

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners

Application for Continuing Education Approval Organization

Section A: Organizational Information

Tulane School of Social Work

Name of Organization Parker Robinson, MHA, LCSW-BACS		
Name of Director/President 127 Elk Place #8906		
Mailing Address	City/State New Orleans, LA	Zip 70112
Physical Address (if different from above) 504 / 231-6618	City/State	Zip / 504-231-6618
Telephone psternbe@tulane.edu	Fax	
Email Address	Website	

Organization applying for *Continuing Education Approval Organization* status must have a significant and continual affiliation with the social work profession. Please indicate that which applies:

- Professional Social Work Organization ___ Social Work Service Provider
 CSWE Accredited School of Social Work

Organization applying for *Continuing Education Approval Organization* must have three (3) letters of references from any combination of the following:

- ___ Professional Social Work Organization ___ Social Work Service Provider
___ CSWE Accredited School of Social Work

Section B: Continuing Education Program

Review and approval of continuing education applications from continuing education providers must be completed by a credentialed social worker. Identify the social worker assigned to administer this process for the organization.

Parker Robinson, MHA, LCSW-BACS

Name/Social Work Degree/Social Work Credential Director of the Porter Cason Institute, Director of the Center for Lifelong Learning, Tulane School of Social Work		
Relationship to Organization 127 Elk Place, #8906		
Mailing Address	City/State New Orleans, LA	Zip 70112
Physical Address (if different from above) 504 / 862-3475	City/State	Zip / 504-862-8727
Telephone psternbe@tulane.edu	Fax	
Email Address		

Section C: Approval Guidelines, Process and Agreement

Protocol for receiving request for approval from education presenters:

- Organization will provide LABSWE Continuing Education Approval Application to education presenters upon request.
- LABSWE Continuing Education Approval Application may be mailed, faxed, sent electronically and/or published on Organization website.
- Organization will accept only LABSWE Continuing Education Approval Applications, completed in its entirety and accompanied by required documentation.

Process by which Organization will study and assess the proposed education offering:

- Organization will review application and supporting documentation to determine that it meets all standards and guidelines established in "Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings" and "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education."

As each organization is structured and staffed differently, organizations shall determine timeline for administering the continuing education program.

- Describe time limit set for making a decision on an educational offering's suitability:

The time limit set for making a decision on an education offering's suitability is one (1) month or thirty (30) days prior to the event's hosting date. On occasion, I will accept applications two (2) weeks in advance if advanced notice of the application is communicated and schedules allow time for my review.

As each organization is structured and staffed differently, organizations shall determine their own fees, if any, charged for these services.

- Describe fees agency will charge to process Continuing Education Applications:

The agency fee for processing Continuing Education Application is a flat fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

Section D: Authority

Submission of this signed application certifies that the Organization has studied the "Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings" and "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education," and determined that the Organization is prepared to assess continuing education opportunities by these guidelines on a timely bases; and has ample storage to maintain all continuing education records for a minimum of three years, and in accordance with Louisiana law. Organization understands that if approved, the organization will be given authority to pre-approve social work continuing education for three (3) years. After three (3) years, the organization shall reapply to the Board if interested in maintaining designation as a pre-approving body. Organization agrees to comply with scheduled LABSWE Continuing Education audits and submit a list of all approved programs to the board office for current collection period by July 15 of each year. Organization agrees to notify LABSWE within thirty (30) days if any information submitted on this application changes. Organization understands that approval is granted at the discretion of the Board and may be revoked if Organization is found to be out of compliance with any aspect of established guidelines.

This designation also designates the organization as an approved provider of continuing education. This designation will be authorized for three (3) years from the date LABSWE approves the application.

Parker Robinson

1/2/2025

Signature of Director/President

Date

Submit completed and signed application, along with three (3) reference letters, to:

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

For LABSWE office use only:

Application Received _____ Application Reviewed _____ Application Approved/Denied _____

Approval Expires _____

Revised 5/16

Michele Louviere, LMFT, LLC dba The Refuge 18-2
3525 Hessmer Ave, Suite 308, Metairie, LA 70002
504-457-2223 / 504-818-8041
Michele@refuge182.com

January 2, 2025

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

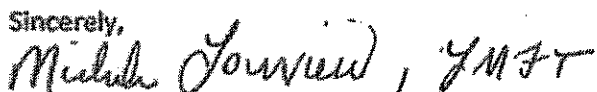
To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing as a professional reference of Parker Robinson, MHA, LCSW-BACS, Director of the Porter Cason Institute, Director of the Center for Lifelong Learning, Tulane School of Social Work, as a Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners Approver. I have had the pleasure of collaborating with Parker on the Board of Louisiana Community for Emotionally Focused Therapy. Mrs. Robinson has been a pinnacle resource of support and growth in the social worker and mental health communities. Her commitment to the community is extended through the access of continuing education seminars and workshops both virtually and in person.

As a respected member of the community, Parker has curated continuing education programs that have gained national attention by offering evidence-based methods and evolving practices.

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners has my full support and confidence in renewing Parker Robinson's approver license.

Please send your inquiries to Michele@refuge182.com.

Sincerely,


Michele Louviere, LMFT, LLC
Certified EFT Therapist and Supervisor
LA EFT Community Board President

George Faller
16 Wellington Ln, Somers, NY 10589
george@hopeandrenewal.org

January 2, 2025

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

To Whom It May Concern,

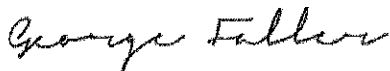
I am writing as a professional reference of Parker Robinson, MHA, LCSW-BACS, Director of the Porter Cason Institute, Director of the Center for Lifelong Learning, Tulane School of Social Work, as a Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners Approver. I have had the pleasure of collaborating with Parker on the Board of Louisiana Community for Emotionally Focused Therapy. Mrs. Robinson has been a leading resource of support and growth in the social worker and mental health communities. Her commitment to the community is extended through the access of continuing education seminars and workshops both virtually and in person.

As a respected member of the community, Parker has curated continuing education programs that have gained national attention by offering evidence-based methods and evolving practices. The feedback and evaluations of her programs are stellar.

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners has my full support and confidence in renewing Parker Robinson's approver license.

Please send your inquiries to george@hopeandrenewal.org

Sincerely,



George Faller, LMFT
EFT Trainer, President Emeritus NY Center EFT
914 434-0520

Steven K. Bordelon, LCSW
8017 Jefferson Highway, Suite B-4
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
225-772-6638

December 30, 2024

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Rd., suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

To whom it may concern:

RE: Parker Robinson, MHA, LCSW-BACS

I am writing as a professional reference for Parker Robinson, MHA, LCSW – BACS, Director of the Porter Cason Institute, Director of the Center for Lifelong Learning, Tulane, School of Social Work, as a Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners Approver. For several years I had the opportunity to collaborate with Parker on the board of Louisiana Community for Emotionally Focused Therapy. She has been a pinnacle resource of support and growth in the social work and mental health communities. Her commitment to the community is extended through the access of continuing education, seminars, and workshops, both virtually and in person.

As respected member of the community, Parker has curated continuing education programs that have gained national attention by offering evidence based methods and evolving skills for social work practitioners. She has a wide familiarity with various methodologies, and she has the energy and creativity to bring needed trainings to our community. Those who have worked with her both locally and nationally have the greatest respect for her commitment and her abilities.

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners has my full support and confidence in renewing Parker Robinson's approver license.

Please send your inquiries to skblcsw@gmail.com

Sincerely



Steven K. Bordelon, LCSW

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Social Work

From: Angelle Arata <angelle.arata@ochsnerhealth.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 4:09 PM
To: Social Work
Subject: RE: Mandated reporting/scope of practice question

Thanks for your quick reply. Maybe I should clarify my question. I know that social workers are mandated reporters and how they are to do the reporting. My question was more of a scope of practice question for social workers. Is it outside the scope of practice to expect a social worker to monitor (and therefore interpret) toxicology lab results on patients admitted to a hospital? I'm not sure if social workers should be the discipline responsible for that. We do not monitor any other lab results on patients.

Angelle Arata, MSW, LCSW
Director of Case Management, River Region
Ochsner Medical Center—Kenner,
St. Charles Parish Hospital—Luling,



From: Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 2:54 PM
To: Angelle Arata <angelle.arata@ochsnerhealth.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Mandated reporting/scope of practice question

CAUTION EXTERNAL EMAIL!

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THE SENDER? ARE YOU EXPECTING THIS EMAIL?

If this email looks suspicious, click the Report Suspicious Email button in Outlook to report it.
DO NOT click any links and **NEVER** input your username and password.

Hi Angelle,

Thank you for your email. Rule 111D of the Rules, Standards and Procedures state “all levels of social workers are required to report in conformity with all child or elder abuse Louisiana and federal laws .” Our office sent out a constant contact this past October when we were notified of the DCFS Mandated Reporter Portal. Please see below:

Mandated reporters are required to call the DCFS Child Abuse Hotline at 1-855-4LA-KIDS (1-855-452-5437) for emergency reports. These include a life threatening injury; a child in immediate danger; a drug exposed newborn; sexual abuse; human trafficking; a Safe Haven relinquishment; and a child fatality.

The DCFS Mandated Reporter Portal is an online form for reporting non-emergency situations of child abuse and neglect. DCFS has published a new guide that walks a reporter through each step of the online portal, providing direction and instructions. It also includes the legal definitions of child abuse, neglect and caretaker, and has a QR

code linking to the department's mandated reporter training. Visit <http://dcfs.la/mandatedreporters> for more information and to access the new guide.

Sincerely,
Regina M. DeWitt
Administrative Assistant
Louisiana State Board of
Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(225)756-3470, Option 4
Fax (225)756-3472

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From: Angelle Arata
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 1:00 PM
To: Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org>
Subject: Mandated reporting/scope of practice question

Hi,

I am a Case Management Director at a hospital with a Mother-Baby Unit, and have a question re: mandated reporting of positive toxicology results of drug-exposed newborns.

Our hospital policy on reporting of general abuse/neglect requires that the mandated reporter who receives firsthand knowledge of the suspected abuse/neglect is the person who should report. In other words, if a nurse suspects abuse he/she should report, rather than consulting the social worker to make a secondhand report, so as not to delay reporting and ensure reliability of information. However, the staff on Mother-Baby Units are seeking to make the social worker (generally master's level RSWs and LMSWs) responsible for monitoring toxicology lab results and making a report when positive.

My concern is:

- 1) A social worker should not be responsible for monitoring/interpreting lab results, as that is bordering on "medical practice" and outside the scope of generalist social work
- 2) We do not have social work coverage after-hours/weekends/holidays, which may prevent timely reporting
- 3) Article 610 of the LA Children's Code clearly places this responsibility on the Physician:
 - a. G.(1) If a physician has cause to believe that a newborn was exposed in utero to an unlawfully used controlled dangerous substance, as defined by R.S. 40:961 et seq., the physician shall order a toxicology test upon the newborn, without the consent of the newborn's parents or guardian, to determine whether there is evidence of prenatal neglect. If the test results are positive, the physician shall issue a report, as soon as possible, in accordance with this Article. If the test results are negative, all identifying information shall be obliterated if the record is retained, unless the parent approves the inclusion of identifying information. Positive test results shall not be admissible in a criminal prosecution.

Can the Board please provide some guidance as to the scope of practice and responsibility of the social worker in this situation?

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Social Work

From: Jamillia Edgeston
Sent: Sunday, December 8, 2024 1:24 PM
To: Social Work
Cc:
Subject: Remote Supervision Request

To: Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Rd. suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

From: Jamillia Afeluyi, LMSW (License number: 18578)

RE: Request for remote supervision due to hardship.

LABSWE Board Members,

Please accept this letter as a formal request for conducting remote supervision for my LCSW Supervision.

I believe my situation meets the requirements for the board to grant such.

I am currently employed as a social worker at Freedom Behavioral Hospital in Leesville, a separate legal entity autonomously operating aspects of the Freedom Program tailored to meet the needs of its specific community. The facility is locally managed and governed by an independent governing body, addressing a critical need in this highly rural and underserved area.

I began my LCSW Supervision on 12/05/24. My Supervision application and Contract 2 are currently pending on Certemy.

1-The reason I am asking for remote supervision to be granted is that if I leave work to attend Supervision at my BACS home _____, Lafayette Louisiana I must travel 269.8 miles round-trip.

If I leave my home to attend supervision at my BACS's house, located at _____, Lafayette, Louisiana, it is approximately 264.8 miles round-trip.

The selection pool for LCSWs/BACSS In Leesville and the surrounding area is limited severely. We are considered rural.

Marlene Lucas LCSW ACSW BACS is my supervisor. Her license number is 2786. Mrs. Lucas has declared her agreement that this is a hardship situation.

2 – The timeframe for remote supervision would align with the duration of the required supervision. However, as a military spouse, there is a possibility that circumstances may change if my spouse is to receive PCS Orders and I would accept another job in a different location.

3— Jason Reed CEO of Freedom Behavioral Hospital is my employer and has indicated to both me and Marlene Lucas the program and software utilized for the remote supervision will be both protected and encrypted. Miss Lucas will be provided an iPad for interactions and supervision which will be loaded with the security software: Microsoft Teams and Zoom encrypted.

I have already been provided with the same.

4 – Confidential information will be protected as the platforms for supervision as noted above will be both protected and encrypted. During supervision, both Mrs. Lucas and I have agreed to be in private rooms with closed doors ensuring no one else can listen to what is being discussed.

5 – Should an emergency occur Mrs. Lucas has provided me with her phone number and I know I can call her at any time.

The facility chain of command, I report directly to the Social Service Director, who in turn reports to Administrators. The Social Service Director, an LMSW who has years of experience, recently completed her supervision requirements and is preparing to schedule her LCSW exam. Social services are managed within the facility under the administrator's oversight.

I would greatly appreciate it, if my request for remote supervision due to hardship be included on the January 2025 board agenda for review and approval.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this matter.

Jamillia Afeluyi, LMSW \

Marlene Lucas, LCSW ACSW BACS can be reached at (803) 785-1111

Sincerely,

Jamillia Afeluyi, LMSW

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Regina Dewitt

From: Claire Garrett
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2024 2:22 PM
To: Regina Dewitt
Subject: Virtual Supervision Request
Attachments: LABSWE letter - CG.jpg.pdf

Good afternoon, Ms. Dewitt,

I consulted with Mr. Williamson, who directed me to resend you my formal request and include the exact mileage between myself and my supervisor. Mileage has been included in my formal request below. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information from me.

Thank you,

Claire Garrett, LMSW

Dear LABSWE Supervision Committee,

I am writing to request approval to participate in virtual clinical supervision as an alternative to face-to-face supervision. I am declaring an undue burden exemption and request that I be allowed to continue in my current virtual clinical supervisory relationship. I specifically chose this method of supervision because my place of employment does not employ an approved BACS supervisor. As a result, I must be in supervision with an off-site supervisor.

Finding a BACS supervisor proved difficult, for me, as many BACS supervisors I spoke with did not have availability, had taken a hiatus from supervising, or did not have a background in trauma/crisis intervention (which is crucial as I work for a non-profit organization, providing trauma-focused therapy to survivors of sexual violence, ages five and older.) As of December 4, 2024, I have participated in fifteen hours of virtual clinical supervision with Doug Leyda, LCSW-BACS. These hours of supervision have been invaluable as we have spent 3+ months building rapport and I trust his clinical judgement.

I am also a single mother who maintains caregiving responsibilities for my 8-year-old child. Using my already limited time and energy, traveling to and from my off-site supervisor's office during peak traffic times in my community, is not only stressful and fatiguing, but it also creates the following undue hardships for me: The drive from my agency on Corporate Blvd. in Baton Rouge, to my supervisor's office on Bricksome Ave. takes 20 – 40 minutes (6.4 miles) depending on traffic/wrecks/construction. The commute

home takes an additional 20 – 40 minutes (8.6 miles) pending the same factors. This forces me to use two hours of PTO each week so that I can participate in my supervision appointment during working hours (which directly impacts my caseload and overall wellness.) Alternatively, forcing me to try and schedule supervision before or after working hours, directly impacts my time with my child, as well as arrangements for childcare. Neither of these options is sustainable for 2+ years; both options will cause unnecessary hardship.

Virtual supervision allows me to limit my time away from home, maintain my health and engage in self-care so that I can be present and available to my clients. This is in accordance with the NASW Code of Ethics which states,

“Professional self-care is paramount for competent and ethical social work practice. Professional demands, challenging workplace climates, and exposure to trauma warrant that social workers maintain personal and professional health, safety, and integrity. Social work organizations, agencies, and educational institutions are encouraged to promote organizational policies, practices, and materials to support social workers’ self-care.”

See: <https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Highlighted-Revisions-to-the-Code-of-Ethics>

To properly participate in virtual supervision my supervisor and I adhere to the following:

- 1) My supervisor provides a secure HIPAA approved platform technology. (<https://doxy.me/dougleyda>)
- 2) My supervisor requires that my video remain on so that real time visual contact is ensured.
- 3) My supervisor requires my full attention during virtual supervision.
- 4) My supervisor requires that supervision be conducted in a setting that allows for confidentiality and be free of distractions. I do not multitask during supervision.
- 5) My supervisor and I agree that in the event a face-to-face supervision meeting is determined to be necessary and appropriate, we will revise our meetings to meet this need. Furthermore, in the event of an emergency, my supervisor and I agree to be reachable by phone.

Attached is an additional request for remote supervision, from my supervisor, Doug Leyda, LCSW-BACS.

Thank you,

Claire Garrett, LMSW #18738

cc. Supervisor Doug Leyda, LCSW-BACS #5330

Doug Leyda, LCSW-BACS, ACSW, Psychotherapy Services

November 27, 2024

To LABSWE Supervision Committee,

Claire Garrett, LMSW has signed a contract with me for clinical supervision towards their goal for licensure as a LCSW. We began virtual clinical supervision on August 29, 2024, and a disruption at this time would be detrimental to their supervision.

Claire has an undue personal hardship (supervisee will provide details as appropriate). Her situation, while working in a fast paced and stressful career requires her to reduce unnecessary challenges to maintain both her physical and mental health.

Additionally, Claire is only allowed 30 minutes of lunch, which makes noon supervision unfeasible. Afternoon and evening supervision appointments would occur during the busiest traffic times of the day and would require unnecessary and exhausting travel times. Claire and I have reviewed her supervision needs and we've determined that they will be best met by utilizing virtual supervision at this time.

As a responsible and ethical supervisor, I ensure the following provisions are followed:

- 1) I guide LMSWs to be responsible for their physical and mental health and to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, which includes the responsibility of Self Care
- 2) I provide a HIPAA compliant telehealth platform for virtual supervision sessions and require all LMSWs to keep their video camera on during these sessions; I also ensure attendees participate from a location that ensures confidentiality.
- 3) In the event the supervisee and I determine face-to-face supervision is needed, we will adjust the plan to incorporate this.
- 4) In the event of an emergency, the supervisee and I agree to be reachable by phone.

Thank you for your support,



Doug Leyda, LCSW-BACS #5330

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Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(225)756-3470, Option 3

This message is for the named person(s) only. It may contain confidential, proprietary or legally privileged information. No confidentiality or privilege is waived or lost by any transmission error. If you receive this message in error, please immediately delete it and all copies of it from your system, destroy any hard copies of it and notify the sender. You must not, directly or indirectly, use, disclose, distribute, print, or copy any part of this message if you are not the intended recipient.

-----Original Message-----

From: Monica Guerra
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 10:33 AM
To: Regina Dewitt <rdewitt@labswe.org>; Emily DeAngelo <edeangelo@labswe.org>
Subject: Monica Guerra (request for via zoom LCSW supervision)

Goodmorning ,

I am requesting approval to use the zoom platform for LCSW supervision with the Board's approval. Given the advances in technology and the increasing acceptance of virtual platforms for professional purposes I believe that virtual supervision is a viable and effective alternative.

I have two occupations with one full time Monday through Friday in HR and PRN on Saturdays and Sundays with Beacon inpatient Behavioral Hospital. My BACS who is located outside of my immediate geographic area I am committed to ensuring that I am able to continue my professional growth without being hindered by geographic limitations.

I live in the rural area of Braithwaite in Plaquemines Parish. With working two jobs and doing additional PRN work after the Monday through Friday occupation and including the weekends I am able to gain as many hours as possible towards my LCSW completion.

Thank you for considering my request and I look forward to becoming a LCSW.

Mrs. Monica Guerra LMSW

Regina Dewitt

From: Monica Bodungen
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2024 2:37 PM
To: Emily DeAngelo; Regina Dewitt
Subject: Re: Monica Guerra (request for via zoom LCSW supervision)

Good Afternoon,

Please see my below responses in **highlighted bold**. Thank you for your time and have a great day.

Mrs. Monica Guerra LMSW

On Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 10:55:09 AM CST, Regina Dewitt <rdewitt@labswe.org> wrote:

Dear Ms. Guerra,

Thank you for your email. Please provide the below information along with who will be providing your BACS supervision:

- demonstrate undue hardship, disability or travel time- include actual milage between you and the BACS

The travel time of 3 hours total with 25 miles with bridges and trains would take time away from working hours at Beacon Behavioral Inpatient Hospital. I work every Saturday with groups on Sunday when needed at Beacon along with 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm during the week after my full-time job. Saving travel time would help me to gain as many working hours as possible towards my LCSW supervision.

- provide security information from the company regarding program/software-

The following Zoom Workplace Protections will be used for remote Supervision Meetings

Encrypted meetings on by default with optional E2EE encryption

Create Waiting Rooms for attendees

Require host to be present before meeting starts

Expel a participant or all participants

Suspend participant activities

Lock a meeting

Screen share watermarks

Audio signatures

Enable/disable a participant or all participants to record

Temporary pause screen-sharing when a new window is opened

Use a passcode to protect a meeting

Only allow individuals with a given email domain to join

- explain how confidential information will be protected, and explain how emergencies will be handled.

Confidential information will be protected by the an enclosed private office at home for remote supervisions. Emergencies will be handled by backup telephone and/or FaceTime.

Regina M. DeWitt
Administrative Assistant
Louisiana State Board of

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Social Work

From: Sydnee Miller >
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2024 4:43 PM
To: Social Work
Cc: Leah Lenae Pace
Subject: Request for remote supervision

Hello LABSWE,

My name is Sydnee Miller and I am a LMSW #17528. I am emailing the Board, for a request to obtain remote supervision permission due to a recent move out of state. I am employed at a counseling agency in Louisiana, providing telehealth to my clients who reside in Louisiana. I am receiving supervision from BACS Leah Pace.

I recently and unexpectedly moved to Ohio, which is over 1,000 miles away from Shreveport, LA. Because of this, I am unable to meet with my BACS supervisor in person. If you allow this request, I will be obtaining supervision through Microsoft Teams video chat. Confidential information will be protected through this site by requesting a secure video call, dating the time and duration of supervision meeting, and continuing to comply with HIPPA rules and regulations. Emergencies will be handled via telephone if needed.

Thank you for taking your time to read my request. Please allow this request, that I continue meeting my BACS supervisor remotely.

Have a blessed day,

Sydnee Miller, LMSW

318.310.3131

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REC'D DEC 09 2024

December 4, 2024

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road
Suite B
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this second request to be permitted to complete all 20 continuing education hours via distance learning for the period 2024-2025 collection period.

I am not comfortable with attending conferences inside because it places me at risk for COVID when others have not been vaccinated. My living arrangements remain the same and I do not wish to put my elderly 80 year old mother at risk for health complications associated with COVID and any other respiratory virus .

I am requesting the board and or committe approve and extend my request to complete all 20 continuing education requirements virtually online.

Sincerely,

C. Smart, LMSW

Connie Smart, LMSW

License# 15084

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Dear Members of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to request your consideration regarding a recent issue with my LCSW application process. Specifically, I was informed that 86 supervision hours I have completed, between October 16, 2022 and September 24, 2024, cannot be counted towards the LCSW due to the absence of a Supervision Contract on the Certemy portal.

I have diligently pursued the requirements for LCSW licensure over the past two years, working across three social work positions and completing all required 96 hours of supervision under Mark Neinaber, LCSW-BACS. I began my supervision hours on October 16, 2022 and recently completed the 96 required hours on December 7, 2024. Throughout this period, I have invested significant time, effort, and money on supervision costs to meet the requirements for licensure. At no point during the first 94 hours of my supervision was I provided with a Supervision Contract on the Certemy licensing portal I use to submit documentation and track my progress. Only on November 21, 2024, was this document added to my portal. Within minutes of its addition, I received an email from Board Licensing Analyst Sara Banks informing me that these contracts, which I only then was given access to, needed to be filled out long beforehand.

While I understand and respect the importance of adhering to the Board's Rules, Standards, and Procedures, I feel it is harsh to invalidate two years of supervised work based on a form I had no access to during this time. Additionally, I was not provided with this document on my portal until I was nearly done with my supervision, leaving me with no ability to rectify the issue earlier. I sincerely wish I had been able to address this matter far earlier in the process to prevent this situation entirely.

During the supervision process, I was documenting my hours worked at each position through the Professional Experience Verification Record. Because this was the only documentation provided to me on Certemy related to logging work hours, I believed that I was sufficiently documenting my work hours with each employer by completing this form. Through my recent communication with Sara Banks, I know now that I was required to identify that the Supervision Contracts were unavailable to me on Certemy after starting each job position and proactively inquire about the Supervision Contracts being uploaded to Certemy. Unfortunately, I relied heavily on the Certemy portal to guide me and assumed it would provide the necessary forms at the appropriate stages of the supervision process.

After being presented with the prospect of losing two years of supervision experience, I reached out to social workers in the community to see if anyone else has encountered similar issues with the Supervision Contracts on the Certemy portal. Since then, I have spoken to seven social workers who have experienced this same issue before, all of them reporting that the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners eventually approved their supervision hours.

Given how this board has handled similar situations in the past, I kindly ask the Board to review my situation and consider recognizing the supervision hours I have completed thus far. I am

happy to provide any additional documentation from my supervisor and employers to demonstrate that these hours meet the Board's standards for supervised experience.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I appreciate any consideration you can give to my request. Please let me know if additional information is required.

Sincerely,

Ryan Averitt, LMSW - License No. 17258

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing this letter on behalf of my supervisee, Ryan Averitt. Mr. Averitt has completed ninety six hours of clinical supervision, as required, toward his LCSW license. He has demonstrated professional conduct during his supervision, including, but not limited to:

1. Consistently being prompt in attending sessions and calling, even if five minutes late.
2. He was always open to feedback in relation to cases and asked intelligent questions regarding social work theory and practice.
3. Mr. Averitt diligently completed all supervisory homework, presentations, quizzes, and other assignments without fail.
4. He was also consistently professional in dress and attitude.

In conclusion, Mr. Averitt is one of the best supervisees that I've had the privilege of supervising. It would be a shame to delay completion of his supervision due to a misunderstanding regarding initial paperwork. I humbly ask the board to seriously consider allowing Mr. Averitt to continue his progress from supervision to taking his LCSW exam. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Nienaber, LCSW, BACS

Mark Nienaber, LCSW, BACS



ELEMENTAL HEALTH

Elemental Health IOP
7946 Goodwood Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

12/17/2024

Dear Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners,

I am writing to express my strong support for Ryan Averitt, LMSW, regarding the recognition of his supervision hours toward his LCSW licensure. Ryan Averitt has been a vital member of my Intensive Outpatient Program team for over a year, demonstrating exceptional professionalism, clinical skill, and dedication to his clients.

It has come to my attention that his completed BACS supervision hours may not be honored due to the absence of a specific form he did not have access to when he began supervision. Given his diligent efforts to fulfill licensure requirements in good faith, I urge the Board to reconsider this decision.

Ryan Averitt has proven himself to be an outstanding social worker, conscientious, dedicated to his craft and as fully prepared for the responsibilities of independent practice, as I've seen in my years practicing in the mental health field. Delaying his licensure over a procedural oversight, in my strongly held opinion, would be unjust and a disservice to the profession.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me at
for any concerns.

Sincerely,

Dr. Abdul Majid Khan, M.D.
Medical Director

Elemental Health
7946 Goodwood Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806
www.ElementalHealthBR.com

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To whom it may concern:

My name is Shelby Moreau. I am a Licensed Masters Social Worker and am currently employed with Allegiance hospice. I am writing this letter to request approval of hours lost since beginning my employment with Allegiance from May 30, 2023 to October 17, 2024. The loss of these hours is the result of there not being a contract completed in Certemy within 60 days of employer change. I take full responsibility for not paying attention and getting this contract completed in the appropriate time frame once beginning my new job.

I began supervision in May of 2021 with Tara Bordelon, LCSW-BACS when all supervision paperwork was required to be completed on paper and I had a different employer. It has taken about three and a half years to collect my 96 hours due to taking time off for maternity leave twice since beginning supervision. Throughout my time in supervision I have had many real life work experiences that I have been able to bring to my supervisor for advice or guidance. We have spent time reviewing case studies together and reviewing the social work code of ethics. I feel knowledgeable and ready to sit for my LCSW exam to be able to further my career.

The dates I am requesting for approval are the following: 05/30/2023, 06/06/2023, 06/13/2023, 06/20/2023, 06/27/2023, 10/18/2023, 10/31/2023, 11/08/2023, 11/15/2023, 11/30/2023, 12/06/2023, 12/12/2023, 01/17/2024, 01/31/2024, 02/06/2024, 02/14/2024, 02/28/2024, 03/19/2024, 04/10/2024, 04/16/2024, 04/26/2024, 05/08/2024, 05/14/2024, 05/30/2024, 06/05/2024, 06/19/2024, 06/26/2024, 07/03/2024, 07/09/2024, 07/23/2024, 07/30/2024, 08/09/2024, 08/14/2024, 08/22/2024, 08/28/2024, 09/05/2024, 09/10/2024, 09/17/2024, 09/23/2024, 10/01/2024, 10/09/2024, and 10/15/2024. This is a total of 42 hours lost. Please review this request and feel free to reach out with any concerns or further questions.

Thank you for your time,
Shelby Moreau, LMSW

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12/30/2024

Dear Board Members,

I am writing to you today to acknowledge my wrongdoing, accept accountability and to ask for your understanding when discussing my supervision hours. I began working at Hospice of Acadiana as an inpatient social worker for the Calcutta house on 10/10/2022. My supervision began on 12/2/2022 and ended on 10/15/2024 with Abby Ortego, LCSW-BACS. Due to not completing my supervision contract, 96 hours are under-review from 12/09/2022 to 10/15/2024.

Upon starting supervision, I was under the impression that completing the Supervision step on Certemy meant that my supervision contract with Abby Ortego began. Due to inputting Abby's license and email information, Abby was able to document our supervision hours. I accept accountability for not self-joining contract due to not fully understanding Certemy and believing all of the steps would be on my home page. I now understand I had to self-join to begin the contract with Abby. Please take this under review when discussing the potential of losing 96 hours of supervision.

During my two years of supervision I learned and processed my role as a hospice social worker. I understood the contract between my supervisor Abby and myself meant understanding our roles, understanding my role at Calcutta house as a newly licensed social worker, discussing conducting psychosocial assessments, addressing issues and conflict, working as a team member with interdisciplinary team and processing ethical dilemmas. Due to my supervision and the support I've received from my supervisor, I am hoping to pursue my clinical license.

Thank you for your consideration and time in this matter,

Erica Pusateri

Louisiana State Board of Social Work

18550 Highland Rd b Baton Rouge, LA 70809

December 18, 2024

Dear Board Members,

I am writing you today to ask for grace when reviewing my supervisee, Erica Pusateri's, application for her clinical license. Erica was my very first supervisee and we began meeting on 12/2/2022. We ended on 10/15/2024. Erica has worked diligently on obtaining her supervision hours. She has worked for two years toward this goal and is someone who will be an absolute asset to the field of social work as a licensed clinical social worker. Her co-workers and the many, many patients that have seen her as a point of knowledge and solace in very difficult times as they navigate through their hospice journeys can attest to that.

When we began supervision, I was very new to Certemy's supervision steps. My own supervision was completed on paper. I believed that because I was able to input our hours into the log, we had completed all necessary steps to get to that point. I realize that I was incorrect, and I apologize profusely. I will be reviewing and learning the process thoroughly before agreeing to take any other supervisees in the future.

During the past two years, I have been inputting our hours in a timely fashion. You can see clear evidence that we did the work we are claiming to have done in our log. We had a verbal agreement about the structure and goals of supervision, the roles of the supervisor and supervisee, and expectations of both, all of which is documented in the beginning log entries in December of 2022. I value this as a learning experience, and I take full responsibility for my mistake. I implore you to consider approving Erica's hours that she worked hard to obtain, so that she can move forward in her journey to becoming clinically licensed.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abby Ortego', written in a cursive style.

Abby Ortego, LCSW-BACS, ACHP-SW

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ORLEANS PUBLIC DEFENDERS

2601 TULANE AVENUE – SUITE 700 • NEW ORLEANS, LA 70119
TELEPHONE: (504) 821-8101 • FAX: (504) 821-5285 • WWW.OPDLA.ORG

December 20, 2024

Re: Christopher Rubadue Supervision Hours Appeal

Dear Members of the Board,

My name is Chris Rubadue, and I am a LMSW with the Orleans Public Defenders Office. I am writing to respectfully request the approval of my supervision hours from October 21, 2022, to February 16, 2023, as outlined in an email I recently received from a Licensing Analyst from your organization. Currently, I am an LMSW in pursuit of my LCSW, and if all supervision hours are accepted, I anticipate being eligible to sit for the LCSW examination by April or May of 2025.

In October of 2022 I transitioned to my current role at Orleans Public Defenders. Alongside that transition came the opportunity to receive supervision from my direct agency supervisor, Ms. Ginger Parsons, LCSW-BACS. The period in question directly aligns with this transition, during which I was actively participating in supervision sessions with Ms. Parsons at the Orleans Public Defenders office. These supervision sessions were conducted on the following dates:

10/21/22, 10/27/22, 11/3/22, 11/22/22, 12/1/22, 12/6/22, 12/16/22, 1/6/23, 1/12/23, 1/20/23, 1/24/23, 1/31/23, 2/15/23

These 13 sessions were held weekly at our workplace, and each session lasted one hour. Records of our sessions were made and kept in our office, and are available upon request.

As social workers with the Orleans Public Defenders, Ms. Parsons and I work diligently to provide critical support to clients who are incarcerated or transitioning out of incarceration. When I transitioned to this role, Ms. Parsons and I believed we had completed all necessary steps for transitioning my supervision. However, it appears that our supervision contract form was submitted outside the required timeframe due to a misunderstanding on our part.

This was an unintentional oversight, as my supervisor and I were focused on our demanding work responsibilities. I respectfully request that the Board consider approving the supervision hours from this period, as I was actively engaged in supervision and fulfilling the requirements for my LCSW.

I deeply appreciate your understanding of the nature of our work and your consideration of this request. Please let me know if additional documentation or clarification is needed to assist with your review, or if you have any other comments, questions or concerns.

Thank you for your time and for the essential work that you do.

Sincerely,
Chris Rubadue, LMSW

Social Work

From: Chris Rubadue
Sent: Saturday, December 21, 2024 4:00 PM
To: Seleana LaChapelle
Cc: ginger Parsons
Subject: Chris Rubadue letter to LABSWE concerning supervision hours.
Attachments: crubadue labswe board appeal 12-20.pdf

Good evening,

Please see the attached statement regarding my supervision hours which took place from 10/21/2022 through 02/16/2023. I completed 13 supervisory sessions with Ms. Ginger Parsons, LCSW-BACS within the range of dates in question. Please let me know what or if any other steps I need to complete in order to have this resolved during the January LABSWE board meeting. Ms. Parsons may want to submit her own statement regarding our supervision hours during the dates in question, and if so will add her statement to this email ahead of the cut-off date for the January board meeting.

Ms. Banks, please let us know if there is an alternative method we need to take to have this issue addressed by the board. It is our hope that this will be resolved in the January board meeting, some months ahead of my completed application to take the LCSW exam, which I hope to submit early this spring.

Thank you for your time and attention towards this matter and the continued essential work you do for our profession across Louisiana.

Best regards,
Chris Rubadue, LMSW

Chris Rubadue, LMSW.

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Request For Continuation of Virtual Supervision

Dear LABSWE Supervision Committee,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to formally request your approval for a continuation of virtual clinical supervision as an alternative to in-person meetings. Given my current circumstances, I believe that virtual supervision is the most practical and beneficial option for my professional development.

I am fortunate to be supervised by Retha Morrell, LCSW-BACS (9853), who possesses a wealth of experience and expertise in providing the essential clinical oversight that I require. Retha has been an invaluable source of support and encouragement throughout my social work career, helping me to navigate challenges and fostering my growth.

As a Behavioral Health Therapist at Oceans Behavioral Psychiatric Hospital, the demands of my job can be quite intense. The nature of hospital work often presents daily challenges that are both emotionally and physically taxing. I am genuinely concerned about the risk of burnout due to these pressures, which could jeopardize my well-being and ability to provide effective patient care.

My work schedule is currently Monday to Friday, from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, with occasional weekend shifts as needed. The commute from my home 11020 Buddy Ellis Rd, Denham Springs, LA, 70726 to Oceans Behavioral Health involves a travel time of about one hour round trip, excluding potential traffic delays. The exact Travel time from Oceans to my residence is 29.3 miles. Additionally, I have recently taken on a PRN position at Our Lady of the Lake, working at least 10 hours a week from 6 PM to 11 PM, along with occasional weekend shifts. The exact mileage from Oceans Behavioral Health to Our Lady of

the Lake is 51.0 miles. Balancing my professional life with quality time for my 5-year-old daughter is also a priority for me.

Virtual supervision presents a practical solution that addresses the demands of my job, minimizes the burden of commuting, and allows for more efficient use of time and energy. By forgoing an additional in-person meeting, I can engage in meaningful discussions with my supervisor without the added stress of travel.

The time frame of the supervision meeting will be 1 to 2 hours. The program software that will be used during supervision will be Microsoft Teams, which is a HIPPA approved platform. Teams manages and controls Teams data across the entire data lifecycle with comprehensive compliance tools. They enable secure meetings, organization's documents, and data across clouds, apps, and endpoints. During the meeting, my supervisor will require my video to be on the entire time during supervision, which will require my full attention. In the case of an emergency, if my supervisor and I determine that face-to-face supervision is needed, a well thought out plan will be discussed and well prepared to accommodate that need. Confidential information will be protected by being in a safe and quiet place free from distractions from others.

Moreover, this approach aligns with the NASW Code of Ethics, particularly in promoting self-care and well-being within the profession. The Code emphasizes the necessity of maintaining both personal and professional health and integrity, especially in challenging environments where social workers regularly encounter trauma. Virtual supervision would allow me to prioritize self-care and mental well-being, which are essential to ethical social work practice. Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to your favorable response.

Sincerely,

Nykara Williams, CSW LMSW

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Social Work

From: Emily Williams <
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2025 10:26 AM
To: Social Work
Subject: Request for Approval of Virtual Supervision

Dear Louisiana State Board of Social Work,

My name is Emily Williams, MSW, LMSW, and I am writing to formally request approval for group supervision hours to be conducted virtually. While I understand the importance of in-person supervision and intend to maintain that for individual sessions, conducting group supervision virtually will allow my supervisor to effectively manage her responsibilities across a broader geographic area without compromising the quality of supervision.

Demonstration of Undue Travel Time

My current supervisor works remotely in Shreveport, and she will soon begin supervising additional LMSWs, like myself, who reside across the state. Due to the geographical distances involved and the logistics of coordinating in-person meetings for all supervisees, it will be challenging for her to conduct all supervision in person. The distances from Shreveport to these locations are as follows:

- **Shreveport to Alexandria (my location):** 125 miles (approximately 2 hours by car)
- **Shreveport to Baton Rouge:** 250 miles (approximately 4 hours by car)
- **Shreveport to Monroe:** 100 miles (approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes by car)

Requiring all supervision sessions to occur in person would impose significant travel time and logistical challenges for my supervisor, given the geographic spread of her supervisees.

Security Information for Microsoft Teams

We propose using **Microsoft Teams** for virtual group supervision. Microsoft Teams complies with **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)** standards, offering features such as:

- End-to-end encryption for calls and messages
- Secure data transmission and storage
- Role-based access control and permissions
- Multi-factor authentication for all users

Protection of Confidential Information

To safeguard confidentiality during virtual supervision:

- Sessions will be held in private, secure locations by all participants.
- Participants will use personal or work devices secured with strong passwords.
- No session recordings will be made without prior consent from all participants.
- Case discussions will use de-identified information to the greatest extent possible.

Handling Emergencies

In the event of an emergency during a virtual supervision session:

- Each participant's emergency contact information and physical location will be collected before sessions begin.
- My supervisor will follow established protocols for crisis management, including contacting local emergency services if necessary.

This approach ensures both accessibility and adherence to ethical and professional standards for supervision. Please let me know if further information or documentation is needed. Thank you for your consideration of this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Emily Williams, MSW, LMSW

Emily Williams, MSW, LMSW
Foster Care & Adoption Specialist, Alexandria Region
Connect1Child, A Ministry of Louisiana Baptist Children's Home