters to [wyatt@northsidesun.com](mailto:wyatt@northsidesun.com). Please e-mail or mail a photo if you can. All letters must be

THE WEEKLY

# Northside

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Jimmie Sweat, Editor  
Jennifer Stribling, Ad Director

Mississippi Board of Examiners for  
Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists

Board Meeting Attendance Sheet

March 1, 2019

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Vickie May LCSW  
J. M. [unclear]  
Jennifer [unclear]  
Candace Kiddley  
Brenda [unclear]

Dr. Jami Williams

**GUESTS (please print):**

Chak A. Arain  
Doris J. [unclear]  
[unclear]  
[unclear]