



**MISSISSIPPI
BOARD OF
PSYCHOLOGY**

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ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR FY 2023

The Board's powers and duties are defined by sections 73-31-1 through 73-31-31 of the Mississippi Code of 1972.

Mississippi Board of Psychology Annual Report to the Governor FY 2023

Meetings

Per Mississippi Statute, the Mississippi Board of Psychology is required to meet at least four (4) times annually, once each quarter. Instead, the Board met eleven (11) times during FY 2023. Per Mississippi Statute, all meetings were held in accordance with the Mississippi Open Meetings Act and were open to the public. Reasonable notices of all meetings were made available to the public prior to all meetings. In addition, the Board is required to conduct Oral Examinations no less than twice a year. The Board conducted Oral Examinations seven (7) times, corresponding with scheduled meetings. Notices of Oral Examination administrations were made available to the public prior to all examinations.

Application for Licensure

During FY23, forty-two (42) individuals submitted a "Request to Start Application Form". From that group and with the addition of a few Requests sent at the end of FY22 forty-two (42) individuals were deemed preliminarily eligible for licensure in Mississippi and were entered into the Psychology Licensure Universal System (PLUS) for completion of all primary source verification. Thirty-five (35) individuals completed the entire application process and successfully passed an Oral Jurisprudence Examination and were fully licensed as psychologists in the state of Mississippi during FY23. One (1) individual applied for licensure under the Universal Recognition of Licensure Act and was issued a Temporary Practice Permit while they complete the application process.

Licensed Psychologists

During FY23, the Mississippi Board of Psychology issued new permanent licenses to practice psychology in Mississippi to the following individuals:

Ronald Wayne Alexander	Ocean Springs, MS
Catalina Mandoki Arati	Mobile, AL
Kayla Bates Brantley	Starkville, MS
Koren Marie Boggs	New Orleans, LA
Cara Maureen Bohon	Danville, CA
Maxine Elizabeth Campbell	Baton Rouge, LA
Annelizabeth Robinson Carlew	Madison, MS
Jardin Dogan-Dixon	Ridgeland, MS
Adrian Dreher	Raymond, MS
LaToya Renea Favre	Vanceleave, MS
Glynn James	Livingston, NJ
Natalie Antoinette Harrison	Birmingham, AL
Phillip Michael Johnson	Clinton, MS
Dominik Lia Keller	Memphis, TN

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Kerry Lynn Kinney	Jackson, MS
Jeffrey Scott Lawley	Ocean Springs, MS
Andrew Kenneth Magers	Baton Rouge, LA
Kathleen Ann Malloy	Washington, DC
Katherine B. McLachlan	Jackson, MS
Adrienne Nicole Meier	Pasadena, CA
Clifton Samuel Mixon	New Orleans, LA
Caroline Harper Neumann	Golden, CO
Taylor Rose Nocera	Hattiesburg, MS
Elizabeth Anne Piazza-Bonin	Monroe, LA
Tracy Anna Protti	Metairie, LA
Eliyahu Pesach Reich	Memphis, TN
Megan Elizabeth Renna	Hattiesburg, MS
Alexandra Repke	Hattiesburg, MS
Brittany Spence Sapp	Brandon, MS
Jennifer Robin Shapiro	San Diego, CA
Hallie Marie Smith	Starkville, MS
Jennifer Cooley Tannehill	Hattiesburg, MS
Jose Ricardo Velarde	Madison, MS
Robert Bearden Whitley	Tucson, AZ
Trudi Kaye Zaplac	San Antonio, TX

Temporary Licenses

Applicants who are duly licensed in other jurisdictions and who have passed the Examination for Professional Practice of Psychology (EPPP), but who have not yet taken an oral jurisprudence examination, may apply for a temporary license. During FY23, one (1) individual who was previously licensed as a psychologist and in good standing in another jurisdiction was issued a Temporary License while awaiting the Mississippi Board of Psychology's next administration of the Oral Jurisprudence Examination. One (1) applicant for licensure under the Universal Recognition of Licensure Act was issued a Temporary Practice Permit until completion of the application process.

Temporary Practice Certificates

Applicants who are duly licensed in other jurisdictions and who are not residents of the State of Mississippi and who do not maintain an office within the State may apply for a Temporary Practice Certificate that allows them to practice psychology on a temporary basis in the State. During FY23, twenty-one (21) individuals who were licensed psychologists and in good standing in other jurisdictions were issued time-limited Temporary Practice Certificates.

EPPP Only

In FY23 the Board conducted a survey and meeting of the directors of doctoral psychology programs in MS to ascertain the desirability of allowing doctoral students to sit for the EPPP earlier in the professional process. Near the end of FY23, the Board created and deployed the opportunity for student candidates who have not yet completed the requirements for licensure and with the support and recommendation of their program director, may request to sit for the EPPP earlier in their training. The module deployed in May of 2023 and the first four (4) applicants to the opportunity have been approved. The Board sees this as a positive step toward removing barriers to licensure.

License Renewals

At the beginning of FY23 there were four hundred and sixty (460) licensed psychologists in Mississippi. All psychologists in the state of Mississippi are required to renew their licenses annually, prior to June 30 of each year. During FY23, four hundred and seventy-five (475) licensed psychologists in the state of Mississippi renewed their licenses prior to June 30, 2023. Twenty-five (25) individuals did not renew their licenses; four (4) psychologists retired from practice. At present, there are four hundred and seventy-one (471) individuals licensed as psychologists in Mississippi.

Civil Commitment Examiner Certifications

Under Mississippi statute 41-21-61, the Board may certify licensed psychologists who have satisfactorily completed additional training as civil commitment examiners. During FY23, the Board certified the following nine (9) licensed psychologists who completed the required training and successfully passed examination as civil commitment examiners who may be

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appointed by the various chancery courts to participate as examiners in these proceedings. This training generally occurs at the MS Psychological Association Annual conference.

Diane Groat
Angela Hatcher
Alyssa Killebrew
Ashley King-Profit
Jeffrey Lawley
Michael Nadorff
Michael Prazak
Josephine Nicholson
Ty Stafford

Complaints and Investigations

In protection of the public, the Board reviewed the following inquiries during FY23:

The Board received eight (8) complaints in FY23 which were as follows:

220706

Complaint centered around treatment at an in-patient facility. This complaint was reviewed with Ms. Morris in the A.G.'s Office and she and the Executive Secretary determined that no ethical or legal violations were found.

Final disposition: Closed.

220807

Complaint centered around representing on the internet as a psychologist. This complaint was reviewed with Ms. Morris in the A.G.'s Office and she and the Executive Secretary determined that a Cease & Desist letter was in order.

Final disposition: Closed after confirmation of change in internet messaging.

220808

Complaint centered around representing on social media as a psychologist. This complaint was reviewed with Ms. Morris in the A.G.'s Office and she and the Executive Secretary determined that a Cease & Desist letter was in order.

Final disposition: Closed after confirmation of change in internet messaging.

220909

Complaint centered around a concern that a practitioner not licensed as a psychologist in Mississippi is providing psychological evaluations on behalf of corporate entities. This complaint was reviewed with Ms. Morris in the A.G.'s Office and she and the Executive Secretary determined that the Board write to the corporate entity making them aware of requirements of licensure in

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Mississippi to assess Mississippi employees.

Final disposition: Case Closed.

221210

Complaint centered around an LPC performing testing outside of scope of practice. This complaint was reviewed with Ms. Morris in the A.G.'s Office and she and the Executive Secretary determined that a Cease & Desist letter was in order.

Final disposition: Case Closed.

230201

Complaint centered around an LPC advertising testing outside of scope of practice. This complaint was reviewed with Ms. Morris in the A.G.'s Office and she and the Executive Secretary determined that a Cease & Desist letter was in order.

Final disposition: Inappropriate statements removed. Case Closed.

230402

Complaint centered around treatment at an in-patient facility. This is currently under investigation by the Executive Secretary.

230503

Complaint centered around treatment of a minor during a custody issue. This is currently under investigation by the Executive Secretary.

Rules and Regulations

During FY23 the Board continued its Rules and Regulations revisions and the “Final Proposed Rules” to the Occupational Licensing Review Committee that were proposed on June 15, 2022, went approved and went into effect on October 19, 2022, in accordance with the guidelines presented by the OLRC and the Secretary of State’s Office. The Board then began review of additional changes to its Rules and Regulations.

License Management System

The Board utilized a license management system specifically designed for state regulatory boards and continued to work with the developers to modify the system to meet our specific needs. This system has been operational since January 2017. The implementation of this new system has increased capabilities and security, and decreased processing time for license renewals, and promoted efficiency and convenience to licensees and applicants. The new system improves compatibility with all other state systems. During the FY23 renewal period ending June 30, 2023, four hundred and seventy-three (473) licensees used the online license management system to renew their license. This amounted to 99% of renewals during this

period.

Mississippi Autism Board

The Mississippi Autism Board was created by the legislature in 2015. This Board was empowered under Miss. Code Ann. § 73-75-1, et seq., to license qualified applicants in the practice of behavior analysis and to promulgate such rules as are necessary to provide for the licensing of behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts. The principal offices of the Mississippi Autism Board are located in the Office of the Mississippi Board of Psychology. During FY18 the legislature directed the transition of the Mississippi Autism Board to operate under the authority of the Mississippi Board of Psychology. During FY23 the Office of the Mississippi Board of Psychology provided administrative services to the Mississippi Autism Board. The Mississippi Autism Board met six (6) times and administered Oral Jurisprudence Examinations six (6) times. There are currently one hundred and eighty-six (186) Licensed Behavior Analysts and there were thirty-seven (37) Licensed Behavior Analysts licensed in FY23. There are currently nine (9) Assistant Behavior Analysts and one (1) was licensed in FY23. There were eighteen (18) Temporary Licenses issued to those awaiting the next opportunity to take the Oral Jurisprudence Exam. Eleven (11) existing licenses were renewed. There are currently seventeen (17) applications for licensure pending as of June 30, 2023. There were three hundred and ninety-four (394) registrations for Registered Behavior Technicians processed during FY 23 and there are currently three hundred ninety-five (395) active Registered Behavior Technicians certified to work with Licensed Behavior Analysts. The Board received ten (10) new complaints during FY 23 which are currently under active investigation. One (1) complaint from the prior year was closed without action and one (1) administrative hearing resolution was issued and still in process.

The first phase of the creation of an online license management system was completed in the fourth quarter of FY23.

Board Administration

The Board has one (1) full-time employee who serves as Executive Director. The Board was successful in securing a PIN during the FY21 Legislative Session (HB 1374) so that the Board Administrator became the Board's Executive Director starting July 1, 2021. The annual performance review was conducted with an average score in all areas between good and excellent.

A Memorandum of Understanding was entered into by and between the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration and the Mississippi Board of Psychology for the purpose of establishing the agreed upon conditions and procedures under which DFA will provide accounting and other services to the Board.

Overview of the Board's 5-Year Strategic Plan 2025–2029

The Mississippi Board of Psychology's mission is to prevent the unauthorized, unqualified, and improper practice of psychology in Mississippi. This mission is possible through statutes that

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empower the Board to establish licensing requirements, to set standards for professional behavior, and to review the professional conduct of licensed psychologists to promote competent practice and public welfare.

The Board of Psychology's first priority during the next five years is to stay abreast of national and state issues that affect the ethical practice of psychology. Board member's active participation on list-serves and conferences focused on psychological services will help accomplish this. Emerging issues about licensure and practice are systematically included on the Board's agenda for discussion and action where needed.

The Board of Psychology is charged with protecting the public by assuring candidates for licensure meet minimal standards to practice and that licensees uphold legal and ethical expectations. The Board will take appropriate action to mitigate harm to anyone who receives services from a Mississippi psychologist. Some of the upcoming discussions of the Board will include a consideration of:

- 1) Addition of the EPPP-2, a competence examination recently development by ASPPB,
- 2) Pros/cons of continuing to offer an oral examination once the EPPP-2 goes into effect,
- 3) Possibility of joining the Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT) for delivery of telehealth services, as well as the need for additional regulation of provision of telehealth services.
- 4) Utilizing the data management system to promote completely electronic licensure renewals and to more efficiently review Continuing Education requirements and materials.
- 5) Establishing a data base for the Autism Board and providing efficient administration of the Autism Board.
- 6) Ongoing review of the Board's Rules and Regulations to ensure that these contain no unnecessary barriers to licensure for qualified applicants.

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Financial Report

PSYCHOLOGY BOARD - FY2023 YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORTING

Psychology Board - BA1823

Major	Major Obj Code	Current Budget	Actuals (Expenditures)	Current Budget - Actuals (Expenditures)	Purchase Orders	Total Available
Obj Code	Name	\$157,807.00				Budget
A1	Salaries	\$88,834.00	\$80,244.25	\$8,589.75	\$0.00	\$8,589.75
A2	Travel	\$17,000.00	\$9,744.98	\$7,255.02	\$0.00	\$7,255.02
B	Contractual	\$43,973.00	\$30,555.76	\$13,417.24	\$0.00	\$13,417.24
C	Commodities	\$6,000.00	\$2,790.05	\$3,209.95	\$0.00	\$3,209.95
D1	Capital Outlay	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
D2	Equipment	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
D3	Vehicles	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
D4	Wireless	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E	Subsidies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grand Total		\$157,807.00	\$123,335.04	\$34,471.96	\$0.00	\$34,471.96

Travel 60300

Commitment Item	Commitment Item	Current Budget	Expenditures	Current Budget - Expenditures	Purchase Orders	Total Available
Number	Name	\$17,000.00				Budget Authority
60400000	In State Travel	\$0.00	\$1,022.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
60402000	In State Non-Taxable Lodging	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
60500000	Out of State Travel	\$0.00	\$857.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
60502000	Out of State Non tax lodging	\$0.00	\$6,291.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
60505000	Out of State Public Carrier	\$0.00	\$1,574.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
60507000	Other O/C Travel Cost	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
60701000	Travel Soc Sec Match	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
60702000	Travel Medicare Match	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
60960000	Prior Year Expense-Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

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Total		\$17,000.00	\$9,744.98	\$7,255.02	\$0.00	\$7,255.02
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Contractual Services 61000

Commitment Item	Commitment Item	Current Budget	Expenditures	Current Budget -	Purchase Orders	Total Available
Number	Name	\$43,973.00		Expenditures		Budget Authority
61060000	Employee Training	\$0.00	\$2,485.00			
61070000	Travel Related Reg.	\$0.00	\$840.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61100000	Transport of Goods	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61450000	Conf Rm, Exh, Display	\$0.00	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61600000	Interagency Fees	\$0.00	\$8,713.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61610000	Contract Wkr-Payroll	\$0.00	\$1770.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61625000	Contract Wkr-Match	\$0.00	\$135.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61665000	Invest Mgr. & Actuary	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61710000	Membership Dues	\$0.00	\$1,973.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61818000	Cell Time - Out Vend	\$0.00	\$1,033.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61839000	Software - Out Vend	\$0.00	\$10,345.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61850000	Payments to ITS	\$0.00	\$1,610.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61900000	P-Card Contractual	\$0.00	\$1,042.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
61950000	PY Exp. Contractual	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total		\$42,973.00	\$30,555.76	\$13,417.24	\$0.00	\$13,417.24

Commodities 62000

Commitment Item	Commitment Item	Current Budget	Expenditures	Current Budget -	Purchase Orders	Total Available
Number	Name	\$6,000.00		Expenditures		Budget Authority
62040000	Food for Business Meetings	\$0.00	\$501.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
62078000	Other Misc. Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
62085000	Office Supplies & Materials	\$0.00	\$351.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
62115000	Parts-Office/IT/Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
62400000	Furniture & Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
62415000	Computer & Computer Equipment	\$0.00	\$159.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
62900000	P-Card Commodities	\$0.00	\$2,289.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total		\$6,000.00	\$2,790.05	\$3,209.95	\$0.00	\$3,209.95

Equipment 63200

Commitment Item	Commitment Item	Current Budget	Expenditures	Current Budget -	Purchase Orders	Total Available
Number	Name	\$2,000.00		Expenditures		Budget Authority
63200000	Equipment-Copier/Printer (New)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
63200000	Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
63200000	Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
63200000	Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total		\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00

Board Membership during FY23

Lisa Yazdani, Ph.D.

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(2019-2024)

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Molly Clark, Ph.D.

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Penni S. Foster, Ph.D.

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102 Medical Park
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Rev. Chris Cumbest

Public Member
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(2022-2027)

Submitted for and on behalf of the Board,

Monica Sutton, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Psychology

Lisa Yazdani, Ph.D.
Chair
Mississippi Board of Psychology