## February 2, 2017 Telephone Meeting

Board Members Present:		
Donald Hinton, Esq.	Chair	2012-2017
Patricia Alexander, Ph.D.	Executive Secretary	2012-2018
Joe Olmi, Ph.D.	Treasurer	2012-2017
Natalie Gaughf, Ph.D.	Credentialing Coordinator	2016-2021
John Askew, Ph.D.	CE Coordinator	2013-2018
Lisa Yazdani, Ph.D.	<b>Recording Secretary</b>	2014-2019
Steve Ellis, Ph.D.	Member	2016-2021

<u>Also Present:</u> Helen Crocker Mardi Allen, Ph.D.

Board Administrator Board Consultant

<u>Not Present</u> Onetta Whitley, Esq.

**Deputy Attorney General** 

## Call to Order

At 1:05 p.m., Mr. Hinton called the emergency meeting to order with a stated purpose of determining what action the Board may need to take in response to a recent amendment to SB 2625 in the Mississippi Legislature. The amendment transfers the responsibility and authority of the Mississippi Autism Board to the Board of Psychology and changes the Autism Board from an independent board to an advisory board. The Board of Psychology would receive state general funds to support the administrative functions of the Autism Board.

Reportedly, representatives from the Autism Board have spoken to Senator Parker requesting that a change be made in the original amendment that would allow the Autism Board to remain independent rather than become an Autism Advisory Board.

After discussion, the Board of Psychology decided to remain neutral on the issue and support whatever the legislature prefers. Mr. Hinton will contact Dr. James Moore, Chair of Autism Board to discuss the Board's current position.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

<u>Signature On File</u> Recording Secretary Lisa Yazdani, Ph.D.

<u>2/17/2016</u>

Date