

## **AGENDA**

### **STATE OF CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**

**Monday, December 14, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
410 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

**I. MINUTES**

Review and approval of the minutes from June 15, 2020.

**II. OFFICE OF LEGAL COMPLAINT**

Amy Beaulieu, Psy. D - Petition No. 2019-1016

*Consent Order Presented by Staff Attorney David Tilles*

**III. SCHEDULE ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING / 2021 BOARD MEETINGS**

#### **ADJOURN**

**This meeting will be held by videoconference.**

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists via Microsoft Teams**

Join on your computer or mobile app

**[Click here to join the meeting](#)**

**Or call in (audio only)**

**[+1 860-840-2075](#) United States, Hartford**

**Phone Conference ID: 478 698 985#**

**REVISED 12/08/2020**

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS  
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 337**

Meeting Number 336 of the Board of Examiners of Psychologists was held on Monday, September 14, 2020.

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<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Richard J. Colangelo, Jr., Esq Anthony Campagna, PhD Nancy Horn, PhD Howard Oakes, Jr., PsyD Stacey Serrano, Esq.
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<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:</b>	None
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<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison Stacy Schulman, Hearing Officer
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The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams

**I. MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the meeting of June 15, 2020. Dr. Horn moved, and Dr. Campagna seconded, that the minutes be approved as edited. The motion passed.

**II. OFFICE OF LEGAL COMPLAINT**

Amy Beaulieu, Psy. D - Petition No. 2019-1016 – Pre-Hearing Review

Staff Attorney David Tilles was present for the Department of Public Health. Attorney Richard Brown was present with Dr. Beaulieu.

The Board reviewed a pre-hearing packet submitted by Attorney Tilles and Attorney Brown.

Dr. Horn and Dr. Campagna suggested that a period of probation with conditions and practice monitoring is warranted. Dr. Horn also indicated more information from respondent's treaters would be helpful.

Ms. Serrano and Dr. Oakes suggested that a period of suspension and/or revocation may be necessary with a period of probation with conditions upon return to practice.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m. on a motion by Dr. Campagna.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard J. Colangelo, Jr., Esq., Chairman  
Connecticut Board of Examiners of Psychologists

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH  
BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**

In re: Amy Beaulieu, Psy. D.

Petition No. 2019-1026

1016

**CONSENT ORDER**

WHEREAS, Amy Beaulieu, Psy. D., of Southington, Connecticut, has been issued license number 002968 to practice as a psychologist by the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 383 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, the Department alleges that:

1. At various times in the year 2019, respondent breached professional boundaries with a recently discharged patient, by engaging in a personal and/or sexual relationship with said patient;
2. At various times in 2019, respondent abused and/or used alcohol to excess, and/or abused and/or used to excess non-prescribed drugs in that she smoked or ingested marijuana outside of the Connecticut medical marijuana program, and said use of alcohol and/or marijuana does and/or may affect her ability to practice as a psychologist safely and effectively; and/or
3. At various times in 2019 and/or 2020, respondent suffered a mental illness or emotional disorder that does and/or may affect her ability to practice as a psychologist safely and effectively.
4. The above described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-192, including, but not limited to, negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in the practice of her profession; mental illness or emotional disorder, and abuse or excessive use of drugs and/or alcohol.

WHEREAS, respondent has not practiced as a psychologist since on or about September 3, 2019, and has been engaged in appropriate treatment since then;

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest this matter and agrees that for purposes of this or any future proceedings before the Board of Examiners of Psychology (hereinafter "the Board"), this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if proven and ordered after a full hearing held pursuant to §§19a-10, 19a-14, and 20-192 of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §§19a-14, 19a-17, and 20-192 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

1. Respondent waives her right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
2. Respondent's license number 002968 to practice as a psychologist in the State of Connecticut is hereby reprimanded.
3. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) by certified or cashier's check payable to "Treasurer, State of Connecticut." The check shall reference the Petition Number on the face of the check, and shall be payable before December 31, 2021.
4. Respondent's license shall be suspended until July 1, 2021, provided that respondent is responsible for providing a report in the final month of suspension to the Department from each of her prescribing physicians, drug and alcohol abuse counselors, and therapists is fit to resume practice. Respondent's failure to comply with this provision shall extend the suspension another three months, subject to the same provision.
5. Commencing on the effective date of this Consent Order, respondent's license shall be placed on probation for a period of five years under the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Respondent may not provide direct clinical care to any person until July 1, 2021.
  - b. Respondent shall participate in regularly scheduled therapy at respondent's own expense with a licensed therapist, pre-approved by the Department (hereinafter "therapist").
    - (1) Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to respondent's therapist.
    - (2) Respondent's therapist shall furnish written confirmation to the Department of the therapist's engagement in that capacity and receipt of a copy of this

Consent Order within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Consent Order.

- (3) If the therapist determines that therapy is no longer necessary, that a reduction in frequency of therapy sessions is warranted, or that respondent should be transferred to another therapist, the therapist shall advise the Department, and the Department shall pre-approve said termination of therapy, reduction in frequency of therapy sessions, and/or respondent's transfer to another therapist.
  - (4) The therapist shall submit reports monthly for the first twelve months of the period of probation and quarterly for the remainder of the period of probation, which shall address, but not necessarily be limited to, respondent's ability to practice as a psychologist in an alcohol and substance free state, safely and competently. A report indicating that respondent is not able to practice safely and competently shall be deemed to be a violation of this Consent Order. Said reports shall continue until the therapist determines that therapy is no longer necessary or the period of probation has terminated.
  - (5) The therapist shall immediately notify the Department in writing if the therapist believes respondent's continued practice poses a danger to the public, or if respondent discontinues therapy and/or terminates the therapist's services.
- c. During the entire five year probation, respondent shall refrain from the ingestion of alcohol in any form and the ingestion, inhalation, injection or other use of any controlled substance and/or legend drug unless prescribed or recommended for a legitimate therapeutic purpose by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe medications. **Respondent shall inform said licensed health care professional of respondent's substance abuse history.** In the event a medical condition arises requiring treatment utilizing controlled substances, legend drugs, or alcohol in any form, respondent shall notify the Department and, upon request, provide such written documentation of the treatment as is deemed necessary by the Department.
- (1) During the first and fifth years of the period of probation, respondent at respondent's own expense, shall submit to one random observed urine screen for alcohol, controlled substances, Ethylglucuronide (EtG) and legend drugs;

in accordance with Department Requirements for Drug and Alcohol Screens, attached hereto marked as ('Attachment A: Department Requirements for Drug and Alcohol Screens') per week; during the second, third, and fourth year(s), she shall submit to at least two such screens per month. Respondent shall submit to such screens on a more frequent basis if requested to do so by the therapist or the Department. Said screens shall be administered by a facility approved by the Department. All such random screens shall be legally defensible in that the specimen donor and chain of custody shall be identified throughout the screening process. All laboratory reports shall state that the chain of custody procedure has been followed.

- (2) Laboratory reports of random alcohol and drug screens shall be submitted directly to the Department by the testing laboratory. All screens shall be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol. Respondent agrees that an EtG test report of EtG at a level of 1000ng/mL or higher shall be deemed to constitute a positive screen for the presence of alcohol under this Consent Order. All positive screen results shall be confirmed by gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer (GC/MS) testing.
- (3) Respondent understands and agrees that if respondent fails to submit a urine sample when requested by respondent's monitor, such missed screen shall be deemed a positive screen.
- (4) Respondent shall notify each of her health care professionals of all medications prescribed for respondent by any and all other health care professionals.
- (5) Respondent is hereby advised that the ingestion of poppy seeds, mouthwash and over the counter cough or cold medicines or remedies has from time to time, been raised as a defense to a positive screen result for morphine, opiates and/or alcohol and as a defense of an EtG at 1000ng/mL or higher. For that reason, respondent agrees to refrain from ingesting poppy seeds in any food substances, mouthwash and over the counter cough or cold medicines or remedies during the term of this Consent Order. In the event respondent has a positive screen for morphine, opiates and/or alcohol or if respondent's test reports an EtG at 1000ng/mL or higher, respondent agrees that the ingestion

of poppy seeds and/or mouthwash and/or over the counter cough or cold medicines or remedies shall not constitute a defense to such a screen.

- d. During the entire period of probation, respondent shall attend "anonymous" or support group meetings on an average of ten times per month, and shall provide quarterly reports to the Department concerning respondent's record of attendance.
- e. Respondent shall provide respondent's chief of service, employer, contractor, partner and/or associate at any hospital, clinic, partnership and/or association at which respondent is employed, contracted or with which respondent is affiliated or has privileges at each place where respondent practices as a psychologist throughout the probationary period (hereinafter, collectively "employer") with a copy of this Consent Order within fifteen (15) days of its effective date, or within fifteen (15) days of commencement of practice with a new employer. Respondent agrees to provide reports from such employer quarterly for the remainder of the entire period of probation, stating whether respondent is practicing with reasonable skill and safety and in an alcohol and substance-free state. A report indicating that respondent is not practicing with reasonable skill and safety shall be deemed to be a violation of this Consent Order.
- f. During the first two years of probation, respondent shall only practice under the on-site supervision of at least one other licensed psychologist while respondent is practicing at said office and practice setting.
- g. During the entire period of probation, if respondent is prescribed medication(s) for mental health and/ or emotional disorder, respondent's prescriber shall submit written reports to the Department from the prescribing practitioner(s) on a quarterly basis stating that respondent is compliant with the medication regimen and can practice as a psychologist with reasonable skill and safety.
- h. Within the first four months of the probationary period, respondent shall successfully complete a course in (a) professional ethics and (a) provider-patient boundaries, including but not limited to sexual boundaries, with ProBE or another program pre-approved by the Department. Within fifteen days of the completion of such coursework, respondent shall provide the Department with proof, to the Department's satisfaction, of the successful completion of such course.
- i. Beginning in the second year of probation, and each year thereafter, respondent shall teach or co-teach a continuing professional education seminar or a professional

student seminar in the effect of substance abuse and mental health on compliance with professional boundaries. Within fifteen days of each such seminar, respondent shall provide the Department a course syllabus and a letter of verification from the professional entity through which she offered the seminar.

6. All correspondence and reports are to be addressed to:

Olive Tronchin, Health Program Assistant  
Practitioner Compliance and Monitoring Unit  
Department of Public Health  
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12HSR  
P.O. Box 340308  
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

7. All reports required by the terms of this Consent Order shall be due according to a schedule to be established by the Department of Public Health.
8. Respondent shall comply with all state and federal statutes and regulations applicable to respondent's licensure.
9. Respondent shall pay all costs necessary to comply with this Consent Order.
10. Any alleged violation of any provision of this Consent Order may result in the following procedures at the discretion of the Department:
- The Department shall notify respondent in writing by first-class mail that the term(s) of this Consent Order have been violated, provided that no prior written consent for deviation from said term(s) has been granted.
  - Said notification shall include the acts or omission(s) which violate the term(s) of this Consent Order.
  - Respondent shall be allowed fifteen (15) days from the date of the mailing of notification required in paragraph 10.a. above to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department that respondent has complied with the terms of this Consent Order or, in the alternative, that respondent has cured the violation in question.
  - If respondent does not demonstrate compliance or cure the violation within the fifteen (15) days specified in the notification of violation to the satisfaction of the Department, respondent shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board which shall make a final determination of the disciplinary action to be taken.



- e. Evidence presented to the Board by either the Department or respondent in any such hearing shall be limited to the alleged violation(s) of the term(s) of this Consent Order.
- 11. In the event respondent does not practice as a psychologist for periods of thirty (30) consecutive days or longer, respondent shall notify the Department in writing. In the event respondent resumes practice as a psychologist, respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice. Respondent shall not return to practice as a psychologist without written pre-approval from the Department. Respondent agrees that the Department, in its complete discretion, may require additional documentation from respondent and/or require respondent to satisfy other conditions or terms as a condition precedent to respondent's return to practice. Respondent agrees that any return to practice as a psychologist without pre-approval from the Department shall constitute a violation of this Consent Order and may subject the respondent to further disciplinary action.
- 12. If, during the period of probation, respondent practices as a psychologist outside Connecticut, respondent shall provide written notice to the Department concerning such practice. During such time period, respondent shall not be responsible for complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order, and such time period shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order. Respondent may comply with the terms of probation while practicing outside Connecticut if pre-approved by the Department. In the event respondent intends to return to practice as a psychologist in Connecticut, respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice and agrees to comply with all terms and conditions contained in paragraph 4 above.
- 13. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license before the Board.
- 14. Legal notice shall be sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch of the Department.
- 15. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the date this Consent Order is accepted and ordered by the Board.
- 16. This Consent Order is a public document. Respondent understands and agrees that the Department's allegations as contained in this Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before the Board in which respondent's compliance with this

Consent Order or with §20-192 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue. Further, respondent understands that any discipline imposed by this Consent Order shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank maintained by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

17. In the event respondent violates a term of this Consent Order, respondent agrees immediately to refrain from practicing as a psychologist, upon request by the Department, with notice to the Board, for a period not to exceed 45 days. During that time period, respondent further agrees to cooperate with the Department in its investigation of the violation, and to submit to and complete a medical, psychiatric or psychological evaluation, if requested to do so by the Department; and, that the results of the evaluation shall be submitted directly to the Department. Respondent further agrees that failure to cooperate with the Department in its investigation during said 45-day period shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license. In any such summary action, respondent stipulates that failure to cooperate with the Department's investigation shall be considered by the Board and shall, as a matter of law, constitute a clear and immediate danger as required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, sections 4-182(c) and 19a-17(c). The Department and respondent understand that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether a summary suspension is ordered.
18. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Department shall not be a waiver or preclude the Department from taking action at a later time. The Department shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.
19. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall not be subject to modification as a result of any claim that the terms contained herein may result in action by third parties, including, but not limited to, healthcare facilities and/or credentialing or licensure boards and respondent waives any right to seek reconsideration or modification of this Consent Order pursuant to §4-181a of the General Statutes of Connecticut without the express consent and agreement of the Department. Respondent assumes all responsibility for assessing such actions prior to the execution of this document. Further, this Consent Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 or 368a of the General Statutes of Connecticut,

provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any rights that respondent may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.

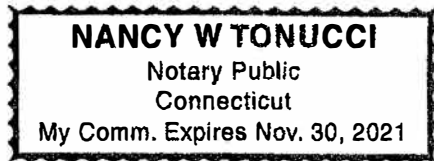
20. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
21. Respondent permits a representative of the Department to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Board. Respondent understands that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether this executed Consent Order is approved or accepted. Respondent hereby waives any claim of error that could be raised that is related to or arises during the course of the Board's discussions regarding whether to approve or reject this Consent Order and/or a Board member's participation during this process, through the Board member's review or comments, including but not limited to bias or reliance on evidence outside the administrative record if this matter proceeds to a hearing on a statement of charges resulting in a proposed decision by the Board and/or a panel of the Board and a final decision by the Board.
22. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to signing this document.
23. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the State's Attorney's Office where the allegation occurred or Bureau Chief of the applicable unit in the Chief State's Attorney's Office. The purpose of this Consent Order is to resolve the pending administrative license disciplinary petition only, and is not intended to affect any civil or criminal liability or defense.
24. This Consent Order embodies the entire agreement of the parties with respect to this case. All previous communications or agreements regarding the subject matter of this consent order, whether oral or written, between the parties are superseded unless expressly incorporated herein or made a part hereof.

\* \* \* \* \*

I, Amy Beaulieu, Psy.D., have read the above Consent Order, and I stipulate and agree to the terms as set forth therein. I further declare the execution of this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.

Amy Beaulieu, Psy.D.  
Amy Beaulieu, Psy.D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2020.



Nancy W. Tonucci  
Notary Public or person authorized  
by law to administer an oath or affirmation

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2020, it is hereby accepted.

Christian D. Andresen  
Christian D. Andresen, MPH, Section Chief  
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section  
Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Board of Examiners of Psychologists on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020, it is hereby ordered and accepted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Howard Oakes, Jr., Psy.D.  
Board of Examiners of Psychologists

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Joseph Struckus, Psychologist

Petition No. 2020-448

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") brings the following charges against Joseph Struckus:

1. Joseph Struckus of New Preston, Connecticut (hereinafter "respondent") is, and has been at all times referenced in this Statement of Charges, the holder of Connecticut license number 001640 to practice psychology.
2. Respondent has a history of alcohol abuse and has been diagnosed with alcohol abuse disorder.
3. Respondent has been diagnosed with Anxiety Disorder NOS and Depressive Disorder NOS.
4. Respondent's abuse of alcohol and/or emotional disorder does, and/or may, affect his ability to practice psychology.
5. The above-described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut §20-192.

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners of Psychologists as authorized in §§19a-17 and §20-192, revoke or order other disciplinary action against the psychology license of Joseph Struckus as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 1st day of December 2020.



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Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief  
Practitioner Licensing & Investigations Section  
Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch