



Board Bulletin

Volume 1, Issue 1

Second Quarter 2015

Board Staff

Executive Director:
Catherine Chappell

Deputy Executive Director:
Jennifer Lang

Licensing Manager:
Sarah Georgen

2015 Spring Update

Greetings Licensees, Supervisees in Social Work, and Applicants:

Welcome to the first edition of the Virginia Board of Social Work's e-newsletter. The newsletter has been revitalized to keep you better informed of regulatory changes that may impact you and your practice.

Highlights from the last Board meeting:

Pending Regulatory Changes. At the February board meeting, final regulations were adopted to increase fees and to change from a biennial to annual renewal cycle for licensure. Many of you will recall there has not been a fee increase since 1998. While these changes will not impact the upcoming renewals for July 1, 2015, it is anticipated they will affect renewals beginning July 1, 2017. You will receive an update on these changes as soon as more information is available.

Growing Profession. Did you know there are over 6,000 LCSW's in Virginia? In the last 10 years, the number of licensed clinical social workers in Virginia has increased by over 30%. As a result, there has been an increase in board licensure and disciplinary actions. Board efficiency measures have been implemented to better meet the workforce challenges of our stakeholders as well as to ensure the needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth are addressed.

Stakeholder Outreach. The Board utilizes innovative strategies to reach and educate stakeholders regarding the licensure and regulation of practitioners. Last quarter, staff made presentations to students: in the Washington, DC area; at VCU; and, as part of the "Day at the Capitol" sponsored by NASW-VA. Additional outreach to both students and licensees was conducted during the Eastern Virginia VSCSW meeting and with licensees participating in the NASW-VA annual meeting.

Useful Links:

- [License Lookup](#)
- [Recent Case Decisions](#)
- [Laws and Regulations](#)
- [Guidance Documents](#)

Contact the Board

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Special Message from the Executive Director

It is bittersweet for me to inform you that I will be leaving my role as Executive Director of the Board March 27th to pursue a new healthcare leadership role in the private sector. I have worked with many of you over the years in your journey towards licensure, as you supervised others, and became affiliated with educational programs and professional associations. Together we have successfully met many challenges, learned much and encouraged one another. As a result, I know that I am leaving you all in good hands. We have an excellent Board who will provide outstanding direction and guidance, seasoned board staff, and innovative DHP leadership. I will miss you all.



Catherine Chappell

Upcoming Meetings

April 23, 2015—Regulatory Committee Mtg

April 24, 2015—Board Meeting

July 24, 2015—Board Meeting

October 23, 2015—Board Meeting

Renewal Time

Renewal time is rapidly approaching. Please be sure that the Board has your correct mailing address and email address. Should you need to change your status from Active to Inactive or Inactive to Active, please contact the board office for assistance.

Remember that you will be attesting to completion of CE hours when you renew. You do not need to submit your CE documentation to the board office unless requested to do so.

2014-2015 BOARD MEMBERS

Jennifer Blosser, LCSW, Chair
Yvonne Haynes, LCSW, Vice Chair
Maria Eugenia del Villar, LCSW
Dolores Paulson, LCSW
John Salay, LCSW
Joseph Walsh, LCSW
Bernadette Winters, LCSW
Nettie Simon-Owens
Kristi Wooten

Stay Connected with the Board

The Board of Social Work wants to stay connected with you. Here are opportunities for you to connect:

1. Review our website at www.dhp.virginia.gov/social.
2. Register as a public user at <http://townhall.virginia.gov/> to receive emails when updates for the Board of Social Work are posted.
3. Ask staff to present information to your groups on licensure or disciplinary matters, either by video teleconference or in person.
4. Attend board meetings, committee meetings, and disciplinary proceedings. Meetings are open to the public.