



**VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
NEWSLETTER
July 2018**

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BOARD MEMBERS

John Salay, LCSW,
Chairperson

**Dolores Paulson, Ph.D.,
LCSW,**
Vice-Chairperson

Canek Aguirre
Citizen Member

Angelia Allen
Citizen Member

Jamie Clancey, LCSW
Board Member

**Maria Eugenia del Villar,
LCSW**
Board Member

**Michael Hayter, LCSW,
CSAC**
Board Member

Gloria Manns, LCSW
Board Member

**Joseph Walsh, Ph.D.,
LCSW**
Board Member

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD APPOINTMENTS

June 30, 2018 ended the second term for Yvonne Haynes, LCSW. Ms. Haynes has been a member of the Board since 2010 and has served as Chairperson since 2015. We thank Ms. Haynes for her committed service to the Board and to the Commonwealth. We will continue to benefit from her valuable contributions, and wish her well in all of her future endeavors.

We also want to welcome the new board member who began his term on July 1, 2018: Michael Hayter, LCSW, CSAC. And of course, we congratulate the reappointments of Dolores Paulson and Maria Eugenia del Villar.

RECENT BOARD MEETING

The Board of Social Work recently held a full board meeting on June 15, 2018. Please visit the [Calendar of Events](#) to view the meeting minutes and stay up-to-date with Board activities. The next full Board meeting will be held on September 21, 2018, and is open to the public.

BOARD ELECTION

At the June 15, 2018 board meeting, the Board elected John Salay as Chairperson and Dolores Paulson as Vice-Chairperson.

MID-LEVEL LICENSURE

The 2017 Virginia General Assembly passed [House Bill 614](#), which authorizes the Board of Social Work to license baccalaureate social workers and master's social workers. This legislation makes no changes to the current scopes of practice, but divides the current category of "Licensed Social Worker (LSW)" into two license types reflective of the education background: "Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker (LBSW)" and "Licensed Master's Social Worker (LMSW)". This legislation became effective on July 1, 2018, and the changes to the Regulations will become effective this year.

What will the changes mean?

- Person's with a Master's degree that currently hold an LSW:
 - Will be issued a new license and wall certificate indicating they now hold an **LMSW**.
 - The LSW will no longer exist.
 - No fee will be charged for this change, and it will occur automatically after December 31, 2018.
- Person's with a Bachelor's degree that currently hold an LSW:
 - Will be issued a new license and wall certificate indicating they now hold an **LBSW**.



STAFF

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- The LSW will no longer exist.
- No fee will be charged for this change, and it will occur automatically after December 31, 2018.

- Current *applicants* for an LSW that have a master's degree:

- Will continue to be approved to take the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) bachelor's level exam, and will have until December 31, 2018 to pass this exam.
- After December 31, 2018, all applicants for an **LSW that have a master's degree** will be required to pass the ASWB **master's level exam** for licensure.

- Current applicants for an LSW that have a bachelor's degree:

- Will continue to be approved to take the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) bachelor's level exam.
- After passage of the exam, they will be issued an LBSW.

ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO THE REGULATIONS

Hours of ethics for continuing education

The Board adopted a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to amend the requirements for continuing education in section 105 to increase the hours pertaining to ethics or the standards of practice for behavioral health professions from a minimum of two to six every two years.

The NOIRA is currently under review in the Governor's office.

Examination Requirements

The Board amended section 70 to revise the requirement that an applicant who has failed the licensure examination twice must register for supervision and complete another year as a supervisee before approval to retake the examination is granted. The revised regulation will allow an applicant to retake the examination as many times as he wishes within two two-year periods before he has to complete an extra year of supervised practice. The examination may be taken up to four times in a year, so an applicant would potentially be able to take it 16 times before he is required to have an additional year of supervised practice.

These regulations are currently under review in the Governor's office.

Definition of clinical social work services and supervision of applicant for reinstatement/reactivation

The board amended two sections of the regulations by the following:

- Amended the definition of clinical social work services to include psychosocial interventions; and,
- Amended section 110 to specify an amount of supervision that is required for a person who has not actively practiced and applies to reinstate or reactivate his license.



These changes became **effective February 7, 2018**.

For more details on the regulatory process, information on opportunities for public comment and information on when regulations become effective, please register with the [Virginia's Regulatory Town Hall](#). Registration with the Regulatory Town Hall will also alert you when meeting notices and minutes are posted.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Healthcare Workforce Data Center

The Department of Health Professions Healthcare Workforce Data Center (HWDC) works to improve the data collection and measurement of Virginia's healthcare workforce through regular assessment of workforce supply and demand issues among the 80 professions and 350,000 practitioners licensed in Virginia by DHP.

DHP healthcare workforce data is provided online at <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc>. You can also find the HWDC's most recent report on Virginia's Licensed Clinical Social Worker Workforce: 2017 <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/docs/BehSci/0904LCSW2017.pdf>.

Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program (HPMP)

The Department of Health Professions has a contract with Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, Department of Psychiatry, Division of Addiction Psychiatry, to provide confidential services for the health practitioner, who may be impaired by any physical or mental disability, or who suffers from chemical dependency.

Available services include intake, referrals for assessment and/or treatment, monitoring, and alcohol and drug toxicology screens. Practitioners who meet certain criteria may receive approval for a stay of disciplinary action. This allows the practitioner to focus on recovery efforts. Requests for stayed disciplinary action are reviewed by a designated board liaison, with the final decision being made by the individual's licensing board.

For more information view the [Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program Orientation Handbook](#).